

Arab League to hold int'l confce on Palestine economy

CAIRO, Nov 18: The Arab League announced yesterday it would hold an international conference here in April to promote reconstruction and economic development in the Palestinian self-rule areas, reports AFP.

OPEC renews quest for higher oil prices

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Nov 18: Ever on a quest for higher oil prices, OPEC will likely pledge to keep its crude production steady throughout the winter and may be even into the spring, reports AP.

"The longer they roll it out, the stronger the floor they have under prices," he said. With a 12-month stretch out, he said, "there is less risk of prices falling."

In an effort to drive prices up, OPEC chiefs last June took the unusual step of leaving unchanged the cap of 24.5 million barrels a day for the final six months of the year. They often make quarterly changes in output guidelines. Current supply is estimated at 25.2 million barrels a day.



A newly developed Japanese hovercraft "Hisho" enters a pier in Yokosuka Port on Thursday after finishing one of a series of test runs.

Honda reports surge in net profits

TOKYO, Nov 18: Honda Motor Corp, a leading Japanese auto and motorcycle maker, reported Friday a three fold surge in net profits for the fiscal first half ending September 30, reports AP.

Asian stock markets close mixed

HONG KONG, Nov 18: Asian stock markets closed generally mixed Friday, but share prices tumbled in Hong Kong after a local interest rate hike and renewed rumours that Chinese senior leader Deng Xiaoping has died, reports AP.

unchanged from its overnight New York finish. WELLINGTON: New Zealand share prices closed higher in moderate trading. The NZSE-40 Capital Index rose 4.65 points to 2,052.86.

1,118.44. SYDNEY: Australian share prices closed little changed after a late rally helped the market recover virtually all its earlier losses. The All Ordinaries index fell 0.4 point to 1,922.0.

No plan to fully privatise Renault SA

PARIS, Nov 18: The French state has no immediate plans to fully privatise the automaker Renault SA, officials said Wednesday, though 1.1 million individuals subscribed for shares in a partial sell-off, reports AP.

US dollar ends higher in global foreign exchange trading

NEW YORK, Nov 18: The US dollar ended slightly higher Thursday in global foreign exchange trading, strengthening late in the session despite weakness in the American stock and bond markets, reports AP.

Reserve said its index of regional business activity fell to 30.5 in November from 33.2 last month, while the government reported that housing starts fell 5.2 per cent in October, the first drop in four months.

Investment funds and other institutional players were a factor in bond trading activity Thursday, said analysts. In late New York trading the dollar fetched 15513 marks, up from 1.5505 late Wednesday.



GATT Director General Peter Sutherland (R), is greeted by former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in Paris on Thursday. The agreement to liberalise trade under the GATT will probably collapse if the United States does not ratify it by the end of this year, Sutherland said here.

Office of the Executive Engineer Perojpur O & M Division BWDB, Perojpur Tender Notice. 1. Tender Notice No: 02/1994-95. 2. Name of Work: Re-excavation of Khal/River in connection with the Project 'Prevention of saline water' in Nazipur and its adjacent areas during the year 1994-95.

Germany encourages skilled crafts, trade sector in Third World

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development notes with satisfaction that a growing majority of developing countries are opening up their economies more and more for market-driven mechanisms. Given Germany's desire to support this trend, it has made promotion of the private sector, particularly skilled crafts and trades as well as small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), in the Third World a priority in its global development policy.

Yoa Senga writes from Bonn. The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development notes with satisfaction that a growing majority of developing countries are opening up their economies more and more for market-driven mechanisms. Given Germany's desire to support this trend, it has made promotion of the private sector, particularly skilled crafts and trades as well as small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), in the Third World a priority in its global development policy.



Partial view of a food festival which began at Hotel Sonargaon in the city yesterday.

Shipping Intelligence

Shipping Intelligence tables including CHITTAGONG PORT, VESSELS DUE AT OUTER ANCHORAGE, TANKER DUE, VESSELS AT KUTUBDIA, VESSELS AT OUTER ANCHORAGE, READY ON, VESSELS NOT READY, VESSELS NOT ENTERING, MOVEMENT OF VESSELS FOR 18/11 & 19/11/94, and OUTGOING/SHIFTING.