

Workers assured of minimum wages

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan Sunday said the government had taken steps to ensure minimum wages for the workers and called upon the employers to sit together to review how to improve the labourers' condition, reports UNB.

"Neglect of workers' welfare or harkling both will delay the growth process" in the country's economy, the minister said inaugurating a two-day workshop on "Application of Standards".

The Labour Minister stressed the need for a congenial employer-worker relationship for desired growth in the national economy and boosting production in the industrial sector. "What needed is responsible approaches from both employers and workers."

Mannan Bhuiyan, however, praised the resilience and dili-

gences of the country's labour force. "Our workers are hard-working... if they receive good treatment, they can really be productive."

To ensure better treatment to the workers and give them necessary legal support, he said, the government has constituted a Labour Law Reform Commission.

The minister said ILO had been working for years to introduce global norms of industrial relations through its standards. "Understanding of the standards as well as their desired application in practical field is thus important for peaceful industrial relations under labour laws on ILO Standards, such as our labour laws."

Availability of physical and financial resources is not an adequate condition for successful socio-economic development, the minister said, adding strengths and weaknesses of the institutions representing the social partners as well as their attitudes and behavioral factors play an important role in determining the nature and pace of development process.

Anis Ud Dowla said "we see rays of hope", as the priorities of ILO have been changing like those of other international organisations. It falls on the social partners who are involved in ILO to ensure that the changing priorities reflect the needs of development countries like Bangladesh.

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People, govt co-op for industrialisation stressed

Planning Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan Saturday laid stress on partnership between the people and the government and also between the Development Financing Institutions (DFIs) and the entrepreneurs for the proper industrialisation of the country, reports BSS.

The minister was speaking as chief guest at a book promotion function on "Development Financing Institutions of Bangladesh: Policy, Performance, Problems and Prospects" at German Cultural Centre in the city.

The function was presided over by the editor of the book Dr Kazi Ahmed Nabi.

The book is a compilation of papers, discussions and suggestions presented at a three-day national seminar held in Dhaka from December 18 to 20 last year.

Khan said that bureaucratic intervention should be minimised as far as possible.

Farmers get training on livestock

TANGAIL, May 9: A 10-day long training course for the farmers on livestock development began here recently under the auspices of Livestock Department, reports BSS.

Dr Fariduddin, District Livestock Officer inaugurated the course at his office premises.

Twenty-two farmers including 16 women are participating in the first batch. Forty-five more farmers will be imparted training in two subsequent batches before June 23 next.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Fariduddin said that the present government has given stress on development of livestock. Everybody should come forward to fulfill the government programme, he said.

Among others Prof Md Kamruzzaman and Md Fazlur Rahman spoke on the occasion.

Tk 20 lakh for development of roads

TANGAIL, May 9: Roads and Highways Department has taken up a programme to develop Nagarpur-Dhuburia and Salimabad-Chawhali roads at a cost of Taka twenty lakh in the current financial year, reports BSS.

Official sources said that brick pavement and earth works for the road will start soon. It is scheduled to be completed by June next.

Besides, Public Works Department, Tangail, has taken up two projects at a cost of Taka four lakh and thirteen thousand in the current fiscal year.

Under this programme electrification work for Buapur thana Health Complex will be done at a cost of Taka three lakh twenty four thousand seven hundred and twenty five and the rest amount will be used for water management for hotel in Tangail Textile Institute, official sources added.

Indian banks blamed for irregularities

BOMBAY, May 9: The Janakiraman Committee, which has pin-pointed gross problem exposure of banks at 4024.45 crores rupee in the multi-core securities scandal, has blamed the failure to detect the irregularities in time on the lack of proper internal audit and internal inspection system of banks, reports PTI.

The nexus which had developed between the dealers and other officers of the banks on the one hand and the brokers on the other and a desire on the part of treasury departments to maximise earnings had enabled the concerned officers to 'over-ride' the system.



Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Minister for Labour and Manpower speaking at workshop on "Application of Standards" jointly organised by Bangladesh Employers' Association (BEA) and ILO, Geneva. P. H. Chandrasekharan, Chief of the Technical Cooperation Section, Bureau for Employers' Activities, ILO, Geneva and M. Anis-Ud-Dowla, President, BEA, are also seen in the picture.

Spot order at BATEXPO '93 totals five million US dollar

The fourth Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition-93 (BATEXPO '93) ended in the capital Saturday with local garments producers receiving spot orders from foreign buyers to the tune of five million dollar.

Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA) president M Mosharraf Hossain said that the garments sector also received business proposals worth 26 million dollar for the next six months.

Briefing newsmen at the end of the international fair, Hossain claimed that "very good response" was received from the international customers during the four-day fair, with each stall receiving 32 trade enquiries and 43 foreign visitors on an average.

"We have succeeded in bringing together not only the garments manufacturers, but also manufacturers of other related local products in the fair," he said.

A total of 60 participants displayed their wares at the exposition. Thirty-three garments manufacturers, two cap producers, five local fabric producers, two zipper manufacturers, three accessory

producers, nine service organisations including shipping and air-freight companies and one thread manufacturer were among the participants.

The BGMEA, the representative trade body of the export-oriented apparel industry organised the international fair without any government assistance.

All kinds of exportable apparel, from knitted T-Shirts to ski-wear were displayed in the fact.

Shorts, trousers, shirts, skirts, track suits, jump suits, jackets, sweat shirts, boxer shorts, rompers, swim trunks, overalls, winter outdoor, socks, hats, caps, terry towels and house linen were also displayed.

All the 71 stalls set in the spacious ball room and lobby of the Sonargaon Hotel displayed the best garment products, Bangladesh could offer to its buyers.

Brochures and price lists were readily handed out to the enquirers while videos ran ads of the merchandise in a bid to woo foreign customers.

The BGMEA set up an information cell and organised seminars on the occasion.

Beginning in the late

seventies, the garments industry of the country has now matured, the souvenir published on the occasion proudly announced.

Today, the export-oriented apparel industry in the fastest growing sector, earning 60 per cent our export earnings, it said.

Bangladeshi garments earned 1.4 billion dollar in 1992 and the industry employ's a work force of seven lakh.

Talking to mediamen, BGMEA president Mosharraf Hossain, however, drew attention to the emerging competition from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, which now have the advantage of cheaper labour.

"It has been pointed out to us by the foreign customers that Bangladesh no longer remains the cheapest source of their imports," Hossain said.

He suggested renewed policy support from the government to tide over "the danger of diversion of the overseas buyers" introducing cash incentives, bonded warehouse, licence facilities and backward linkage to the export-oriented garments sector.

ment fears could undermine its control.

Xinhua said analysts predict the newly freed prices would rise 12 to 40 per cent. The price of rice on Sunday ranged from 0.80 yuan to 1.4 yuan (14 US cent to 24 US cent) a kilo-gram (six US cents to 11 US cent a pound), depending on quality.

The report said Beijing residents have known about the move to decontrol prices for several days, but there has been no panic buying because there is an ample supply of grain and cooking oil.

Beijing grain market now open

BEIJING, May 9: For the first time in four decades, Beijing consumers will have to pay market prices for grain and cooking oil, the government announced Sunday in a major move toward a market-oriented economy, according to AP.

Since the 1950s, grain and cooking oil have been rationed in Chinese cities, and sold to urban residents at low, state-controlled and — subsidised prices.

But starting Monday, the ration coupons will be abolished and prices freed, the official Xinhua News Agency re-

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JHENIDAH: The local office of the Livestock Department organised a cattle show at Shaikakupa College ground on May 6. Thousands of improved varieties of cattle were on display at the fair. — Star photo

Commercial use of trees increasing day by day

NARAIL, May 9: Rampant felling of trees for commercial purpose in different parts of the district has been causing a threat to the environment, reports UNB.

Trees including fruit-bearing ones are being cut down in rural and urban areas to meet the growing demands of the different factories, brickfields and furniture traders, sources said.

Finding no other alternative, the poverty stricken rural people even sell the fruit bearing trees like mango, jackfruit, blackberry, wood apple, lichi, palm and date trees to a section of unscrupulous wood traders.

Sometimes the timber traders allure the poor people to sell their trees at a comparatively high price, sources added.

Non-fruit bearing trees like margose, accacia, chatca, shikoro and shimul are also on the wane. The immature trees are also being felled every day in large numbers, local people alleged.

Brickfield, match and biscuit factories, bakeries and saw mills, furniture factory owners and fuel, wood traders of the district are purchasing trees every day to meet up their requirements.

Timber merchants of the district send truck loaded woods to other districts every day threatening the ecological balance.

The region has been subjected to threat of deforestation owing to large scale destruction of both fruit bearing and garden trees. The large scale destruction of trees has made the district to drought prone areas, experts said.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 09.05.1993

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	LPart call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	
J/1	Bo Tong Gang	Cement	Sing	ASLL	27/4	12/5	
J/2	Simara Express	R.Seeds	Rouen	Royal	25/4	10/5	
J/3	Norbulk Namir	Cement	Visa	Boal	15/4	12/5	
J/6	Dubai Glory	GI	Sing	Prog	06/5	18/5	
J/7	Yantra-II	GI	Pena	Sunbeam	01/5	09/5	
J/8	Safina-E-Najam	GI (Food)	Sing	ASLL	01/5	10/5	
J/9	Kota Buana	Cont	Sing	BSL	06/5	08/5	
J/10	Endurance Sea	Repair	Apaba	CLA	25/1	10/5	
J/11	Arti (Attach: 29/4/93)	GTSP(P)	Ind	H & S/L	16/1	11/5	
J/12	Eporyma	Cont	Sing	CTS	07/5	11/5	
J/13	Benvalla	Cont	Sing	ULA	05/5	09/5	
MPB/1	Banglar Shobha	Cont	Sing	BSC	06/5	09/5	
MPB/2	NGS Ranger	Cont	Sing	BDship	06/5	10/5	
CCJ	Navick	C.Clink	Sing	UMAL	25/4	14/5	
GSJ	Banglar Sampad	Wheat (G)	—	BSC	R/A	11/5	
TSP	Iran Sabr	R.Sulphur	ALJub	NNL	08/5	15/5	
RM/4	Altair Lee	Cement	Sing	Bright	22/3	12/5	
RM/6	Esso Melbourne	RSD/JEP-1	Sing	MSP/L	08/5	10/5	
DDJ	Banglar Shorabh	C.Oil	—	BSC	R/A	09/5	
DDJ	Banglar Monti	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	18/5	
DDJ/1	Berge-Labroy-90/ (Ebb)	Tug success	GI	Sing	ILA	31/1	—
DDJ/2	Banglar Asha	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	15/5	
CUFLJ	Smit Lombok	P.Mat	Sing	Anchor	31/3	31/8	

VESSLS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Last port	Local call	Cargo agent	Loading port
Menado	09/5	Sing	AML	GI	—
Fong Shin	10/5	Sing	BDship	Cont	Sing Scrap
Ternovak	09/5	Tobata	Prog	Steel	—
Eastern Pearl	10/5	Mong	BEA	GI	—
I. Yamburenko	10/5	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Samudra Raj	10/5	Kara	SSL	GI	—
Agra	11/5	Sing	PSAL	Cement	—
NGS Express	12/5	Sing	BDship	Cont	Sing
Banglar Robi	11/5	Sing	APC	Cont	Sing
Banglar Gourab	11/5	Mong	BSC	—	—
Ingenuity	13/5	Mong	PSL	Cont	Col
Meng Lec	11/5	Sing	AML	Cont	Cal
Vishva Kamudi	13/5	—	SSL	E/L	DURK.
Safina-E-ismal-2	26/5	Kara	ASLL	GI/GL	Karachi
Gold Asia	14/5	—	AML	GI	Mom.Mapu
Meng Kiat	17/5	Sing	AML	Cont	Cal
UN Bong	15/5	Yant	Litmond	Cement	TCB
Smolny	25/5	Madccm	ISA	GL	Harb & Poli
Nezabudka	25/5	—	USTC.	Cement	—

VESSLS AT KUTUBDIA/OUTSIDE PORT DUE

Saint Dimitrios	16/5	Jebel	ISLI	—	Blyoti
Banglar Jyoti	09/5	—	BSC	—	S.Dimitrio

VESSLS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Sea Rhapsody	Clink	Visa	UMAL	4/5
Ronjay Victory	Cement	Jaka	USTC	7/5

VESSLS NOT READY

Xin-Ji	Cement	Lach	Khansons	15/4
Orsha	Cement	Sing	USTC	6/5

VESSLS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Chipsam	Cement	Titiz	PSAL	14/4
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VESSLS NOT ENTERING

Frestella	Cement	Sing	Bright	23/3
Astra	Cement	Sing	USTC	22/4
Stern	Scraping	Mong	NFTIP)	9/4
Al Rahman	Scraping	Cal	KSL	4/5
Hang Cheong	—	—	H & H	R/A (5/4)
Loyal Bird	Repair	—	Litmond	R/Aid/5)

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

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 10.05.1993

OUTGOING	INCOMING	SHIPPING
J/2 S.Express	MPB-2 Fong Shin	J/10 E.Sea to DD
MPB-2 NGS Ranger	MPB-1 L.Yamburenko	RM-4 A.Lee to J/2
RM-6 E.Malbourne	J/7 E.Pearl	
POJ/B-Jyoti	DOJ/- B.Shrouth	
	NB- R.Victory	

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 9, 10 and 11.

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.9326	39.7087	39.4556
Pound Sterling	62.6471	62.3264	61.9527
DM	25.1861	25.0291	24.8696
FF	7.4829	7.4368	7.3894
S Riyal	10.6740	10.6141	10.5465
D Guilders	22.4466	22.3020	22.1598
S Kroner	5.4541	5.4198	5.3852
Singapore Dollar	24.7859	24.6469	24.4898
UAE Dirham	10.9096	10.8485	10.7793
Kuwait Dinar	133.7343	132.9845	132.1368
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.2741	1.2684	1.2621
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.4909	1.4842	1.4788

Authorized 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 May 9, 1993 Transactions virtually static

Transactions remained static on Sunday at Dhaka Stock share market.

Figures virtually moved nowhere resulting in stagnant situation. Value only lost Taka 333.25 from Saturday's Taka 1088996.25. Volume suffered a tiny push down of 5.64 per cent and finished at 8,360 issues.

Whatever was the reason for the day's stillness in trading, participants were heavy. Forty two companies traded against Saturday's 37.

Gainers benefited most although they were outnumbered by losers by 18 to 12. Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), Pharmaco and Rahim Textile were the lucky ones. BSC finished with a price rise of ten per cent while Pharmaco and Rahim Textile enjoyed eight and 4.15 per cent hike respectively. On the otherhand, National Tubes and Rupali Bank were sufferers who lost more than four per cent each.

The All Share Price Index also fell to 377.6002 from Saturday's 378.4227, shedding 0.82 point.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE Share Price Index	377.6002
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	10,795,465,417.00
Turnover in Volume	8360
Turnover in Value (Tk)	1088663.00

Company's Name	Previous Price Tk	Closing Price (absolute) Tk	Change Price (Tk)	Change Price (%)	Number of Share Sold
Gains (12) Shares:					
BSC	50.00	55.00	5.00	10.00	40
Pharmaco	50.00	54.00	4.00	8.00	100
Rahim Textile	77.00	80.20	3.20	4.15	10
Satham Textile	66.88	67.00	0.12	0.179	10
Atlas Bng	42.57	42.99	0.42	0.986	550
Monno Stafflers	150.00	152.00	2.00	1.333	100
Afah Auto	169.50	170.00	0.50	0.294	100
IDLC Ltd	230.72	233.08	2.36	1.022	360
Beximco	21.00	21.50	0.50	2.380	700
Umaria Glass	246.00	246.32	0.32	0.130	515
Bangl Food	120.00	120.05	0.05	0.041	88
Debtures:					
Beximco Infusion	1620.00	1638.00	18.00	1.111	20
Losses (18) Shares:					
National Tubes	65.50	61.68	3.82	5.832	290
Rupali Bank	73.00	70.00	3.00	4.109	190
Jute Spinners	78.00	75.00	3.00	3.846	150
GQ Ball Pen	83.00	81.84	1.16	1.399	600
Bata Shoe	35.00	33.99	1.01	2.885	980
Monno Ceramic	293.00	288.00	5.00	1.706	960
Dhaka Veg	82.50	81.13	1.37	1.660	155
B Thai Alm	74.75	74.00	0.75	1.003	100
Tallu Spinning	91.00	90.00	1.00	1.098	60
IFIC	166.00	165.00	1.00	0.602	33
BSC	175.75	175.50	0.25	0.142	80
Aziz Pipe	232.38	229.00	3.38	1.464	40
Wata Chemical	118.00	117.00	1.00	0.847	40
National Oxygen	57.00	55.00	2.00	3.508	10
Ambee Pharma	12.30	12.20	0.10	0.813	50
Beximco Pharma	435.00	432.00	3.00	0.689	30
Beximco Infusion	250.00	249.50	0.50	0.200	50
Padma Textile	175.75	175.50	0.25	0.142	220

Traded at previous prices (12)