

Supply position of agri inputs improves, reveals BARD

KOTHBARI (Comilla), June 6: The supply position of agricultural inputs has improved recently following privatisation of their distribution, according to a study conducted by Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) here.

Talking to BSS, Director General of the academy Dr Kshana Mohan Das said the study revealed that the demands for agricultural services had also increased due to increased public awareness about the services.

Agricultural inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, agricultural tools and implements, irrigation water, animal feeds and vaccines were now largely available to the small farmers, the study revealed.

He said different government and non-government institutions in the study area had encouraged formation of farmers

groups, dominated by the small farmers.

He said, the study on 'the organisation and management of agricultural services and inputs supply for small farmers in Bangladesh' was made in 12 thanas in southern and north western part of the country by researchers Fazul Bari, A K M Obaiddullah and S M Abdul Mannan.

Referring to research and training activities of the academy Dr Das said since its inception in 1959 the academy had completed a large number of studies and research works. The studies covered different aspects of socio-economic, infrastructural and agricultural development of the villages, some of which had contributed to the overall development of the rural areas of the country.

The Director General of BARD said the academy had al-

ready conducted 25 pilot projects on various rural development areas and had developed models in cooperatives, rural works, thana irrigation schemes, family planning and thana training and development centres for replication throughout the country.

He said the academy was also conducting pilot plant studies on women's development, rural health and nutrition, youth development, village school and community development, non-agricultural cooperatives, small farmers and landless labourers development programme, land use development planning, village child development and comprehensive village development programme.

Dr Kshana said as a training institute the academy was providing training to government officials and representatives of the village organisations

in various subjects relating to rural development. These included professional training for the mid-level officers from the nation building departments, foundation of basic courses for the BCS and other officials, orientation and special certificate courses on rural development.

He said the academy also offers international training courses on rural development in which participants from the world countries mostly in Asia and the Pacific and the African regions participate.

He said the academy had already completed nine international training courses upto May during this financial year and another will be held in June. Upto February in 1992-93 the academy had completed six foundation courses, 22 professional courses and 32 orientation courses, he added.

JBC achieves record progress

Jeeban Bima Corporation (JBC) achieved a record volume of insurance business last year with an average growth of about 18 per cent over that of the preceding year, says a press release.

First Year Premium income increased to Taka 13.22 crore from Taka 10.75, renewal Premium income increased from Taka 33.46 crore to Taka 40.06 crore. Group Premium from Taka 4.51 crore to Taka 5.14 crore and investment and other incomes from Taka 11.68 crore to Taka 13.34 crore.

3000 workers flown to KL by TU-154

About 3000 passengers, mostly Bangladeshi workers hired by Malaysian companies, have been flown to Kuala Lumpur by 20 flights of the TU-154 aircraft chartered by Biman through a private agency.

This was disclosed on Saturday by Mujibur Rahman, Secretary General of the Association of the Travel Agents of Bangladesh (ATAB) through a press release.

He said the 160-seat aircraft, chartered by Messers Borak Travels on May 21 after a Biman DC-10 met with an accident at the Zia International Airport, has helped Biman to save a substantial amount in foreign exchange.

S Korea's GNP likely to grow this year

SEOUL, June 6: South Korea's real Gross National Product (GNP) was forecast to grow at 5.2 per cent in the second quarter of this year, compared with a 3.3 per cent year-on-year rise in the first quarter, the Central Bank of Korea (BOK) said on Saturday, reports Reuters.

The inflation-adjusted GNP grew 5.9 per cent in the second quarter of last year.

In a report to President Kim Young Sam, BOK Governor Kim Myung-Ho said that South Korea's economy would begin to recover rapidly in the second quarter due to a sharp rise in exports and a boom in the construction sector.

Governor Kim said the GNP would grow six to seven per cent this year, compared with 13-year low of 4.7 per cent last year.

The BOK predicted at the end of last year that the GNP would grow 5.8 per cent this year but revised the figure to six in March, when the government announced its plan to draw up a new economic reform programme.

Japan's economic slump bottoms out

TOKYO, June 6: Japan's Economic Planning Agency (EPA) will declare in its next monthly report that the nation's economic slump has bottomed out, a leading Japanese newspaper reported on Saturday, says Reuters.

The Daily Yomiuri Shimibun said the EPA report, to be released on Thursday, would declare the economic downturn over 16 months after announcing its beginning in February 1992.

The daily quoted a senior EPA official as saying that the economy had "passed a turning point."

The economy is generally considered to have picked up if the EPA's index of leading indicators, which measures current economic conditions, stays above 50 on a scale of 100 for three months in a row.

The daily quoted a senior EPA official as saying that the index for April was likely to be above 50 for the third straight month.

Bamboo, cane based industry face extinction in Jessore

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, June 6: Bamboo and cane-based cottage industry in greater Jessore district is on verge of extinction following price hike of inputs, lack of marketing facility, scarcity of capital and non-availability of bank loans causing thousands of family out of employment.

It is learnt, bamboo and cane oriented products like dhama, khuci, kula, dol, polo, chatai, chalan, chagari, mora, chair-seat, book-shelve, bain, ghuni, charo, doar, have almost disappeared from the markets.

Those who were engaged in producing these items, have stopped do so due to marked

change in price of the inputs. According to a source, a matured bamboo now sells at Taka eighty, while sometime back, it was only thirty taka. Price of one kg of rope is thirty taka. It was Taka five.

Similar is the case with cane. It has risen to Taka fifty from Taka ten only.

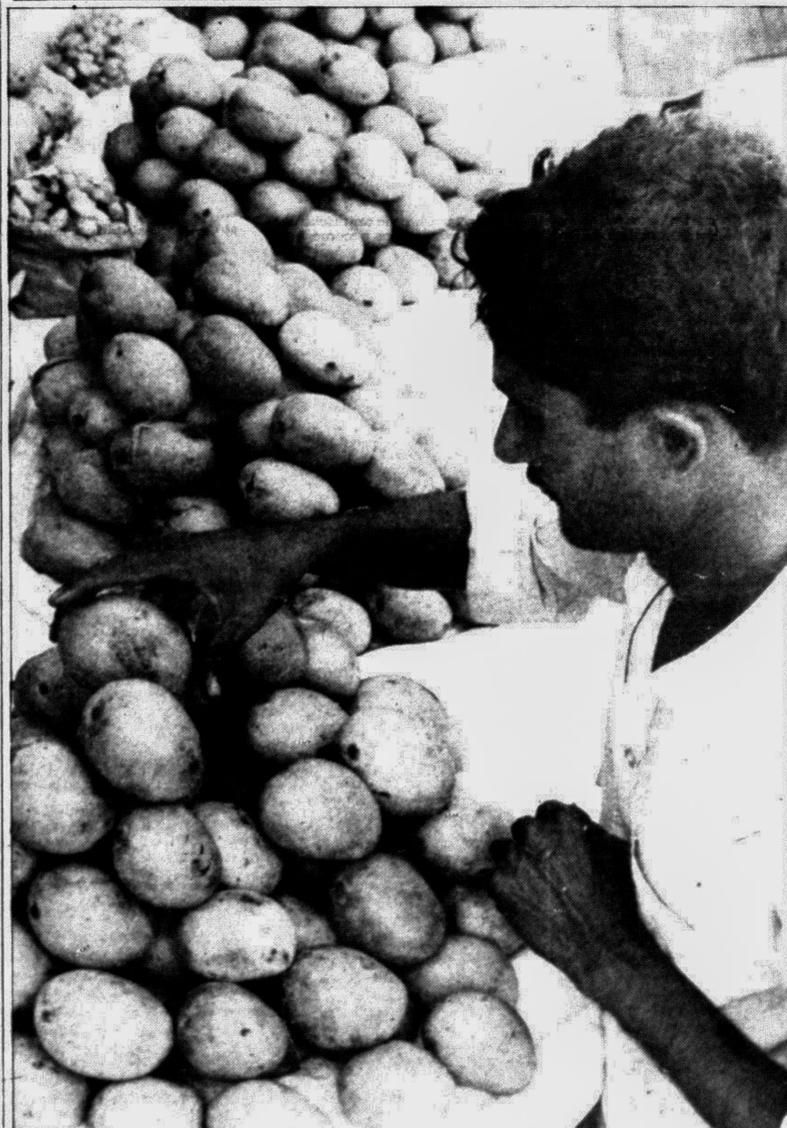
Cane presents a more deplorable picture. Its availability is very rare and price is abnormally high beyond purchasing capacity of the poor makers.

With clearance of wilds and forests for bringing land under cultivation and building more

houses cane has disappeared from the market with exorbitant rise in prices.

Plastic products are being used as best substitute of these items, available comparatively at cheaper rates. It has flooded the markets, giving no chance for these items to reappear.

There were times, when these bamboo and cane made products were available in massive quantity. The makers sold these in different hats and bazars. Sometimes, meeting the local demands, the surplus products were taken to other neighboring areas for marketing.



Delicious looking mangoes like these seen in the picture are plenty in the markets but high prices keep most buyers away. The mangoes of few different categories are only available in this season. The fruit is mostly grown in northern districts of Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj. —Star photo

Marine police to control piracy in Bay yet to be set up

BARISAL, June 6: Marine police for controlling piracy, smuggling and looting by foreign trawlers in the Bay of Bengal and the vast coastal areas of the country is yet to be set up.

Though a resolution for setting up marine police units is passed in the Jatiya Sangsad last year, still nothing has been done further in materialising the decision.

Since the independence of the country marine police has

not been formed to protect property and lives of the people of about eight hundred miles coastal areas from Teknaf to Patharghata.

Besides, the fishing areas of the Bay of Bengal remain open to the pirates and smugglers.

According to a survey report, during the last three years more than three hundred fishermen were killed and fish, fishing nets, trawler engines and a total of about fifty crore taka have been looted by the pirates and

dacoits in these areas. Dacoits have also ransacked about 40 passenger launches killing ansars on duty and looted money with other valuable articles from the passengers.

Informed sources say, formation of marine police immediately is the only way to protect property and lives of the people living along the coastal areas and the off shore island of Bhola, Cox's Bazar and Noakhali.

New UK Chancellor may go for unpopular tax

LONDON, June 6: Britain's new Chancellor of the exchequer Kenneth Clarke inherited a serious budget deficit from Norman Lamont and will have to make unpopular tax and spending decisions in coming months, analysts said on Friday, reports Reuters.

In an interview published on Thursday that got scant attention due to the cabinet reshuffle, Lamont said the Treasury might look into raising more tax from firms to curb its ballooning overdraft.

The new Chancellor will get the same advice from the treasury, and the same forecasts, which is more important in this particular respect," a treasury official said.

The key forecast is that the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) this fiscal year will be 50 billion pound (78 billion dollar) sterling a whopping eight per cent of Gross Domestic Product.

Tax revenue has fallen to 34.5 per cent of GDP and Lamont indicated in The Guardian newspaper interview that this would have to be boosted.

More specifically, Lamont said he was reviewing the capital allowances that companies can now use to reduce their tax bill. "One of the questions, I am interested in is to what extent our corporation tax reforms have actually lessened the yield

from companies below that we might have expected," Lamont said.

"The way the deficit is, nothing can be excluded," said Nigel Rendell, an economist with James Capel, but he doubted whether the government would try to milk industry for funds.

"Any sort of tax increase would be the biggest u-turn imaginable," Rendell said, noting that lowering taxes was a key policy plank of the ruling Conservative Party.

"The way forward for them is to cut spending. Tax increases are not philosophically sound for that party," agreed Ian Gunner, an economist with Chase Investment Bank.

But he said a combination of spending cuts and certain tax adjustments, such as another increase in Value Added Tax (VAT), was likely in November.

The government plans to introduce a combined spending and revenue budget for the following tax year each November, starting this year.

On the government's current projections the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement for 1994/95 will be 44 billion pound (68.44 billion dollar), still 6.5 per cent of GDP.

A row broke out earlier this month over a root and branch review of public spending being carried out by the chief secretary to the treasury, Michael Portillo.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth Position And Performance of Vessels As On 6.6.93

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L. Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/1	Arktis Pearl	GI	Sing	BSL	4/6	9/6
J/4	Safina-c-ismail-2	GI/Gl	Kara	ASLL	26/5	6/6
J/12	Al Reza	Urea	Rouen	Royal	31/5	10/6
J/13	Epyrma	Cont	Mong	Seacom	21/5	8/6
MTB/1	Kota Buana	Cont	Sing	RSL	31/5	6/6
MPB/2	Banglar Robi	Cont	Sing	BSC	4/6	7/6
CCJ	Sea Rhapsody	C Clink	Via	UMAL	4/5	10/6
GSJ	Banglar Shobha	Cont	Ura	BSC	R/A	6/6
RM/5	Orsha	Cement	Sing	USTC	6/5	9/6
DD	Endurance Sea	Repair	Aqaba	CLA	25/1	12/6
DDJ/1	Tug Y Success/Labroy-90	GI	Sing	ILA	31/1	7/8
DDJ/2	Banglar Asha (Bib)	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	15/6
CURJ	Komsomlets Rossi	Urea	-	PSAL	R/A	6/6

VESSLS DUE AT PORT ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Keban	6/6/93	Dubai	BSC	Steel Billets	-
Lily	7/6/93	Indo	Litmond	Cement	-
Andrian Goncharov (Cont) 26/5	7/6/93	Sing	CT	Cont	Mong Vessel
Kang An Kou	7/6/93	Sing	BBA	GI (Car) Roro	USA, New
Green Island	8/6/93	Sing	Karna	GI (Lash)	SA, Fe
Bervalla 31/5 FM	8/6/93	Sing	ULA	Cont	-
Agra	9/6/93	Sing	PSAL	Cement	-
Trans Asia	9/6/93	Yang	Cross	GI	-
Ingeniuty 30/5	9/6/93	Col	RSL	Cont	Col
Ralah	10/6/93	-	Dynamic	M Seeds	-
MGS Express 31/5	10/6/93	Mong	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Dharatendu	10/6/93	-	SSL	GI	Dunde Bat
Tn Ghi Shan	10/6/93	-	Khansons	Cement	-
Eastern Mars	11/6/93	-	Prog	GI	-
Black Whale	11/6/93	-	Prog	GI	-
Meng Kiat 5/6	11/6/93	Sing	AML	Cont	Hald
Al Salma	12/6/93	-	ASLL	GI	-
Yambarenko 31/5	13/6/93	-	CT	Cont	Sing
Fong Shin 5/6	14/6/93	-	BDSHIP	Cont	Sing
Sound Royal	25/7/93	-	BBA	GI	-

TANKER DUE

Flores Sea	6/6/93	R Tanu	ECSL	Crude Oil	Jyoti
Bunga Sepang	8/6/93	-	Seacom	CDSO	-
Petr Shmidt	12/6/93	-	Seacom	Soyal Oil	-

VESSLS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Ready On				
Alkyonis	C Clink	BUKT	UMAL	30/5
Smoltyr	GI/Gl	Col	BSA	5/6
Fong Yun	Cont	Sing	BDSHIP	5/6
Petr Starostin	Cont	Sing	CT	6/6

VESSLS NOT READY

Vishva Umang	Cement	Visa	PSAL	23/5
Ronjay Choomie	Cement	Sing	USTC	2/6
Estratio-G	Wheat (G) Ant	LIT.	20/5	-

VESSLS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Chipsam	Cement	Ttiz	PSAL	14/4
Banglar Jyoti	-	-	BSC	R/A (3/6)
Banglar Shourabh	-	-	BSC	R/A (3/6)

VESSLS NOT ENTERING

Stern	Scraping	Mong	NFT (P)	9/4
Chilian Bract	Scraping	USA	UMAL	24/5
T T Alias	Scraping	Sing	OTL	24/5
Pioneer	Scraping	P Sved	NFT	1/6
Promitheas	Scraping	Sing	ARL	5/6

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 7/6/1993

OUTGOING	INCOMING	SHIFTING
MPB-2 B Robi	DOJ B Jyoti	RM-5 Orsha To RM-6
GSJ: B Shobha	J/1 Keban	
	MPB-2 A Goncharov	

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.

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 30 to June 5. (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling B.C.	T. T. (C)	Buying CD Transfers
US Dollar	39.9326	39.7087	39.4556
Pound Sterling	62.3163	61.9963	61.6246
DM	25.1623	25.0055	24.8461
FF	7.4619	7.4139	7.3666
S Riyal	10.6740	10.6142	10.5465
D Oulders	22.4593	22.3208	22.1785
S Kroner	5.5758	5.5437	5.5084
Singapore Dollar	24.8739	24.7344	24.5766
UAE Dirham	10.9096	10.8485	10.7793
Kuwait Dinar	133.5985	132.8494	132.0027
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.2717	1.2660	1.2597
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.4775	1.4710	1.4637

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on June 6, 1993

Sharp rise in trading

Transactions at Dhaka Stock Exchange met with a sharp rise in trading. Both the turnovers recorded noticeable surge.

Volume marked a jump of 246.7 per cent while value showed a surge of 131.56 per cent. Volume stood at 6,421 issues as against Saturday's 1,852 issues. Value closed at Taka 299555.00 from Saturday's Taka 129361.00.

As many as 30 companies appeared to trade on the floor against Saturday 20. Thirteen companies gained prices while eight lost. Another nine traded at previous rates. New Dhaka Refractories and Bangas were among the losers who suffered slight noticeable losses. New Dhaka Refractories suffered a loss of 7.14 per cent while its mate, Bangas, sacrificed for a 6.25 price loss.

The price index slightly gained and added 0.46 point to Saturday's 377.3493 and closed at 377.8067.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE Share Price Index	377.8067
Market Capitalisation (Tk)	10,801,367,647.0
Turnover in Volume	642.1
Turnover in Value (Tk)	299555.00

Company's name	Previous price Tk	Closing price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change Num'ber (over of share price)	Volume sold
Gains (13)					
Shares:					
Eagle Star Textile	14.80	15.03	0.23	1.554	150
Apex Tannery	360.00	365.00	5.00	1.388	75
Savar Refractories	76.00	77.00	1.00	1.315	10
B Autocars	64.00	64.83	0.83	1.296	60
Rahim Textile	78.00	79.00	1.00	1.282	45
Howlader PVC	96.00	97.00	1.00	1.041	20
B Oxygen	67.00	67.50	0.50	0.746	150
Monno Ceramic	290.00	292.00	2.00	0.689	25
5th ICB M Fund	93.57	94.00	0.43	0.459	150
Aftab Automobiles	166.35	167.00	0.65	0.390	60
B That Aluminium	86.78	86.92	0.14	0.161	320
Ctg Cement	200.00	200.10	0.10	0.050	255
Debtenture:					
Quasem Silk	1150.00	1155.00	5.00	0.434	1

Company's name	Previous price Tk	Closing price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change Num'ber (over of share price)	Volume sold
Losses (08)					
Shares:					
New Dhaka Refrac	70.00	65.00	-5.00	-7.142	20
Bangas	160.00	150.00	-10.00	-6.250	5
Paper Processing	20.00	19.00	-1.00	-5.00	10
Rupan Oil	4.10	4.00	-0.10	-2.439	400
Tallu Spinning	95.00	94.00	-1.00	-1.052	70
Kohinoor Chemical	63.86	63.50	-0.36	-0.563	65
Wata Chemical	117.50	117.00	-0.50	-0.425	400
Islami Bank	1705.00	1703.00	-2.00	-0.117	10

Traded at previous rates: (09)

Shares: 4th ICB M Fund (40), Eastern Cables (205), National Tubes (20), Alfa Tobacco (50), Gemfri Sea Food (5), Zeal Bangla Sugar (200), National Oxygen (50), Quasem Silk (3200), Satham Textile (350).

DSE SHARES AND DEBENTURES

Company	FV/ML (Taka)	Closing Rate (Taka)	Northern Jute	10/50	NT
BANKS (11)					
Al Baraka Bank	1000/1	950.00			
A.B. Bank	100/5	165.00			
City Bank	100/5	351.00			