

### Bidis being sold without bandroll in Pabna

PABNA, Feb 15: Bids without bandroll are being sold in the rural hats and bazars of the greater Pabna district depriving the government of about Tk 3 crore revenue annually, reports UNB.

Sources said under the existing law Tk 35 is to be paid as excise duty for every one hundred packets of bidi with bandrolls. But used bandrolls collected from retailers are being stocked to evade the excise duty.

Some bidi factory owners also kept their production figures secret to hoodwink the tax officials, the sources said.

It is alleged that some concerned officials remain indifferent to this malpractice for reasons best known to them.

Meanwhile, smoking of bidis is increasing day by day due to price hike of different low brand cigarettes in the district.

### Scarcity of fish prevailing in Maulavibazar

MAULAVIBAZAR, Feb 15: Acute scarcity of fish is prevailing in different hats and bazars of paura area, reports UNB.

The main reason behind the scarcity is shortage of supply in the bazars of the town.

The price of meat has risen taking the advantages of the situation.

Local people alleged all other commodities including vegetables have also recorded a sharp rise here which affected the low income group of people worse.

### Avail opportunity for self employment

KHULNA, Feb 15: Mayor of Khulna City Corporation Shaikh Tayebur Rahman urged the unemployed people to avail the opportunity provided by the present government for self-employment, reports BSS.

The government programme is evident in credit facilities to set up dairy farm, poultry farm and various other income generating small farmings," he added.

The mayor was inaugurating an exhibition of improved variety of dairy and poultry bird Saturday near New Market, Khulna. It was arranged jointly by the Live Stock Department and Khulna City Corporation.

The function was addressed among others by M Nurul Islam, President of Khulna City BNP, Additional Deputy Director of Livestock Directorate Dr Ziauddin Ahmed, Deputy Director Dr Fayzul Haq, Convener of Bangladesh Dairy and Poultry Farm Association, Shah Alam and President of Khulna Dairy Farm Owners Association, Samir Ahmed.

About five hundred improved varieties of cows and huge number of improved varieties of poultry birds were brought from various places in connection with the exhibition.

### Pakistan to seek \$ 173m aid for Afghan refugees

ISLAMABAD, Feb 15: Pakistan is to seek 173 million dollar from a World Bank-sponsored consortium for its relief assistance programme for Afghan refugees in fiscal 1993-94, a government official said, reports Reuter.

Islamabad will ask the aid to Pakistan Consortium based in Paris to provide 141 million dollar for food and cash assistance to the 1.7 million Afghan refugees still in Pakistan and 31 million dollar for transport costs.

The draft proposal has already been prepared and will be submitted to the consortium which will meet in May in Paris," said the official, who declined to be named.

The aid will also cover a high priority project recommended by the UN Development Programme for rehabilitation of areas damaged by the refugees during their stay in Pakistan, he said.

### Annual confce of BASIC managers held

Annual conference of managers of Bank of Small Industries and Commerce Bangladesh Ltd (BASIC) was held at its head office on February 13, says a press release.

Managing Director of BASIC A A Quraishi inaugurated the two-day conference. He emphasised the need to finance establishment of small industries.

He said that BASIC would continue its efforts of industrialisation by identifying genuine entrepreneurs.

## Experts for more bank loan to raise agri output

By Staff Correspondent

Agriculture experts in a seminar in the city underscored the role of bank credit in the development of agricultural sector of Bangladesh at a time when market economy is pursued by the government.

The seminar on 'Banks and Agricultural Development' was organised by Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM).

The speakers were unanimous in pointing out that success of any development strategy in Bangladesh would depend on the successful development of agricultural sector, as it generates about 40 per cent of our GDP and more than 70 per cent of employment.

They said that there was still plenty of scopes for raising productivity in the sector. They mentioned that by ex-

tending facilities of irrigation and package inputs, high yielding varieties (HYV) can be successfully utilised in raising production in the sector. Banks can extend credit to farmers to help them adopt these modern inputs.

The experts deplored the fact that share of agricultural loan in total credit was actually showing a declining trend.

Different speakers suggested supervised credit system to avoid default in loan repayment by the farmers. Setting up of 'collective farms' with the cooperation of farmers can also be explored, they said.

Dr. M Mainul Haque of BUET suggested setting up of a commodity bank to accept repayment in kind. This, he hoped, would enable a higher

recovery rate. Successful experiments of different NGOs, especially Grameen Bank and BRAC, in extending credit to the landless or marginal farmers can serve as examples, the speakers opened.

They also emphasised the fact that farmers were very responsive to HYV when inputs were reached to their doorsteps.

Director General of BIBM A H M Nurul Islam Choudhuri said it was wrong to close down a rural branch of a bank of the excuse of loss, because Bangladesh does not have unit banking system. He emphatically said, if social benefits of rural credits are taken into account, no bank would be found to be losing because of its rural credit programme.



Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia and his wife Dr Siti Hasmah receiving gifts from the General Manger of Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, John L Eaton during their stay at the hotel.

## Tk 4 cr projects completed in 16 northern districts

PABNA, Feb 15: At least 122 projects under the Health and Family Welfare ministry have been completed at a cost of Tk 4 crore in 16 northern districts during the fiscal 1992-93, reports UNB.

The projects implemented with the financial assistance from the World Bank including construction of 98 family welfare centres and maternity centres and repair and extension work on some existing centres.

The projects were implemented in Pabna, Sirajganj, Rajshahi, Naogaon, Chapainawabganj, Natore, Bogra, Joypurhat, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Dinajpur, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts.

A report from Feni says: Zila

Parishad sanctioned Taka 30 lakh for implementing five development projects in five thanas of the district.

Official sources said the projects include construction of Feni-Fazilpur Road at a cost of Taka 7.50 lakh. Chhagalnaiya-Muhuriganj road at a cost of Taka 1.75 lakh, UP Bhaban in Chhagalnaiya thana at a cost of Taka 6.50 lakh, construction of a bridge on Kumaria canal at a cost of 7.67 lakh taka and construction of UP Bhaban at Dolia at cost of Taka 6.27 lakh.

The work is expected to be completed by June next.

BSS from Barisal adds: A total of 479 metric tons of wheat has been sanctioned for the implementation of 12 schemes in Barisal district under voluntary canal digging

programme during the current season.

According to the district relief and rehabilitation office schemes, fifty per cent of cost schemes will be implemented under voluntary service and the rest under allocation from Food for Work Programme.

Of the total projects, two canals will be re-excavated in Barisal sadar thana, two canals in Bakerganj thana, one canal in Babuganj thana, one canal in Wazirpur thana, one canal in Gourmadi thana, one canal in Agailhara thana, one canal in Mehendiganj thana, one canal in Hizla thana, one canal in Muladi thana and one canal in Banaripara thana.

Work on these schemes has started and is expected to be completed within April.

## South Korea vows to keep its rice market closed

SEOUL, Feb 15: South Korea will refuse to bow to international pressure to open its rice market, Prime Minister Hyun Soong-jong said Monday, reports AP.

Hyuns' comment came as about 10,000 farmers, chanting anti-US slogans and waving banners, marched through Seoul demanding that Washington stop pressuring South Korea to allow rice imports.

South Korea is under international pressure to open its rice market under the Uruguay Round of world trade talks aimed at eliminating trade barriers.

About 15 per cent of South Korea's 42 million citizens are farmers whose major source of income is rice, the

country's staple food.

There is no change in the government policy of blocking the access of foreign rice to the Korean market under any circumstances," Hyun said in testimony at the National Assembly.

The thousands of farmers marched through the capital, taking over sections of major four-and six-lane thoroughfares. Traffic in eastern sections of downtown Seoul came to a halt.

There were no arrests or clashes. Police walked alongside marchers to prevent violence.

"Let's drive out Yankees trying to open the rice market," a leader shouted through a hand-carried megaphone. The

crowd took up the chant. Some pedestrians showed support by clapping their hands.

The march followed a 90-minute rally at Dongguk University in eastern Seoul during which protesters burned a US flag and adopted a statement resolving to protect South Korean agriculture.

The farmers said cheap foreign imports would destroy South Korea's rice industry. South Korean rice is five or six times more expensive than the world price.

The farmers, wearing headbands and carrying red, blue, yellow and white streamers, scattered leaflets appealing for support as they marched along the streets.



A A Quraishi, MD of Bank of Small Industries and Commerce Bangladesh Ltd (BASIC) speaking on the inaugural session of the two-day-long bank managers annual conference held on February 13 at its head office.



M. Moyeedul Islam, Chairman, United Insurance Company Limited is opening a new branch at Bijoy Nagar, Dhaka Monday.

## Shipping Intelligence CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 15.02.93

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/1	Samudra Rani	Repair	Col	SSL	28/01	17/02
J/2	Komsomolets	GI	Pera	Sunbeam	15/02	19/02
J/3	Rositi	GI/GL	Pera	ASLL	09/02	25/02
J/4	Al Salma	R Seed	Rouen	Royal	10/02	18/02
J/5	Sidi Bishr	Sugar (P)	Pera	MMI	25/01	17/02
J/6	Lily	GI	Pera	Dynamic	13/02	17/02
J/7	Trans America	Repair	BKK	BOH	08/01	20/02
J/8	J Sister	GI	S Hat	ASLL	05/02	16/02
J/9	Horn	GI	Busan	Prog	13/02	20/02
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Aqaba	EOSL	25/01	20/02
J/11	Massy Phoenix	Wheat (P)	Sing	OWSL	28/01	17/02
J/12	Kota Buana	Cont	Sing	CTS	11/02	17/02
J/13	I Yamburenko	Cont	Sing	CT	12/02	16/02
MPB/1	Tiger Force	Cont	Sing	RSL	14/02	17/02
CCJ	Sea Rhapsody	C Clink	Vish	UMAL	10/02	18/02
GSJ	Vinta	Wheat (C)	Aqua	R/A	R/A	15/02
TSP	Freedom	R Pos	Aqaba	SSST	13/02	22/02
RM/4	Mupo	Cement	T Pen	USTC	09/02	17/02
DOJ	Banglar Shourabh	C Oil		BSC	R/A	16/02
DDJ/1	Labroy-90	GI	Sing	ILA	31/01	28/02

### VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Alam Tenang	15/02	Sing	H&H	Cement	
Sea Progress	15/02	Padra	AML	Cement	
Meng Hong 6/2	16/02	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	
NGS Ranger 6/2	16/02	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Tiger Force	16/02	Hong	Prog	GI	
Thai Binh	16/02		UMAL	C Clink	
Sun Speed	17/02	Yang	MBL	GI	
Asian Express	17/02		B Bay	GI	
State of Tripura	18/02	Mad	SSL	GI	
Norbuk Namir	19/02		PSAL	Cement	
Gold Future	19/02		AML	GL Mom Mapu	
Saigon-1	19/02	Tuti	USTC	Cement	
Stonewall Jackson	19/02		Karna	GI	New York
Rhe Ocean	19/02	Kera	BOAL	GI	Cal Yangon
Shenton 11/2	19/02	Sing	Omni	Cont	Sing
Marine Three	19/02	Tuti	BMIL	Cement/CI	
Mukachevo	20/02		USTC	Cement	
Knud Jespersen 9/2	20/02		CT	Cont	Sing
Vishva Asha	20/02		SSL	GI/GL	Russ Ports
Fong Yun 11/2	20/02	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Banglar Kiron	20/02	Mong	BSC	GL	
Optima 11/2	21/02	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Banglar Shobha	21/02	S Hat	BSC	GI	
Banglar Robi 14/2	22/02	Sing	BSC	Cont	
Saifna-e-Najam	22/02	Kera	ASLL	GI/GL	
Qing He Cheng	22/02	S Hat	BDSHIP	GI	
Saifna-e-Ismael-2	22/02		ASLL	GI/GL	Karachi
Chandides	23/02		SSL	GI	
Andrian Goncharov	14/2		CT	Cont	Sing
Fong Shin 14/2	25/02	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Myitschi	25/02		USTC	Cement	
Gafo	25/02		EBPL	GI	

### TANKER DUE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Sandgate	15/02	Sing	MSPL	HSD	

### VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Aspilos	C Oil	Jebe	DSLL	11/02
Banglar Jyoti	C Oil		BSC	R/A (15/2)

### VESSELS NOT READY

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Arti	GTSP (P)	Ind	H&SL	16/01
Tarbela	Cement (P)	Sing	BSC	11/02

### VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Banglar Asha			BSC	R/A (2/2)

### VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Meringa	Scrapping	Viza	UMAL	01/01
Arhon	GTSP (P)	Sing	H&SL	24/12
Trans Asia		Sing	BOAL	01/02
Diaporos	Wheat (G)	N Ori	Aqua	06/02
Al Tajwar	Wheat (G)		Aqua	R/A (12/02)
Guljiang	Urea		ATSL	R/A (12/02)

### MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 16/02/93

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J/8 J Sister	DOJ Banglar Jyoti	J/1 S Rani To J/8
J/13 I Yamburenko	DOJ J/1 Tiger Hope	
DOJ Banglar Shourabh		

The above were the Monday'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 Banks' BC selling and TT (C), OD transfer buying rates for some selected foreign currencies effective on February 14, 15 and 16 (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339
Pound Sterling	55.5726	55.2677	54.8948
DM	23.5738	23.4291	23.2636
FF	6.9567	6.9283	6.8774
S Riyal	10.4641	10.4042	10.3307
D Guilders	20.9691	20.8380	20.6908
S Kroner	5.2073	5.1740	5.1375
Singapore Dollar	23.7297	23.5939	23.4273
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548
Kuwait Dinar	127.0753	126.3482	125.4559
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.4925	1.4858	1.4783
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.4866	1.4790	1.4716

Authorised dealers will apply T T clean buying rate for purchase of remittances of Bangladeshis working abroad. Note: AMU - Asian Monetary Union.

## Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on February 15, 1993

### Transactions fall

Transactions fell on Monday at Dhaka Stock Exchange. Figures appeared rather weaker against Sunday's finish. Both the turnovers fell. Shares lost by 48.52 per cent from Sunday's 19103 issues to 9833 issues.

Prices also suffered a loss of 27.88 per cent from Taka 1316294.00 on Sunday to Taka 949265.10.

Losers lead the floor totalling 18 while half that advanced. Eleven stocks remained at unchanged prices.

Performance of the DSE index was fair. It advanced to 370.7988 from Sunday's 370.0265 adding 0.772 point.

### MONDAY'S TRADING A GLANCE

DSE Share Price Index	370.7988
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	10,599,276,366.00
Turnover in Volume	9833
Turnover in Value (Tk)	949265.10

Company	Previous price	Closing price (absolute)	Change (Tk)	Change (% over price)	Number of shares sold
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#### Gains (09)

Company	Previous price	Closing price (absolute)	Change (Tk)	Change (% over price)	Number of shares sold
Paper Processing	31.00	34.00	3.00	9.677	30
Al Baraka Bank	890.00	930.50	40.50	4.551	02
BTC	60.00	61.00	1.00	1.667	100
BGIC	156.97	159.56	2.59	1.650	340
Ambee Pharma	12.60	12.80	0.20	1.587	150
Rahman Chemicals	36.50	37.00	0.50</		