

Ticket sale at Parbatipur Rly Station doubles

The Parbatipur railway junction station of the west zone of Bangladesh Railway sold 4,435 tickets worth Taka 75,000 on May 14 which was near double to the earning of May 7, an official source said here Tuesday, reports BSS.

Corporate bankruptcies up in Japan

TOKYO, May 18: The number of corporate bankruptcies in Japan rose 3.9 per cent in April from a year earlier to 1,154 cases, marking the 31st monthly rise, Teikoku Data Bank Ltd said Monday, reports AFP.

The figure, topping 1,000 cases for three months in a row, however, declined 13.9 per cent from March, the private credit agency said.

April liabilities were sharply down 55.9 per cent from a year earlier to 338 billion yen (three million dollars) and down 56.5 per cent from the previous month.

"While some industries can see signs of a recovery, others are still struggling amid a prolonged economic slump," the agency said.

"A further appreciation of the yen could deteriorate the economic situation particularly in electronics, car and machinery industries," it said.

Bankruptcies in the manufacturing sector jumped 31 per cent to 208 cases, while those in the transport and information sectors surged 37 per cent to 48.

The real-estate sector failure rate meanwhile shed 41 per cent to 56 for the sixth straight decline from the year earlier month. Construction industry failures remained virtually unchanged at 229.

The largest failure during the month was machinery maker Morohashi Koki Co with two billion yen in liabilities.

Crop Diversification Programme 1st phase implementation work costs Tk 189 cr

The first phase of implementation work of Crop Diversification Programme is going on in full swing at a cost of one hundred and eighty nine crore taka, an official handout said here Tuesday, reports BSS.

The project will be completed within June, 1995 with the assistance of Canada and the Netherlands governments, the handout said.

This was disclosed at the 9th Parliamentary Standing Committee meeting on agriculture at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday with Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation and Water Development and Flood Control M Majid-ul Haq in the chair.

The meeting was also told to reduce dependency on rice and ensure more protein and food value. There is no alternative but growing more pulses, oil seeds and tuber crops which were the main aspects of Crop Diversification Programme (CDP).

This Crop Diversification Programme will also encourage the farmers to take alternative food which is very much essential to face food crisis in the coming days, the handout said.

Twelve thousand demonstration farms have been established during the last two years in 125 thanas of 31 districts to motivate and train farmers to cultivate diversified crops. The meeting, which was informed about the involve-

ment of people's representatives in this programme, held discussion to enhance its progress.

The meeting also discussed the negligence of block supervisors in duties, simplification procedures of agriculture loan sanction system, price fixation of fertilizer and enhance agriculture affairs motivational activities through radio, television and other mass media.

Members of the committee, Md Alamgir Kabir, Abdul Mannan Talukder, Mrs Mamachand of BNP, Md Azharul Islam, Anwarul Islam, Prof Md Waliullah of Awami League, Gazi Nazrul Islam of Jamaat and Agriculture Secretary A N M Eusuf were present at the meeting.



Iran's Ambassador to Bangladesh Mahmood Bayat called on A T M Wazirullah, President of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Tuesday at the DCCI office. They discussed bilateral trade and economic cooperation issues between Bangladesh and Iran. Khurshed Ali Mollah, Vice President, Khandker A Selim and Rashed Maksud Khan, directors of the DCCI are also seen in the picture.

NYK shipping line offers new service

CHITTAGONG, May 18: NYK, the single biggest shipping line of Japan, recently announced a new weekly frequency in the field of its services for Asia-East Coast Express (AEX) with effect from May 28.

According to agent sources, the AEX all-water service to the east coast of North America via Suez will begin fixed-day weekly sailing, an upgraded from an earlier ten-day service.

As a result, the wide array of ocean services between Japan Far East ports and both east and west coasts offered by NYK Line will all be fixed-day weekly service, five to and from the west coast and two to and from the east coast, agent sources said.

The AEX service, operated under a space charter allocation agreement with Neptune Orient Line (NOL) since November 1991, will continue to call directly at Keelung, Hong Kong, Singapore and Colombo then via Suez to New York, Charleston, Norfolk, and Halifax, sources added. The

new weekly service will be comprised of a total of nine vessels of 2000 TEUS each the sources added.

Besides, NYK provides five fixed-day weekly trans-Pacific sailings to and from the west coast, a weekly fixed-day service via Panama to and from the east coast plus a weekly trans-Atlantic service to and from Europe through vessel sharing agreements with NOL and Hapag-LLOYD, the sources informed.

A total of 370 ships, both owned and chartered, are operating under the control of NYK Line in various global routes.

James Finlay PLC has its local agent since 1951.

No timetable yet for China's securities law

BEIJING, May 18: A government official said Tuesday it was impossible to predict when China will finally get a securities law to bring order to its two fledgling stock markets, reports AP.

"We will do our best to complete the work in as short a time as possible but I can't give you a specific timetable," said Yang Jingyu, Director General of the State Council's Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

The government issued provisional regulations last month to standardize operations on the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges, and said these will form the basis for a future securities law. The law would have greater authority and could be enforced by the courts.

Price-guarantee plan benefits few US sugar producers

WASHINGTON, May 18: A federal price-guarantee programme for US sugar growers and processors adds at least 1.4 billion dollar to the yearly cost of food while benefitting just a few producers, a report said Monday, reports AP.

Sugar producers in other countries complain that US support for domestic sugar production limits them to small and shrinking quotas for their sales here.

The US programme guarantees a minimum price typically double the world price for sugar. It indirectly boosts the price of corn-based sweeteners as well, the General Accounting Office said. The office conducts investigations for Congress.

"It's becoming a programme to benefit fewer and fewer people who will make more and more money," said Rep Charles Schumer, who requested the study.

Rather than paying direct subsidies to growers, the Agriculture Department guarantees a minimum price by controlling imports. The real price in the United States usually exceeds the minimum price.

Japan's 'buy American' policies worry Canada

BANFF, Canada, May 18: Canada is concerned that Japan's "buy American" policies may undermine multilateral trade efforts, Canada's International Trade Minister Michael Wilson said Monday, reports AFP.

While Canada-Japan trade is expanding rapidly, there is "a dark cloud on the horizon... the tendency toward managed trade between Japan and the United States," Wilson told an audience of Japanese and Canadian businessmen.

"I spoke with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and other members of the Japanese cabinet last April concerning the dangers of managed trade possible undermining our multilateral efforts and about the real damage it could do to Japan's other suppliers," he said.

"At the time, Canadian auto parts suppliers were running into 'buy USA' discrimination in their dealings with Japanese companies."

Wilson urged both Japanese and Canadian businesses to do more to boost two-way trade.

He recalled that Japan was second only to the United States as Canada's most important business partner.

"We already enjoy an excellent relationship," he said. "But the potential to make it even better is enormous."

"Canadians see in Japan today a market increasingly open and receptive in imports."

Shipping Intelligence CHITTAGONG PORT

Table with columns: Berth No, Name of Vessels, Cargo, L Port, Local Agent, Date of Leaving. Lists various ships like Altair Lee, Norbulk Namir, Komsomolets Rossi, etc.

VESSLES DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, Last Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading Port. Lists ships like Un Bong, Kota Buana, Bishva Kavmudi, etc.

TANKER DUE

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, Last Port, Local Agent, Cargo. Lists Petr Shmidt.

VESSLES AT KUTUBDIA

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Agent, Date of Arrival. Lists various vessels.

VESSLES AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Agent, Date of Arrival. Lists vessels ready for service.

VESSLES AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Agent, Date of Arrival. Lists vessels awaiting instructions.

VESSLES NOT ENTERING

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Agent, Date of Arrival. Lists vessels not entering the port.

The above were the Tuesday'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 19.

Table with columns: Currency, Selling B.C., T.T. (C), Buying OD Transfers. Lists rates for US Dollar, Pound Sterling, DM, etc.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on May 18, 1993 Index, turnovers plunge

The DSE index and turnovers plunged on Tuesday. The DSE Composite Index fell to 372.3209 from Monday's 373.5859 showing a decline of 1.265 points. Turnover in volume term dropped from 19883 to 9314, a fall of 53.155 per cent. And turnover in value decreased by 37.720 per cent. It declined to Taka 940410.00 from Taka 1509973.25.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Table with columns: DSE Share Price Index, Market Capitalisation (Tk), Turnover in Volume, Turnover in Value (Tk). Shows values for 5/18/93.

Table with columns: Company's name, Previous price, Closing price, Change (absolute), Change (% over price), Number of shares sold. Lists gains for Jute Spinners, Eastern Cables, Eagle Box, etc.

Table with columns: Company's name, Previous price, Closing price, Change (absolute), Change (% over price), Number of shares sold. Lists losses for UCBL, Progressive Plastic, National Oxygen, etc.

Traded at previous rates (14) Shares: City Bank (10), Pubali Bank (306), Rupali Bank (40), 2nd ICB M Fund (32), Aziz Pipes (20), Atlas Bangladesh (100), B Autocars (10), Ashraf Textile (500), Tally Spinning (860), Kohinor Chemical (90), Ibsntia (30), Paper Processing (100), Apex Tannery (145), Umanista Glass (130).

DSE SHARES AND DEBENTURES

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Northern Jute, Shamsur Jute, Specialised Jute, Shine Pukur Jute, Sorrali Aarsh. Lists various shares and debentures.

PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (18)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Ambee Pharma, Bangla Process, BCL, etc.

ENGINEERING (19)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Aftab Automobiles, Atlas Bangladesh, Aziz Pipes, etc.

FOOD & ALLIED (23)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Alpha Tobacco, Apex Sea Food, Apex Food, etc.

PAPER & PRINTING (06)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Eagle Box, Monosop Paper, Paper Converting, etc.

SERVICE (02)

Table with columns: Company, FV/ML Tk, Bangladesh Hotel, Bd Service. Lists service companies.

Note: FV = Face Value ML = Market Lot NT = Not Traded AL = Allotment Letter

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার নিবাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় স্থানীয় সরকার প্রকৌশল অধিদপ্তর, জামালপুর। দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-২০/৯২-৯৩. Includes details of government tenders for road works and other projects.