

Tk 55 lakh jute, other goods gutted by fire

SIRAJGANJ, Mar 8: Fire in a jute mill gutted jute, other goods and machinery worth an estimated Taka 55 lakh Sunday night, reports UNB.

At least five workers of the Raypur Kawni Jute Mills also suffered burn injuries while trying to bring the fire under control, police and witnesses said.

Authorities said the fire originated from shortcircuit in the Bracing Department of the mill at 10 pm and raged through a nearby jute godown.

However, workers suspected there might have been conspiracy behind the fire.

Miyazawa to propose fund for CIS

TOKYO, Mar 8: Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa is expected to propose soon the creation of a world fund to promote development in Russia and to help ex-Soviet states dismantle nuclear weapons, a financial daily said, reports Reuters.

Miyazawa will unveil his ideas about setting up the international fund when he meets US President Bill Clinton in Washington in mid-April, said the daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun.

CAMC chief due today

Jiang Cheng Xun, President China National Constructional and Agricultural Machinery Import and Export Corporation (CAMC) is arriving in Bangladesh on a five-day visit today (Tuesday), says a press release.

CAMC is one of China's leading national organisations engaged in international trade in agricultural and construction machinery and equipment.



Jiang Cheng Xun

The corporation has played a significant role in introduction of very economic diesel engines in Bangladesh. These highly affordable engines have brought shallow tubewell irrigation within the easy reach of the farmers.

Jute spinners' assoc executives

M Mahmood, Managing Director, Northern Jute Manufacturing Co Ltd, Dhaka has been re-elected the Chairman of Bangladesh Jute Spinners' Association for 1993-94 at the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Association held on Monday at its conference hall at 55, Purana Paltan, (3rd Floor), Dhaka says a Press release.

Shabbir Yusuf, Director, Faridpur Jute Fibres Ltd, Dhaka has also been re-elected the Vice-Chairman.

The new committee consists of Abdul Hai Ahmed Hossain, Muhammad Shams-Ul-Haque, M A Kashem, Moinal Islam Khan and A B Siddiqur Rahman.

Stocks surge, dollar higher in Tokyo

TOKYO, Mar 8: Tokyo stocks surged Monday morning on prospects for additional government-directed spending from public funds to support the market. The US dollar remained higher against the Japanese yen, reports AP.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average added a hefty 726.70 points, or 4.3 per cent, to end the morning session at 17,544.40. The index rose 58.09 points, or 0.34 per cent, on Friday.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section gained 40.44 points, or 3.19 per cent, to stand at 1,308.75. The TOPIX rose 2.20 points, or 0.17 per cent, Friday.

Stock prices rose across the board on speculation that more money from public pension funds would soon start flowing into the market with the beginning of fiscal 1993 coming up on April 1. Yoshira Inoue, an analyst with Nomura Securities Co, said.

Jamalpur Palli Bidyut Samity

Members victim of injustice

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Mar 8: Jamalpur Palli Bidyut Samity-1 is beset with various problems, including burden of a loan of Taka 2.5 crore. This loan was used to construct a power line under Deposit Work to supply electricity of Jamuna Fertilizer Factory.

The Samity constructed a 34 kilometer long 33 KV power line to supply electricity to Jamuna Fertilizer Factory through the power line and collecting revenues.

The irony is that Jamalpur Palli Bidyut Samity is now burdened not only with the loan but also with the interest of about Taka 25 lakh per year on the above loan.

Jamalpur Palli Bidyut Samity has brought the whole matter to the notice of the authority concerned. But falling

only six spans remained to be completed, Power Development Board authorities declined to give the necessary shut-down for hooking up the line with the PDB grid. Subsequently, PDB and Jamuna Fertilizer Factory reached to an agreement and PDB completed the remaining work. Since then PDB is supplying electricity to Jamuna Fertilizer Factory through the power line and collecting revenues.

It is further revealed that despite the provision of transfer ring all PDB lines of a particular area to a Palli Bidyut Samity, if such a Samity exists, PDB is yet to transfer any line including the most profitable ones like that of Nandina Bazar, Sarsabari Municipal areas to the Samity. The Samity is deprived of huge revenues as a result.

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A S Mahmud, Director, Transcom Ltd receiving President's Export trophy from Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at a function held on Wednesday at the Usmani Memorial auditorium.

Govt taking measures to make women self-reliant

State Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Begum Sarwari Rahman said in Dhaka on Monday that the government was making all-out efforts to make women economically self-reliant in society so that they could be a part of decision making in the family, reports BSS.

She was speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on "role of women of Bangladesh in socio-economic development", organised by the Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) at Shaheed Muzaffar Auditorium in Dhaka on Monday morning in observance of the International Women's Day and the 40th anniversary of the association.

Chaired by association President Alamgir M.A. Kabir,

the seminar was also addressed, among others, by Director General of Family Planning A.K.M Rafiquzzaman, Additional Director of Women Development Directorate Suraiya Hakim, UNDP Representative Michael Constable, Honourary General Secretary of FPAB Kazi Anisur Rahman. Women's Affairs Secretary of FPAB Begum Momtaj Hossain presented a key note paper.

The State Minister said 17 ministries had been primarily identified as focal points for ensuring socio-economic development of women. The ministries will implement various aspects of women development programmes, she added.

government had been distributing loans to distressed women for assisting them in self-employment activities. They are also being imparted training and education. She expressed the hope that women would gradually get their due status in society by utilising the opportunities, provided by the government.

Lauding the role of FPAB, the State Minister expressed the hope that non-government and voluntary organisations would come forward to supplement government activities, aimed at the welfare of women.

Earlier, a day-long EPI and mother and child health programme was organised at FPAB premises.



M Mahmood, Chairman, Bangladesh Jute Spinners' Association (2nd from left) delivering his inaugural speech at the 14th AGM of the association at its conference hall on Monday. Shabbir Yusuf, Vice-Chairman (3rd from left) is also seen in the picture.

Pak budget deficit likely to be 7.4 per cent this year

ISLAMABAD, Mar 8: Pakistan's budget deficit will balloon in 1992/93 because of flagging tax revenue and the high cost of devastating floods last year, a government minister and World Bank officials said, reports Reuters.

"Pakistan will have a 7.4 per cent deficit this year (July/June) according to the State (central) Bank of Pakistan," Minister of State for Economic Affairs Sardar Anwar Ali said in a recent interview.

"This is dangerously high even though it is an optimistic figure," he said. The central bank refused to comment.

A report by a World Bank economist on Sunday included similar forecasts.

officials have warned the gap would widen to as much as nine per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), far overstripping forecasts of five per cent when the budget was announced last May.

In 1991/92 the deficit made up 6.1 per cent of GDP, down from 8.8 per cent the previous year but well short of the target of 4.8 per cent set by the International Monetary Fund as part of its conditions for helping Pakistan.

World Bank official Pedro Alba forecast the budget would exceed 7.5 per cent because of devastating floods that swept across the central Punjab cotton growing belt and cost the government an estimated dollar 2.5 billion in losses and relief work.

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Bangladesh saree traders organisation at a local hotel on Monday showing local made quality sarees at a press briefing.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performances of vessels as on 08.03.93

Table with columns: Berth No, Name of Vessels, Cargo, L Port, Local Call, Date of Arrival, Leaving

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, Last Port, Local Call, Cargo, Loading Port

TANKER DUE

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, Last Port, Local Call, Cargo, Loading Port

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Call, Date of Arrival

VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Call, Date of Arrival

READY ON

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Call, Date of Arrival

VESSELS NOT READY

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Call, Date of Arrival

VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Call, Date of Arrival

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Call, Date of Arrival

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 09.03.93

Table with columns: Outgoing, Incoming, Shifting

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' B.C. selling and T.T. (C). OD transfer buying rates for some selected foreign currencies effective on March 7, 8, 9.

Table with columns: Currency, Selling B.C., T. T. (C), Buying OD Transfers

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 March 08, 1993

Stronger figures

Business performance continued to show stronger figures. Trading on Monday further advanced to better position resulting in gains in both the turnovers.

The Composite Index slightly fell from Sunday's 383,353.8 to 383,133.1, shedding 0.221 point.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Table with columns: DSE Share Price Index, Market Capitalisation Tk, Turnover in Volume, Turnover in value (Tk)

Table with columns: Company's name, Price, Closing Price, Change, Change (% over price), Number of shares sold

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Traded at previous rates (17) Shares: 6th ICB M Fund (280), Eastern Cables (80), Singer Bangladesh (40), National Tubes (10), BTC (50), Dhaka Vegetables (15), Ashraf Textile (500), Satham Textile (10), Modern Dyeing (05), Ambee Pharma (1650), Beximco Pharma (40), Pharmaco International (05), The Ionsina (40), Gp Ball Pen (50), Usmania Glass (35), Beximco (800), Chittagong Cement (10).

DSE SHARES AND DEBENTURES

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Share Price, Shares

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Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Share Price, Shares

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