

Japan int'l houseware show '93 held

Dhaka has bright prospect for export of non-traditional items

Bangladesh has a bright prospect for its non-traditional items side by side traditional ones and can make a break through in the world export market provided strict maintenance of quality is ensured, participants of the recently held Japan International Houseware Show-93 have said at a review meeting in the city, reports BSS.

They said of the seven participating companies, two received on the spot orders of 150,000 US dollar (approximately Taka 60,00,000) during the three-day show held at Chibu near Tokyo from June 11 to 13. The five other companies also received orders and enquiries during and after the fair but the amount is yet to be decided.

The review meeting was organised by the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) at a city hotel Thursday with its Bangladesh representative, Katsumi Hara, in the chair. Association for Overseas

Technical Scholarship (AOTS) representative in Bangladesh Dr Moazzem Hussain was also present.

Earlier, welcoming the representatives of the participating companies Katsumi Hara said JETRO provided 1,500 square meters space for the developing countries including 45 square meters for Bangladesh in the international fair to display their products.

He said JETRO would continue to organise such fairs with a view to facilitating the buyer-seller meet on a regular basis since the government encourages more import to Japan from the developing countries to reduce its huge trade gap with them.

He said JETRO also provided an interpreter to help assist promotion and popularisation of Bangladeshi goods to the Japanese importers, wholesalers and consumers during the fair.

Hara was of the opinion that the Bangladeshi companies

could easily add more quality to their products by using better raw material, machinery, cheap labour force and by creating excellent design.

The stalls of the seven Bangladesh companies — Aarong, Bengal Fine Ceramic, Expoco, Golden Enterprise, Mollah Bamboo and Cane Processing Industry, Group four and Joy Silk Limited — witnessed a large number of visitors including women.

The Bangladesh products displayed at the exhibition included nakshikatha, handicrafts, goods designed with embroidery, bed and cushion covers, various ceramic products, leather good, garments, cane furniture, etc.

Besides Bangladesh, China, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and other Asian countries took part in the exhibition.

JETRO, a non-profit organisation under the Ministry of international trade and industry work as a liaison between

Japan and the developing countries. Hara said adding that it also provided the most attractive and decorated pavilions to the participating companies free of cost. JETRO Dhaka office also sent an officer of the Bangladesh Export Promotion Bureau to the fair as a pavilion director.

During the exchange of opinion the participants said they felt encouraged that the Bangladesh pavilion had drawn a large number of visitors including business leaders and their response was also very positive.

Managing Director of Joy Silk Limited Md Habibur Rahman urged for withdrawal of quota restriction on silk imports from Bangladesh and sought JETRO's good offices in this regard. He said his mill, set up with Japanese machinery and technical assistance was now producing only 25 per cent of its total production capacity. Hara assured him of all possible cooperation.



Female workers along with their male counterparts at a city garment factory. — Star photo

Aussie govt to give criminals tax deduction on illegal gains

CANBERRA, Aug 13: The Australian government will give criminals a tax deduction on any illegal gains which they repay, the tax office said on Friday, reports Reuters.

"In no way is this condoning illegal behaviour," tax office spokesman Neil Mann said in a radio interview.

"But if a person repays or has confiscated their gains from illegal activities, then they may apply to have the income that they pay tax on reduce by that amount," he said.

"If fines or penalties are applied, then they are not able to be claimed as tax deductions," he added.

The tax office ruling covers all crimes which create financial gain.

The rules about claiming work-related expenses were the same whether the work was legal or illegal, Mann said.

UK jobless rate steady at 10.4 pc

LONDON, Aug 13: Unemployment held steady at 10.4 per cent for a third straight month in July, the government reported Thursday, says AP.

The number of seasonally adjusted jobless people was estimated to have risen by a scant 200, after showing a drop of 4,800 in June, the Department of Employment said.

The newest figures showed 2.91 million Britons out of work in July, up from 2.76 million in July 1992. But the rise of 200 jobless people was the first increase since January, the government said.

Clinton eases trade rules with Peru

WASHINGTON, Aug 13: President Clinton is liberalising trade rules with Peru in an effort to help the Andean nation fight narcotics trafficking and encourage it to trade in legitimate products, reports AP.

In a letter to congressional leaders released Thursday, Clinton said Peru had qualified for duty-free treatment of products under the Andean Trade Preference Act.

He called it "an important step for Peru in its effort to fight against narcotics production and trafficking."

"The enhanced access to the US market... will encourage the production of and trade in legitimate products," Clinton said in the letter.

Jakarta to have rubber surplus of 70,000 tonnes in '93

JAKARTA, Aug 13: Indonesia will have a projected natural rubber surplus of 70,000 tonnes this year, an export official said, according to Antara news agency on Friday, reports AFP.

Rosediana Suharto, head of the Indonesian export training centre, said in Bandar Lampung, south Sumatra, Indonesia's surplus was in line with the world surplus over the past years.

Suharto said Indonesia's rubber surplus stood at 170,000 tonnes in 1990 and 110,000 tonnes in 1991 but gave no figure for last year.

Indonesia currently produces 1.3 million tonnes of the world's annual natural rubber output of 5.4 million tonnes, Suharto said, adding rubber plantations in the country covered 3.1 million hectares (7.66 million acres).

Illegal business easier, complain traders

Different chamber leaders and businessmen, at a convention of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FIBCCI) Thursday, said it was easier to carry on illegal business in the country rather than doing it the honest way.

More than 400 chamber leaders and businessmen, from different regions of the country, while citing their experiences, felt that the main hindrances for honest commerce and industry were inconvenient customs rules and corruption, inconsistencies in VAT charges, high bank interests, gap between government policy and action, labour unrest and lack of proper infrastructure.

The businessmen spoke frankly about their problems yesterday in presence of the Planning and Labour Ministers at the convention which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on Wednesday.

Nurul Islam, a representative of the cold storage owners, said that no new industries would grow up in the country unless the perspective entrepreneurs could see that the sick industries were properly protected.

Taher Sobhan, an entrepreneur, said that often, when approached, the administrative machinery did not want to provide a facility assured by a particular government policy

Japan asks dealers to slow import of beef

TOKYO, Aug 13: Japan's Agriculture Ministry said Friday it has asked importers to slow their purchases of US and Australian beef to shield Japanese beef producers from relatively cheap imports, reports AP.

In a move that could evoke criticism of Japan for not trying hard enough to cut its trade surplus, the ministry has asked 34 Japanese importers to slow down, said ministry spokesman Toshikazu Ijichi. He said the ministry also has tried to get the US and Australian governments to understand Japan's recent beef market conditions.

"We simply asked (beef traders) to maintain orderly trade based on demand," Ijichi said. "From the long-term perspective, it was necessary for us to ask for appropriateness in commercial transactions."

The move is likely to fuel the US Japanese trade dispute, the national newspaper Asahi said.

Ijichi said the wholesale price of domestic beef has fallen to about 800 yen (about eight dollars) per kilogram (2.2 pound) down 60 per cent from the level before the April 1991 liberalisation of foreign beef import restrictions.

He said the yen's appreciation this year accelerated the decline in beef prices especially in the past few months.



Sammy Sasaki (extreme right) Resident Manager of Sonargaon Hotel presented a silver plate to the outgoing Ambassador of EEC Jacques Bailly (2nd from left) as a token of remembrance at a farewell reception held recently at the hotel. Mrs Bailly was presented with a Jamdani Saree. Tanveer Inam (left) Director of Sales and Marketing of the hotel is also seen in the picture.

Singapore's CAD looking for commodity trader

SINGAPORE, Aug 13: Singapore's Commercial Affairs Department (CAD) said it was looking for a commodity trader after questions arose over some 14 million Singapore dollar (8.6 million US dollar) placed in a commodity futures trust, reports AFP.

The CAD said in a statement obtained Friday that it was anxious to contact Tony Tay Tuan Ngee to help in investigations into credit consultants (Asia) Pte Ltd.

Shipping Intelligence

CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 12/8/93

Berth No.	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/1	Nand Srishti	Pulses/Wheat	Aust	MSA	1/8	16/8
J/2	Banglar Doot	TSP	SFAZ	SSST	7/8	15/8
J/3	Golden Star	Sugar/GI	Bang	BML	5/8	13/8
J/4	Danching Sister	Sugar	Kand	OWSL	3/8	15/8
J/5	Kamaleverett	GI	Sing	EBPL	7/8	14/8
J/6	Vila Mosum	GI/Urea	Pena	B Bay	10/8	16/8
J/7	Chipsam	Urea	Ttiz	PSAL	14/4	17/8
J/9	Jiang Cheng	GI	S Hai	BD Ship	7/8	13/8
J/10	Banglar Kiron	Repair		BSC	R/A	15/8
J/11	Agra	Urea		BSL	R/A	13/8
J/12	Vishva Manta	Salt	Tuti	UMAL	9/8	16/8
J/13	Kota Buana	Cont	Sing	RSL	10/8	14/8
CCJ	Banglar Bani	C Cont	Viah	BSC	8/8	22/8
GSJ	Dolores			Seacom	R/A	18/8
RM/3	Antares	Tallow	Sing	CT	11/8	14/8
DD	Marine Three	Repair		BML	8/8	18/8
DDJ/2	Banglar Aaha	Repair		BSC	R/A	20/8
CUPJ	Lily	Urea	Mong	Seacom	5/8	15/8

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Meng Kiat	13.8.93	Cal	AML	Cont	Sing
NGS Ranger	14.8.93	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
Mikachevo	13.8.93	Mong	RRSA		
Nezabudka	13.8.93	Tuti	MSPL	Salt in Bag	
Andrian Goncharov	13.8.93	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Lanka Mahapola	14.8.93	Mong	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Banglar Kallol	15.8.93	Mong	BSC	Cont	
Sea Rahpody	14.8.93	Yang	PSAL	Pulses in Bag	
Tanary Star	14.8.93	Sing	PSAL	Cement	
Banglar Robi	14.8.93	Sing	BSC	Cont	
Eponyma	14.8.93	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Catleya	13.8.93	Hong	Prog	GI	
Chrysanthi	15.8.93		USTC	Copea	
Boris Lavrenyon	15.8.93	Pena	USTC	GI	
Kimrovec	15.8.93	Kand	Cross	Salt in Bag	
Menado	16.8.93		AML	GI	
I Yamburenko	16.8.93		CT	Cont	Sing
Ingenuty	16.8.93	Col	BTSA	Cont	Col
State of Orissa	17.8.93		SSL		Dundee, UK
Meng Lec	19.8.93	Sing	AML	Cont	Col
Maro	17.8.93	Kand	MSPL		
Imke Wehr	17.8.93	Sing	ULA	Cont	USA FE
NGS Express	17.8.93	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
Regine	17.8.93		Prog	P Equip.	
Mun Bu Bong	17.8.93		Prog/MI	M Seeds & RSeeds	
Rafah	20.8.93	Niko	Dynamic	M Seeds	
Al Swamuz	20.8.93		ASLL	GI/GL	Sing, Bang
State of Nagaland	20.8.93		SSL	GI	
Optima	20.8.93		RSL	Cont	Sing
Banglar Moni	20.8.93	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Fong Yun	21.8.93	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing
Quing He Cheng	22.8.93	Shang	BD Ship	GI	
Karabieverett	22.8.93		EBPL	GI	
Amrta Jaya	23.8.93		BBA	GI	
Aspasia L	25.8.93		Lufthal	P Equip	
Fong Shin	27.8.93	Sing	BD Ship	Cont	Sing

TANKER DUE

Obo Abant	12.8.93	Rast	BSLL
Al Dhabyah	12.8.93	Sing	MSPL
Ashkhabad	16.8.93		Seacom

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Sea Nymph 18/8	Cement	Sing	USTC	2/8

VESSELS READY

READY ON Nil

VESSELS NOT READY

Sea Nymph 18/8	Cement	Sing	USTC	2/8
----------------	--------	------	------	-----

VESSELS AWAITING INSTRUCTION

Banglar Sampad			BSC	R/A (8/8)
Banglar Jyoti 14/8			BSC	R/A (25/7)
Banglar Shourabh 12/8			BSC	R/A (10/8)
Tony Best 14/8	Cement	Mong	AEKA	27/6

VESSELS NOT ENTERING

Promitheas	Scraping	Sing	ARL	5/6
Vladislav (Ex Orsha)	Scraping		UMAL	R/A (26/7)
Al Mubaraq	12/8		SSST	R/A (12/8)

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 13.8.93 & 14.8.1993

OUTGOING	INCOMING	SHIFTING
13.8.93		
J/3 Golden Star	DOJ B Jyoti	
J/11 Agra	MPB-1 A Goncharov (Cont)	
J/9 Jiang Cheng	J/3 Nezabudka	
DOJ B Shourabh 14.8.93		
J/5 Kamaleverett	J/11 Lanka Mahapola (Cont)	J/6 Vila Mosum to J/8
J/13 Kota Buana (Cont)	MPB-2 Meng Kiat (Cont)	J/12 Vishva Mamata to J/5
RM-3 Antares	J/12 Eponyma (Cont)	
CUPJL Tong Ah	J/13 B Robi (Cont)	
DOJ B Jyoti	J/9 Mukachev	
	RM-6 Al Dhabyah	
	DOJ B Shourabh	

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 followings are the Sonali Bank's dealing rates (Bangladesh taka for one unit of foreign currency) to public for some selected foreign currencies effective on Aug 12. (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling B.C.	T.T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	40.0525	39.6750	39.4170
Pound sterling	58.8914	58.4794	58.1345
DM	23.3175	23.0843	22.9342
FF	6.6054	6.5082	6.5553
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.2721	1.2604	1.2601
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.3335	1.3276	1.3209

  

Indicative Rates		
S Riyal	10.6510	10.5108
D Ouliders	21.7730	21.4805
S. Kroner	5.2335	5.1579
Singapore Dollar	24.7629	24.4217
UAE Dirham	10.8791	10.7315
Kuwait Dinar	132.6993	130.5189

Note: AMU-Asian Monetary Union.

Dhaka Stock Prices

Weekly comparison: At the close of tradings on August 5, and August 12, 1993

Company	FV/ML*	August 5		August 12		High	Low
		Taka	Taka	Taka	Taka		
<b>BANKS (12)</b>							
Al Baraka Bank	1000/1	825.00	800.00	950.00	825.00		
A.B Bank	100/5	200.00	200.00	200.00	165.00		
City Bank	100/5	330.00	320.00	355.00	288.00		
Eastern Bank	100/20	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00		
IDL Bank	100/20	219.00	219.00	242.00	215.00		
IFLC	100/5	170.00	150.00	198.00	150.00		
Islami Bank	1000/1	1452.50	1400.00	1750.00	1300.00		
National Bank	100/5	99.00	99.00	104.00	90.00		
Pubali Bank	100/5	100.00	100.00	100.00	90.00		
Rupali Bank	100/10	69.00	68.00	80.00	65.00		
U.C.B.L	100/5	88.00	83.00	120.00	83.00		
Uttara Bank	100/5	93.00	90.00	103.00	87.00		
<b>INVESTMENT (06)</b>							
LCB	100/5	100.00	100.00	100.00	85.00		
1st ICB M.Fund	100/5	375.00	375.00	375.00	340.00		
2nd ICB Fund	100/5	185.78	185.00	186.00	160.00		
3rd ICB M. Fund	100/5	161.38	158.00	162.00	145.00		
4th ICB M. Fund	100/10	160.00	160.00	160.00	144.00		
5th ICB M. Fund	100/10	101.00	99.00	102.00	90.00		
6th ICB M. Fund	100/10	57.75	57.50	64.25	57.00		
Unit Certificate							
Sales Price			112.00				
Re-purchase			107.00				
<b>INSURANCE (04)</b>							
BGIC	100/10	206.00	210.30				