

MCCI chief Latifur Rahman speaking at a two-day workshops on 'Development of Linkage with Readymade Garments' and 'Problems and Prospects of Leather Products Industry' organised by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry at its auditorium in the city yesterday. Also seen (from left) are FBCCI chief Mahabur Rahman, Industries Minister Zahuruddin Khan, DCCI chief A T M Waziullah and Industries Secretary Hasnat Abdul Hye. —Star photo

Biswas speaks on World Habitat Day

Housing fund to be constituted

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Monday expressed the hope that the National Housing Policy would help solve the housing problems of the vast population in the country, reports BSS.

The President was speaking as the chief guest at a function marking the World Habitat Day '93 at the Osmany Memorial Hall here.

Referring to the National Housing Policy, President Biswas said a housing fund would be constituted soon to help the low income group people for construction of kutcha houses. He said the facilities could be obtained by persons willing to reconstruct the kutcha houses or by the NGOs supporting them.

He said the policy would supplement government's efforts and at the same time support private sector NGOs and the community based development organisations to play a very active role in solving housing

problem and protection of environment.

President Biswas said the present government was firm to fulfill the basic needs of the people including the housing. He said the constitution of the country had given due emphasis on the fundamental right of the people.

Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia and State Minister for Women Affairs Sarwari Rahman attended the function as special guests.

Presided over by Works Secretary Mohammad Abdur Rashid, the function was also addressed by UNDP Representative Ms Watanabe and Director of Urban Development Anil Chandra Das. A message from under secretary general of UNCHS (Habitat) Ms Elizabeth Dowdeswell was read out on the occasion.

President Biswas referred to this year's theme of Habitat Day 'women and shelter develop-

ment' and said the women could contribute significantly to the implementation of the government efforts to solve the housing problems of the people.

Rafiqul Islam Mia said RAJUK had a programme to set up a satellite town in Yusufganj on an area of six thousand acres to meet the growing housing demand of Dhaka city.

He said there would be a provision for 27,000 plots for construction of houses alone. He said the cabinet had in the meantime approved the construction of 1,000 flats through PWD to solve the housing problems of the government officers and employees.

Barrister Rafiq said the development work of 11,000 residential plots at Mirpur in Dhaka and Koballyadham in Chittagong was near completion. He said development of infrastructures of town and residential plots were continuing through Chittagong development authority. Khulna devel-

opment authority and Rajshahi development authority.

Sarwari Rahman stressed the need for involving the women folk in the shelter development process to make the United Nations slogan of providing shelter to all by the year 2,000 a success.

She also called for providing house building loans to women on easy term for construction of houses.

The function was attended by ministers, members of parliament, high civil and military officials.

The Ministry of Works had taken an elaborate programme to observe the World Habitat Day. A four-day long exhibition has been arranged at the premises of Public Works Department (PWD) and a seminar will be held today (Tuesday). Experts will present papers on the role of women in the development of overall housing system in the country.

Training course on printing, packaging ends

By Staff Correspondent

A month-long training programme on printing, packaging and paper converting concluded at the Tongi BSCIC Estate last Thursday.

The training course was organised jointly by the Institute of Graphic Arts, Elite Printing & Packages and The Merchants Ltd.

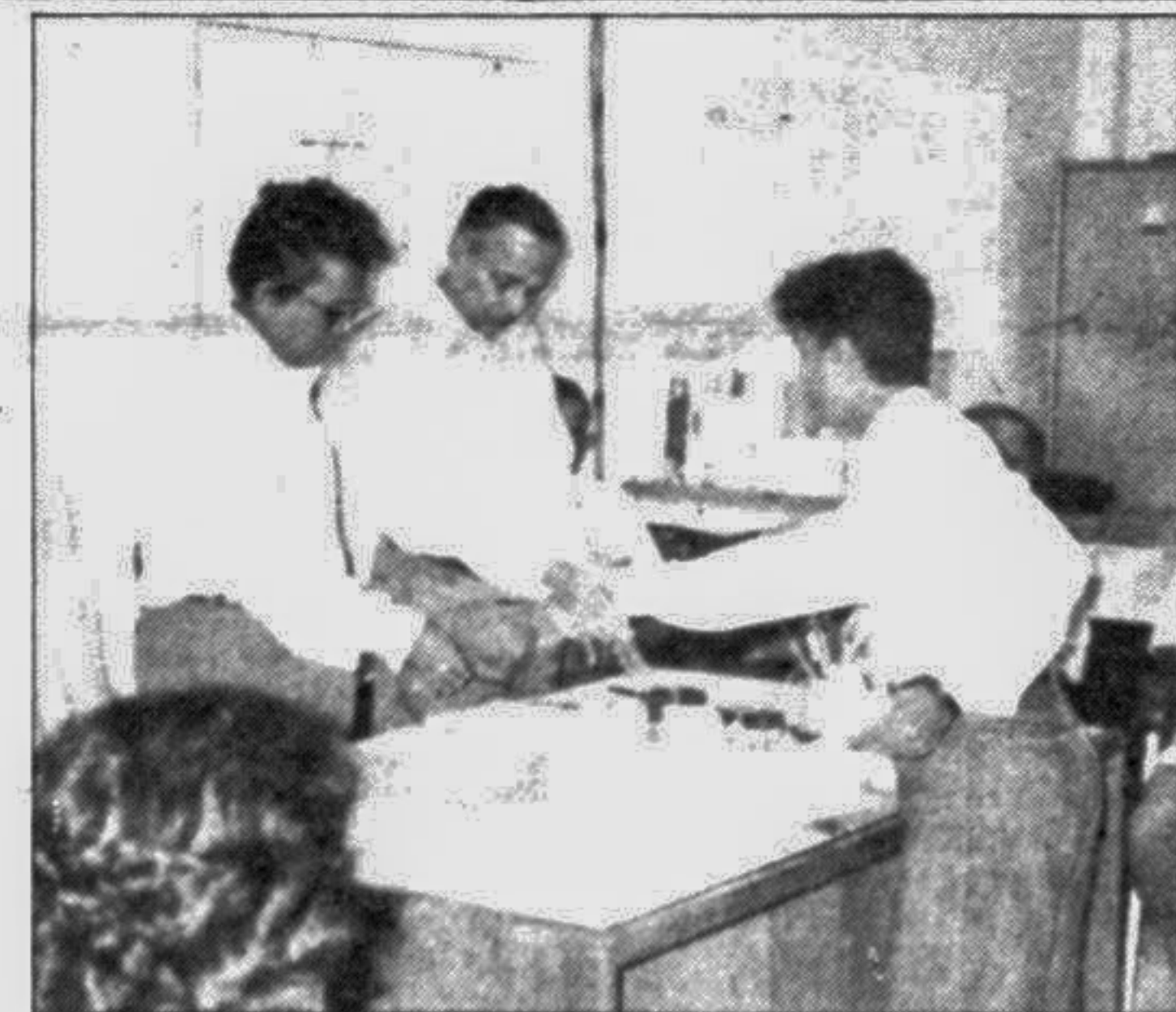
Held in the premises of the Elite Packages, about a dozen of experts in the related field conducted the course. Out of 105 candidates, only 21 persons with a background of graphic art, applied physics or chemistry were selected for the programme.

The Elite Packages and the Merchants Ltd intend to absorb at least 10 persons on the basis of their performance. On appointment, they would receive a further two-month specialised training, the organisers said.

All the 21 participants, however, received certificates on conclusion of the course. The certificates were distributed jointly by Harun-ur-Rashid, Principal, Institute of Graphic Arts and Mohd Arshad Ali, Managing Director, Elite Printing & Packages Ltd.

The organisers believe, the training would help create a generation of skilled manpower most appropriate for today's changing world of the printing and packaging.

During the course the guest speakers were Harun-ur-Rashid, RI Mollah, K Hazra, M I Majid, Harisul Islam, Obaidur Rashid from the Graphic Arts Institute, Z Kabir, M Shibly from the BTC, Siddiqur Rahman from the BG Press, Engr Enayet Hossain from Tetrad (BD) Ltd, KK Bashir from the ADCOMM and M A Farid from Colour Scan Ltd.



Harun-ur-Rashid (L), Principal, Graphic Arts Institute and Arshad Ali, Managing Director, Elite Packages, giving away certificates among the participants of the training course. — Star photo

ICB reduces interest rates

Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) has reduced the rate of interest on its different loans and advances with a view to helping industrial development, fostering the growth of capital as well as share market of the country, says a press release.

The rate of interest is refixed as follows: Bridging loan - 4% per cent, debenture loan - 15 per cent (minimum), service industries - 15 per cent, investment account margin loan - 12 per cent.

The new rates of interest have been effective from October 1, 1993.

Raza Chowdhury new marketing director of BJMC

Ahmad Mahmudur Raza Chowdhury has taken over as the Director of Marketing of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC), says a press release.

Prior to his joining BJMC, he was Commercial Counsellor of Bangladesh Embassy in Japan for more than five years.

As a civil servant, Chowdhury served as Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong and Narayanganj and held important positions in different ministries including President's Secretariat.

France allows shops in busy tourist areas on Sundays

PARIS, Oct 4: France's national assembly on Saturday approved a draft law allowing shops in busy tourist areas to open on Sundays but threw out a proposal for a four-day working week to help combat unemployment, reports Reuter.

The proposals are part of a wide-ranging five-year plan, aimed at reducing France's record 11.7 per cent jobless rate, which must shuttle between the senate or upper house and the lower house national assembly before final adoption.

China struggling to avoid trade deficit

BEIJING, Oct 4: China faces an uphill struggle to avoid its first trade deficit for four years after registering a 5.73 billion dollar shortfall for the first eight months of 1993, a report said yesterday, reports AFP.

Despite the government's three-month-old campaign to cool China's overheated economy, the deficit continues to grow, with imports soaring 27.3 per cent to 58.14 billion dollar and exports rising only four per cent to 52.41 billion dollar through August, the China Daily Business Weekly said.

"It will be difficult to repeat last year's trade surplus of more than four billion dollar," said Wang Huailian of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, adding that just balancing the figures would be "good enough."

The government in January forecast the trade surplus would grow to six billion dollar in 1993, despite a drop to 4.4 billion dollar last year from eight billion in 1991.

In 1990, China registered its first trade surplus since 1984.

Wang said the full effect of the government programme launched in July to strengthen macro-economic controls.

Not only was it hard to withdraw from some ongoing projects but certain new projects also had to go ahead, sustaining import momentum, he said.

Much capital recalled in the clampdown was from non-productive sectors like real estate which had a limited affect on imports, Wang said, adding that not enough funds had yet been channelled to support exports.

Concern about the long-term stability of the Chinese currency on limited access foreign exchange swap markets — where the rate has settled at about 8.8 yuan to the US dollar due to government intervention in recent months — also affected the trade balance, he said.

Despite these problems, Wang said the foreign trade situation may improve in coming months thanks to the government measures.



Mahbub Jamil, President, Foreign Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry, spoke at a luncheon meeting of the chamber held at a city hotel recently. Dr Kamal Siddiki, Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, is on his right. — Star photo

BIBM course on Islamic banking ends

A 18-day long training course on "Islamic banking" conducted by Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM) with a view to familiarising the participants with the activities of the interest free Islamic banking concluded on Monday, says a press release.

The course highlighted Islamic banking system and Islamic economic system. Experts in Islamic banking conducted different sessions of the course.

The concluding session of the course was chaired by A H M Nurul Islam Choudhury, Director General, BIBM and it was marked by distribution of certificates. A total of twenty seven officers from different banks and financial institutions participated in the course.

Hosokawa rules out free imports of rice

FUKUSHIMA, Japan, Oct 4: Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa reaffirmed Sunday that Japan's emergency purchases office from abroad would in no way lead to an end to its virtual ban on rice imports, reports AFP.

"There will be no change in our stance to maintain the existing policy of self-sufficiency," Hosokawa told reporters, touring one of the premier rice regions hard hit by Japan's worst harvest since World War-II due to cool summer.

On Thursday, his government announced plans to import 200,000 tonnes of rice over the next three months to cover the production shortfall, shocking Japanese farmers and giving hope to foreign producers that Japan might lift the ban.

"The decision was an emergency, exceptional measure, no more or no less," said the former provincial governor, who was elected premier with support from a seven-party in August to end 38 years of scandal-marred rule by the Liberal Democrats.

He added, "It won't lead to the import liberalisation office."

"We have to take every possible measure to ensure the system of self-sufficiency in rice production," he said.

When asked by a farmer for an autograph, he wrote down two characters meaning, "nokon (farming spirit)."

Shipping Intelligence CHITTAGONG PORT

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 4.10.93

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/1	Al Salma	GI/GL	Yang	ASL	28/9	10/10
J/2	Santa Margherita	GI	Sing	Prog	27/9	7/10
J/3	Polyxeni	Salt (TCB)	Lamd	RRSA	19/9	5/10
J/4	Pu Aspiration	Cement	Sing	Litmond	3/10	10/10
J/5	San Evans	Salt (TCB)	Kand	MSPL	29/9	7/10
J/6	Jala Yamini	Salt (TCB)	Kand	MSPL	28/9	6/10
J/7	Iyeverett	GI	Sing	EBPL	1/10	8/10
J/8	Banglar Kakoli	GI	Male	BSC	30/9	7/10
J/10	Maro	Salt (TCB)	Tuti	Litmond	25/9	6/10
J/11	Indian Endurance	Salt (TCB)	Kand	GEL	10/9	6/10
J/12	Petr Starostin	Cont	Sing	CT	30/9	5/10
MPB/1	Optima	Cont	Sing	RSL	1/10	5/10
CCJ	Vishva Karuna	R Seed	Chin	Litmond	30/8	10/10
GSJ	Sea Rhapsody	Cement	Tuti	PSAL	27/9	8/10
TSP	Banglar Doot	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	6/10
RM/6	Banglar Shourabh	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	5/10
DOJ	Dolores	—	—	Seacom	R/A	10/10
DD	Samudra Samrat	Repair	Kand	SSL	25/8	10/10
DDJ/1	Banglar Kiron	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	5/10
DDJ/2	Banglar Asha	Repair	—	BSC	R/A	15/10
CUFJ	Tanary Star	Urca	Mong	PSAL	28/9	9/10

VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Kota Buana 25/9	4/10	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Jiang Cheng	4/10	S H	BDSHP	GI	C Ports
Antje	4/10	Dubai	Prog	P Equip & Mater	—
Kasuga-II	5/10	Yang	MSA	Pulses & Logs	—
Loyal Bird	5/10	Mong	Litmond	Repair	—
Banglar Moni 25/9	5/10	Mong	BSC	Cont	Sing
Ronjay Victory	6/10	—	PSAL	Cement	—
Leona	6/10	V Pat	Prog	GI	—
I Yamburenko 23/9	7/10	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Ilgenia	7/10	Kand	MSPL	Salt	—
Lanka Mahapala 28/9	8/10	Mong	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Jin Jiang	9/10	Xiuy	OWSL	Sugar in Bag	—
Eporima 29/9	9/10	—	GES	Cont	Sing
Arktis Star	9/10	—	BSL GI (Coopra)	—	—
Mowlavi	10/10	Mong	SSL	GL	Abbas
Exceed-2	10/10	—	BBA	GL	—
Meng Kiat 25/9	10/10	—	AML	Cont	Sing
Rafah	10/10	Jybo	Dynamic	M Seeds	—
Banglar Robi 2/10	10/10	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Sea Nymph	10/10	—	USTC	Cement	—
Fong Yun 30/9	11/10	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Boris Gorbato	11/10	—	GEL	Salt	—
Andrian Goncharov 3/10	11/10	—	CT	Cont	Sing
Ingenity 3/10	13/10	—	BTSA	Cont	Sing
NGS Ranger 3/10	13/10	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Nour (E/L) 27/9	15/10	—	LTL	E/L Sudan/ Suez	—
Taganrogskiy Zaniv	15/10	Mong	OWSL	—	Sea Ports
Blue Shark	16/10	—	Prog	GI	—

TANKER DUE

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo
Eso Melbourne	7/10	Sing	MSPL	HSD
Larissa	9/10	Disc	ECSL	F Oil

VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
—	—	—	—	—

VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE

READY ON

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Meng Lee (Cont)	Cont	Cal	Sing	3/10
Hang Wan	Spl Cargo	W How	BDSHP	3/10
Fong Shin (Cont)	Cont	Sing	BDSHP	4/10

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 5/10/93

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J/3 Polyxeni	J/12 Kota Buana	—
J/9 Meng Lee	MPB/2 Fong Shin	—
J/12 P Starostin	MPB/1 Banglar Moni	—
MPB/1 Optima	J/5 Antje	—
DDJ/1 B Kiron	J/9 Jiang Cheng	—
J/5 San Evans	—	—

Exchange Rates

The following are the Sonali Bank's dealing rates (Bangladesh taka for one unit of foreign currency) to public for some selected foreign currencies effective as on Oct 4. (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling B.C.	T. T. (C)	Buying OD Transfers
US Dollar	39.9750	39.7300	39.4850
Pound Sterling	59.8426	58.8417	58.4789
DM	24.3514	23.9468	23.7991
FF	6.9962	6.8781	6.8357
Indian Rupee (AMU)	1.2757	1.2670	1.2545
Pak Rupee (AMU)	1.3733	1.3282	1.3150

Indicative Rates

	Selling T.T. & O.D.	Buying O.D Transfer
S Riyal	10.6600	10.5200
D Guilders	21.7100	21.4400
S. Kroner	4.8600	4.7900
Singapore Dollar	25.0600	24.7400
UAE Dirham	10.8800	10.7400
Kuwait Dinar	133.7100	131.9100

Note: AMU—Asian Monetary Union.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on October 4, 1993

Mixed trend

Trading on the floor of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) showed a mixed trend on Monday.

The turnover in volume term fell to 5443 from 6979 showing a loss of 22,008 per cent while the turnover in value reached Tk 561389.00 from Tk 446475.00, a gain of 25.738 per cent.

The DSE All Share Price Index made a little gain of 0.032 point increasing to 417.3185 from 417.3510.

The number of issues transacted also increased slightly. It totalled 37 as against Sunday's 34 and gainers dominated the floor. They outnumbered losers by 15 to seven while 15 others traded at previous rates.

The Bengal Food dominated the floor with a surge of 25.217 per cent in its share price. On the other hand, share price of Karim Pipe lost by 7.451 per cent leading the losers on the floor.

DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

DSE Share Price Index	417.3185
Market Capitalisation Tk	16317376532.15
Turnover in Volume	5443
Turnover in Value Tk	561389.00

Gains (15)

Company's name	Previous price Tk	Closing price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (% of price)	Number of shares traded
IPIC	150.00	156.00	6.00	4.00	10
5th ICB M Fund	92.50	92.59	0.090	0.097	110
6th ICB M Fund	68.43	68.44	0.010	0.014	440
United Insurance	193.50	194.00	0.50	0.258	10
Afrah Automobiles	181.00	183.00	2.00	1.104	05
Bengal Food	115.00	144.00	29.00	25.217	52
NTC	215.00	216.07	1.070	0.497	270
BD Oxygen	75.80	75.84	0.040	0.052	250
Ashraf Textile	29.40	29.50	0.10	0.340	300
Dulamia Cotton	76.00	77.00	1.00	1.315	100
Rahim Textile	99.00	100.00	1.00	1.010	80
Beximco Infusion	243.00	244.14	1.140	0.469	90
Kohinoor Chemical	63.50	64.00	0.50	0.787	30
GQ Ball Pen	76.00	77.00	1.00	1.315	100
Umanita Glass	272.00	275.00	3.00	1.102	140

Losses (07)

Company's name	Previous price Tk	Closing price Tk	Change (absolute) Tk	Change (% of price)	Number of shares traded
IDLC	206.89	206.00	-0.890	-0.430	180
Karim Pipe	62.67	58.00	-4.670	-7.451	16
Singer BD	900.00	898.08	-1.920	-0.213	13
Apex Food	700.00	675.00	-25.00	-3.571	05
Dhaka Veg	67.36	67.00	-0.360	-0.534	35
Tallu Spinning	92.03	91.50	-0.530	-0.575	40
Tamjuddin Textile	147.00	145.25	-1.750	-1.190	10

Traded at previous rates (15)

Shares: National Bank (97), UCBL (40), 4th ICB M Fund (10), Green Delta (100), Aman Sea Food (05), Ctg Vegetables (10), Saltham Textile (1080), Ambee Pharma (300), Pharmaco (50), Therapeutics (60), Wata Chemical (20), Apex Footwear (740), Beximco (600), High Speed (05).

DSE SHARES AND DEBENTURES

Company	FV/ML (Taka)	Closing Rate (Taka)	Specialised Jute Shine Pukur Jute Sonali Aash	10/50	100/5	NT
ALHaj Textile	1000/1	900.00	100/50	10/50	NT	NT
Arbee Textile	100/5	175.00	100/10	10/50	112.00	112.00
Ashraf Textile	100/5	325.00	10/50	10/50	29.50	29.50
Chand Textile	100/20	110.00	10/50	10/50	NT	NT
Chand Spinning	100/20	206.00	100/10	10/50	51.00	51.00
Desh Garments	100/5	156.00	100/10	10/10	77.00	77.00
Dulamia Cotton	1000/1	1401.00	100/50	10/50	14.18	14.18
Eagle Star Textile	100/5	92.00	10/50	10/50	10.00	10.00
GM Ind. Corp.	100/5	100.00	100/5	10/5	37.50	37.50
Modern Dyeing	100/10	68.00	100/20	10/50	165.00	165.00
Padma Textile	100/5	120.00	10/100	10/50	2.50	2.50
Quasem Silk	100/5	100.00	10/50	10/50	100.00	100.00
Saham Textiles	100/5	385.00	100/10	10/50	78.00	78.00
S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5	160.00	100/5	10/5	20.00	20.00
Stylcraft	100/5	144.50	100/5	10/5	130.00	130.00
Swan Textile	100/10	145.50	100/10	10/5	8.00	8.00
Tallu Spinning	100/10	92.99	100/10	10/10	91.50	91.50
Tamjuddin	100/5	90.00	100/10	10/10	145.25	145.25
Ambee Pharma	100/50	113.00	10/50	10/50	10	