

Fish output marks sharp fall in Barisal

BARISAL, May 6: Fish production has dramatically decreased in recent days in various parts of the district, reports UNB.

According to a survey, about 20,760 metric tons of fish are produced in the district per annum as against the annual demand of 30,700 metric tons.

According to the Department of Fisheries, there are about 45,000 ponds in the district and proper utilisation and maintenance of these ponds could meet the local demand for fish.

Of the total, only 25,000 ponds are being used for fish production and the rest remain derelict due to absence of necessary re-excavation and shortage of fund.

There are about 320 nursery ponds in the district where 2.02 crore fish fry of various species are produced annually.

The government released about 7.07 lakh fish fry in different rivers and waterbodies of the district. Most of them disappeared due to indiscriminate catching of fry and change of river flow, said the local people.

Scarcity of firewood hurting people of Netrokona

NETROKONA, May 6: An acute scarcity of firewood has been persisting in the district town for the last three months causing problems to the people of low and fixed income group, according to an UNB report.

According to the dwellers, a maund of firewood is being sold at Taka 80 against the price of Taka 60 three months back.

People said the reason behind the price increase is non-availability of fire-wood in the markets. The cause of this scarcity in the local market is attributed largely to its large scale use in the brickfields, numbering 45 to 50 in and around the district.

All these brickfields use hundreds of maunds of woods every day causing acute scarcity of firewood. Indiscriminate felling of trees for use in manufacturing bricks are also causing ecological imbalance in the district.

Use of firewood in the brickfields is strictly prohibited. But defying the ban the brickfield owners are using firewood before the nose of the law enforcing agencies.

Local people time and again brought the matter to the notice of the district administration but they failed to take any action against the brickfield owners.

Pindi plans to boost cotton trading

ISLAMABAD, May 6: The care-taker government of Pakistan is considering the re-opening of future trading in cotton in a bid to boost trade and industry, reports Xinhua.

The commerce ministry has asked the Karachi Cotton Association (KCA) for submission of a detailed report on the subject, according to a local press report today quoting official sources.

The future trading, a system which minimizes the risk in trade and stabilizes prices in the market, was allowed in Pakistan in early 1970s before the establishment of Cotton Export Corporation (CEC) which resulted in the prohibition of the system.

The government is considering the issue as private exporters in the cotton circle have been demanding for the restoration of the future trading in cotton for the past few years, the sources said.

Cotton is most important cash crop of Pakistan and its related industry is the backbone of the national economy.

Import policy to hit mango cultivation

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, May 6: The import policy of mango has threatened the mango cultivation in the district, reports UNB.

Government has given permission to import mango from India. A large quantity of mango has been imported from Maldaid district of West Bengal last year. Taking advantage of the situation the smugglers also became active in smuggling mango.

The influx of mangoes from India has decreased the prices of local mangoes to a large extent causing financial loss to the growers and traders.

It was feared that this year also huge quantity of mango will be imported and smuggled into Bangladesh and consequently the prices of the local mango will come down to a great extent.

As a result the mango traders showed reluctance to purchase mango-groves from the farmers leaving them at a stake.

At least 30,000 people of the district earn their livelihood from mango business and if the situation is continued, the local leaders fear that the growers will be in great difficulty.

Village oilmen on verge of extinction in Dinajpur

DINAJPUR, May 6: The traditional village oilmen of the district have been facing serious hardships as bullock-driven oil mills, the age-old cottage industry, are now on the verge of extinction due to lack of patronisation, reports UNB.

Being unable to solve the various problems many oilmen have already given up their ancestral profession and turned day labourers and beggars. About 5,000 families in different areas of the district have been engaged in this profession from generation after generation.

With the flourishing of power-driven oil mills, the traditional bullock-driven mills (Ghani) lost their demands as it could not compete with them.

1.17 lakh acres of land to come under aus, aman, jute cultivation

MAGURA, May 6: A scheme has been taken up to bring over 1.17 lakh acres of land under Aus, Aman and jute cultivation in the current season in four thanas of the district, reports UNB.

According to Agriculture Extension Department, of the total 52,465 acres will be brought under Aus paddy, 23,865 acres under Aman and the rest 40,750 acres under jute cultivation in Sreepur, Mohammadpur, Salika and Sadar thanas.

The production target of Aus paddy has been fixed at 38,958 metric tons, Aman at 15,751 metric tons and raw jute at 37,898 bales.

To make the programme a success, the Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation has supplied high yielding variety seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and other necessary inputs to growers at fair prices.

Bangladesh Krishi Bank has also arranged credit facilities for the growers.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 05.05.93

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Call	Date of Arrival	Date of Leaving
J/1	Norbulk Namir	Cement	Visa	HOWL	15/04	07/05
J/2	Simara Express	R Seeds	Rouen	Royal	25/04	08/05
J/5	Asian Express	GI (Pulses)	Reng	B Bay	02/05	05/05
J/6	Loyal Bird	Repair	Mong	Litmond	28/04	08/05
J/7	Yanris-II	GI	Pena	Sunbeam	01/05	08/05
J/8	Safina-e-Najam	GI (Food)	ASLL	01/05	09/05	
J/9	Blue Shark	GI	Hong	Prog	02/05	07/05
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Agaba	CLA	25/01	09/05
J/11	Arti	GTSP (F)	Ind	H&S L	16/01	08/05
MPB/1	Petr Starostin	Cont	Stng	CT	04/05	07/05
CCJ	Navick	C Clink	Sing	UMAL	25/04	14/05
CCJ	Banglar Sampad	Wheat (G)	—	BSC	R/A	10/05
TSP	Hang Cheong	Cement	Sing	H&H	28/03	05/05
RM/3	Botary Triton	Tallow	Tima	JF	02/05	05/05
DOJ	Banglar Jyoti	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	07/05
ID	Banglar Moni	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	18/05
DDJ/1	Bangar Labroy-90	GI	Sing	ILA	31/01	—
DDJ/2	Banglar Asha	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	15/05
CUFJ	Continent-1	GL	Mong	CLA	30/04	07/05
CUFJ	Smit Lombok	P Mat	Sing	Anchor	31/03	31/08

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Last Port Arrival	Local Call	Cargo Agent	Loading Port	
Fong Yun 29/4	05/05	Hald	BDSHP	Cement	Sing
Mowlavi	05/05	Mong	SSL	GL	Abbas
Banglar Shobha 28/4	05/05	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
NGS Ranger 25/4	06/05	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Dubai Glory	06/05	Sing	Prog	GI	—
Orsha	06/05	Sing	USTC	Cement	—
Kota Buana 29/4	06/05	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Eponyma 29/4	07/05	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Ronjay Victory	07/05	Jaka	USTC	Cement	—
UN Bong	07/05	Yanta	Litmond	Cement	—
Eastern Pearl	08/05	Mong	BEA	GI	—
Iran Sabr	08/05	Al-Jub	NNL	Rock Sulphur	—
Agra	09/05	Sing	PSAL	Cement	—
Fong Shin 25/4	09/05	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Menado	09/05	Sing	AMLGI (Copra)	—	—
Ternovsk	09/05	—	ProgSteel	Scrap	—
NGS Express 2/5	10/05	—	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Banglar Robi 2/5	10/05	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Yamurenko 2/5	10/05	—	CT	Cont	Sing
Samudra Raj	10/05	—	SSL	GI	—
Ingenuty 22/4	11/05	Mong	RSL	Cont	Col
Vishva Kaumudi	11/05	—	SSL	GL	D URK
Meng Lee 22/4	11/05	Sing	AML	Cont	Cal
Safina-e-Jamail-2	14/05	Kara	ASLL	GI/GL	Karachi
Gold Asia	14/05	—	AML	GIMom Mapu	—
Meng Kiat 2/5	17/05	Sing	AML	Cont	Cal

TANKER DUE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Local Call	M C Oil
Saint Dimitrios	06/05	Jebel	Baha
Eso Melbourne	07/05	Sing	MSPLHSD/JP-1

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Call	Date of Arrival
Chipsam	Cement	Titiz	PSAL	14/04

VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Call	Date of Arrival
Optima	Cont	Sing	RSL	04/05
Sea Rhapsody	C Clink	Visa	UMAL	04/05
Samudra Samrat	W Pulp	Ind	SSL	04/05
Bervalla	Cont	Sing	ULA	05/05
Banglar Shourabh	Repair	—	BSC	R/A (22/4)

VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Call	Date of Arrival
Chipsam	Cement	Titiz	PSAL	14/04

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 6.5, 7.5 & 8.5.93

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
6/5:		
RM/3 B Shourab	J/12 B	RM/4 Norbulk Namir to J/3
	J/6 Fong Yun	
	J/5 NGS Ranger	
	RM/6/4 Al Tair Lec	
7/5:		
J/4 S Samrat	DOJ B Shourabh	J/12 B Shobha to MPB/2
J/7 Yanris-II	J/6 Dubai Glory	J/5 NGS Ranger
J/9 Blue Shark	J/12 Kota Buana	
MPB/1 P Starostin		
MPB/2 Optima		
DOJ B Jyoti		
CUFJ Continent-1		
8/5:		
J/1 Mowlavi	DOJ B Jyoti	TSP Loyal Bird to J/1
J/2 Simara Express	MPB/1 Eponyma	RM/6 A Lee to J/2
J/13 Bervalla	TSP Iran Sabr	
DOJ B Shourabh	RM/6 E Malborn	
MPB/1 B Shobha	J/5 UN Bong	

The above were the Wednesday'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 May 6, 7 and 8.

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.9326	39.7087	39.4556
Pound Sterling	62.5993	62.2787	61.9053
DM	25.3701	25.2119	25.0512
FE	7.5245	7.4781	7.4304
S Riyal	10.6740	10.6142	10.5465
D Outiders	22.5672	22.4216	22.2787
S Kroner	5.4740	5.4395	5.4049
Singapore Dollar	24.7659	24.6271	24.4701
UAE Dirham	10.9096	10.8485	10.7793
Kuwait Dinar	133.6863	132.9367	132.0894
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.2745	1.2688	1.2625
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.4909	1.4842	1.4788

Authorised dealers will apply T T clean buying rate for purchase of remittances of Bangladeshis working abroad.

Note: AMU—Asian Monetary Union.



The visiting Chinese team led by Jin Jian, Vice Minister for Justice (third from left), went to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Wednesday. Aminul Islam Khan, Chairman, DSE is also seen in the picture.

Usmania's products face unequal competition from imported glass

Usmania Glass Sheet Factory, the lone glass manufacturing factory of the country, is facing an unequal competition with imported glass as import duty of glass has been reduced and the duty on raw materials increased, officials said, reports UNB.

The factory, an enterprise of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) in Chittagong, manufactures sheet glass, its width ranging from two mm to six mm using imported raw materials like soda ash, sodium sulphate and dolomite.

Officials at BCIC told UNB the government reduced duty

on imported glass sheet from 100 per cent to 75 per cent in the 1992-93 national budget under its import liberalisation policy. But tariff value and customs duty on imported raw materials for glass manufacturing was increased, raising the production cost.

The import of 2.5 mm wide transparent glass was banned from 1981 to 1988 when only six mm glass was allowed to be imported at 150 per cent import duty. After 1985, import of all kinds of glass sheet was allowed and the import duty was reduced to 100 per cent.

A huge quantity of 3-4 mm glass is being imported from India through under-invoicing as the tariff value of this kind has not been fixed, depriving the government from a substantial amount of revenue.

The Usmania factory has contributed Taka 52 crore to the national exchequer in the form of duty and taxes since 1976.

The factory produced 13.76 lakh square metres of glass sheet in 1991-92 against 5.4 lakh square metres in 1976-77. The factory also declared 35 per cent dividend in 1991-92.



The four-day long Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition '93 (BATEXPO) sponsored and organised by Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) was inaugurated on May 5 at a local hotel. The fair is organised to display country's ready-made garments to foreign buyers. Picture shows one of the 57 stalls that are taking part in the fair.

US calls for environment-friendly ADB policies for economic growth

MANILA, May 6: The United States urged the Asian Development Bank on Wednesday to promote policies that would help member countries achieve economic growth without damaging the environment, reports AP.

US Deputy Treasurer Jeffrey Shafer, who is also an ADB governor, also called on the bank to be more prudent in its lending and to review its proposal asking member countries to double their capitalisation in the bank.

Shafer made the proposals on the second day of the 26th annual meeting of the bank in Manila.

"We would like to see the bank even more active in promoting environmentally sustainable development," Shafer said.

Shafer said the bank should review its environment-related policies such as those involving forestry, land and water use.

During Tuesday's opening of the annual meeting, about 50 demonstrators picketed outside the convention hall, pressuring the bank to stop funding a coal-powered plant in Zamboales province, north of Manila, which they said would pollute the environment.

With his calls for more prudence in bank lending, Shafer shot down a proposal Monday by ADB President Kimimasa Tarumizu to double the bank's capital from about 23.42 billion dollar.

He said the Manila-based institution "need not — and it cannot — go on rapidly increasing its lending year by year."

"More consideration of the scale of lending and the adequacy of current resources is needed before a decision on a capital increase can be taken," said Shafer.

But Yoshiro Hayaishi, Japan's Minister of Finance, said his country is supporting Tarumizu's call because "the bank's financial position is now precarious."

Hayaishi said that according to his calculations the bank's lending limit may be reached by the second half of next year.

Hayaishi said the Japanese and US differences will be ironed out once US treasury officials get congressional approval to give more funds to the ADB.

Shafer also urged the bank to help the republics of the former Soviet Union in their economic reforms by accepting them as members.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on May 5, 1993

Turnovers fall

Transactions fell at Dhaka Stock Exchange on Wednesday. Both the turnover suffered losses but did not harm too much. Value fell to Taka 1592090.00 from Tuesday's Taka 5763620.75, showing a loss of 72.37 per cent.

The effect of loss on volume was little less than what value suffered. It cost 63.17 per cent issues from Tuesday's finish of 27,877 issues and closed at 10,264.50 issues.

What ever the effect was on turnovers the All Share Price Index slightly recovered from last few day's loss. It added 0.962 point to Tuesday's finish of 377.4297 and ended at 378.3890.

Gainers lead the floor beating losers by 17 to 12 while another ten companies traded at inactive prices.

Pubali Bank, Rahim Textile and Pharma Aids were the fortunate companies who all added prices big in numbers. Howlader Pvc on the other hand, was the unfortunate one who lost market value of its share. It lost more than eight per cent of its prices. The rest of the changes were marginal.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE Share Price Index	378.3890
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	10,818,016,527.00
Turnover in Volume	10264.50
Turnover in Value (Tk)	1592090.00

Company's Name	Previous Price Tk	Closing Price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (% over Price)	Number of Shares Sold
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Gains(17)					
Pubali Bank	90.00	100.00	10.00	10.00	05
Rahim Textile	71.00	76.08	5.08	7.154	60
Pharma Aids	159.00	165.00	6.00	3.773	30
Bangladesh Lamps	220.00	230.00	10.00	4.545	05
Satham Textile	64.00	65.00	1.00	1.562	60
Dulamia Cotton	75.25	75.63	0.38	0.504	370
Apex Tannery	355.00	360.00	5.00	1.408	10
Beximco	21.40	21.50	0.10	0.467	500
Cig Cement	242.14	245.00	2.86	1.181	4,000
Rahman Chemicals	32.25	32.50	0.25	0.775	10
Eastern Cables	72.00	72.14	0.14	0.194	820
United Ins	196.00	197.00	1.00	0.510	40
BGIC	175.49	176.00	0.51	0.290	400
6th ICB M Fund	61.50	61.73	0.23	0.373	280
IDLC Ltd	229.32	232.07	2.75	1.199	280
City Bank	298.01	301.67	3.66	1.228	30

Losses(12)

Howlader Pvc	93.00	85.00	-8.00	-8.602	10
Savar Refac	79.62	78.00	-1.62	-2.034	05
Dhaka Vegetables	83.00	82.50	-0.50		