

Scheme taken for irri-boro cultivation in Satkhira

SATKHIRA, Jan 26: A scheme has been undertaken to bring 34,000 hectares of land under irri-boro cultivation in the district during the current season, says UNB.

According to local Agriculture Extension Department, 17,500 hectares will be cultivated in Sadar, 8,500 hectares in Kolaroa, 6,800 hectares in Tala, 3600 hectares in Debhata, 3600 hectares in Kailganj, 2100 hectares in Assani and 1400 hectares in Shyamnagar thanas.

With the successful implementation of the scheme it is expected that 1,16,017 metric tons of paddy will be produced in the district.

But local farmers said the production target will not be achieved due to increase in the price of fertilizer, lack of necessary agricultural inputs and want of agricultural loans from the banks.

cliques in China housing a stock exchange, the other being in Shenzhen on the border with Hong Kong.

BSC Feeder Service re-introduced

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), the national flag carrier will re-introduce Feeder Service between Chittagong—Singapore—Chittagong to give coverage to the Bangladesh export and import globally, says a press release.

BSC's first feeder vessel MV Banglar Rabi will start loading at Chittagong on Jan 28 and sail for Singapore on 29th.

The vessel will load cargo for major ports in USA, East and West Coast-Australia-New Zealand-East and West Canadian ports, Far East-Japan ports, Indonesia-Papua New Guinea-China-HongKong-South and Central America, Mediterranean and European ports.

The re-introduction of this Feeder Service is expected to boost exports like readymade garments, handicrafts, leather, jute, jute goods, etc.

US trade show from Jan 30

A three-day US Trade Show '93 will begin on January 30 at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, says a press release.

The trade show is co-sponsored by American Bangladesh Economic Forum (ABEF) and the United States Embassy in Bangladesh.

Built on a very successful first show which attracted 12,000 visitors last year, the organisers expected that the second show will establish the premier annual trade event in Bangladesh.

Most of last year's 31 participants, representing more than 50 US companies, have already agreed to participate.

Bangladeshi agents and distributors which represents US companies exclusively as to product line or authorized customers have been invited to participate.

In addition, the relevant offices in US companies which have pursued business in Bangladesh but are not yet represented locally have also been invited. Some of the subsidiaries/affiliates of American companies operating in Bangladesh are also expected to participate.

Seminar on Customs Day shifted to January 31

The seminar on the occasion of the International Customs Day has been shifted to January 31 (Sunday), reports BSS.

The time and venue remain unchanged at 9.30 am at the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) Auditorium, a press release said Tuesday.

M Saifur Rahman, Minister for Finance will inaugurate the seminar while AKM Mashur Rahman, Secretary, IRD and Chairman, NBR will preside.

Seminar on investment begins today

The inaugural session of a five-day regional seminar on investment promotion and enhancement of the role of private sector in Asia and Pacific will be held today (Wednesday) at 9 am at NEC Auditorium, Planning Commission Complex, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, reports BSS.

The seminar jointly organised by government of Bangladesh, ESCAP, and Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

PM briefs ILO DG of steps for uplift of workers

Director General of International Labour Organisation Michel Hansenne yesterday called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office in Dhaka, reports BSS.

During the meeting the Prime Minister talked about different steps taken by her government to ensure uplift of the toiling masses, especially the labourers.

The Prime Minister also highlighted the steps taken by her government in creating employment opportunities, especially for the women community to ensure their active participation in the development process.

Begum Zia said, a Wage Commission had also been constituted in the country.

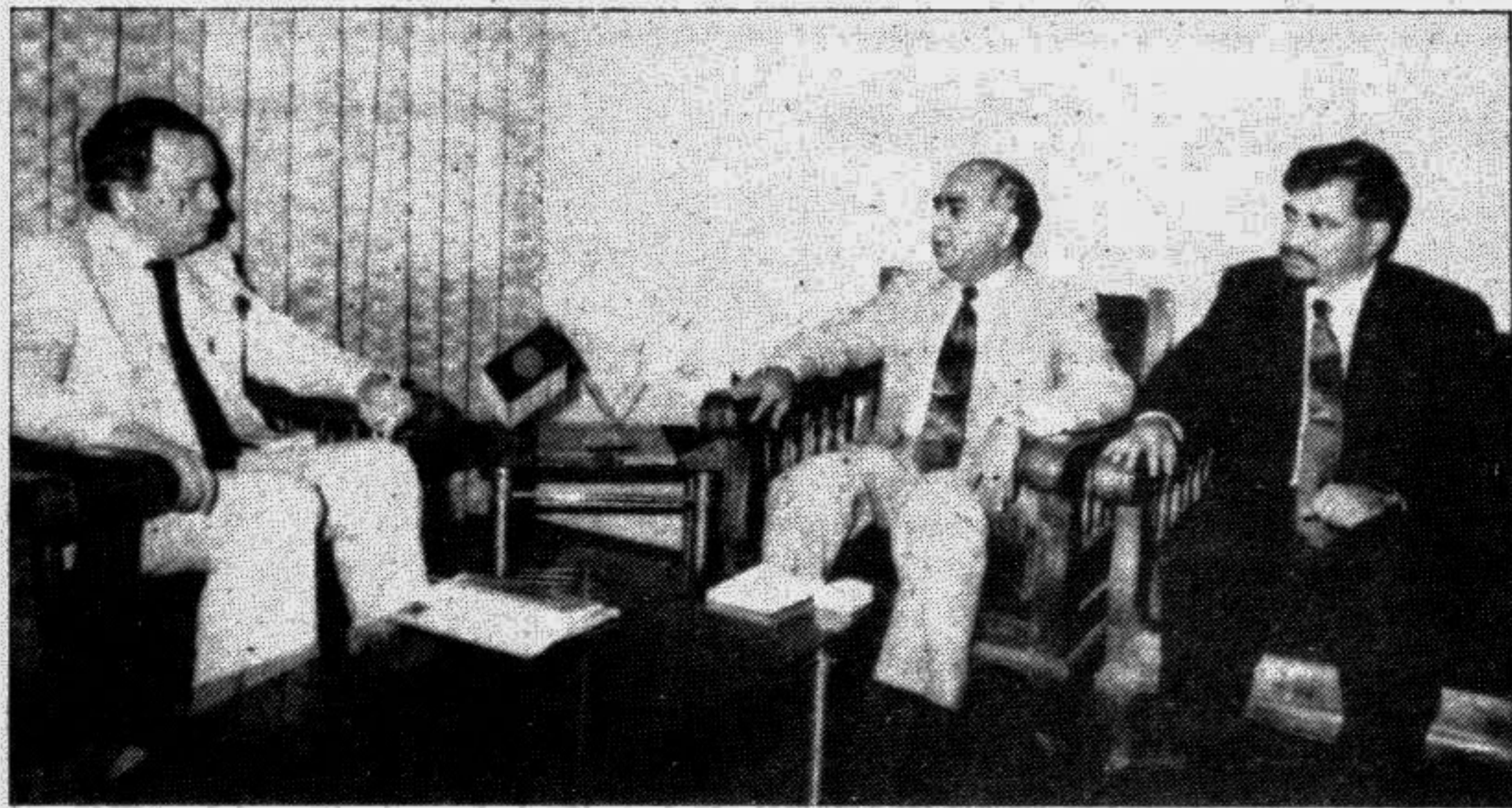
She thanked the ILO for its technical assistance programmes in various fields of development including industrial relations, safety and health care, hotel and tourism, small scale industry, motor driving and productivity measurement.

Begum Zia recalled that Bangladesh became the ILO's member soon after the independence of the country and it was the first international organisation for Bangladesh to become a member.

that ILO would provide increased assistance to Bangladesh, especially in self-employment projects and projects for rehabilitation of disabled workers.

The ILO Director General thanked the Prime Minister for the invitation given to him to visit Bangladesh. He expressed his satisfaction at the present progress of the nation in the field of human resource development.

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Chief of the Cabinet of ILO Ali Taki and ILO Resident Representative W K Blank were present on the occasion.



Bjorn Sternby Ambassador of Sweden to Bangladesh called on Mahbubur Rahman, President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) on Tuesday. They discussed scope for further promotion of bilateral trade between the two countries and the investment opportunities now provided by Bangladesh to foreign investors. Alhaj Kazi Md Shafiqul Islam, Vice President, FBCCI was also present during the discussion.

Easy testing for iodised salt developed

The scientists of the Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST) have developed an easy process for preparation of "spot test solution" for qualitative determination of the presence of iodine in iodised salt, reports BSS.

"When a drop of this solution is applied to iodised salt its colour will instantly change to violet. If the colour is not changed it will mean that the salt is not iodised," said the Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR).

The research was conducted with the help of UNICEF which claimed to have tested the efficiency performance of the "spot test solution" through various mechanisms.



Bangladesh will receive from Denmark 108 million Danish kroner (equivalent to approximately Taka 74 crore) as grant. Two separate agreements signed in Dhaka Monday between the two governments. Md Sirajul Islam, Joint Secretary, Economic Relations Division and KK Nielsen, Charge d'Affaires, Royal Danish Embassy in Dhaka signed the agreements on behalf of their respective governments.

Dhaka customs files cases against 80 plants, hotels

Dhaka Customs, Excise and VAT authorities have filed cases of worth Taka seven crore against 80 different factories and hotels in the city for non-payment of VAT during the month of December, according to a press release Tuesday, reports BSS.

The authorities have also set different kinds of commodities with the same charge during the month which include soaps, plastic products, MS products, medicines, wooden and steel furniture, cotton, cloths, silicate, socks, packaging items, bricks, watch, skin, dish antennas and crockeries.

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Asian stock markets end mixed

HONG KONG, Jan 26: Asian stock markets closed mixed Tuesday, with share prices rebounding in Tokyo on rumours of a possible cut in Japan's key lending rate, reports AP.

The Taiwan stock exchange remained closed because of the Chinese New Year holidays.

In Tokyo, the 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average gained 205.18 points, or 1.26 per cent, closing at 16,492.63. The average had fallen 49.36 points, or 0.30 per cent, on Monday.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section rose 5.85 points, or 0.30 per cent, on Monday.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section rose 5.85 points or 0.47 per cent, to 1,255.98. It had lost 6.64 points, or 0.52 per cent on Monday.

Rumours that the Bank of Japan would cut its official discount rate in the next few days spurred covering of oversold positions, traders said.

International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshitomo Mori urged a rate cut, but did not pacify any amount.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng Index of blue chips edged higher in dull trading Tuesday in the opening session of the Lunar New Year.

The index rose 9.34 points, closing at 5,923.73. The market was closed Friday and Monday for the Chinese New Year holidays.

Elsewhere in Asia: WELLINGTON: New Zealand shares ended slightly higher on overseas support for selected blue chips. The main NZSE 40 index gained 6.71 points, closing at 1,509.99.

SYDNEY: Helped by Wall Street's gain Monday, the All-Ordinaries index of share prices rose 5.8 points, closing at 1,529.2. The market generally was quiet because Sydney and some other centres celebrated the Australia Day holiday. Melbourne remained open and takes the holiday next Monday.

MANILA: Manila shares tumbled in moderate volume, braced by profit-taking. The Manila composite index of 30 selected issues plunged 22.83 points to 1,317.31 after Monday's 1-point drop.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange's Composite Index gained just 0.41 point to 626.34.

JAKARTA: The Jakarta Stock Exchange composite index slipped 0.414 points, closing at 276.289.

SEOUL: Share prices on the Korea Stock Exchange finished lower despite the day's implementation of a cut in the central bank's discount rates. The Korea Composite Stock Price Index shed 5.11 points to 702.50.

SINGAPORE: Shares on the Stock Exchange of Singapore closed firmer, with a key index ending just two points short of its all-time high. The Straits Times Industrials Index of 30 blue chips finished at 1,605.28 points, up 8.50 from Friday.

BANGKOK: Prices tumbled in active trading as local players took profit on a market that many feel is overhated. The Stock Exchange of Thailand index fell 10.47 points to 987.97.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange's Composite Index gained just 0.41 point to 626.34.

JAKARTA: The Jakarta Stock Exchange composite index slipped 0.414 points, closing at 276.289.

Workers urged to discharge duties responsibly

Deputy Minister for Shipping ABM Zahidul Haque has called upon the workers to discharge their responsibilities with dedication for the over all development of the national economy, says BSS.

He said boosting production in mills and factories was essential for national progress.

He was speaking Monday at a discussion meeting organised to mark the 3rd founding anniversary of Inland Container Depot (ICD) workers' union and held at WAPDA auditorium in Dhaka.

The Deputy Minister said the present government was aware of the worker's problems and steps would be taken to solve those in phases.

He said without development of national economy it would be tough to fulfill the basic needs of common people including the problems of the workers. "We should try our

best to achieve the goal" he added.

Referring to destructive activities of some quarters, Zahidul Haque said everybody should be careful of them. These quarters he said, did not want to improve the lot of common people.

Presided over by Vice-President of ICD workers' union Sami Ullah the meeting was also addressed, among others, by the convener of the Jatiyatabadi Schechhasbok Dal Kazi Asaduzzaman, Deputy Traffic Manager of Chittagong Port authority Kazi Abdul Momen and Gazi Zahangir Alam.

The Deputy Minister said ICD workers are playing a vital role in national economy through handling export and import cargoes. He hoped that workers would put in greater efforts in the development of national economy.

Shipping Intelligence CHITTAGONG PORT

Birth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 26. 01. 1993						
Birth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/1	Yannis-II	Soda ASH	SING	PSAL	23/01	31/01
J/2	Sirra Madra	GI	Sing	H&H	25/01	26/01
J/4	Trans America	Repair	BRK	BOAL	08/01	28/01
J/7	Banglar Maya	Wheat (G)	MOMB	ISC	16/01	28/01
J/8	Solbulk	Wheat (P)	P. Land	Seacom	30/12	31/01
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Aqaba	EOSL	25/01	30/01
J/11	Marine Gloria	Bulk Dap	Palca	LAMS	17/01	30/01
J/12	Gutjang	Urea		ATSL	R/A	31/01
J/13	Andrian					
	Goncharov	Cont	Sing	CT	23/01	26/01
MP/1	Tiger Force	Cont	Sing	ISL	24/01	26/01
MP/2	Optima	Cont	Sing	ISL	23/01	27/01
CGI	Banglar Robi 19/1	IDLE	ISC	R/A	R/A	28/01
(S)	Banglar Kiron	Wheat (G)	ISC	R/A	R/A	28/01
TSP	Vinta	R.Mos	Jeddah	SSST	04/01	29/01
RM/4	Al Tajwar	Cement	Jaka	PSAL	02/01	27/01
RM/6	Maritime					
	Prudence	HSD/JP-1	Sing	MSPL	22/01	26/01
DEX/2	Banglar Sampad	Repair	Kura	ISC	08/01	28/01
CLJ	Ronjay Victory	Urea	Morg	PSAL	22/01	29/01

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Diapotos	26/01	Dest	AQUA	Wheat (G)	
Hang Loy	26/01		H&H	Cement	
Sar Houston	26/01	Sing	KSL	Scraping	
Mowlat	27/01	Mong	SSL	GI/GL	Abbas
EY Ocean-V	27/01	Sing	ILA		
Indegutny 17/1	27/01	Sing	RSU	Wheat (P)	
Meng Hong 18/1	27/01	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
NGS Express 18/1	27/01	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Norbuk Namir	28/01		PSAL	Cement	
Jiang Cheng	28/01	S. Hai	BDSHP	GI	
State of Orissa	28/01	Mong	SSL	GI	Ant
Samudra Rani	28/01	COL	SSL	GI	
Kota Buana 20/1	29/01	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Sea Destiny	29/01	Padra	AML	Cement	
Mupo	29/01		USTC	Cement	
Oba-1	30/01		USTC	Cement	
Petr Starostin 16/1	30/01	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
State of Tripura	30/01	Mad	SSL	GI	
Sufira-e-Najam	30/01		ASL	GI/GL	Karachi
J. Sister	30/01		ASL	GI	
NGS Ranger 21/1	30/01	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Ford Yun 18/1	31/01	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Banglar Shobha	31/01	Pera	ISC	GI	
Tarbela	31/01		ISC	Cement	
Shenton 25/1	02/02		OMNI	Cont	Sing
A. L. Salma	03/02		ASL	GI/GL	Sing
J. Yamburenko 25/1	10/02		CTL	Cont	Sing

TANKER DUE

ESSO Bangkok	28/01	Sing	MSPL	HSD
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VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival

VESSELS NOT READY

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
SEA Rhapsody	C. Clink	V. Pat	Umal	25/01
Siddi Bishr	Sugar (P)	Pena	MMT	25/01
Arti	GTSP (P)	IND	H&S	16/01
Ronjay Choomie	Cement	V. Pat	PSAL	25/01

VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Banglar Asha			BSC	R/A (20/12)
Banglar Shourabh			BSC	R/A (19/01)
Banglar Jyoti			ISC	R/A (21/01)

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Meringa	Scraping	Viza	UMAL	01/01
Stern	GTSP (P)	Col	UMAL	16/01
Arhon	GTSP (P)	Sing	H&S	24/12

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 27/01/93

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
MP/1 Tiger Force	Kafco	ET Ocean
MP/2 Optima	CGJ	SEA Rapsody
	J/S	Siddi Bisher
	MP/2 Indegutny	J/3 Jiang Cheng

The above were the Tuesday's Shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

Exchange Rates

The following are the Commercial Bank's (BC) selling and TT (C), OD transfer buying rates for some selected foreign currencies effective on January 27. (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling		Buying
	B. C.	T. T. (C)	
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339
Pound Sterling	60.9225	60.6038	60.1989
DM	24.8224	24.6648	24.2906
FE	7.3399	7.2951	7.2436
S Riyal	10.4849	10.4042	10.3307
D Guilders	22.0801	21.9414	21.7864
S Kroner	5.5311	5.4917	5.4529
Sri Lanka Dollar	23.8236	23.6873	23.5200
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548
Kuwait Dinar	129.1493	128.4104	127.9035
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.4925	1.4856	1.4783
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.9032	1.4964	1.4890

Authorized dealers will apply T T cian buying rate for purchase of remittance of Bangladeshis working abroad. Note: AMU—Asian Monetary Unit.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on January 26, 1993

Further decline in figures

Dhaka Stock Exchange saw another day of poor trading on Wednesday. Figures appeared very weak and fragile. Performance on the floor appeared rather dull against other days. Changes were in small margin in general.

Prices or value stood at Tk 158005.00, a poor turn out compared to other trading days. Volume or shares also turned out poor. Only 3,570 issues traded on the day.

Absence of excitement was clearly viewed on the floor. Only 24 listed companies showed up on the trading floor. Ten companies gained prices while another eight lost prices. Six traded at unchanged rates.

The Composite Index, however, showed up with improved figures. The index slightly gained against Monday's finish — 0.199 point was added to 366.7617 closing at 366.9610.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE Share Price Index	366.9610
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	10,489,573,050.00
Turnover in Volume	3570
Turnover in Value (Tk)	158005.00

Company	Previous Price	Closing Price	Change (absolute)	Change (% over of shares)	Number sold
Gains (10)					
Bangla Process	61.00	63.00	2.00	3.279	10
BCIL	220.00	232.50	12.50	5.682	20
Eagle Box	15.00	15.50	0.50	3.333	300
Dulama Cotton	19.00	19.50	0.50	0.633	10
Bangladesh Oxygen	63.00	63.50	0.50	0.794	350
Beximco Infusion	219.50	219.88	0.38	0.173	40
Bd Autocars	56.50	58.86	2.36	4.177	35
Eastern Cables	73.13	73.50	0.37	0.506	50
Howlader Pvc	111.00	112.00	1.00	0.901	40
Bengal Food	139.96	140.00	0.04	0.029	50