

US entrepreneurs keen to invest in energy sector

Private entrepreneurs of United States have shown keen interest to invest in power generation, oil and gas exploration in Bangladesh. Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharrar Hossain said in the city Thursday, reports BSS.

Talking to newsmen at Zia International Airport on his return from a fortnight tour of the United States, he said the investors had appreciated the Bangladesh efforts on privatisation.

During his stay in the US, Dr Hossain attended the annual general meeting of the National Rural Electric Co-

operative Association (NRECA) in Dallas where he apprised the delegates of the activities of Rural Electrification Board (REB) and the Palli Bidyat Samities in Bangladesh.

The Energy Minister highlighted the success of the REB in Bangladesh and how it had helped change the socio-economic condition of the people where there is electricity.

In Dallas, the Minister met the executive vice president of NRECA Bob Bergland, a former senator and secretary of agriculture. He also visited Texas and saw the tri-country rural

electricity cooperatives. In Washington, the Energy Minister met World Bank Vice President Joseph Wood. Wood appreciated fundamental improvement in the power sector of Bangladesh and hoped it would be sustained and further steps taken to meet the country's demand for electricity.

Dr Hossain appreciated the withdrawal of suspension on lending to the power sector by the World Bank.

Mohammad Ali, Secretary Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and senior officials were present at the airport.

Implementation of World Bank funded projects reviewed

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday chaired an inter-ministerial meeting on aid utilization of World Bank assisted development projects at NEC complex in Dhaka, reports UNB.

The meeting reviewed the World Bank funded development projects currently being implemented by different agencies in different sectors of the economy.

During elaborate discussion on the projects the Minister emphatically said that in cases where implementation is lagging behind owing to design-deficiency or implementation weaknesses, funds will be diverted from these projects to human resource development, poverty-alleviation.

New Dy MD of Eastern Insurance

Nazrul Islam Khan, former Deputy General Manager of Sudharan Bima Corporation, has been appointed Deputy Managing Director of the Eastern Insurance Company Limited, says a Press release.

Nazrul is a veteran Insurance Executive and has been actively associated with the insurance industry for the last 27 years. He was born in the year 1938 at Chandpur. He started his career in insurance with the then Muslim Insurance Company Limited in 1966. He resigned as Deputy General Manager from Sudharan Bima Corporation in January '90 and joined the Purabi General Insurance Company as Deputy Managing Director.

Tk 60cr rural electrification plan taken up

ALPHADANGA, Feb 25: A 60 crore Taka rural electrification work has been taken in hand for Faridpur district which will be completed by phases, reports UNB.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kanai Ibne Yousuf told this at a meeting held here Tuesday.

He also disclosed government decision for quick completion of construction work of Faridpur-Kasiani and Saharail-Goplapur-Alphadanga roads.

The Health Minister said democracy can be given an institutional shape with mutual cooperation and cordiality.

Terminating hartals, terrorism and strikes as threats to the very existence of the nation, he said "There is no alternative to production in a problem stricken country like Bangladesh."

The opposition politicians should shun such negative attitude for the sake of the future generations, the Minister said.

He also directed the concerned authority to solve different health problems of the locality.

Indian sarees, snakes seized

RAJSHAHI, Feb 25: Members of 20 Rifle Battalion seized 175 pieces of Indian sarees and 21 snakes from a passenger bus at Kashinathpur on Tuesday, reports BSS.

Holding a Dhaka-bound bus (No Dhaka-Metro-Cha-6687) coming from Dinajpur, the BDR personnel found 82 pieces of Indian Sarna Katan saree, 93 pieces of jarjet saree and 21 snakes in 21 boxes made for carrying snakes. One person was arrested in this connection.

Meanwhile, the BDR jawans seized Indian spare parts of watch worth over Taka three lakh 36 thousand from a Dhaka-bound passenger bus at the same place recently.

The smuggled goods were seized from nine passengers travelling in the bus (No Pabna Ba-2030). The passengers were arrested and handed over to Bera thana while the contraband goods were deposited to Ishwardi customs office.

Tk 15 crore sugar lying unsold

GAIBANDHA, Feb 25: Huge stock of sugar worth about Taka 15 crore produced in Rangpur Sugar Mills Ltd, Mohinganj has been lying unsold for a long.

The sugar mills authority informed that they failed to sell their product as its price is higher than the its sugar available in the markets.

It is informed that the locally made sugar started piling up in different mills after the government imported two lakh tons of sugar under OGL.

The imported sugar which is being sold in the market is said to be of much inferior

quality than the locally produced sugar.

Another reason for such stockpiling is said to be the price of imported sugar. Local mills which produce huge amount of sugar cost slightly higher than the imported quality since quality of locally produced sugar is said to be more refined.

"Market competition is keeping our stock of sugar out of market", said one dealer. Facing such hard competition the mill owners were forced to deduct prices of sugar by Taka two thousand per ton. No successful result come out due to

ever lower prices of imported sugar.

As a result of competition, the local mill owners were compelled to cut production. According to an official source, Rangpur Sugar Mills produced 8,500 metric tons of sugar during this current crushing season. Only two thousand tons of sugar were sold in the market.

According to a statistical report, the annual requirement of sugar in the country is 2.5 lakh metric tons. Sugar output from local mills were 2,25,000 metric tons so far.

Closure of industrial units leaves 3000 unemployed

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 25: About 3000 workers are unemployed following the closure of 150 industrial establishments in the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) industrial areas in 16 northern districts.

The industries were closed down due to shortage of running capital, absence of skilled and experienced entrepreneurs and lack of proper marketing system.

It is reported that 25 out of 84 industries in greater Pabna district, 35 out of 154 in

greater Rajshahi, 25 out of 73 in greater Rangpur, 15 out of 108 in greater Dinajpur and 50 industries out of 172 in greater Bogra district have been remaining closed for years together.

The BSCIC installed the industries in 16 northern districts to develop the production oriented economic infrastructure of the area, but following manifold problems, 150 small and big units have been closed down rendering workers and employees unemployed.

BCIC gas cylinder blast victims to get compensation

FENI, Feb 25: Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) decided to compensate the gas cylinder explosion victims, official sources said Thursday, says UNB.

According to official sources, six people were killed and 91 affected due to the blast of poisonous chemical gas at Lemua on the Feni bypass on February 9. The corporations truck was carrying the gas for Ashuganj fertiliser factory from Chittagong.

The corporation will give Taka 10,000 to each of the six families of the deads. Taka 2,000 to the seriously and 1,500 to the less affected people each.



Alok Sanyal, Counsellor, High Commission of India in Dhaka called on Mohammad Mosharrar Hossain, President BGMEA on Tuesday. They discussed the prospects of bilateral trade between Bangladesh and India with special emphasis on the garment sector.

Hats, bazars need development

NATORE, Feb 25: Due to lack of necessary repair and proper maintenance, 127 hats and bazars in six thanas of the district are now in pitiable condition.

As a result, the buyers and sellers of these market places are to suffer much especially in the rainy season.

It can be mentioned here that a big amount of money comes from these hats and bazars as revenue every year.

During current 1999 year beginning from the Bengali month Baishakh to Chaitra Taka one crore 8 lakh 32 thousand 731 were earned from these hats and bazars

From Our Correspondent

while the earning in the last year (1398) was Taka one crore five lakh 44 thousand 557, according to an official source.

As per the provision, the government should spend about 40 per cent of the total earning for the development of these hats and bazars, the source added. But in practice 40 per cent of the collected revenue allocated for the development of the hats and bazars are not spent.

Most of the tubewells in these hats and bazars remain out of order maximum time causing untold sufferings to the people.

These hats and bazars are not regularly cleared. Most of roads in these hats and bazars are in deplorable condition.

The drains in these hats and bazars have been filled up with garbage and these can not drain out water during the rainy season.

The unplanned construction of structures have become a regular feature. Due to erection of illegal structures, the space in hats and bazars has become narrow.

The maintenance of law and order in hats and bazars area is seriously hampered as the lease-holders intervene in most of cases.

Stress on education for development

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Thursday stressed the need for spreading the light of education and knowledge among the people to meet the growing demands of resource personnel in different fields of our development, reports BSS.

He said those nations who achieved economic progress had laid emphasis on mass literacy programme on priority basis to attain better standard of their life.

The President was exchanging views with a 19-member delegation of the Government Primary School Teachers Association, when they called on him at Bangabhaban.

Mohammad Suruzzaman, President of the Association led the delegation.

President Biswas said in utilising the merits and talents of the people, it was essentially important to provide education for them in view of mobilising them towards socio-economic prosperity.

He said, the base of the children had to be built in their early life and teachers of the primary level had to play their due role in their formation in leading an honest and happy life.

Referring to the religious teachings, he said the children could earn morality imbuing with the human quality ad-hoc by the religion and to build up their character having qualities of dedication in contributing to the country's over-

all development.

President Biswas said the present accountable government was striving hard to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the common mass including mass education to make the nation free from illiteracy and poverty.

He said, the teaching community at the primary level are the pride of the nation and they have to continue to render their services in the field of education and to bring about a change in our socio-economic life.

The President hoped that through their hard and sincere endeavour the literacy rate in the rural areas would be increased. He said it would also help build our happy and pro-

perous future.

Later the delegation submitted a memorandum to the president with certain demands, including all up the vacancies of the primary teachers in different schools, changing of their recruitment rules and providing them with house building loan facilities.

The president had given them a patient hearing and assured that he would look into their problems.

Among others AFM Mofiqul Haq Bhuiyan, Azizul Haq Munshi, Shafulkhalid, Mohamud Abdul Awal Talukder and Kamal Ahmed, all the leaders of the teachers association, were present on the occasion.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 24.02.93

Berth No.	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L/Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Date of Leaving
J/1	State of Tripura	GI	Mad	SSL	22/02	25/02
J/2	Safina-e-Najam	GI/GL	Kara	ASL	22/02	03/03
J/3	Asian Express	GI	Cal	B/Day	22/02	24/02
J/4	Qing He Cheng	GI	S/Hal	BDSHP	23/02	28/02
J/5	Sidi Bishr	Repair	Pena	MMI	25/01	26/02
J/6	Horn	GI	Busan	Prog	13/02	27/02
J/7	Trans America	Repair	BKK	BOV	08/01	25/02
J/8	J Slater	Urea	S/Hal	Seacom	05/02	27/02
J/9	S E Ismail-2	GI/GL	Kara	ASL	23/02	02/03
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Apqba	EOSL	25/01	28/02
J/11	Optima	Urea	Sing	ISL	20/02	24/02
J/12	Al Salma	Urea	Pena	ASL	09/02	26/02
J/13	Knud Jespersen	Cont	Sing	CT	20/02	24/02
MPB/1	Bangor Robt	Cont	Sing	ISL	21/02	24/02
MPB/2	Fong Yun	Cont	Sing	BDSHP	20/02	24/02
CCJ	Thal Binh	C/Clmk	Apqba	UMAL	15/02	27/02
GSJ	Al Tajwar	Wheat (G)	Apqba	R/A	26/02	
TSP	Vinta	Wheat (G)	Apqba	R/A	25/02	
RM/4	Tarbela	Cement (P)	Sing	ISL	11/02	04/03
RM/6	Easo Bayonne	11SD/JP-1	Sing	MSPL	20/02	24/02
DDI/1	Barge Labroy-90	GI	Sing	ILA	31/01	28/02
DDI/2	Banglar Asha	Repair	Sing	ISC	R/A	28/02
CUFJ	Freedom Venture	Urea	RRSA	R/A	28/02	

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Banglar Shobha	24/02	S/Hal	ISC	GI	
Salgon-1	24/02	Tuti	USTC	Cement	
Olga-1	24/02	Mong	USTC	Bunkering	
Ingenuity 15/2	24/02	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Marine Three	25/02	Tuti	BML	Cement	
Yun Teng	25/02	Tuti	Bright	Cement	
Samudra Raj	25/02	Pena	SSL	GI	
Continent-1	26/02	Mong	CLA		Sing Sura
Gold Future					
(E/L) 23/2	26/02	Mong	AML	GL	Mom Mapu
Banglar Kiron	26/02	Mong	ISC	GL	Apqba
Blue Ocean	26/02	Kara	BOV	GI	Cal Yangon
Fong Shin 14/2	26/02	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
NGS Express 16/2	26/02	Mong	BDSHP	GI	Sing
Gahu (48) 22/2	26/02	Sing	EBPL	Cont	
Kota Buana 17/2	26/02	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Orsha	26/02	L.Kuh	USTC	Cement	
Stonewall Jackson	26/02		Kama	GI	New York
Dancing Sister	27/02	Rost	Royal	R Seeds	
Vishva Asha	27/02	Mong	SSL	GI/GL	Russ Ports
Arktis Breeze	28/02	Sing	BSL	Copra	
Mukachevo	28/02		USTC	Cement	
Mytschi	28/02		USTC	Cement	
Yamburenko 23/2	27/02	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
NGS Ranger 22/2	02/03	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Bervalla 22/2	04/03	Sing	ULA	Cont	UJA F East
Charclidas	04/03		SSL	GI/GL	UK Cont
Tiger Force 17/02	05/03	Col	RSL	Cont	Col

TANKER DUE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Date of Arrival
Esso Bangkok	24/02	Sing	MSPL	HSD	
Global Ceres	25/02	Vint	TSL	C P Oil	

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Andrian Goncharov	Cont	Sing	CT	24/02

VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

READY ON

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Andrian Goncharov	Cont	Sing	CT	24/02

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Arti	GTSP (P)	Tnd	H&S	16/01
Lise	Cement	Sing	Paragon	17/02
Yvon	GTSP (P)	Sing	H&S	24/12
Andreas V	Cement	L.Chin	Kharsons	19/02
Xiang He	Cement	Hlong	Kharsons	21/02

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 25/02/93

OUTGOING	INCOMING	SHIFTING
J/1 Tripura	MPB/1 Ingenuity	J/4 B Shobha To J/7
J/7 Trans America	RM/3 Global Ceres	
J/5 Sidi Bishr	RM/6 Salgon	

Price Index

Essentials

Item	Unit	Price
RICE (Aman/fin)	(Taka per kg)	13.00-14.00
Papay	(Taka per kg)	11.75-12.50
VEGETABLES	(Taka per kg)	7.00-8.00
Potato (local)	(Taka per kg)	5.00-8.00
Brinjal	(Taka per kg)	12.00-14.00
Karola	(Taka per kg)	3.00-4.00
Lalshak	(Taka per kg)	8.00-10.00
Tomato	(Taka per kg)	6.00-8.00
Cauliflower	(Taka per kg)	8.00-14.00
ONION	(Taka per kg)	12.50-13.00
Area	(Taka per kg)	10.50-11.00
FISH	(Taka per kg)	17.00-19.00
Rua(hg)	(Taka per kg)	13.00-15.00
Kalab(hg)	(Taka per kg)	15.00-16.00
Pangas	(Taka per kg)	12.00-14.00
Shrimp(hg)	(Taka per kg)	20.00-14.00
Seng	(Taka per kg)	13.00-15.00
MEAT	(Taka per kg)	55.00-60.00
Beef	(Taka per kg)	55.00-60.00
Mutton	(Taka per kg)	55.00-60.00

Exchange Rates

The following are the Commercial Banks' selling and buying rates for selected foreign currencies effective on February 26, 27, 28, 29, 1993 (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9047	38.6339
Pound Sterling	55.9277	55.6767	55.3013
DM	24.0416	23.9251	23.7601
FF	7.0912	7.0468	6.9970
S. Riyal	10.4641	10.4042	10.3307
D/Guilders	21.4061	21.2720	21.1218
S. Kroner	4.9730	4.9383	4.9034
Singapore Dollar	23.8628	23.7263	23.5587
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548
Kuwait Dinar	128.1358	127.4027	126.5029
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.4925	1.4858	1.4783
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.4860	1.4793	1.4719

Exchange Rates (Continued)

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Kuwait Dinar	128.1358	127.4027	126.5029
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.4925	1.4858	1.4783
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.4860	1.4793	1.4719

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on February 25, 1993

Gainers dominate

Thursday's trading at Dhaka Stock floor showed even poorer figures. Signs of improvement was not where near the floor. Transactions fell in terms of both the turnovers.

Shares suffered a comparatively smaller loss. It went down by 5.64 per cent against Wednesday's finish of 5597 issues and closed at 5281 issues. Prices suffered a loss of 30.75 shedding Taka 129572.25 from Wednesday's Taka 421274.25.

Trading on the floor showed few gains. Nine stocks advanced while four lost prices. Another nine stocks traded at their previous rates. The highest number of shares were transacted by Ambee Pharmaceutical Limited involving 2450 shares.

The Composite Index slightly rose from Wednesday's 370.1404 to 370.1662, adding 0.026 point.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Company	Previous price Tk	Closing price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (%)	Number of shares
DSE Share Price Index		370.1662			
Market Capitalisation (Tk)		10,581,192,864.00			
Turnover in Volume		5281			
Turnover in Value (Tk)		291702.00			

Company	Previous price Tk	Closing price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (%)	Number of shares
Gains (09)					
Stocks:					
B Lamps	150.00	160.00	10.00	6.667	05
Ambee Pharma	12.30	12.60	0.30	2.439	2450
Rupan Oil	4.20	4.30	0.10	2.381	500
6th ICBM Fund	60.00	61.00	1.00	1.667	150
Singer	880.00	890.00	10.00	1.136	10
Wata Chemical	114.00	115.00	1.00	0.877	120
BGIC	155.00	155.76	0.76	0.490	230
IFIC	172.05	172.50	0.45	0.261	16
Bengal Food	137.00	137.01	0.01	0.007	86
Losses (04)					
Stocks:					
Monro Ceramic	286.00	281.00	-5.00	-1.748	20
Apex Tannery	380.00	375.00	-5.00	-1.316	10
Rahman Chemical	36.38	36.00	-0.38	-1.045	250
Usmania Glass	258.00	257.00	-1.00	-0.388	20
Traded at unchanged rates (09)					
Stocks:					
Stocks: National Bank (19), 5th ICBM Fund (50), Monro Jute Stafflers (45), Quasem Textile (1,000), Padma Textile (120					