

# Dhaka may soon join world club of finished leather goods export

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda Friday said Bangladesh would be able to join the world club of finished leather exporting countries soon by producing high quality fashionable finished leather to boost its export earnings, says a BSS report.

Barrister Huda was inaugurating a day-long workshop on "Leather dyeing and finishing" at Hotel Sheraton in the capital sponsored by BASF Bangladesh Limited.

K H Ruecker, Managing Director of BASF Bangladesh Ltd presided over the inaugural session while Helmut Will, Director (Leather Finishing), Dr Ortwin Schaffer, Director

(Dyestuff), Robert Orth, Technical Services Engineer and Warner Eck, Technical Services Engineer, all from the German BASF, spoke.

Welcoming the initiative of the BASF in holding this very important workshop, the information Minister hoped that Bangladesh technicians would be immensely benefited from the seminar and with the transfer of technology our leather industry could be able to produce high quality fashionable finished leather in the country.

Barrister Huda pointed out the salutary effects of the banning of wetblue leather export

in 1991 to raise finished leather export by the democratically elected government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia. He said now it was proved that the decision to ban wetblue export was correct and it was now helping immensely our leather industries to add higher value addition.

Bangladesh earned a modest foreign exchange of 100 million us dollar in fiscal 1991-92 and could earn a foreign exchange of over 300 million dollar by fiscal 1994-95 by exporting dyed and finished leather.

K H Ruecker explained the various stages of development

of leather and textile dyes over the last 100 years. The four German experts elaborated various technical aspects in dyeing and finishing of leather.

The leather experts highlighted that the future of south Asian countries in the world of finished leather market was very bright and Bangladesh would be able to establish itself as one of the significant finished leather exporting countries of the world.

The information Minister looked around the high quality Bangladeshi leather processed in BASF laboratory in Germany that were exhibited here in the workshop.

## Food minister lays foundation of Aldi bridge

MUNSHIGANJ, Apr 23: Food Minister M Shamsul Islam unveiled the foundation stone of Aldi bridge on Rampal-Dighirpar road under Munshiganj district here Thursday, reports BSS.

Addressing a public meeting on the occasion at Aldi Bazar the Food Minister said improving the lot of common people was the main objective of politics of the present government.

Among others Deputy Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Abdul Hye also addressed the meeting.

Referring to the budget allocation of Taka 1500 crore for the development of the country's communication sector, Islam said, establishment of basic infrastructure was a must for over all economic uplift.

The Minister called upon the people to come forward with concerted effort for implementing the development programmes taken up by the present government.

## Agrani Bank staff assure facilities

NARAYANGANJ, Apr 23: Agrani Bank, Narayanganj regional office held a special meeting on Monday at a local club, a press release said Thursday, reports BSS.

The meeting was aimed at bringing coordination and making good relationship with the clients of the bank.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by LK Siddiky, Chairman, Mostafa Aminur Rashid, Managing Director and Kazi Year Ahmed DGM of the bank.

They assured all banking facilities to the clients of the bank for expanding their export.

## Workshop on finance ends in Bandarban

BANDARBAN, Apr 23: A 3-day workshop on "Finance and Reporting" was held here on Tuesday organised by the Bangladesh Bank Training Academy, reports UNB.

The workshop was participated by 50 officials working in all the scheduled bank branches operating in the three hill districts of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban.

Deputy Commissioner of Bandarban district Abdul Haque inaugurated the workshop at Bandarban Government College auditorium.

## Handlooms, engine boats distributed among distressed women

RANGAMATI, Apr 23: Modern handlooms and engine boats were distributed here among the distressed women and members of the families affected by the outlanded tribals under self-reliance programme, reports UNB.

Chairman of the Local Government Council Parijat Kushum Chakma distributed the handlooms and engine boats at a simple function held at the conference room Tuesday. The function was also attended by the councillors Abdul Rob Farazi, Abdus Salam Fakis, Ching Kew Rosza.

## Feni chamber executives

FENI, Apr 23: The annual election of Feni Chamber of Commerce and Industries was held here at its office on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Sheikh Nurul Alam was elected President while Sadeque Hossain, Abdul Motaleb and Nurul Absar as Vice President of the association.

Eleven associate and nine ordinary members were also elected. Professor Abdul Motaleb Bhuiyan conducted the election.



AKM Mostafizur Rahman, MD, Jiban Bima Corporation, addressing the probationary officers of the company at a training course held at the company's head office recently.

# Turmoil to collapse EC single currency market

BRUSSELS, Apr 23: The European Community's single market will collapse if there is a second wave of competitive currency devaluations in EC countries, European Commission President Jacques Delors warned Tuesday, reports AFP.

Speaking at the opening of the 1993 handover fair, he called for greater European political integration and an end to quarrelling about foreign policy which signalled that the EC was impotent to act in international crisis.

Our peoples need a clear vision of their shared future. They need to recover confidence in their ability of influence the course of history, he said. The text of his speech was released in Brussels.

The EC's chief executive

said that deeper European economic and political integration, as outlined in the Maastricht Union Treaty, is the only way to restore the credibility of the European venture.

But he added that the credibility of the Maastricht Treaty goals of economic union and a single currency had been badly damaged by a wave of currency stability since last September.

Sterling and the Italian lire were forced out of the exchange rate mechanism of linked EC currencies, and the Spanish peseta, Portuguese escudo and Irish pound were devalued which tarnished prospects for a single currency.

Two things have to be faced here, the first is that if

Europe were hit by further competitive devaluations, the single market would not survive, Delors said.

The second was that only economic and monetary union will allow us to act independently and give us stability, he added.

Delors said the EC had been buffeted as never before by a battle to ratify the Maastricht Treaty by problems in coordinating economic and monetary policies and above all by impotence in handling the civil war in Yugoslavia.

He exhorted community members to close ranks and resolve their quarrels, particularly over the elimination of inter-EC border controls for travellers, which Britain, Ireland and Denmark want to retain.

## One more BA flight on Dhaka-London route

Star Report

With the addition of a fourth weekly flight on Dhaka-London route, British Airways (BA) has increased its capacity for both passenger and cargo on the sector.

The airline's fourth frequency was introduced on April 2 with 365-seat Boeing 747 which operates via Bombay.

According to the airline sources, British Airways also obtained traffic rights on Dhaka-Bombay route that will facilitate travelling of passengers between these two destinations. The airline's cargo service also offers more space to Bangladeshi exporters and importers for quick movement of their cargo between Dhaka and Bombay.

Meanwhile, a press release of the airline said that British Airways seeks to secure a leading share of air travel business worldwide with a significant presence in all major geographical markets.

British Airways agreed to join Aeroflot and other organisations in Russia to establish a new international airline based in Moscow. The new airline, which would be known as Air Russia, is expected to start operation in 1994. British

Airways will have 31 per cent stake in the venture.

In March last year, Deutsche BA, the company formed by a consortium of German banks and British Airways, acquired the German regional airline Delta Air. Deutsche BA is jointly owned by British Airways which holds 49 per cent of shares.

British Airways has also completed its purchase of a 25 per cent stake in Australian airline Qantas in March this year. The authorities hope that enormous benefits would stem from this partnership for both the airlines and customers.

British Airways also acquired 49.9 per cent of the leading French independent carrier TAT European Airlines from its parent company, the TAT group in November last year.

In November last year, British Airways completed arrangements to acquire all the assets of Davies and Newman Ple and this acquisition ensures that 15 key routes in Dan-Air's scheduled network continue to be served.

British Airways' 300 million investment in USAIR was also approved by the US government last month.

## Russian Defence Minister faces corruption charge

MOSCOW, Apr 23: Russian Prosecutor-General's office said it had evidence Defence Minister Pavel Grachev was abusing his official position, says Reuter.

The prosecutor's office said in a statement a criminal investigation had shown Grachev and other top ministry officials were implicated in a swindle involving property belonging to former Soviet troops in East Germany.

The Prosecutor General's office, investigating illegal deals involving the property of the western group of forces, discovered new facts of abuse of official position by the commanders of the group of the defence ministry and personally by Defence Minister Pavel Grachev, the statement said.

Russia faces a crucial referendum on April 25 in which voters will be asked if they trust President Boris Yeltsin and his policies.

Vice President Alexander Rutskoy and other opposition leaders have made allegations of high level corruption in the Yeltsin camp, their main theme in the campaign.

# Japan claims its market open

TOKYO, Apr 23: Foreign Minister Kishida Mitsuhiro said Friday, President Clinton said he was deeply concerned about the "inadequate market access for Japanese firms, products and investors in Japan."

Other Japanese government officials have rejected Clinton administration's calls to set specific goals for foreign market share in specific industries, as has been done in the Japanese semiconductor market.

Clinton also said at the time that a stronger yen could help reduce Japan's chronic trade surplus with the United States, which reached \$19.5 billion last year.

Following Friday's remarks

by the president, the yen has now gained 3.60 yen, or 2.3 per cent, against the dollar over the past three trading days, setting a series of post-war lows.

Economic officials fear that a further increase in the yen will hurt Japanese exporters and delay an economic recovery from the nation's worst recession in nearly two decades.

On Thursday, Keigo Ouchi, Chairman of opposition Social Democratic Party, became the first opposition party figure to join the ruling Liberal Democrats in criticising Clinton's call for a stronger yen.

"It puts a damper on Japan's economic recovery.

# Arms buildup will hit uplift in SE Asia

BANGKOK, Apr 23. An unprecedented arms buildup in South East Asia will eventually undo recent economic progress and threaten the peace, a UN official said Wednesday, reports AP.

Raficuddin Ahmed, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations' Asia-Pacific regional commission, told about 300 delegates at the group's annual meeting that the United Nations must "encourage sober reflection, mutual trust and forward-looking development" to defuse the arms race.

Almost all of the nations which have seen record

growth in the last few years have also been amassing arms with their newfound prosperity, he said. He also said some developed nations have cashed in on the arms buildup.

Raficuddin, a native of Pakistan, said the arms race has caused mounting deficits, price instability, reduced expenditures for social programmes and dropping growth rates. He called on member states to concentrate on development.

"For the individual countries and the region, peace and prosperity must go hand in hand," he said.

## Shipping Intelligence

### CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 23/4/93 & 24/4/93

Birth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Date of Leaving
J/1	Samudra Rant	GI	Kara	SSL	18/4	26/4
J/2	Continent-1	GI	Pona	CEA	19/4	26/4
J/3	Orang Berni	GI	Sing	BBN	16/4	22/4
J/4	Nand Bhargavi	GI	Hazi	DTL	13/4	24/4
J/5	MARS	Cement	Sing	Bright	31/5	24/4
J/6	Iyeverett	GI	Sing	EBPL	18/4	23/4
J/7	Fel Teng	GI	Dalc	Prog	06/4	24/4
J/8	Banglar Sampad	GI	Kara	BSC	07/4	22/4
J/9	Pearl One	GI	Cal	Cross	18/4	23/4
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Araba	GA	25/4	25/4
J/11	Arts	GTSP	Ind	H&SL	16/1	28/4
J/12	NGS Ranger	Cont	Sing	BDShip	19/4	23/4
J/13	Petr Starostin	Cont	Sing	CT	18/4	23/4
MPB/1	Meng Lee	Cont	Sing	AML	18/4	22/4
MPB/2	Fong Shin	Cont	Sing	BDShip	18/4	23/4
CGJ	Berry	Cement	Sing	Bright	29/3	22/4
GSI	Swift Wings	Wheat	Sing	Prog	08/4	22/4
TSP	Hang Cheong	Cement	Sing	H&H	28/3	27/4
RM/4	Virba	Wheat	Sing	Globe	R/A	23/4
RM/5	Ronjay Choomie	Cement	Vish	PSAL	15/3	25/4
DOJ	Banglar Shourabh	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	22/4
DDJ/1	Barge: Labroy/Tug Y.Success	CC.GI	Sing	ILA	31/1	31/7
DDJ/1	Banglar Shobha	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	24/4
CUPJ	Banglar Asha	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	25/4
CUPJ	Brgel Smit Lombok	P Mat	Sing	Anchor	31/3	31/8

### VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Astra	22/4	Sing	USTC	Cement	Sing
Kota Buana	23/4	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Eponyma	24/4	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Nomadically	23/4	Cara	LAMS	Wheat	B Sampal
Banglar Doot	24/4	Mong	BSC	GI	L/Latakia
Agra	25/4	Sing	PSAL	Cement	-
Sea Tradition	24/4	Pedng	AML	Cement	-
State of Andhe	-	-	-	-	-
Bradesh	30/4	Mad	SSL	GI	L/UKG
Salfina-e-Najay	25/4	Kar	ASLL	GI	L/Karachi
Kowid Jespersen	25/4	Sing	CT	Cont	L/L Sing
Simara Express	25/4	Ronen	Royal	Bagasses	-
NGS Express	26/4	Mong	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Bo Tong Gang	25/4	Sing	ASLL	Cement	-
Meng Katat	26/4	Sing	AML	Cont	Sing
Fong Yun	26/4	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Hald
Mwawavi	26/4	Mong	SSL	E/L	Bahdar/Abbas
Rorjay Victory	28/4	-	USTC	Cement	-
Banglar Robi	28/4	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Andrian Goncharov	28/4	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Armand Pammer	28/4	Sing	OWSL	-	-
Robert-e-Lee	29/4	-	Karna	GI	New York
Orsha	30/4	-	USTC	Cement	-
Eastern Pearl	30/4	-	BBA	GI	-
Salfina-e-Ismail	30/4	-	ASLL	GI/GL	Karachi
Vishva Khumjai	01/5	-	SSL	GI	Dubce
Menado	07/5	Tawau	AML	GI	-

### TANKER DUE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Eso Melbourne	23/4	Sing	MSPJ	HED	-
Sorja	27/4	-	Seacom	CSO	-
Borany Lpton	01/5	-	JF	Tallow	-

### VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Ji Lin	GI	Sing	Prog	20/4
Optima	Cont	Sing	RSL	21/4
Landy Shapper	M Seess	Sing	Royal	19/4
Quing He Cheng	GI	Sing	BDShip	21/4
Niaga	GI	Sing	MBL	21/4
Banglar Mont	Repair	-	BSC	R/A
Lily	Urea	-	Dynamic	R/A
Xin Ji	Cement	Bach	Khansons	15/4

### VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Banglar Jyoti	-	-	BSC	R/A
Chipsam	Cement	Tiliz	PSAL	14/4
Sicra	-	Mong	Net	09/4
Mercury Sea	-	Male	Net	18/4

### MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 23.4.93

OUTGOING	INCOMING	SHIFTING
J/5 Mars	Optina	Continent
J/6 Iyeverett	Kota Buana	Hardy Shipper
J/9 B Sampad	Quing He Cheng	Ronjay Choomie
J/9 Pear One	Sin Ji	-
J/12 NGS Ranger	Niaga	-
J/13 Petr Starostin	-	-
MPB-2 Fong Shin	-	-
MR/4 Virota	-	-
J/4 Nand Bhargavi	B Doot	B Asha
J/7 Fel Teng	E Porynma	-
MPB B Shabha	Eso Melbourne	-
-	B Shourabh	-

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.

## Exchange Rates

The following are the Commercial Banks' BC selling and TT (C). OD transfer buying rates for some selected foreign currencies effective on April 23, 24.

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.1326	38.9087	38.6339
Pound Sterling	60.2391	59.9222	59.5214
DM	24.4655	24.3179	24.1462
FF	7.2454	7.2000	7.1491
S Riyal	10.4602	10.4003	10.3269
D Guilders	21.7705	21.6279	21.4752
S Kroner	5.2880	5.2583	5.2212
Singapore Dollar	24.1679	24.0296	23.8559
UAE Dirham	10.6911	10.6299	10.5548
Kuwait Dinar	130.6598	129.3123	128.9947
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.2485	1.2429	1.2419
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.4609	1.4544	1.4472

Authorised dealers will apply T T 'e' can buying rate for purchase of remittances from Bangladesh working abroad.

Note: AMU—Asian Monetary Union.

# Dhaka Stock Prices

Weekly comparison: At the close of tradings on April 15 and April 22, 1993

Company	FV/ML*	April 15		April 22		High	Low
		Taka	Taka	Taka	Taka		
<b>BANKS (11)</b>							
Al Baraka Bank	1000/1	921.00	921.00	1150.00	850.00	-	-
AB Bank	100/5	180.00	177.00	215.00	180.00	-	-
City Bank	100/5	278.00	280.00	305.00	268.00	-	-
IDLC Ltd	100/20	-	225.24	-	-	-	-
IFIC	100/5	173.00	173.00	185.00	150.00	-	-
Islami Bank	1000/1	1710.00	1710.00	1700.00	1400.00	-	-
National Bank	100/5	101.60	100.00	122.50	97.00	-	-
Pubali Bank	100/5	100.00	100.00	75.00	95.00	-	-
Rupali Bank	100/10	77.00	71.00	110.00	73.00	-	-
U.C.B.L	100/5	112.00	120.00	121			