Imported milk powders be-

The price hike took place as

the budget for 1993-94 in-

creased duties on milk powder

in bulk from 30 to 40 per cent,

tinned powder milk from 25 to

30 per cent and baby food from

Taka 342 before the budget now

sells at Taka 370, Red Cow has

gone up to Taka 365 to 370

from Taka 336, Anchor Taka

352 from Taka 324. La Frisiana

Taka 355 from 330 and Celia

Taka 330 from 315. The price of

a one-kg pack of Diploma has

gone up from Taka 153 to 170.

A 2-kg tin Dano which was

15 to 30 per cent.

per two kg tin milk jumped up

strong-rate sales.

the United Kingdom.

per cent.

withdrawn.

Export buyers declined to

compete against each other and

local traders were also subdued.

Poland, Pakistan, Russia and

stood at 19 per cent of the offer-

ings as against last week's 20

18,326 packages were offered at

the sale. Export buyers ac-

counted for 56 per cent of the

sale and the internal traders

purchased 27 per cent while the

remaining 17 per cent was

In the dust category 3,618

packages were offered. Local

traders purchased 51 per cent

of the offerings while the export

buyers bought 24 per cent. The

Major export accounts were

Total withdrawals at the sale

## Exchange rate to be declared on daily basis

Exchange rate of US dollar in terms of Taka henceforth will be declared on daily basis by the Bangladesh Bank, says a press release.

This was decided at a high level meeting held yesterday under the chairmanship of Finance Minister Saifur Rah-

Bangladesh Bank Governor Khorshed Alam, Finance Secretary Nasimuddin Ahmed and other high officials attended the meeting.

In pursuance of the policy announcement by the Finance Minister in his budget speech it was also decided to move rapidly towards convertibility of Taka for current account transactions.

Iberoamerican

summit begins

(Brazil), July 15: Leaders of Spanish and Portuguese-speak-

ing nations gather for the third

Iberoamerican summit this

week, hoping to win support

from the world's richest coun-

tries for regional development

More than 20 heads of states

are due to arrive for Thursday's

official opening of the summit in

velopment and social justice-

remains much the same as it

was at the first gathering in

Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1991

and at last year's meeting in

Taiwan keen to

set up fruit

processing plant

in Bangladesh

The leader of the visiting in-

vestment delegation from

Taiwan Jimmy C M Lin said

that they are interested to set

up a fruit processing plant in Bangladesh, says a press re-

In this context he mentioned

his visit to the Dhaka Export

Processing Zone and the meet-

ing with different government

officials which he termed as

He was addressing a meeting

with the members of the Dhaka

Chamber of Commerce and

Industry on Thursday at the

150 tons of mangoes per day as raw materials for their fruit pro-

cessing industry intended to be

set up in Bangladesh, the press

He said that they will need

chamber conference room.

very fruitful.

release added.

ministry

The agenda - economic de-

Brazil's former colonial capital.

programmes, reports Reuter.

SALVADOR DE BAIIIA

# Milk powder prices soar

By Staff Correspondent

The prices of butter ofl have came untouchable as prices of also made a sudden rise in the last few days. A two-pound tin by Taka 20 to 30 in the city of Red Cow butter oil which was Taka 180 now sells at Taka markets during the past few 210 and Elders has gone up to Taka 190 from 170.

The prices of soyabean oil are also soaring. The 5-litre can of Tripti Soyabean oil has gone up to Taka 225 from Tk 215 and Phoolkopi Taka 215 from Taka 205.

Green and dried chillies both became hotter with exortibant price. Th price of dried chilly was Taka 40 per kg. But it now sells at Taka 60. The price of green chilly has also gone up to Taka 20 per kg from Taka 4. The green chilly is short of supply," vegetables vendors in New Market said yesterday, "because

of the rainy season."

The price of salt which bitterly rose up to Taka 10 from Taka 6 following the Eid-ul-Azha in June, shows now tendency to go down. "The price went up because of huge demand of salt for the purpose of preserving cow hides following the Eid," a wholesaler said.

Sugar price had also lost some sweetness as it increased by Taka two per kg while pric€ of garlic came down to Taka 30 or 32 from Taka 40 per kg with increasing supplies.

The fish and the vegetables markets also remained costly as usual. Vendors say supplies continued to be low for the past two weeks due to heavy down

# Most tea prices decline

By Staff Correspondent

Poor demand led most tea rest 25 per cent remained un-

prices to decline at this week's auction sale held in Chittagong Following is the categoryon Tuesday last. wise market performance report

According to Unity Brokers as prepared by United Brokers: market report, overall tea prices CTC: Most brokens cased at the sale eased by upto Taka between Taka one and two per two per kilogram below last levkg with the largest sorts often being neglected. Lower types Demand was slightly lower eased less. Selective best lines at this sale and this led the sold between Tk 54.00-Tk. price levels to case after a few

57.10 per kg.

Fannings were easier by about a take per kg and occasionally more. Popular lines realised between Tk 54. Tk 57,20 per kg.

Orthodox: Two packages of STGFOP's sold at Tk 150.00 per

Green tea: 180 packages were on offer. FYH's sold between Tk 62 and 63 whilst the In the leaf category, a total of YH's realised between Tk 63.50 Tk 65.00 per kg.

> Dust: 3,618 packages were on offer. The cleaner good liquoring sorts were barely steady. Others were easier by Taka one to three per kg.

> The next weekly tea auction sale will be held on July 20 and total offerings will consist of about 17,500 packages of leaf and another 3,500 packages of

## Shipping Intelligence **CHITTAGONG PORT**

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 15.07.93

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/2	Banglar Maya	GI	Male	BSC	12/7	19/7
J/3	Neptune Iris	Pulses	Sing	MSA	11/7	18/7
J/4	Banglar Kiron	Repair	35	BSC	R/A	17/7
J/5	Agra	Cement	Long	PSAL	12/6	16/7
J/7	Pearl One	Urea	Rang	Cross	06/7	18/7
J/8	Sam Hac	Urea	Hong .	PSAL	27/6	23/7
J/11	Fortaitissa	Urea	E	UMAL	R/A	18/7
J/13	Arktis Ocean	GI (Copra)	Sing	BSL	13/7	18/7
MPB/1		Cont	Sing	CTS	13/7	17/7
CCJ	Vishva Mamta (I	Ebb)C Clink	Visa	UMAL	05/7	18/7
GSJ	Banglar Kallol	Repair	25422545 2	BSC	R/A	16/7
TSP	Orsha (P C Stop the Court)	W. C.	Sing	USTC	06/5	18/7
RM/4	Efstratios-G (Att 19/6)	ach: Idle	Ant	BSL	20/5	18/7
RM/6	Ronjay Choomic	Cement	Sing	USTC	02/6	17/7
LOCI	Banglar Jyoti	Repair	Signature Signature	BSC	R/A	16/7
DD	Banglar Shobha	Repair	M RI	BSC	23/6	16/7
DDJ/1	Barge Labroy-90	GI	Sing	ILA	31/1	07/8
DDJ/2	Banglar Asha (E	bb) Repair	1.05 E	BSC	R/A	25/7
CUFJ	Mandalay	Urea	Yang	MTA	09/7	17/7

### VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHURAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Por Cal	A SEPTEMBER OF THE SEPT	Cargo	Loading Port
Lhotse	15/7	Sing	RSL	Cont	Mong
M T Helen	15/7	K Fak	ARL	For Scrapin	ıg -
Vishva Parimal	20/7	Mad	SSL	GI/GL	UKC
Mukachevo	18/7	Sing	USTC	Cement	575.
Lanka Mahapola	17/7	Mong	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Apple Blossom	17/7	Mong	ITL	For Scraptr	ug ~
Eponyma	17/7	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Soung Royal	17/7	Cal	BBA	G1	925 T
Petr Starostin	18/7	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Fong Shin	19/7	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Dancing Sister	19/7	Kand	OWSL	Sugar in Ba	300.000
Fair Spitit	19/7	S\$03	Prog	GI	ā
NGS Express	19/7	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing
Rafah	20/7	Niko	Dynamic	M Seeds	2000
Tiger Hope	20/7	Thereses V	Prog	GI .	
Ingenuity	21/7	Col	BTSA	Cont	Col
Imke Wehr	21/7	88	ULA	Cont	ie.
Meng Lee	21/7	380	Sing	Cont	Sing USA
Pencen	24/7	Sing	OWSL	GL	D S Salam
Boris Lavrenyov	25/7	SECONDANA PER	USTC	GI (Soda As	h) -
Robert-e-Lee	25/7	17	Kama	GI	S New York
NGS Ranger	25/7	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Stng
Fong Yun	29/7	Sing	BDSkip	Cont	Sing
Sea Nymph	30/7	2000 E4	USTC	Cement	
Meng Kiat	30/7	Ç2	AML	Cont	Sing USA
1	VESSI	ELS AT	KUTU	BDIA	

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
	VESSELS	READY	3	7/
	READY	ON		- Month Carlot
Banglar Robi (Cont)	- Cont	Sing	BSC	15/7
Banglar Sampad	# B	<b>9</b> 00	BSC	R/A (13/7)

### 16/7 Cement Titiz USTC

Chipsam

Tony Best	8	Cement	Mong	Acka	27/6
Marine Three	8	55	55	BML	R/A (5/7)
Al Salma	16/7	Repair	8	ASLL	R/A (6/7)
Trans Asla	*	@ #	138	Cross	R/A (7/7)
Banglar Shourabh		£5		BSC	R/A (14/7)

VESSELS NUT ENTERING					
Stern	l#	Scraping	Mong	NFT	9/4
Promitheas	.8	Scraping	Sing	ARL	5/6
Dolores (Detained	100		-6667675	ETIMENE.	ROVAL
by the Court 5/7)	82	2	17	Seacom	R/A (30/6)
Cherry Blossom	<u> </u>	Scraping	Slova	LTL	9/7

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 July 16 and 17.

	(Figures in Taka)				
Currency	Selling B. C.	T. T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers		
US Dollar	39.9326	39.7087	39.4556		
UK Pound Sterling	60.0170	59.7029	59.3432		
D.M	23 2734	23.1362	22.9887		
FF	6.8168	6.7751	6.7319		
8 Riyai	10.6740	10.6142	10.5465		
D. Gutlders	20,6905	20.5638	20.4327		
S. Kroner	5.0429	5.0114	4.9795		
Singapore Dollar	24.6665	24.5282	24.3718		
JAE Dirham	10.9016	10.8405	10.7714		
Kuwait Dinar	133.1073	132.3610	131.5173		
ndian Rupee (AMU)	1.2721	1.2664	1.2601		

1.4537

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

1.4602

Note: AMU-Asian Monetary Union.

Pak Rupee (AMU)

## Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on July 15, 1993

## Little change

Trading on the floor of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) showed little change on Thursday, closing day of the week, compared with Wednesday's performance.

Both the turnovers declined, but only slightly. Volume fell to 6,094 issues from 6,533 showing loss of 6.719 per cent. Value dropped to Taka 727,855.00 from Taka 836,061.00, a fall of 12.942 per cent.

The DSE Composite Index made a small gain of 0.267 point. It reached 417.8293 from 417.5614.

Number of stocks traded increased slightly to 35 against Wednesday's 32. Gainers continued to dominate the floor. They outnumbered losers by 15 to eight while 11 others traded at previous rates.

### DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Der el .... p. . . . . . . .

Market Capitalis Turnover in Volu Turnover in Valu	270010	117.8293 NA 6094 27855.00			
Company's Name	Previous Price Tk	Closing Price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (% over price)	Number of shares sold
Gains (15)		STATISTICS CARREST			
Shares:					
IFIC	182.00	185.00	3.00	1.648	5
Islami Bank	1400.00	1450.00	50.00	3.571	1
Rupali Bank	67.00	68.00	1.00	1.492	30
Green Delta	210.80	211.50	0.70	0.332	20
Eastern Cables	78.46	78.63	0.17	0.216	205
Howlader PVC	106.00	106.25	0,25	0.235	40
Monno Jutex	279.00	300.00	21.00	7.526	10
Padma Textile	162.94	165.00	2.06	1.264	20
Bangla Process	60.00	61.00	1.00	1.666	50
Control of the Contro	THE CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF		20005/3/07		3,477,62

### BCIL 280.00 286.67 2.382 Therapeutics 68.00 69.00 1.00 1.470 Apex Footwear 177.63 178.53 0.90 0.506 332.00 Apex Tannery 335.00 3.00 0.903 Ctg Cement 206.00 207.69 0.820 Debenture: Beximco Pharma 1075.00 1080.00 5.00 0.465 Losses (08) Shares: IDLC 220.00 222.00 2.00 0.900 BGIC 203.38 0.720 0.352 United Insurance 215.35 212.00 3.35 1.555 B That Aluminium 89.25 88.02 1.23 1.378 110 Bengal Food 117.63 117.25 0.38 0.323

Traded at previous rats (11)

235.00

289.00

80.00

Beximco Infusion

Savar Refractories

Monno Ceramic

Company

**BANKS (12)** 

Al Baraka

A.B. Bank

City Bank

IDLC Ltd

LFIC

Eastern Bar

Islami Bank

National Bar

Pubali Bank

Rupali Bank

Uttara Bank

INVESTMEN

1st ICB M.

2nd ICB Fur

3rd ICB M. I

4th ICB M. #

5th ICB M. F

6th ICB M. F

ICB Unit Cer Sales Price Re-purchase

INSURANCE

Green Delta

**ENGINEERI** 

Aziz Pipes

14/4

Aftab Automobiles

Bangladesh Autocars 100/5 62.00

Bangladesh Lamps 100/5 297.26

B. That Aluminium 100/10 88.02

Renwick Jagneswar 100/5 85:00

Singer Bangladesh 100/5 910.00

Atlas Bangladesh

Bengal Carbide

Eastern Cables

Howlader PVC

Metalex Corp.

Monno Jutex

National Tubes

Quasem Drycells

FOOD & ALLIED (28)

Panther Steel

A.B Biscuit

Apex Food

Aroma Tea

Alpha Tobacco

Aman Sca Food

**B.D. Plantation** 

Ctg. Vegetable

Frogleg Export

Gemini Sea Food

Modern Industries

Hill Plantation

Rabeya Flour

Rupan Oil Tultp Dairy

Yousuf Flour

BD Oxygen

Zeal Bangla Sugar

Eastern Lubricant

National Oxygen

Padma Oil Co.

JUTE (12)

Ahad Jute

Delta Jute

Islam Jute

Gawsia Jute

Jute Spinner

Mutual Jute

1.4464

Anowara Jute

FUEL & POWER (04)

Dhaka Vegetables

Bengal Food

B.L.T.C.

B.T.C.

N.T.C

Monno Staffllers

Karim Pipe

Bengal Steel

100/5 175.00

10/50 42.50

100/5 255.00

100/5 251.00

10/50 20.00

100/5 78.63

100/10 106.25

100/5 84.00

100/5 36.00

100/5 165.00 100/5 300.00

100/5 200.00

10/50 45.00

100/5 15.00

100/5 650.00

100/5 60.00

100/5 120.00

100/5 500.00

100/5 117.25

100/5 800.00

10/50 74.00

100/10 68.50

100/5 76.00

100/51040.00

100/5 70.00

100/5 550.00

100/5 320.00

100/52 207.00

10/50 6.60

10/50 14.00

100/10 70.00

10/50 43.00

100/5 45.00

100/5 80.00

100/5 105.00

3.00

4.50

50.00

NT

NT

NT

8.50

NT

10/50

10/100

10/100

100/10

10/50

10/50

100/10

10/50

10/50

10/50

8.00

9.30

100/10

10/50

10/50

Peoples United

BGIC

U.C.B.L.

I.C.B

Shares: National Bank (55), Uttara Bank (6), 4th ICB M Fund (10), 6th ICB M Fund (60), Singer Bangladesh (25), Renwick Jajneswar (220), NTC (10), Zcal Bangla Sugar (1000), Quasem Silk (500), Eagle Star Textile (500), Eagle Box (100), Monospool Paper (5).

227.92

288.00

79.00

1.00

1.00

3.012

0.346

1..250

### DSE

O.		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	D DEBEN	CALEBOTH COME IN	- ISUMPOU
3.9		Closing	Shamser Jule	10/50	
ğ	(Taks)	Rate	Speialised Jure	10/50	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
		(Taka)	Shine Pukur Jute	100/5	(d
			Sonali Aansh	100/5	
Bank	1000/1	900.00	TEXTILE (20)		E STORES
E-MARIE	100/5		Alhaj Textile	10/50	N T
	100/5	100 NOVE 100 COUNTY	Arbee Textile	100/10	
nk	100/20	110.00	Ashraf Textile	10/50	TO THE WORLD IN TO
	100/20		Chand Textile	10/50	
	100/5	185.00	Chand Spining	10/50	N 783111/2
		1450.00	Desh Garments	100/10	5
nk	100/5		Dulamia Cotton	100/10	
	100/5	100.00	Eagle Star Textile		
	100/10	68.00	GMG Ind. Corp.	10/50	10.00
	100/5	88.00	Modern Dying	100/5	34.00
	100/5	100.00	Padma Textile	100/20	165.00
			Quasem Silk	10/100	
NT (08	)		Quasem Textile	10/50	
	100/5	100.00	Rahim Textile	100/5	
Fund	100/5	370.00	Satham Textiles	100/10	82.92
nd	100/5	177.00	S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5	20.00
Fund	100/5	150.00	Stylecraft	100/5	130.00
und	100/10	152.00	Swan Textile	100/5	13.00
und	100/10	95.00	Tallu Spinning	100/10	95.00
und	100/10	60.00	Tamijuddin	100/10	165.00
rt.					
		dę	PHARMACEUTICA	LS &	
2		de	CHEMICALS (18)		
E (04)			Ambee Pharma	10/50	12.70
	100/10	203.38	Bangla Process	100/5	61.00
	100/10		BCIL	100/10	
	100/10		Beximco Infusion	100/00	
	100/10	212.00	Beximco Pharma	100/5	425.00
		Se Vice Vice	Glaxo	10/50	125.00
ING (1	9)		1 C I	10/50	10.00

Dangia Froces	100/0	01:0
BCIL	100/10	286.6
Beximco Infusion	100/00	227.9
Beximco Pharma	100/5	425.0
Glaxo	10/50	
1 C I	10/50	10.0
N Polymer	100/10	
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5	64.2
Petro Synthetic	10/50	10.0
Pfizer	100/5	450.0
Pharma Aids	100/5	180.5
Pharmaco	100/5	50.0
Progressive Plastic	Y00/0000000000000000000000000000000000	32.0
Reckitt & Colman	10/50	95.0
Rahman Chemicals	1.479093300035600	33.0
Therapeutics	100/5	69.0
The Ibnsina	100/10	101.0
Wata Chemical	100/20	131.4

he Ibnsina ata Chemical	100/10 100/20	MOTOR
APER & PRINTIN	IG (06)	
agle Box	10/50	2
onospool Paper	100/5	3
		100

RVICE (02)		
nali Paper	10/50	52.00
dma Printers	10/50	50.00
per Processing	100/10	19.42
per Converting	100/5	70.00
nospool Paper	100/5	30.00
gle Box	10/50	20.00
IN TORE OF A RESISTENCE	Cr (UO)	

ngladesh Hotel Service	10/50 10/50	
CELLANEOUS	(18)	V.C.VIV.
x Footwear	100/20	178.53
x Tannery		335.00
mit	10/50	30.00
a Shoe	10/100	37.50
tmco	10/100	20.50
C	100/5	60.00

pex Footwear	100/20	178.5
pex Tannery	100/5	335.00
ramit	10/50	30.00
ata Shoc	10/100	37.50
extmco	10/100	20.50
SC	100/5	60.00
hittagong Cement	100/5	207.69
. Q. Ball Pen		79.00
igh Speed	100/5	50.00
lmadri Ltd.	10/100	6.00
tion Tannery	100/5	11.00
onno Ceramic	100/5	288.00
ew Dhaka Refac	100/20	80.00
heonix Leather	100/5	100.00
avar Refractories	100/5	79.00
he Engineers	100/5	100.00
expick ind	100.10	100.00
smanta Glass	100/5	251.00

manua Glass	100/5 251.00		
BENTURES (04)			
rimco	NACES REPORTED	1915.00	
% 1998 cimco Infusion	1999/1 1500/2	1715.00	
1998)			
ximeo Pharma % 1998)	1428/1	1080.00	
	A Market A A	1000 00	

Quasem Silk 1500/1 1200.00 [17% 1994] Note: FV = Face Value ML= Market Lot NT= Not Traded AL = Allotment Letter

at its two missile test sites.

far been averted by the provision of low-cost food rationing system, which provides food to the population at highly subsidized

sanctions imposed on Iraq in August 1990 following its invasion of Kuwait in their present form without further aggravating the

The mission urged the international community to help Iraq import its badly needed 5.4 million tons of basic food stuffs between June 1993 and July 1994 to feed its population of 18

Nations and Iraq over the possible one-time sale of 1.6 billion US dollar worth of Iraqi oil to finance food and other essential purchases The only solution to the grave food supply problem is to work

out suitable arrangements which would allow Iraq to commercially import its entire food ageds, the FAO report concluded.

## Clinton will seek \$2.48b to help. US flood victims DES MOINES, July 15: the upper Mississippi river and pleted his helicopter tour of

Ciba-Geigy arranged a display of its products at a city hotel on Thursday to celebrate completion of its 20 years' operation in

Bangladesh. Gerhard G Doege, Managing Director of Ciba-Geigy (Bangladesh) Ltd is seen on the extreme left. - Star photo

President Clinton announced Wednesday he will ask Congress for 2.48 billion US dollar in immediate disaster relief for midwest flood victims but said that figure was likely to go higher as better damage es-

timates come in, reports Reuter. The President, who toured flooded areas of this farmbelt capital by helicopter enroute home from a brief Hawaiian vacation, said he had seen many floods before but added: "I've never seen anything on this

scale before." Clinton announced after he flew in from Honolulu that he would ask Congress for 2.48 billion US dollar in relief aid for the remainder of fiscal 1993. which ends September 30, for victims of flooding throughout

various tributaries.

During brief comments to a crowd at a flood relief centre, he reaffirmed that pledge and said even more money may be needed to ensure flood victims receive the help equivalent to that given victims of recent major hurricanes.

"We want to get the (relief) bill in today just to start movement... But as the damage reports come in over the next four to five days, I expect you'll see some revision upward in the numbers the administration

has asked for," he said. "I'm going to do my best to make sure the full reach of federal assistance comes to the people of lowa and all the victims of this flood."

Clinton, who had just com-

surrounding flood areas, said community efforts to combat the flooding and help victims, "is really a triumph of the spirit of the people of this state."

"We've just got to go on," he said. "We've got to pick up the pieces. That's what Americans do and that's what we're going to have to do."

Democratic congressional leaders have said they would try to expedite action on any proposed flood relief.

Clinton arrived in Des Moines at mid-morning from Honolulu. In his helicopter swing, he saw flooding that has put downtown Des Moines un der water and cut off most of its drinking water supply as the waters inundated the main water-treatment plant.



A T M Waziullah (second from right), President, Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) addressing a discussion meet with Taiwanese investment delegation at the chamber's conference room on Thursday. Jimmy C M Lin (centre), leader of the delegation and Syed Jamaluddin Haider (extreme right), Senior Vice President, DCCI, are also seen in the picture.

# 'Iraq showing pre-famine indications'

BAGHDAD, July 15: With economy paralyzed by the Gulf war and international trade blocked by ongoing UN sanctions, commonly recognised pre-famine indicators have been found here, reports Xinhua

According to a report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), published in yesterday's English newspaper Baghdad Observer, Iraq is facing a grave human tragedy' with the vast majority of the population living under the most deplorable conditions.

The report said Iraq was witnessing persistent deprivation. chronic hunger, epidemic under nutrition, massive unemployment and widespread human suffering. The newspaper said the findings were compiled by interna-

tional experts from FAO, the world food programme and the food supply assessment mission who travelled 17 Iraqi provinces on June 14-28 and carried out vast and independent surveys and interviews with all kinds of people. A large number of Iraqis have now food intakes lower than those of the populations in the disaster stricken African coun-

teriorate at an alarming rate, the report said. It said personal incomes, in terms of purchasing power, have virtually collapsed as the average monthly wages in June 1993 ranged from 250 dinar (about three US dollar) at unofficial exchange rates for an unskilled labourer to 775 Iraqi dinar (about nine dollar) for a senior civil servant like undersecretary of a

tries as the nutritional status of the population continues to de-

Recent surveys show that an increasing number of children

are dropping out of schools to enter petty trading to supplement their family incomes.

Beggars have become a common sight on Iraqi streets and most of them beg for food rather than cash, the report said The FAO report was published at a time when Iraq has entered a new confrontation with the United Nations after it refused to allow the installation of UN monitoring video cameras

"The mission holds a massive starvation in the country has se prices since September 1990.

The report said it would be impossible to continue the UN already grave food supply situation in Iraq.

million at an estimated cost of 2.5 billion US dollar. Negotiations are underway in New York between the United