

46 Japanese lawmakers take illegal donations

TOKYO, Oct 14: Forty-six members of Japan's parliament took illegal donations from the construction industry during elections in July, 1993, a newspaper reported on Thursday, says Reuter.

In the latest in a long-line of financial scandals, the 46 legislators, including Transportation Minister Shizuka Kamei and top opposition figure Ichiro Ozawa, violated laws that forbid politicians to receive campaign funds from companies with contracts with the government, the Asahi Shimbun said in its lead story.

Investigation of campaign-fund documents revealed that 100 companies that were engaged in government business gave a total of 62 million yen (620,000) to the 46 politicians.

The Asahi Shimbun's list of alleged violators included many of the leading lights of the power sharing liberal democratic party and a handful of figures from conservative opposition groups.

Most of the legislators contacted by the newspaper blamed the problem on book-keeping errors or lack of awareness that the donations in question were illegal.

Transportation Ministry, the only sitting obtained member named by Asahi, declined comment when contacted by phone. Ozawa's spokesman was unavailable for comment.

As in the other major corruption scandals that have embroiled Japanese politicians in recent years, most of the campaign contributors were contractors doing construction and civil-engineering work for major government ministries, the newspaper said.

The largest sum received by a single legislator was 10 million yen (100,000 dollars), paltry by the lights of earlier Japanese corruption scandals.



Iraqi women sell food in Baghdad's market on Thursday. The UN has authorised Iraq to export a limited amount of oil under strict international control to buy food and medicine, but Iraq has rejected the conditions as an infringement of its sovereignty. The crisis sparked by a build up of Iraqi troops on the Kuwaiti border last week has drawn attention to the crippling sanctions imposed after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990. —AFP photo

4000 shoe factory workers on strike in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Oct 14: About 4,000 workers at an Adidas shoe factory were on strike for the second day Thursday to demand more allowances, re-focusing attention on Indonesia's restrictions against labor activism, reports AP.

It was the biggest work stoppage in Indonesia since a union-inspired strike in April by 50,000 workers in Medan, Indonesia's third-largest city, turned into an ethnic riot that left at least three people dead and scores injured.

The shoe factory strike in Tangerang, just outside Jakarta, coincided with a court sentencing a trade unionist on Wednesday to eight months in jail for inciting workers in Medan to take to the streets.

Riswan Lubis, secretary general of the Welfare Labor Union, will be held for two more months since he has been in custody for the last six months, the court in Medan ruled.

The same court also is trying Mochtar Pakpahan, chairman of what is identified as Indonesia's largest independent union, on similar charges.

The government does not recognize any trade union except the state-sponsored Indonesia Labor Union.

The Medan riots were a watershed in Indonesia's labor rights movement, which has received vocal boosts from several human rights groups. The United States has threatened to withdraw trade privileges to Indonesia if conditions are not improved.

Workers at Panarun Industries Ltd., which manufactures international brand-name footwear Adidas and Spec, said they are demanding transportation, meal and uniform allowances.

Myanmar arrests 2 Thais with fake money-making machine

RANGOON, Oct 14: Myanmar authorities have arrested two alleged confidence tricksters from Thailand and a Myanmar accomplice who were trying to peddle a machine they said could print counterfeit money, the Myanmar news agency reported on Thursday, says Reuter.

Military intelligence agents and local police arrested the two men from northern Thailand and their alleged confederate in the Myanmar border town of Tachilek, in northeastern Shan state opposite Thailand.

The authorities found their machine was no more than an old repainted duplicator, incapable of printing bank notes, the state-run news agency said. Action was being taken against the three, the news agency said, but gave no details.

World spending lots on refugees, nothing on Rwanda

KIGALI, Rwanda, Oct 14: The world is spending 384 million dollars on humanitarian aid for Rwandan refugees and almost nothing to get the small war-scarred country back on its feet, the top UN official in Rwanda says, reports AP.

If donors come up with 100 million dollars to help Rwanda return to normal, taxpayers around the world will have to pay less next year to help exiled refugees because they will go home, UN Special Representative Shaharyar Khan said Thursday.

"I am quite clear that what needs to be done is to give the

UN official says

basic wherewithal for the refugees to find homes and farms, and fair play and justice," Khan said.

More than two months after the civil war ended, Rwanda has no money to pay the salaries of its government and military employees, or to repair damaged electrical, water and telecommunications facilities, he said.

The country has no judicial system and no way to settle disputes over land ownership. There are 6,000 prisoners, but no prison service. Three or four people are maimed every day by mines because there is no mine-clearing programme.

The airport can't meet air safety standards because it has inadequate fire-fighting vehicles.

Khan said that for about 100 million dollar, all these problems could be tackled. He released an updated version of the UN plan of action to return Rwanda to normality.

Rwanda's most crucial needs are money to start the government functioning, temporary housing for refugees, magistrates to decide on competing land claims and a judicial system to address human rights violations, he said.

Jailed MMM chief freed

MOSCOW, Oct 14: The jailed head of the huge MMM investment company was freed Thursday after two months in prison on charges of tax evasion and obstructing an investigation, reports AP.

Sergei Mavrodin was released after promising a Moscow court not to leave the city.

The government has condemned MMM as a massive pyramid scheme that generated huge returns by paying off old investors with new buyers' money. Millions of Russians are said to have been duped in the scheme. Mavrodin registered last month as a candidate for election to Russia's parliament. If he wins the October 30 election, he would be immune from prosecution.

Pak power-generating firm to offer 69.28m shares

KARACHI, Oct 14: Pakistan's private power-generating firm Hubco, chairman of what is identified as Indonesia's largest independent union, on similar charges.

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pees each, of which 335.3 million shares have been sold abroad in the form of 13.412 million global depository rights (GDR), one GDR being equal to 25 ordinary shares of rupees 10 each.

The share sale abroad was underwritten by Deutsche bank and Morgan Grenfell.

Richard Cragg of Morgan Grenfell said that each offered share is calculated to pay a return of 28 per cent. He said the listing of shares on the Karachi Stock Exchange would increase the firm's market capitalisation by 500 million dollars.

Hubco is building a 1.57-billion-dollar, 1,200-megawatt, oil-fired generation plant at hub, near Karachi, which is to be completed in 1997.

Saudi Arabia's Xenel group and national power of UK have contributed 150 million dollars of the 371-million-dollar equity, which is 24 per cent of the total project cost.

The remaining funds will come from international lending agencies and a group of countries including France, Italy, Japan, UK and USA.

Exchange Rates

Following are the Sonali Bank's dealing rates to public for some selected foreign currencies effective as on October 13. (Figures in Taka)

Currency	Selling		Buying	
	TT & OD	EC	TT Clean	OD Slight Transfer
US Dollar	40.3830	40.4150	40.0950	40.0355
Pound Sterling	64.2337	64.2846	62.7841	62.6909
DM	26.4815	26.5025	25.7636	25.7254
F Franc	7.7365	7.7426	7.5264	7.5152
C Dollar	30.3113	30.3353	29.4772	29.4335
S Franc	31.7654	31.7906	30.8903	30.8445
Jap Yen	0.4105	0.4108	0.3954	0.3948
Indian Rupee	1.2939	1.3036	1.2722	1.2531
Pak Rupee	1.3210	1.3309	1.2988	1.2793
Iranian Ryal	0.0233	0.0235	0.0228	0.0225

A) T. T. (DOC) US Dollar Spot Buying Tk. 40.0652

B) Usance Rates: 30 Days DA 60 Days 90 Days 120 Days 180 Days

39.7447 39.4607 39.1767 38.8927 38.3247

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

D) US Dollar 3 months forward sale Tk. 40.6150

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 13.10.1994

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Mar Courier	R Seeds	Ghent	Royal	2/10	16/10
J/2	Kritika Naree	C. Clink P.	Kome	PSAL	9/10	21/10
J/3	Maritime Friendship	Wheat (P)	Sing	OWSL	2/10	20/10
J/4	Reunion	GI	Maia	JPL	6/10	15/10
J/5	Donestskiy Metallurg	M Seed	Bedy	MSA	9/10	16/10
J/6	Snagov	GI (Copra)	Sing	TSL	9/20	16/10
J/7	An Long Jiang	R Seed	Vanc	Prog	11/10	20/10
J/10	Mikhail Stenko	Cont	Col	BTSA	9/10	15/10
J/11	Banglar Robi	Cont	Sing	BSC	9/10	14/10
J/12	Al Tajwar	Urea	Mong	Seacom	26/9	14/10
J/13	Petr Starostin	Cont	Sing	CT	8/10	13/10
MPB/1	Banglar Shobha	Cont	Sing	HSC	12/10	16/10
	Lhotse	Cont	Sing	RSL	8/10	13/10
MPB/2	Fong Yun	Cont	Sing	Bdshp	9/10	13/10
CCJ	Amanecida	P. Iron	Selen	MBL	25/9	18/10
GSJ	Nicola-D	Cement	Cham	PSAL	3/10	18/10
RM/4	Nan Du Jiang	Cement	Lans	CTPL	11/10	15/10
DOJ	Couper	Mop	Ceko	GEL	11/10	21/10
DDJ/1	Banglar Asha	Repair		HSC	R/A	20/10
RM/9	Banglar Shourabh	Idle		HSC	R/A	15/10

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Last port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Optima	13/10	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Feng Sheng	14/10	Sing	PSAL	Cement	
An Qing Jiang	14/10	Sing	Prog	GI	
Pong Shin	16/10	Sing	Bdshp	Cont	Sing
Princess Ariadne	15/10	Sing	H&SL	For Scraping	
Pattu	15/10	Pena	OWSL	GI	
Kaptai	15/10	Kara	Karna	GI/Rice/P	
Hua Quan	15/10	Sing	RRSA	R Phos	
Bovec	15/10	P. Land	OWSL	Wheat (P)	
Blue Ocean	16/10	Viza	Cross	GI	
Mowlavi	16/10	Mong	SSL	GI	B. Abbas
Imke Wehr	16/10	Sing	APL(B)	Cont	
Sytkiada	17/10	Sing	PSAL	Cement	
Andrian Goncharov	17/10	Sing	CT	Cont	Sing
Ultima	17/10	Col	Baridhi	Cont	Mong
Pratita	17/10	Sing	AML	Cont	Sing
Banglar Doot	17/10	Cal	BSC/Will	Load Jute for UK	
Banglar Kakoli	18/10	Col	HSC	GI	
Rui Peng	19/10	Rainbow	Cement		
Trans Auto	20/10	H&A	VEHICLES		
Bhavabhuti	20/10	Bomb	SSL	GI, UK Com.	
Meng Kiat	20/10	Sing	AML	Cont	Sing
Cesovoy	22/10	Alisa	HSC	Steel Cargo	

Tanker due

Silna	14/10	Sing	MSP/L	LBO
Shelley	19/10		JF	Tallow

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
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Vessels ready

Nikolay Morozov	Cont	Sing	RSL	11/10
Arktis River	GI (Copra)	Santo	Royal	13/10

Vessels not ready

Wang Ting	Cement	Ruh	Deimure	2/10
Bao Wang	Cement	Sing	HSL	7/10
Blueprint	Cement	Sing	HSL	1/10
Olympic Mentor	Wheat (P)	Kala	MBL	2/10

Vessels awaiting instruction

Ocean Earth			USTC	R/A (2/10)
Banglar Jyoti			HSC	R/A (7/10)

Vessels not entering

Apj Anand	Fert	Niko	Litmond	7/10
Sea Tradition	Cement	Sing	AML	10/10
George	Cement	Sing	Paragon	12/10

Movement of vessels for 14.10.94 & 15.10.94

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
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J/11 Banglar Robi (Cont) J/7An Qing Jiang J/10 M Stenko to P&J/2 RM-5 Silna J/7 An Long Jiang to J/10 J/12 N. Mgorov to MPB/2 CCJ: Amanecida to J/12.

15.10.1994

J/4 Reunion (GI) NE Bao Wang

RM-4 Nan Du Jiang RM-9 Banglar Jyoti

RM-9 Banglar 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.



An environment-friendly invention — the collapsible tin can. Fitted with a pull-ring at both ends, it can be collapsed after use. It can even be flattened by a woman's delicate hand and disposed of in a space-saving manner, emphasizes inventor Walter Prus from Tegernsee, Bavaria. By means of this method, ten cans can be reduced to the size of the flat package in the front of the picture. —IN photo

Russian rouble makes spectacular recovery

MOSCOW, Oct 14: The Russian rouble made a spectacular recovery gaining sharply against the dollar in trading here to close at 2.994, says AFP.

At close yesterday, the battered Russian currency had stood at 3.736 to the dollar.

The surge in the rouble comes two days after the Russian money plunged radically, dropping from around 3,000 to nearly 4,000 in a record low of 3,936 against the dollar in what President Boris Yeltsin said Wednesday was a threat to national security.

Traders said supply of US dollars on the Moscow inter-bank currency exchange (MICEX) at the start of Thursday's trading session exceeded initial demand for the Greenback by more than 300 million dollars.

Experts said the flood of dollars on the Moscow market was due to massive intervention by the Russian central bank after Yeltsin and the government promised to take

steps to redress the rouble's sharp decline.

The start of Thursday's trading session was delayed by an hour as authorities introduced new restrictions limiting foreign currency purchases by commercial banks and aimed at curtailing speculative buy-sell operations.

Central bank Chairman Viktor Gerashchenko on Tuesday attributed the rouble's radical slide to pure "speculation" on the market and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said Wednesday that the government "can't control everything."

But Yeltsin blamed the currency's problems on sabotage and the chief of Russia's Federal Counter Intelligence Service (FSK), Sergei Stepashin, said on television Wednesday that the rouble's plunge had been an orchestrated attempt to undermine the government and Yeltsin.

The rouble's crash sparked panic and confusion throughout Russia.

Asian stock markets close higher

HONG KONG, Oct 14: Asian stock markets closed generally higher Friday, but the main index in Tokyo fell after a four-day winning streak, reports AP.

Tokyo's 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average fell 179.54 points, or 0.89 per cent, closing at 19,969.29. The average had risen a total of 493.60 points over the previous four days, including Thursday's 59.11-point gain.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section fell 13.08 points, or 0.81 per cent, to 1,593.08. The TOPIX gained 5.56 points, or 0.35 per cent the day before.

Traders said share prices fell moderately on small-lot selling in the morning, but the selling later accelerated with the yen's appreciation against the dollar.

The dollar ended the week at 98.87 yen, down 1.01 yen from Thursday's close and below its overnight New York finish at 99.46 yen.

closed higher in moderate trading.

The Hang Seng Index, the Hong Kong market's key indicator of blue chips, rose 18.58 points, or 0.2 per cent, from 9,550.93. The market was closed on Thursday for a public holiday.

SEOUL: Share prices closed higher in active trading, with the index rising to a record high for the fourth consecutive session. The Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 6.83 points to a provisional 1,103.37.

WELLINGTON: New Zealand share prices closed higher in light trading, with brokers expecting the market to continue to drift early next week. The NZSE-40 Capital Index rose 13.51 points to 2,057.22

TAIPEI: Share prices closed lower on profit-taking. The market's Weighted Index fell 58.62 points to 6,567.77 after Thursday's 130-point gain.

MANILA: Share prices closed higher for a third straight day, boosted by over-

seas buying. The Philippines' unified composite index of 43 selected issues rose 9.18 points to 2,999.93.

SYDNEY: Australian share prices closed slightly higher, buoyed by gains in US share prices Thursday and the strength in gold stocks. The All Ordinaries Index rose 7.1 points to 2,006.00.

SINGAPORE: Share prices closed higher. The 30-share Straits Times Industrials Index rose 19.48 points to 2,377.30.

BANGKOK: Thai share prices closed higher on active buying by overseas investors. The Stock Exchange of Thailand index rose 23.49 points to 1,498.55.

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian share prices closed lower, dragged down by the fall in leading blue chips. The KLSE Composite Index fell 7.22 points to 1,128.45.

JAKARTA: Share prices closed slightly higher in moderate trading. The Composite Index rose 3.157 points to 510.338.

53.7m homes in Asia, ME watch Star TV programmes

HONG KONG, Oct 14: Asia's satellite television broadcaster Star TV claimed today the network was now seen in more than 53.7 million homes across Asia and the Middle East, reports AFP.

Star TV, which is a subsidiary of media baron Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. Ltd., said in its latest estimate that the number of households receiving Star TV jumped by 28 per cent