

Plan to set up greenbelt in cyclone-hit area

A plan to establish a greenbelt in the country's cyclone-prone southeaster region will be formulated under a 340,000 US dollar technical assistance project to be administered by the Asian Development Bank, reports UNB.

The technical assistance project will be financed by the Government of Norway on a grant basis, according to a message received here today (Friday) from ADB Headquarters in Manila.

The Forest Department under the Ministry of Environment and Forest will be the executing agency for the technical assistance.

The greenbelt of tree and palm plantations along the southeastern coastal embankment will provide a more stable environment in the region.

It will provide necessary vegetative cover on coastal embankments and adjoining plantations, act as protection against total economic devastation and loss of human lives caused by cyclones and tidal surges, and provide sources of supplementary income, fuelwood, fodder and construction materials for local people.

Japan Air Co talking to buy 7 cheaper planes

TOKYO, Mar 19: Japan Air System Co, expecting a loss in this fiscal year, said Thursday it has canceled plans to buy six Boeing 747-400 jumbo jets and is negotiating to buy seven smaller and cheaper Boeing planes instead, reports AP.

Boeing has agreed with the airline's plan to change its order to Boeing 777s, said a JAS official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

JAS had planned to buy the jumbo jets in fiscal 1995 and 1996, he said. The new plan calls for buying the 777s between fiscal 1996 and 1999.

The price of a Boeing 747-400 had been set at 22.5 billion yen (192 million dollar) each for 1996 delivery, another official said. The 777 model may cost about 17.5 billion yen (150 million dollar), he added.

He said JAS and Boeing now are negotiating over prices and deliveries for the 777s.

The airline has said it expects a five billion yen (42.7 million dollar) pretax loss in the fiscal year ending March 31.

30 politicians, businessmen face corruption charge

ROME, Mar 19: Magistrates investigating corruption in politics issued Thursday about 30 warrants for local politicians and businessmen, including Mauroleone, son of former president Giovanni Leone, and prominent industrialist Giuseppe Ciarrapico, says AFP.

The charges against both men were part of an investigation into the Saffin Leasin company, a subsidiary of Efim, the country's third-biggest state-owned group which went into liquidation at the end of last year.

Charges against the two include swindling and forging company accounts to the tune of 37 billion lira (six million dollar).

Ciarrapico, a self-made millionaire who began by selling fish before making his fortune, is said to be close to former Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, a leading Christian democrat.

Three local government officials are also wanted for questioning.

In Milan, magistrates notified former socialist party leader Bettino Craxi and a former official of the Christian party, Scerifio Chiaristi, of new charges against them.

ADB will administer IFAD fund to Indonesia

MANILA, Mar 19: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced Wednesday that it will administer the financial assistance from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to Indonesia for a tree crop development project, reports Xinhua.

The Manila-based bank said the IFAD-financed project will help Indonesia improve coconut production in an area heavily populated by trans-migrant families and increase food crop cultivation.

The project, which will cost 28 million US dollar, will be located in South Sumatra and carried out over a period of eight years.

IFAD will finance 71 per cent of the cost of the project and the Indonesian government will provide the rest.

The ADB said that it administers the IFAD's financial assistance for the project in accordance with an agreement signed by the two financial agencies in 1978.

5 lakh tea labourers now unemployed in Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

MOULVIBAZAR, Mar 19: About five lakh unemployed tea garden labourers throughout greater Sylhet region have been passing very hard days for a long time.

It is reported that though tea industries turned profitable organisations most of the garden authorities diverted the labour class from their usual life to an abnormal one.

Labourers of tea gardens have migrated from the region of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala of India during the British rule.

There are 157 tea gardens in the country. Most of these are located in the Sylhet region. A source of the tea indus-

tries says that there are more than six lakh efficient labourers in the gardens of this region. But only one lakh labourers are provided with job in the gardens, while the rest five lakh labourers remain still unemployed.

But the authority does not show any effort to fill up the vacancy. On the other hand, post of labour decreased by retirement and termination. After the independence of Bangladesh, about one lakh fifty thousand labourers were engaged in the production activities, but there is now only fifty thousand.

Garden authorities give Taka 20 only as daily wages per labourer. A labourer can not maintain family expenditure with this poor amount.

It is learnt that, some garden management distributing coarse-flour, kerosine and fuel woods to the labourers under rationing system. But most of the gardens have no such system.

Another source of revenue department informed that, some tea gardens have not been paying taxes for long and the department might call 30 tea gardens on auction to recover the arrears. Source related with tea industries expressed fear that more tea labourers may be terminated.

Govt taking steps to expand modernise pry, higher edn

RANGPUR, Mar 19: Education Minister Barrister Jamrudin Sircar said Thursday the BNP government had attached top most priority to the education sector and was taking necessary measures to build infrastructure for expansion and modernisation of primary and higher education, reports BSS.

He was addressing the foundation laying ceremony of Rangpur education complex.

The three-storied complex when constructed will provide accommodation to three departments under the education ministry - secondary and higher secondary education department, district primary education department and facilities department. The government has already sanc-

tioned Taka 19 lakh for construction of the district primary education department.

The Education Minister said, about 71 thousand primary schools and madrasahs would be used as mass education centres and one satellite school would be established in each 2.5 square kilometer area throughout the country in phases to ensure education for all by the year 2000. More five thousand schools would be registered by the government soon, he added.

Barrister Sircar said, National University and Open University had been set up in the country for facilitating higher education and clear the scission jam.

The function was addressed, among others, by BNP

leaders Rezaul Haq Sarkar Rana, Ehia Hossain, Deputy Commissioner of Rangpur and Deputy Director of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, Rangpur region.

The Education Minister also laid the foundation stone of a ladies hostel of Rangpur teachers training college. The government has sanctioned Taka 50 lakh for the construction of the 70-seat three-storied hostel.

Earlier, addressing a teachers' rally organised by Rangpur district unit of Bangladesh government primary school teachers association at the local town hall, the minister called upon them to make the compulsory primary education programme a success for educating the posterity.



A special meeting on Farming System Research of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) was held on Thursday with Minister for Fisheries, Livestock, Environment and Forests Abdullah Al-Noman in the chair. Among others, Minister for Agriculture, Irrigation, Flood Control and Water Development, Executive Vice-Chairman of BARC Dr M Sujayet Ullah Chowdhury were also present.

Tk 56 cr industrial loans lying unrealised

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Mar 19: Bank loans amounting to Taka 56.32 crore have been lying unrealised with some industrialists of the district.

According to sources, industrial loans were disbursed among the local businessmen for future improvement in industrial output. However, due to unknown reasons these businessmen failed to repay the loans on time.

Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKIB) and few other commercial banks were involved in disbursing loans for the locals.

To realise the loans, banks normally forward notices to their clients, a second notice is also forwarded if necessary. If notices bring no responses

from the clients, cases are filed in the court against registered defaulters.

According to bank officials, a total of 282 certificate cases have been filed so far with different courts in the district against defaulters to realise Taka 38 crore 51 lakh.

Few appeared to face trial, others kept aloof.

Despite such actions authorities managed so far to collect only 15 per cent of the total loans disbursed.

When contacted a regional bank manager said that field officers have been given strict instructions to identify clients. "They should be more cautious to distribute loans," he further added.

Sharp rise in transactions at Wall Street

From Our Correspondent

NEW YORK, Mar 19: Wall Street rose sharply Thursday following drops in first-time claims for US unemployment benefits and in the German discount rate, reports AFP.

The Dow Jones index of 30 leading industrial stocks closed the day at 3,465.64, up 38.90 points (1.14 per cent). Trading was heavy with some 240 million shares changing hands on the New York Stock Exchange.

Gainers outpaced losers by a margin of 1,257 to 645, while 574 issues were unchanged.

First-time claims for jobless benefits totalled 351,000 for the week ending March 13, down 10,000 from the previous week, the labour department announced Thursday.

Seoul unveils 100-day plan for revival of economy

SEOUL, Mar 19: South Korean President Kim Young-sam Friday unveiled a 100-day programme which, he hopes, will be the springboard to a revival of the country's sagging economy and produce a second economic miracle within five years, reports AFP.

Kim said in a broadcast to the nation the economy was in a "very difficult situation" with growth slowing to three per cent last year, some 30 small-medium enterprises going bankrupt daily and international competitiveness falling.

Kim, who took office three weeks ago, said his economic plan was different from previous ones as it called for "participation and creativity instead of (government) instructions and control."

He said it would eliminate many restrictions which hampered entrepreneurial activities, as well as push through financial and monetary re-

forms. He disclosed a "100-day new economic programme" that would go into force immediately and from the basis for a new five-year economic plan to be carried out during his five-year term of office.

He said that the 100-day programme would include - Reinventing business activities, particularly the export industry by increasing financial assistance for investment, lowering official interest rates and launching big public works.

- Strengthening competitiveness of small and medium industries and providing maximum financial aid for structural readjustment.

- Accelerating technological development and heightening efficiency of technological research.

- Relaxing expeditiously various administrative restrictions which obstructed eco-

nomical activities.

- Reorganising the structure of agriculture and fisheries to increase income rapidly.

- Stabilising prices of daily commodities.

- Launching a campaign to reform the attitudes of civil servants to eliminate authoritarianism and bureaucratic thinking as well as attitudes of private sector employees who now shun dirty and hard work.

Kim also spelled out the aims of five-year economic development plan. These were:

- In the first year, to reinvigorate business, restore international competitiveness and carry out structural reform.

- In the second year, to complete administrative and structural reforms.

- In the third year, push for economic internationalisation.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT						
Berth position and performance of vessels as on 18.03.1993						
Berth No.	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L/Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Banglar Shobha	Repair		BSC	R/A	21/3
J/2	General Kazim					
J/3	Orbay	GI	Saka	BSC	12/3	20/3
J/4	Arhon	GTSP	Sing	H&SL	24/12	21/3
J/5	Ranjani	GI	Sing	EBPL	15/3	20/3
J/6	Tiger Sun	GI	Hong	Prog	15/3	23/3
J/7	Lily	GI	Rang	Dynamic	15/3	20/3
J/8	Banglar Board	GI	Kara	H&SL	15/3	21/3
J/9	Tarbela	Cement	Sing	BSC	11/2	20/3
J/10	Samudra Samrat	GI	Kara	SSL	09/3	20/3
J/11	Endurance Sea	Repair	Aqaba	EOSL	25/1	31/3
J/12	Banglar Kallol	GI	Tanj	BSC	13/3	22/3
J/13	Tanary Star	Cement	Mad	PSAL	10/3	22/3
J/14	Ocean Credit	GI	G.Zhu	BDSHIP	10/3	21/3
MPB/1/2	1. Yamburenko	Cont	Sing	CT	17/3	20/3
CGJ	Mytischi	Cement	Sing	USTC	08/3	20/3
CSJ	Vinta	Wheat	Aqaa	R/A	21/3	
TSP	Steeanos	R Phos	Sefa	SSST	10/3	19/3
RM/3	Global Venus	CFO	Sing	TSL	15/3	19/3
RM/5	E Guatemala	SNO	Sing	MSPSL	16/3	19/3
DOJ	Banglar Shourabh	C Oil		BSC	R/A	19/3
DDJ/1	Barge Labroy-90	GI	Sing	LLA	31/1	
DDJ/2	Banglar Aaha	Repair		BSC	R/A	25/3
CLFJ	Al Mohammed	Urea	Mong	KSL	06/3	22/3

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of arrival	Last port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Meng Kiat	19/3	Cal	AML	Cont	Sing
Bluc Ocean	18/3	Mong	BOVL	GI	Cal Yan
Al Tabath	18/3	Mong	KSL	Bunkering	
Rong Chong	19/3	Sing	USTC	Cement	
NGS Rangur	19/3	Sing	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Karabieverett	19/3	Sing	EBPL	GI	Ec St Chin
Berwella	19/3	Sing	ULA	Cont	USA JAPA
Altair Lee	19/3	Sing	Bright	Cement	
Tony Best	19/3	Sing	AEKA	Cement	
Optima	20/3	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Zhen Xing	20/3		H & H	Cement	
Huaxing	24/3		USTC	Cement	
Banglar Robi	20/3	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Jing Cheng	20/3	S Hal	BDSHIP	GI/CL	Chincse
Long Xu	24/3	L Shan	Khansons	Cement	
Armas	25/3	Mong	OWSL	Goods	Sulam
Banglar Gourab	21/3	L Way	BSC	Cement	TCB
Seyang Ace PM	20/3	Mong	Prog	GI	
Kang Dong	22/3	Sing	Bright	Cement	
Mc Pearl	21/3	Massa	OWSL	Cont	
Bi Ryu Gang	21/3	Sing	Aeka	Cement	
Meng Lee	22/3	Sing	AML	Cont	
Tiger Force	22/3	Col	RSL	Cont	Col
Ingenutty	23/3	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Pine Trust	23/3		Prog	Wheat	
Banglar Urmi	25/3	Male	BSC	GI	
Victorious Mariner	26/3		Anchor		
Rich Star	26/3		ASLL	GI	
Knud Jespersen	27/3		CT	Cont	Sing
Sam Houston	28/3		Karna	GI	
Ramdas	27/3	Mad	SSL	GI	
Banglar Sampad	30/3	Kara	BSC	GI	
Orang Berant	30/3	Sing	BEA	GI	
Al Swamruz	04/4		ASLL	GI	
Sisar	06/4		ASLL	GI	
Sea Rapsedy	20/3		Mal		

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Leontas	C Oil	Rast	DSLL	
Banglar Jyoti	C Oil		BSC	R/A

VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival
Ararat	C P Oil	Col	CT
Global Mars	C P Oil	Bela	OTL

VESSELS NOT READY

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival
Arti	GTSP	Ind	H & SL
Paulna	C Oil	Sing	Khansons
Merjuti	Cement	L Kou	Aeka
Ronjay Choomic	Cement	ALZA	PSAL

VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival
That Binh	Fert	Akba	Seacom

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival
Trans Asia	Repair	Sing	BOVL
Vector	Scraping	D Sea	Royal
Trans America		BK	BOAD
Early Star	Cement	Sing	Aeka
Akademik Filatov	Cement	Sing	Khansons
Marine Three			BML

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 19.3.93 & 20.3.93

OUTGOING	INCOMING	SHIFTING
TSP- Srfanos	DOJ- Banglar Jyoti	J/8- Terbela
RM-3- G Venus	RM-3- Ararat	
RM-5- E Guatemala	MPB-1- Meng Kiat	
DOJ- B. Shourabh	NB- Blue Ocean	
	J/8- Bnwaoca	
	NB Karabieveretti	

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

Price Index

Essentials	Index
RICE (Amarindine) (Taka per kg)	8.00-10.00
Mustard (Taka per kg)	6.00-8.00
Gourd (Taka per kg)	8.00-14.00
OTHER FOODGRAN (Taka per kg)	
Wheat (Taka per kg)	12.30-13.00
Maize (Taka per kg)	10.50-11.00
Beans (Taka per kg)	7.00-8.00
Peas (Taka per kg)	6.8877
Onion (Taka per kg)	17.00-19.00
Garlic (Taka per kg)	12.00-14.00
Leek (Taka per kg)	3.00-4.00

Exchange Rates

The following are the Commercial Banks' BC selling and TT (C), OD transfer buying rates for some selected foreign currencies effective on March 19 and 20.

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339
Pound Sterling	56.8183	56.5219	56.1415
DM	23.5654	23.4108	23.2454
FF	6.9292	6.8877	6.8391
S Riyal	10.4602	10.4003	10.3269
S Kroner	20.9545	20.8179	20.6709
D Guilders	5.0212		