The Daily Star
BUSINESS

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1994

Fine quality rice output may boost export

By M Anwarul Haq

The Production of fine quality rice and change in its international grading could significantly boost the export of rise from Bangladesh.

The country which has almost achieved self-sufficiency in rice production must now give emphasis on exploring the international rice market, a JICA study observes.

Bangladesh declared free trade on rice in October, 1992. During 1993, 50,000 tons of rice were exported to North Korea. Since then several countries like the US, Britain, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and the countries in the Middle East have shown interest in importing Bangladeshi rice.

Bangladesh rice mostly being of the coarse variety has very little export demand. However, the exportable variety consisting of *Kalizira* and *Kataribhog* (fine rice) has a potential international market. Presently these fine quality rice constitute only 3 per cent of total production. Farmers are generally not interested in growing these varieties due to low profit. However, if BADC provides incentives to farmers, the production of these fine rice may increase considerably in volume generating both higher profit for the farmers and increase in foreign exchange.

Another obstacle in the export of rise is the use of an old grading system. It has been found that Bangladeshi rice is not graded for the international market. It just transpired in a recently held seminar sponsored by the government of Bangladesh and the USAID that within the country Bangladeshi rice BR-II is generally classified as medium rice while the same type in California, USA, it has been graded as fine rice. This grading ensured a 20 per cent increase in the rice price.

The general impression that Bangladeshi scented rice is only exportable could be dispelled by proper grading under international supervision and standards, experts feel.

Country's housing unit shortage may exceed 60 lakh by 2000

Shortage of housing units in the country is estimated at about 35 lakh units and it is likely to exceed 60 lakh units by the year 2000, reports UNB.

Statistics presented at a seminar on "Housing and Family" in the city yesterday suggested that the shortage would be 13 lakh units in urban areas and about 22 lakh units in rural areas.

The seminar also observed that the housing situation in the country was characterized by overcrowding with high occupancy rate of over 6.5 persons per unit.

The country has now an estimated 1.84 crore households — 1.51 crore in rural areas and 33 lakh in urban areas.

According to the 1991 census, the country will require 1.35 crore homesteads by the year 2030 with the present growth of 2.17 per cent and with 5.47 members per family. By then, the population will rise to 19 crore from 12 crore at present.

Average floor space available to households was estimated at 245 square feet — 282 square feet in urban areas and 242 square feet in rural areas. The per person average floor space was about 50 square feet in urban areas, compared with 44.4 square feet in rural areas and 45.5 square feet nationally.

Majority of the poor inhabitants have to remain contended with total floor space of only 80 to 100 square feet for the whole family.

Speakers at the seminar described the situation of housing in capital Dhaka as alarming with it's population growing at the fastest rate of seven per cent annually.

The Ministry of Housing and Workers organised the seminar in collaboration with Housing and Building Research Institute at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) on the occasion of "World Habitat Day."

Munzurul Islam, Additional District Magistrate, inaugurated Singer's showroom-cum-sales centre at Nilphamari on Sunday.

Singer's 49th showroom opens at Nilphamari

A new showroom cum sales centre of Singer Bangladesh Ltd has been opened at Nilphamari, says a press release.

This brings the total number of the company's centre to 49.

Munzurul Islam, Additional District Magistrate of Nilphamari, inaugurated the show room cum sales centre on Sunday.

After the inauguration, formal selling started.

On this occasion Abid Ahmad Ali, Marketing Manager, Mirja Mohammad Mohiuddin, Plant Manager (A/V), M A Siddiqui, National Sales Manager, Singer Bangladesh Limited, attended the function from Dhaka.

High officials of bank, insurance, govt and semi-govt NGO's alongwith local elites also joined the programme.

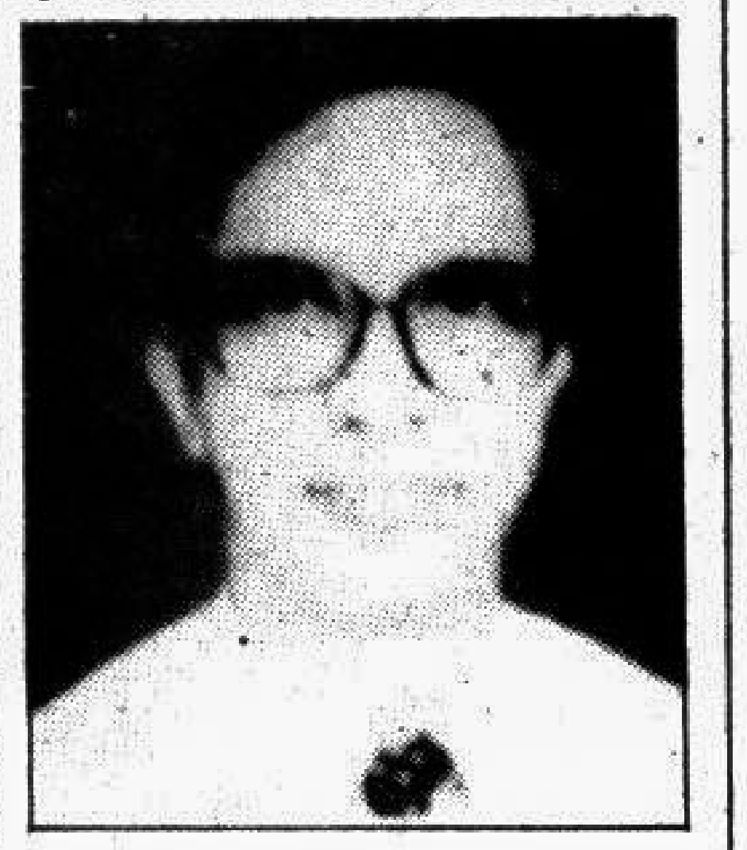
Later the guests participated in a plantation programme at the Alia Madrasha premises.

HBFC signs contract with Technohaven

The Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) has signed a contract with Technohaven Co, a local computer systems integration company, for supply, commissioning and maintenance of a multi-user computer system for HBFC's head office in Dhaka, reports BSS.

Under the contract, a press release said, Technohaven Co will supply a state-of-the-art computer from Everex Systems Inc, in USA. This computer would be set up as a relational database server under SCO Unix Operating System from the Santa Cruz Operation Inc, in USA. There would several PC's and terminals for use by HBFC's programmers and operators.

Abdur Rashid, Deputy General Manager, Administration of HBFC and Habibullah N Karim, President of Technohaven Co signed the contract on behalf of the respective organizations.



New MD of IFIC

A H M Shawkat Ali Chowdhury has been appointed Managing Director of IFIC Bank Limited by the Bank's Board of Directors, says a press release.

The appointment has been duly confirmed by the Bangladesh Bank. He had so long been discharging his responsibilities as Managing Director holding the current charge of the office of Managing Director.

Chowdhury joined IFIC Bank Limited in 1983 when the Bank got incorporated as a Banking Company. He has put in about 28 years of service in banking.

Prior to his joining the IFIC Bank Limited, he held different important positions at Janata Bank. He started his career as a probationary officer with the erstwhile United Bank Limited (UBL) in 1966.

Zafar Ahmed Chowdhury, Chairman of United Commercial Bank Ltd, seen inaugurating the New Market branch of Janata Insurance Company Ltd in the city yesterday. Jahangir Alam Khan, Director of the bank, Shamsul Haque, Managing Director and Zahurul Haque, Secretary of the insurance company, are also seen among others in the picture. — Star photo

Foodgrains stock position reviewed

The country's overall foodgrains stock position was reviewed in detail at the Food Planning and Monitoring Committee meeting held in the conference room of Food Ministry yesterday, an official handout said, reports BSS.

Presided by Food Minister Mir Shawkat Ali, the review meeting was attended by Agriculture and Water Resources Minister M Majid-ul-Haq.

Food Secretary Islam Uddin Malik and concerned senior officials of the ministries of Food, Agriculture, Finance, Disaster Management and Relief, ERD, Statistics Division, Planning Commission and Food Directorate were present in the meeting.

It was informed in the meeting that the overall foodgrains stock position in the country was normal and satisfactory. The probable shortage in aman production following drought in different districts in North Bengal was discussed in the meeting.

The meeting was told that following the drought in North Bengal six to seven per cent of the total aman production might be hampered. However, cultivated land under aman paddy was normal and as usual, the meeting observed.

World's largest book fair opens in Frankfurt

FRANKFURT, Oct 4: The world's largest book fair opens here today with more exhibitors, more floorspace and a stronger accent on electronic publishing, reports AFP.

Over a period of six days more than 8,500 publishers — 100 more, than last year — from 100 countries will display 321,975 titles.

Exchange Rates

Following are the Sonali Bank's dealing rates to public for some selected foreign currencies effective as on October 4.

(Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling		Buying		
	TT & OD	BC	TT Clean	OD Sight	OD Transfer
US Dollar	40.3840	40.4140	40.0850	40.0355	39.8700
Pound Sterling	64.0340	64.0840	62.5938	62.5165	62.2581
DM	26.2639	26.2834	25.5368	25.5052	25.3998
F Franc	7.6929	7.6986	7.4819	7.4727	7.4418
C Dollar	30.3481	30.3706	29.5049	29.4685	29.3467
S Franc	31.5915	31.6150	30.7248	30.6869	30.5600
Jap Yen	0.4126	0.4129	0.3970	0.3965	0.3949
Indian Rupee	1.2939	1.3036	1.2722	1.2531	—
Pak Rupee	1.3210	1.3309	1.2988	1.2793	—
Iranian Riyal	0.0231	0.0233	0.0227	0.0224	—

A) T. T.(DOC) US Dollar Spot Buying Tk 40.0602

B) Usance Rates:

30 Days DA	60 Days DA	90 Days DA	120 Days DA	180 Days DA
39.7348	39.4509	39.1669	38.8830	38.3151

C) US Dollar sight export bill 3 months forward purchase: Tk. 40.0355

D) US Dollar 3 months forward sale: Tk. 40.6140

Indicative Rates

Currency	Selling T.T. & O.D.	Buying O. D. Transfer
S Riyal	10.7676	10.6292
UAE Dirham	10.9960	10.8546
Kuwaiti Dinar	135.9112	133.8369
D Guilders	23.3905	23.0849
S Krona	5.4403	5.3679
Malaysian Rir[illegible]t	15.7635	15.5560
Singapore Dollar	27.2547	26.8883

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 4.10.94

Beth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/2	Amanecida	P Iron	Selen	MBL	25/09	7/10
J/4	Seyang Ace	GI	Hong	Prog	30/09	5/10
J/5	Khartoum	GL	Mong	ASCO (P)	3/10	6/10
J/7	Ultima	Cont	Col	Baridhi	2/10	5/10
J/8	Karabieverett	GI/GL	Sing	EBPL	28/9	4/10
J/11	Continent-1	Urea	—	CLA	R/A	5/10
J/12	Al Tajwar	Urea	Mong	Seacom	26/09	8/10
J/13	I Yamburenko	Cont	Sing	CT	1/10	4/10
MPB/1	Pratita	Cont	Sing	AML	2/10	6/10
	Andrian Goncharov	Cont	Sing	CT	2/10	6/10
MPB/2	Imke Wehr	Cont	Sing	APL (B)	2/10	6/10
CCJ	Komsomolets Rossii	C Clink	Okha	Seacom	8/9	6/10
TSP	Saint Nektarios	R Phos	Aqaba	SSST	26/09	6/10
RM/4	Global Juno	CPO	Bela	TSL	3/10	5/10
RM/5	Mekhanik Yurev	HSD	Sing	MSPL	2/10	6/10
RM/6	Yun Hua	Cement	Sing	CTPL	1/10	5/10
DOJ	Banglar Shourabh	C Oil	—	BSC	R/A	4/10
RM/9	Banglar Sampad	Repair	Kara	BSC	11/09	5/10
CUFJ	Cyclopus	Urea	Sing	SBS	1/10	7/10

Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Banglar Moni	5/10	Mong	BSC	Cont	Sing.
Bao Wang 5/10	Sing.	HSL	Cement	—	
Zang Su Bong	7/10	Yang	Rainbow	Cement	—
Pattu	6/10	Pena	OWSL	GI (Copra)	—
Reunion 6/10	—	IPL	GI (Copra)	—	
Stonewall Jackson	6/10	Para	Karna	GI (Lash)	Cal
Apj Anand 7/10	Nikol	Litmond	Fert	—	
Banglar Robi	8/10	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Kritika N[illegible]ee	7/10	P Kome	PSAL	C Clinkers	—
Princess Ariadne	7/10	Sing	H & SL	Scraping	—
Petr Starostin	7/10	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Fong Yun 7/10	Sing	BDShip	Cont	Sing	
Mikhail Stenko	8/10	Col	BTSA	Cont	Col
Lhotse	8/10	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Kota Bintang	8/10	Sing	CTS	Cont	Sing
Banglar Shobha	11/10	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing.
Banglar Kakoli	12/10	Male	BSC	GI	—
Mowlavi 12/10	—	SSL	GL	B Abbas	

Vessels At Kutubdia

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last Port Call	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
Al Ain	C Oil	RAS	ECSL	29/9
Banglar Jyoti	C Oil	—	BSC	R/A

Vessels at Outer Anchorage

				Ready On
Mar Courier	R Seeds	Ghent	Royal	2/10
Meng Kiat	Cont	Mong	AML	4/10
Templar	CDSO	Col	TSL	3/10
Nadelhorn	Wheat (G)	Sing	Ancient	30/9
Banglar Asha	Wheat (G)	—	BSC	R/A (30/9)

Vessels Not Ready

Hang Cheong	Sugar (G)	Sing	OWSL	21/9
Blueprint	Cement	Sing	HSL	1/20
Wang Ting	Cement	Rizh	Delmure	2/10
Maritime Friendship	Wheat (P)	Sing	OWSL	2/10
Nicola-D	Cement	Chama	PSAL	3/10

Vessels Awaiting Instruction

Ocean Earth	—	—	Seacom	R/A (2/10)

Vessels Not Entering

Arbas	Scraping	Hong	ARL	25/9
Eratinf	Cement	Sing	SBS	3/10
Agios Nectarios	Cement	Lyan	HSL	30/9
Aghios Rafael	Fert (P)	SFAX	SSST	2/10
Michel	Scraping	Sing	ARL	2/10
Mezhgorie	Cement	China	SBS	2/10
Handil	Scraping	Sing	OTL	3/10

Movement of Vessels for 5.10.94

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J/4 Seyang Ace	DOJ Banglar Shourab	
J/7 Meng Kiat	NW Blueprint	
J/13 Ultima	J/13 Banglar Moni	
J/11 Continent-1		
RM/4 G Juno		
RM/6 Yun Hua		
DOJ Banglar Jyoti		
RM/9 Banglar Sampad		

The above were the Tuesday's shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by **HRC Group**, Dhaka.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on October 4, 1994

Index jumps by 16 points

Star Report

The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index posted a sharp rise of 15.870 points, increasing to 750.51366 from 734.64292 on Tuesday.

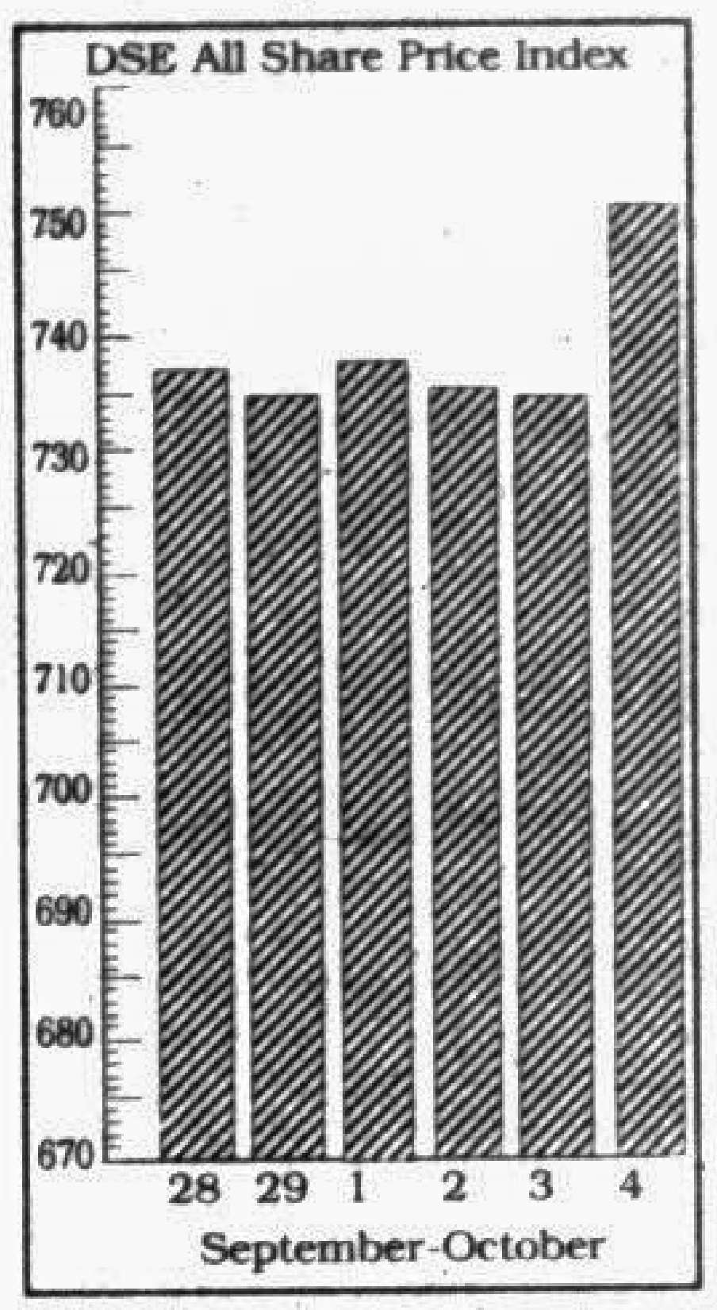
Turnovers on the DSE also rose significantly.

A total of 1,12,841 shares worth Tk 2,55,51,287.50 changed hands as against 61,600 shares valued at Tk 1,22,80,121.50. The changes meant 83.183 per cent and 108.070 increases in the turnovers in volume and value respectively.

Eastern Housing experienced a gain of Tk 25.00 per share, leading the gainers in terms of value. On the other hand, Beximco Pharma led the losers with a fall of Tk 20.00 per share.

Apex Spinning was the top volume leader of the day. Its 40140 shares were traded.

Other volume leaders were: Mithun Corporation (3840), Beximco Synthetic (2760), Bata Shoe (2920) and Eastern Housing (34800).



Trading at a glance

DSE All Price Index	750.51366
Market Capitalisation Tk	3,492,11,66,759.20
Turnover in Volume	1,12,841
Turnover in Value Tk	2,55,51,287.50
Total issues traded	59
Issues gained	26
Issues incurred losses	22
Issues unchanged	11

Company's name	Change (per share) Tk	Number of shares traded
The City Bank	3.00 (G)	10
Islami Bank	20.00 (G)	2159
UCBL	2.00 (G)	85
3rd ICB Mutual Fund	00	20
6th ICB Mutual Fund	.50 (L)	70
Aftab Automobiles	3.32 (L)	45
Bengal Carbide	13.06 (L)	290
Eastern Cables	.00	290
Karim Pipe Kills	00	22
Singer Bangladesh	10.62 (G)	15
BD Autocars	1.50 (L)	160
Quasem Drycells	03 (L)	200
Howlader PVC	1.00 (G)	50
B Thai Aluminium	1.50 (L)	330
Alpha Tobacco	2.00 (G)	300
Apex Foods Ltd	15.00 (L)	10
Bengal Food	3.92 (L)	50
Dhaka Vegetable	2.42 (G)	360
Chittagong Vegetable	00	260
Beximco Fisheries	61 (G)	480
Bangladesh Oxygen	50 (L)	250
Islam Jute	11.67 (L)	36
Northern Jute	.47 (G)	10600
Swan Textile	2.[illegible] (G)	5
Quasem Silk	.07 (G)	300
Modern Dyeing	.05 (L)	45
Eagle Star Textile	00	150
Dulamia Cotton	00	130
Tamijuddin Textile	6.00 (L)	60
Padma Textile	5.77 (G)	680
Apex Spinning	46 (G)	40140
Beximco Knitting	1.48 (G)	2340
Dynamic Textile	11 (L)	1580
Mithun Corporation	8.19 (G)	3840
Ambee Pharma	.01 (G)	250
Beximco Pharma	20.00 (L)	10
Ranata Limited	00	30
Pharma Aids Ltd	5.21 (G)	40
Kohinoor Chemical	1.50 (L)	1085
Rahman Chemicals	5.00 (L)	10
Wata Chemical	9.00 (G)	800
Beximco Synthetic	.47 (L)	2760
Libra Pharma	24.83 (G)	520
Paper Converting	.00	30
Eagle Box	00	50
Bata Shoe	2.36 (G)	110
Beximco Ltd	.75 (G)	2500
Chittagong Cement	6.81 (G)	890
Apex Footwear	4.79 (L)	90
Eastern Housing	25.00 (G)	34800
BGIC	.02 (G)	40
Green Delta Insurance	.00	10
United Insurance	86 (G)	110
Eastern Insurance	21 (L)	140
B Fisheries (Deb)	10.00 (L)	34
B Knitting (Deb)	5.06 (L)	240
B Pharma (Deb)	3.21 (G)	7
Beximco (Deb)	.00	3

DSE Shares and Debentures

Company	FV/ML (Taka)	Closing Rate (Taka)
BANKS (13)		
Al-Baraka Bank	1000/1	825.00
A.B. Bank	100/5	180.00
City Bank	100/5	365.00
Eastern Bank	100/20	102.00
IDLC Ltd	100/20	475.00
ULC	100/20	360.00
I.F.I.C	100/5	170.00
Islami Bank	1000/1	1550.00
National Bank	100/5	100.00
Pubali Bank	100/5	100.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	70.00
U.C.B.L	100/5	94.00
Uttara Bank	100/5	80.00
INVESTMENT (8)		
I.C.B	100/5	135.00
1st ICB M. Fund	100/5	662.50
2nd ICB M Fund	100/5	260.00
3rd ICB M. Fund	100/5	215.00
4th ICB M. Fund	100/10	291.00
5th ICB M. Fund	100/10	189.00
6th ICB M. Fund	100/10	128.00
ICB Unit Cert.		
Sale Price		—
Re-Purchase		—
INSURANCE (5)		
BGIC	100/10	385.00
Eastern Insurance	100/20	208.00
Green Delta	100/10	344.00
Peoples Insurance	100/10	456.00
United Insurance	100/10	303.00
ENGINEERING (19)		
Aftab Automobiles	100/5	241.00
Atlas Bangladesh	10/50	65.00
Aziz Pipe	100/5	463.57
Bangladesh Autocars	100/5	43.00
Bangladesh Lamps	100/5	1470.00
B. Thai Aluminium	100/10	110.00
Bengal Carbide	100/5	1386.97
Bengal Steel	10/50	20.00
Eastern Cables	100/5	134.00
Howlader PVC	100/10	48.00
Karim Pipe	100/5	95.00
Metalex Corp.	100/5	51.00
Monno Stafllers	100/5	350.00
Monno Jutex	100/5	1025.00
National Tubes	100/10	80.00
Panther Steel	10/50	8.00
Quasem Drycells	10/50	15.50
Renwick Jajneswar	100/5	66.50
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	2300.00
FOOD & ALLIED (25)		
A.B Biscuit	100/5	210.00
Bengal Biscuits	100/20	199.03
Alpha Tobacco	10/50	60.33
Amam Sea Food	100/5	450.00
Apex Food	100/5	990.00
Aroma Tea	100/5	830.00
Bangas	100/5	200.00
B.D. Plantation	100/5	500.00
Bengal Food	100/5	305.00
B.L.T.C.	100/5	500.00
B.T.C.	10/50	175.14
Ctg. Vegetables	100/10	84.00
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	127.24
E.L. Camellia	100/5	1040.00
Froglegs Export	10/50	3.00
Gemini Sea Food	10/50	50.00
Hill Plantation	100/5	550.00
Modern Industries	100/5	300.00
N.T.C	100/52	282.50
Rabeya Flour	10/100	NT
Rupon Oil	10/100	4.97
Tulip Dairy	100/10	50.00
Yousuf Flour	10/50	15.00
Zeal Bangla Sugar	10/50	7.70
Beximco Fisheries	100/20	228.58
FUEL & POWER (4)		
BD Oxygen	10/50	179.00
Eastern Lubricant	10/50	14.00
National Oxygen	100/10	90.00
Padma Oil Co.	10/50	83.00
TEXTILE (21)		
Alhaj Textile	10/50	NT
Apex Spinning	100/20	310.00
Arbee Textile	100/10	112.00
Ashraf Textile	10/50	26.05
Desh Garments	100/10	67.00
Dulamia Cotton	100/10	106.00
Eagle Star Textile	10/50	13.00
GMG Ind. Corp.	10/50	10.00
Modern Dyeing	100/5	42.00
Padma Textile	100/20	356.97
Quasem Silk	10/100	.2.87
Quasem Textile	10/50	4.00
Rahim Textile	100/5	95.00
Saiham Textile	100/10	95.00
S.T.M. (ORD)	100/5	20.00
Stylecraft	100/5	360.00
Swan Textile	100/5	20.00
Tallu Spinning	100/10	124.38
Tamijuddin	100/10	190.00
Beximco Knitting	100/20	163.37
Dynamic	100/20	112.01
PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (21)		
Ambee Pharma	10/50	15.00
Bangla Process	100/5	40.00
BCIL	100/10	440.00
Beximco Infusion	100/00	485.00
Beximco Pharma	100/5	1490.00
B. Synthetics	100/20	200.00
Libra Pharma	100/20	278.92
Glaxo	10/50	150.00
A C I	10/50	120.00
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5	110.50
N Polymer	100/10	145.00
Petro Synthetic	10/50	7.50
Renata Ltd	100/5	710.00
Pharma Aids	100/5	210.00
Pharmaco	100/5	90.00
Progressive Plastic	100/5	20.00
Rackitt & Colman	10/50	170.00
Rahman Chemicals	100/10	65.00
Therapeutics	100/5	87.00
The Ibnsina	100/10	120.00
Wata Chemical	100/20	299.00
PAPER & PRINTING (6)		
Eagle Box	10/5	17.00
Monospool Paper	100/5	23.00
Paper Converting	100/5	90.00
Paper Processing	100/10	15.00
Padma Printers	10/50	50.00
Sonali Paper	10/50	28.00
SERVICE (2)		
Bangladesh Hotel	10/50	12.00
Bd. Service	10/50	NT
MISCELLANEOUS (20)		
Apex Footwear	100.20	565.00
Apex Tannery	100/5	970.00
Aramit	10/50	20.18
Bata Shoe	10/100	109.00
Beximco	10/100	51.68
B.S.C	100/5	80.00
Ctg. Cement	100/5	615.69
G. Q. Ball Pen	10/50	144.00
High Speed	100/5	50.00
Himadri Ltd.	10/100	6.00
Milon Tannery	100/5	6.00
Monno Ceramic	100/5	778.65
New Dhaka Refac	100/20	28.00
Phoenix Leather	100/5	125.00
Savar Refractories	100/5	47.00
The Engineers	100/5	100.00
Texpick Ind	100.10	85.00
Usmania Glass	100/5	404.00
Mithun Corpn	—	108.19
Eastern Housing	—	125.00
JUTE (12)		
Ahad Jute	100/10	NT
Anowara Jute	10/50	NT
Delta Jute	10/50	8.50
Gawsia Jute	10/50	NT
Islam Jute	100/5	58.33
Jute Spinner	100/5	126.67
Mutual Jute	100/5	120.00
Northern Jute	10/50	22.49
Shamser Jute	100/5	100.00
Specialised Jute	10/50	NT
Shine Pukur Jute	100/5	300.22
Sonali Aansh	100/5	136.50
DEBENTURES (7)		
BCIL (17%)	2000/1	2865.00
Beximco (17%)	1665/1	1600.00
Beximco Infusion (17%)	1500/2	1670.00
Beximco Pharma (17%)	856/1	789.29
Beximco Synthetic (14%)s	2500/2	2325.00
Beximco Fisheries	3000/1	2660.00
Beximco Knitting	3000/1	2970.00

Note : FV = Face Value ML= Market Lot NT= Not Traded AL = Allotment Letter