

Asia's major economies seek home-grown technology

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15: Asia's four tigers along with China are taking their scientific destiny in hand seeking to replace imported technology with the fruits of home-grown research. Science magazine says in its latest issue, reports AFP.

South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore have begun to invest the fruits of their rapid economic growth in research, while China "is in the midst of what may be the greatest economic expansion in history, a development that promises to bring to fruition its great scientific potential," Science said.

The weekly publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science devoted a lengthy special section to research in Asia in its edition published Thursday.

Research and development spending in the 'tigers' has

grown faster than economic growth in the region in the past decade ranging from 15.8 per cent in Taiwan to 23 per cent in South Korea, Science said.

The Asian tigers are now spending 80,000 dollar a year or more than half the amount in the United States, on each research scientist and engineer.

Hong Kong has meanwhile opened its first science and technology university while Singapore has invested in an Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (ICMB) that in six years has put Singapore on the economic map.

All of the tigers have benefited from bringing back home graduates and professors who had been continuing their studies or teaching abroad but at the same time these developing economies have their own problems to overcome.

Singapore wants to be seen as on the cutting edge of technology and the ICMB has been at the forefront of research into tyrosine phosphates, an aspect of cancer research.

But many students on the island of 3.1 million people feel that they have less chance of being published if they are attached to an institution in tiny Singapore than a more prestigious US college, Science said.

Taiwan's problem is that its industry is too fragmented into small companies to fund major research, while there has been a loss of faith in the old doctrine of government organised research with moves away from the strict one-party system, the magazine added.

The country has managed to attract a lot of scientists from abroad but because infrastructure has not kept up with economic development many find

the standard of living unsatisfactory, and research is likely to suffer as more money is channelled into improving it.

China meanwhile has problems of its own with many prestigious scientific institutes finding they are now expected to turn a profit as well as conduct research.

And although cutting-edge research is under way, for instance with superconductors at Beijing there are already signs that the pursuit of money is winning hands down over the pursuit of excellence in some quarters.

Science cites the example of Fudan university, where the president has offered a bonus of 10,000 yuan to anyone who has an article published in science or nature magazines. So far he has not had to pay out a cent.

2 tea gardens on verge of closure at Fatikchhari

CHITTAGONG, Oct. 15: Two tea gardens at Fatikchhari thana are on the verge of closure due to utter negligence and inefficient management of the authorities, reports UNB.

Production in Udaliya and Baromasiya tea gardens has declined by about 50 per cent during the last 15 years due to lack of foresightedness and inefficiency of the authorities, Chittagong Tea Garden Workers Union sources said.

Baromasiya garden is presently producing less than 40,000 kg while Udaliya one lakh kg. Baromasiya garden produced 90,000 kg in 1992, the sources added.

The gardens while being transferred to the present authorities in 1978 were producing about 1.50 lakh kg.

They further alleged that the nearly 800 workers of the gardens were not paid for the last three months and about Taka five lakh remained overdue as salary and allowances since 1986.

Earlier, the gardens had about 1,500 employees and the authorities retrenched the others over the years.

When contacted the authorities of the gardens told UNB that the production dropped as about 20,000 kg of tea perished during the current season due to lack of fuel, wood, power supply and poor communication system.

Workers, however, alleged that power supply in the gardens was cut off as bills remained outstanding.

Following the situation, the workers said, outsiders were taking the advantage and exploiting the forest resources, including tea plants.

Dhaka Stock Prices

Weekly comparison: At the close of tradings on October 7 and October 14, 1993

Company	FY/ML*	1992-93			
		Sept 7	Oct 14	High	Low
BANKS (12)					
Al Baraka Bank	1000/1	900.00	900.00	950.00	800.00
A.B Bank	100/5	175.00	175.00	200.00	160.00
City Bank	100/5	325.00	325.00	355.00	280.00
Eastern Bank	100/20	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00
IDLC Ltd	100/20	205.29	207.00	207.00	200.00
LFIC	100/5	157.00	156.00	198.00	150.00
Islami Bank	1000/1	1401.00	1395.00	1395.00	1300.00
National Bank	100/5	92.00	93.00	93.00	85.00
Pubali Bank	100/5	100.00	100.00	100.00	85.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	68.00	68.00	68.00	65.00
U.C.B.L.	100/5	120.00	120.00	120.00	80.00
Uttara Bank	100/5	90.00	93.00	93.00	87.00
INVESTMENT (06)					
LCB	100/5	100.00	100.00	100.00	85.00
1st ICB M.Fund	100/5	365.00	365.00	375.00	340.00
2nd ICB Fund	100/5	165.00	165.00	188.00	160.00
3rd ICB M. Fund	100/5	145.00	145.00	162.00	140.00
4th ICB M. Fund	100/10	146.00	146.00	160.00	140.00
5th ICB M. Fund	100/10	93.02	94.00	102.00	85.00
6th ICB M. Fund	100/10	69.00	68.75	68.50	67.00
Unit Certificate					
Sales Price		113.00	113.00		
Re-purchase		108.00	108.00		
INSURANCE (04)					
BGC	100/10	183.80	184.00	230.00	147.25
Green Delta	100/10	207.50	207.25	235.00	152.00
Peoples	100/10	290.00	290.80	350.00	172.00
United	100/10	194.00	196.00	237.00	170.00
ENGINEERING (19)					
Alfab Automobiles	100/5	183.00	182.00	185.00	165.00
Atlas Bangladesh	10/50	44.00	44.70	45.30	40.00
Azte Pipes	100/5	231.00	231.00	256.00	212.00
Bangladesh Autocars	100/5	49.31	47.00	74.00	45.00
Bangladesh Lamp	105/5	300.00	300.00	307.00	150.00
B.Thal Alluminium	100/10	82.50	81.50	96.00	74.00
Bengal Carbide	100/5	272.00	265.00	275.00	210.00
Bengal Steel	10/50	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Eastern Cables	100/5	70.00	69.00	86.00	68.00
Howlader PVC	100/10	109.00	108.00	115.00	91.00
Kartim Pipe	100/5	58.00	60.00	67.00	56.00
Metalax Corp.	100/5	30.00	29.00	49.00	29.00
Monno Staffers	10/05	200.00	200.00	200.00	145.00
Monno Jute	100/5	350.00	350.00	350.00	220.00
National Tubes	100/10	60.00	60.00	75.50	60.00
Panther Steel	10/50	8.00	8.00	10.00	8.00
Quasem Drycells	10/50	9.50	10.00	10.00	8.00
Renzwick Jagnos	100/5	83.00	83.00	88.00	66.00
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	898.08	890.00	1600.00	775.00
FOOD & ALLIED (23)					
A.B Biscuit	100/5	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Alpha Tobacco	10/50	50.00	50.00	50.00	43.00
Aman Sea Food	100/5	15.00	15.00	23.00	15.00
Apex Food	100/5	675.00	675.00	700.00	650.00
Aroma Tea	100/5	60.00	60.00	75.00	55.00
Banarji	100/5	145.00	145.00	150.00	120.00
B.D Plantation	100/5	500.00	500.00	550.00	500.00
Bengal Food	100/5	144.00	115.00	160.00	111.00
B.L.T.C.	100/5	800.00	800.00	800.00	615.00
B.T.C.	10/50	74.00	74.00	76.00	50.00
Cig. Vegetable	100/10	68.00	65.25	82.00	61.00
Dhaka Vegetable	100/5	67.00	67.00	94.00	62.00
E.L. Cemella	100/5	1040.00	1040.00	—	—
Frogleg Export	10/50	2.00	2.00	3.00	2.00
Gemini Sea Food	100/5	38.00	38.00	100.00	38.00
Hill Plantation	100/5	550.00	550.00	—	—
Modern Industries	100/5	325.00	325.00	325.00	185.00
N.T.C.	100/5	216.00	220.00	250.00	190.00
Rubaya Flour	10/500	NT	NT	—	—
Rupani Oil	100/10	3.90	3.90	5.00	3.70
Tulip Dairy	100/10	50.00	50.00	78.00	40.00
Yousaf Flour	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Zee Bangla Sugar	10/50	6.20	6.30	6.90	5.80
FUEL & POWER (04)					
BD Oxygen	10/50	77.25	78.50	80.00	62.00
Eastern Lubricant	10/50	14.00	14.00	—	—
National Oxygen	100/10	80.00	80.00	101.00	49.00
Padma Oil Co.	10/50	42.00	43.00	48.00	38.00
JUTE (12)					
Ahad Jute	100/10	NT	NT	—	—
Anowara Jute	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Delta Jute	10/50	8.50	8.50	—	—
Gowalia Jute	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Islami Jute	100/5	70.00	75.00	75.00	40.00
Jute Spinnery	100/5	71.00	71.00	80.00	71.00
Mutual Jute	100/5	105.00	105.00	—	—
Northern Jute	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Shamser Jute	100/5	100.00	100.00	—	—
Specialised Jute	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Shine Pukur Jute	100/5	114.00	114.00	135.00	105.00
Sonali Aansh	100/5	108.00	115.00	120.00	99.00
TEXTILE (20)					
Alhaj Textile	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Arbee Textile	112.00	112.00	112.00	—	—
Ashraf Textile	10/50	29.50	29.40	32.50	29.00
Chand Textile	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Chand Spinning	10/50	NT	NT	—	—
Desh Garments	100/10	51.00	51.00	51.00	50.00
Dulamina Cotton	100/10	77.00	77.58	82.00	74.00
Eagle Star	10/50	12.00	14.70	18.00	12.00
GMG Ind. Corp.	10/50	10.00	10.00	—	—
Modern Dyeing	100/5	35.50	35.50	80.00	28.00
Padma Textile	100/20	165.00	165.00	180.25	157.00
Quasem Silk	10/100	2.50	2.50	3.90	2.00
Quasem Textile	10/50	3.20	3.40	4.00	3.00
Rahim Textile	100/5	100.00	100.00	101.00	68.50
Rahman Textile	100/10	78.00	78.00	90.00	62.00
S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Stylcraft	100/5	130.00	300.00	300.00	130.00
Swan Textile	100/5	8.00	10.00	18.00	8.00
Talsh Spinning	100/10	91.50	91.50	110.00	83.00
Tamraddan	100/10	145.25	160.00	180.00	145.00
PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEM (19)					
Amber Pharma	10/50	10.90	10.90	14.00	10.70
Bangla Process	100/5	59.00	59.00	63.00	50.00
Bangladesh Chemicals	100/10	325.00	325.00	350.00	220.00
Beslimco Infusion	100/5	247.00	255.00	270.00	198.00
Beslimco Pharma	10/50	465.00	468.40	505.00	420.00
Blaxo	10/50	125.00	125.00	—	—
I.C.I.	10/50	10.00	10.00	—	—
Glaxo Chemicals	100/5	63.50	63.50	72.00	65.00
National Polymer	100/20	65.00	64.50	—	—
Petro Synthetic	10/50	10.30	10.50	10.50	10.00
Phzer	100/5	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00
Pharma Aids	100/5	167.00	167.00	181.00	153.00
Pharmaco	100/5	50.00	51.00	54.00	42.00
Progressive Plastic	100/5	22.00	22.00	55.00	22.00
Reckitt & Colman	10/50	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00
Rahman Chemicals	100/10	32.00	33.83	37.50	31.50
Therapeutics	100/5	73.00	73.00	80.00	60.00
Pharmaco	100/10	101.00	101.00	101.00	96.00
Wata Chemical	100/20	130.00	130.00	132.00	104.00
PAPER & PRINTING (06)					
Eagle Box	100/5	21.00	21.00	23.00	13.00
Monocell	100/5	25.00	25.00	30.00	20.00
Paper Converting	100/5	67.00	67.00	70.00	67.00
Paper Processing	100/10	16.18	16.08	35.25	15.00
Padma Printers	10/50	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Sonali Paper	10/50	53.00	53.00	53.00	53.00
SERVICE (02)					
Bangladesh Hotel	10/50	12.00	12.00	—	—
Bd. Service	10/50	NT	NT	NT	NT
MISCELLANEOUS (18)					
Apex Footwear	100/20	177.47	182.50	197.00	173.00
Apex Tannery	100/5	374.48	379.88	390.00	330.00
Aranit	10/50	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Data Shoe	10/100	43.35	43.35	48.00	33.00
Beslimco	100/100	19.70	19.83	21.50	16.00
B.S.C.	100/5	60.00	60.00	60.00	50.00
Cig Cement	100/5	183.13	180.00	287.00	170.00
G. D. Ball Pen	10/50	77.50	77.45	87.00	75.00
High Speed	100/5	90.00	90.00	91.40	80.00
Himadri Ltd.	10/100	6.00	6.00	—	—
Milton Tannery	100/5	9.00	9.00	15.00	6.00
Monno Ceramic	100/5	298.14	298.07	337.00	280.00
New Dhaka Refraco	100/20	80.00	82.00	80.00	65.00
Phonaco Leather	100/5	115.00	115.00	115.00	95.00
Saver Refractories	100/5	72.00	74.00	88.00	70.00
The Engineers	100/5	100.00	100.00	—	—
Textile Industries	100/10	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Um					