The Daily Star

Best with the views

First phase of Teesta Barrage project to be completed by '96

The first phase of the Teesta Barrage project being implemented at a cost of Tk 856 crore will be completed by 1996, benefiting more than 50 lakh people of the country's three northern districts, reports UNB

The project, conforming environmental factors, is expected to bring 4.5 lakh acres of land of the districts of Nilphamari. Rangpur and Bogra, a group of diplomats and representatives of donor countries and agencies were told during their visit to the project site on Saturday.

The group included the high commissioners of the United Kingdom and Canada,

BPC organises

food festival

in Ctg

ration organised a tribal cul

tural function and a food festi-

val at parjatan motel in Chit-

tagong Saturday, reports UNB.

Saikat, a motel of Bangladesh

Parjatan Corporation on the

occasion of Tourism Month

Minister Abdullah-Al-Noman

was present as chief guest,

said a BPC press release Sun-

day. State Minister for civil

Aviation and Tourism Abdul

Mannan also attended the

Sirajul Islam attended the

held at Mymensingh town last

evening on the occasion, the

function as special guests.

release added.

the country.

ports UNB.

consultation.

Local MP LK Siddiqui and

A cultural function was also

Jute Minister ASM Hannan

Shah speaking on the occasion

as chief guest called upon all to

work sincerely for develop-

ment of tourism industry in

General assembly

of APAARI in

Philippines begins

of Asia-Pacific Association of

Agricultural Research Institu-

tion (APAARI) and Expert Con-

sultation on National Agricul-

tural Research Systems Vision

begins today (Tuesday) at Los

Banos in the Philippines, re-

future challenges and opportu-

nities for sustained and en-

hanced productivity and food

security in the Asia-Pacific Re-

the Bangladesh Agricultural

Research Council (BARC) Dr

Sujayet Ullah Chowdhury left

Dhaka for the Philippines on

Monday to attend the expert

December, 1990 in Bangkok,

at the Regional Office for Asia

and the Pacific (RAPA) of FAO.

countries of Asia and Pacific

are the members of the Insti-

APAARI was established in

Bangladesh and other 18

Executive Vice-Chairman of

The assembly will focus on

A four-day General Assembly

Fisheries and Livestock

country on November 15.

began in the

The festival was staged at

Bangladesh Parjatan Corpo-

ambassadors of Belgium, China, Sweden, the Netherlands, and resident representatives of UNDP, World Bank, ADB, UNICEF, CIDA, WFP, USAID, Ford Foundation and FAO.

State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan took round the guests to the main barrage site, control tower, flood bypass dam and the under construction silt-trap (arrangement to free water from

. Local MP A Hafiz was also present during the visit of the diplomats and donor representatives, organised by the ministry of planning, an official handout said vesterday.

After visiting the project

British High Commissioner Peter J Fowler described it as a magnificent engineering feat.

Dr Moyeen Khan, who briefed the diplomats, said the project was planned, designed and constructed by the local engineers and technicians with local resources.

"Only 20 per cent of the finance came from outside agencies," he said. But the minister said that the foreign assistance would be needed to construct the second phase of the project which will cost less than the first phase.

The project will benefit the farmers in producing more than one crop annually due to easy availability of irrigation fa-

Replying a question. Dr Khan said that the project was highly cost-effective and highly beneficial to the people in the

command area.

He informed the group that the project was first conceived during the British rule. But its foundation stone was laid by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.

In reply to a question about availability of adequate water for the Teesta Barrage project in view of India's construction of a dam upstream, irrigation secretary Nazrul Islam stressed the need for a permanent water-sharing accord with India.



David Brougham, Executive Director of Standard Chartered PLC, handed over the key of a medical van to a local NGO at Sonargaon Hotel recently which is part of SCB's Banking on health programme. Star photo

Suharto urges OPEC ministers

Secure reasonable prices for oil

DENPASAR, Indonesia, Nov 21: OPEC's 12 member countries should strengthen their solidarity and "act wisely" to secure "reasonable" world prices for oil. Indonesian president Suharto said here today, reports AFP.

The President, opening the year-end conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in the resort island of Bali, said the world was "very sensitive and responsive" to developments in OPEC, which was responsible for world oil sup-

Without a "reasonable price" the organization could not play its role satisfactorily, he added.

A fundamental requirement was "mutual respect among fellow member states," which abstain from "committing acts detrimental to other members," Suharto

Oil industry analysts saw his remark as a veiled reference to OPEC's dominant middle eastern producers including Saudi

Arabia, often perceived by other members as pursuing their own interests.

The President noted that Indonesia was one of the few oil exporting countries - and the only OPEC member - in the Asia Pacific region.

He stressed the region's dependence on imported oil would be "even greater" if nations in the area were unable to meet energy needs.

"Only when prices are good can we reinvest to continue and intensify the search for new oil deposits," he said, suggesting this was a prerequisite for continued exploration in this area "on our own or assisted by international oil investors.

This could be among "concrete manifestations" of closer cooperation among the world's nations, he said.

Against this background, President Suharto said he appealed to OPEC to "close ranks and act wisely" to preserve the status of oil in world energy supplies and OPEC's image as an institution deserving a "decent place" on the world scene.

The president in his speech also noted that Indonesia last week hosted a summit to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, voicing hopes that economic globalization "will not just break down barriers to economic relations Also addressing the opening ceremony was Indonesia's Minister of Mines and Energy, Ida Bagus Sudjana.

among nations. It should also lead to "partnership, peace and mutual' opportunity for develop-

Commenting on Indonesia's particular situation, he stressed that the country's dependence on oil and natural gas has declined sharply over the past several years with this sector accounting just under 11 per cent of output last year against 24 per cent in 1981.

Unless new reserves were discovered. Indonesia could soon become a net oil-importing country and would then lose its right to membership of OPEC, he said.

Computer show at Hotel Sonargaon begins today

By Staff Correspondent

A two-day computer exhibition begins today at the Hotel Sonargaon Ball Room under the auspices of Bangladesh Computer Samity.

The President Bangladesh Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Salman F Rahman will inaugurate the show at 11

The exhibition will remain

open for the visitors after the inauguration till 8 pm today and it will remain open from 10 am to 8 pm tomorrow. The officials of the samity

said there will be about 33 stalls at the exhibition and the main slogan of the show is to satisfy the users. This is the second time the

samity has arranged computer exhibition in Dhaka city. Earlier they arranged similar exhibition in May this year.

According to them all the major computer companies represented in Bangladesh are participating in the exhibition.

Describing the importance of computer in our life they said, it not only helping us, but also contributing to catch up with the rest of the civilised world. It has opened up'a vast opportunity for Bangladesh in terms of data entry and software export business. So, the sooner we avail the opportunity of computer the better is the chance for us to reap its golden harvest, they said.

The computer companies which are expected to participate in the exhibition are. Abacus and Automation Ltd. Ananda Computers, Applied Computer Technology Ltd, Automation Engineers, Beximco Computers Ltd. Ciproco Computers Ltd, Citech Company Ltd. Computer Services, Computer Solution Ltd. Desktop Computer Connection Ltd, Dolphin Computes Ltd, Flora Ltd, Graphics Information Systems Ltd, IBS - Primax Ltd, IBM World Trade Corporation, Infotech Ltd. International Office Equipment, JAN Associates and Leads Corporation Ltd.

Commercial banks urged to find out potential entrepreneurs

Bangladesh Bank Governor Khorshed Alam on Sunday asked the commercial banks to look for potential entrepreneurs who can use their huge liquidity in worthy investment, reports UNB.

Alam as addressing a function arranged in celebration of inauguration of the newly constructed commercial building of the Bangladesh Bank Employees' Cooperative Credit Society Ltd at Hatkhola in the alternoon.

Steps taken to encourage private investment in power sector

The Energy and Mineral Resources Minister informed parliament Sunday that the government has taken up reform programme to encourage private investment in the power sector to cope with the increasing demand, reports

Responding to a call attention notice from MA Matin (BNP). Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said the reforms are expected to bring private investment, both foreign and local, in the sector.

He also told the House that the government was negotiating with some foreign and local private power generation companies for investment in the country's power sector.

·Steps were being taken to meet the increasing demand of power which will rise to 2,250 megawatt (MW) by the year 2000, the minister said. He added that new power

plants will be set up and the

might bring a positive result.

old ones overhauled and repaired to raise the installed generation capacity up to 3,930 MW. On load-shedding, the minister said at present 1900 MW electricity is being generated

against the demand of 1800 MW on working days. But sometimes load-shedding takes place due to technical fault and low supply of gas in the generating units, he

added. Earlier, in his call attention notice, MA Matin mentioned

the monthly power deficit now stands at 300 MW and feared that it would go up to 400 MW early next year. The MP from Chandpur said shifting the responsibility of cal dollar finished at 75.35 US generation and distribution of cents up only slightly from the power to the private sector

Proposed Jamdani Estate at Tarabo awaits approval

By Staff Correspondent

The proposed Jamdani Industrial Estate at Tarabo under Rupgani thana in Narayangani district is still under consideration of the Planning Commission for final approval.

The Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) took the decision to set up a Jamdani Estate in early 1992. Speaking to The Daily Star,

a top BSCIC official said "We have completed all formalities to establish the estate but the government has yet to approve the project. The main objective of the

estate is to rehabilitate the existing jamdani weavers in one area to provide them with infrastructural help. He said we are also consid-

ering to set up a research

centre in the estate, "to innovate new design for jamdani sharee and make it more attractive to the buyers.

Under the project, about

Stocks fall to 8-month low in Tokyo

TOKYO, Nov 21: The Tokyo Stock Exchange's benchmark index slid to an eight-month low Monday as Sony shares continued to plunge, while the US dollar closed higher against the Japanese yen, reports AP.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average fell 180.84 points, or 0.94 per cent, closing at 19,121.72.

room facilities in each plot. This will help the weavers exhibit and sell their products at

The training for weavers. consultancy and other techni-

435 plots will be made on

project is Taka 4 crore 80

the estate would be different

from other BSCIC estates as it

will have residential and show

The estimated cost of the

According to the source.

about 20 acres of land.

cal help will also be available at the research centre. After the implementation of

the project, about 2 thousand people are expected to be employed in the estate.

The plots will be leased to the weavers.

Fiji govt accused of corruption

SUVA, Nov 21: Fiji's opposition leader, Jai Ram Reddy, accused the government and public service of corruption today, describing it in his reply to the 1995 budget as a "cancer growing rapidly," reports AFP. His address criticised the

whole spectrum of government policies and budgetary measures, including a mounting deficit and increasing public sector debt, along with what he termed the government's racial policies and inability to deal with law and order issues. But he focused mainly on

official corruption saying, "There can be no denying that corruption and nepotism are on the increase and have gained a strong hold in some areas." "When the public sector is

corrupt, the victims are usually the poor and the weak - the rich buy their way through the system," Reddy said, citing loans by the public trustee's office, customs and the vehicle licensing office.

Reddy said the economy was in serious trouble and an estimated 2.7 per cent growth for next year was largely a result of bigger than expected sugar pro-Nothing had been done in

the past three years to reduce the size of government expenditure, which stood at 35 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), but if statutory expenditures and other government layouts were considered would more likely be 55-to-60 per He described as "bad eco-

nomics" the attempt in the 1995 budget to cut down the size of government by reducing the capital expenditure.

Proposing a zero budget deficit, he said Fiji's debt service was expected to rise to 170 million Fijian dollars (125 million US) next year, costing "every than, woman and child in this country" 225 dellars (166 US), the result of financing a deficit budget over the years.

Israel should actively support Palestinian economy'

GAZA, Nov 21: Israel must change its attitude and actively pport the Palestinian economy if peace is to survive incidents like Friday's bloodbath in Gaza, Palestinians and internaional donors say, reports Reuter A leading Palestinian eco-

nomic official said on Sunday Israel owed the Palestinian authority millions of dollars in tax ransfers. Donors said they were pressing Israeli leaders to lift clo-

sures that prevent Palestinian labourers from GAZA and the West Bank from entering Israel. Friday's clashes between

Palestinian police and demonstrators followed months of stagnation and frustration among Gazans, who were told the PLO's peace deal with Israel would help alleviate their grinding poverty. Palestinians — and increas-

ingly many international donors, - are saying the Palestinian economy lies in Israeli hands.

"They (the Israelis) are not seeing these problems as peace partners," said Samir Buleileh, Director General at the Palestinian Department of Trade.



Dr Sheikh Magsood Ali, Chairman of the Governing Body of Sadharan Bima Corporation, speaking as chief guest at the opening of the corporation's internal training institute at Motijheel in the city yesterday.

US dollar firm against most Asian units over the week HONG KONG, Nov 21: The

US dollar strengthened against most currencies in the region this week following the US Federal Reserve Board's decision to raise interest rates, reports AFP. JAPANESE YEN: The yen

lost ground against the dollar this week as the US Federal Reserve raised its short-term interest rates by a bigger-thanexpected 0.75 percentage points to fight inflation. It close at 98.35 to the dollar, down 0.57 from a week earlier. After opening at the week's

high of 97.77 to the dollar, the Japanese unit kept a downslide to reach the week's low of 98.73 to the dollar on Wednesday amid growing prospects of Fed's rate in-The yen rebounded slightly

on Thursday following the officials announcement of the higher rates but it fell back on Friday as players sat on the sidelines ahead of the release of US trade data for Septem-

AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR: The Australian dollar closed marginally firmer against the US currency after being trapped in a tight range during the week, dealers said. The lo-

previous week's linish of 75.33

HONG KONG DOLLAR: The Hong Kong dollar closed the week at 7.731-7.733 from 7.728-7.729.

INDONESIAN RUPIAH: The Indonesian currency weakened against the dollar, closing the week's trading Friday at 2,191 rupiah compared to 2,189 a

week before. KOREAN WON: The dollar strengthened marginally against the Korean won during the week, settling at 796.20 compared to 797.00 a week

MALAYSIAN RINGGIT: The ringgit eased 108 points to close at 2.5671 this week from 2.5563 a week earlier as the US dollar was propped up by a raise in US interest rates on Tuesday, dealers said.

NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR: The New Zealand dollar closed worth 62.25 US cents, up on last week's closing price of 62.11 cents. PHILIPPINE PESO: The

peso lost ground on the dollar this week closing at 24.424 to the greenback from 24.036 on November 11.

The government announced further moves to stem the peso surge, which has seen its. value appreciate by more than 13 per cent from the December 1993 level. Central Bank Governor

Gabriel Singson said the government would ban the four foreign banks in the country from using their "net due to head office" account unless it had been converted to pessos. The account refers to the advances to foreign banks of their parent companies.

SINGAPORE DOLLARS: the Singapore dollar remained unchanged against the US dollar at an exchange rate of 1.4705 here Friday compared to last weeks close.

Dealers said demand for the US dollar was moderate this week after the uncertain mood just before the increase in interest rates by the federal re-

TAIWAN DOLLAR: The US dollar advanced to close at 26.301 Taiwan dollars in active trading, up 17.65 Taiwan cents from the previous week's finish of 26.1245.

Market dealers attributed the jump of the greenback to the Federal Reserve's raising key short-term interest rates Tuesday by three-quarters of a point.

THAI BAHT: The Bank of Thailand's Exchange Equalisation Fund fixed the official mid-rate at 25.01 baht to one US dollar, compared with the previous Friday close's of 24.96

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় (সওজ) ফেরী বিভাগ, ভালতলা, বনানী, বগুড়া - ৫৮০০ ও জনপথ দপ্তরের দরপত্র আহবান বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঃ ২৫/৯৪ - ৯৫ইং ফেঃবিঃ বগুড়া। দবপত্ৰ বিজ্ঞান্ত নং

ব্রায়নার টাকা

যোগ্যতা

৭। যে সমস্ত অফিস

৮। যে সমস্ত অফিস

করা হইবে

শেষ দিন

১১। দরপত্র

18-79-76

দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের

দরপত্র গ্রহণের

ভিএকপি-১০২৪৫-১৬/১১

তারিখ ও সময়

খেলার

মিনিট।

হইতে দরপত্র

সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে

হইতে দরপত্র গ্রহণ

াঁঃ (গ্রুপ্রক) '৯৪-৯৫ইং অর্থ বৎসরে সড়ক বিভাগ, সিরাজগঞ্জের অধীনে বিভিন্ন ইকুইপমেন্টের খুচরা যন্ত্রাংশ সরবরাহের কাজ। ব্যেয় খাতঃ সিরাজগঞ্জ

।গ্রুপ-খ। '৯৪-৯৫ইং অর্থ বৎসরে সভক বিভাগ, সিরাজগঞ্জের অধীনে বিভিন্ন ইকুইপমেন্টের খুচরা যন্ত্রাংশ সরবরাহের কাজ। (ব্যয় খাতঃ সিরাজগঞ্জ সড়ক বিভাগের এ,টি,সির মাধ্যমে)

সড়ক বিভাগের এ,টি,সির মাধ্যমে)

(গ্ৰুপ-ক) টাকাঃ ৪,১৭,৮০০= (গ্ৰুপ-খ) টাকাঃ 3,68,000/= (গ্ৰুপ-ক) টাকাঃ৮,৩৫৬/- (গ্ৰুপ-খ) টাকাঃ৩,৬৮৬/-

৩০ (ত্রিশ) দিন (কার্যাদেশ প্রদানের তারিখ হইতে (সওজ) দপ্তরের "এ" হইতে "সি" সাধারণ শ্রেণীর (সওজ) কারখানা সার্কেল বগুড়ার "ডি" সাধারণ শ্রেণীর এবং (সওজ), ফেরী বিভাগ, বগুড়ার "ই" সাধারণ শ্রেণীর তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদার।

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), ফেরী বিভাগ, বগুড়া/কারখানা বিভাগ, রাজশাহী/সান্তাহার, বগুড়া। ২। উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), ফেরী উপ-বিভাগ, বগুড়া

১। তত্তাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), করিখানা সার্কেল, বগুড়া ২। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সভজ), ফেরী বিভাগ, বগুড়া/ কারখানা বিভাগ, রাজশাহী/সান্তাহার, বগুড়া।

চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত ০১/১২/১৪ইং/১৭/০৮/১৪০১বাং দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত । ०১/১२/४८३९ /১৭/०৮/১৪०১वा९ दवना ১२.७०

৩০/১১/৯৪ইং /১৬/০৮/১৪০১ বাং অফিস

মোঃ সাবের আলী নিৰ্বাহী প্ৰকৌশলী (সওজ) (চলতি দায়িত্ব), ফেরী বিভাগ, বগুড়া।

Speculative trading blamed for volatility of peso MANILA, Nov 21: Specuta-

tive trading by some Philippine banks was to blame for the volatility of the peso against the dollar this month, central bank governor Gabrient Singson said in an interview published today, reports AFP.

Singson told the Philippine inquirer newspaper that he welcomed a decision by the Bankers Association of the Philippines to impose a "volatility band" on the trading floor. The move would mean a

two-hour recess if the exchange rate surged 1.5 per cent above or below the previous day's weighted average. · He reiterated a government policy limiting market inter-

vention to attempts to prevent sharp fluctuations, and rejected a proposal to issue dollar-denominated treasury bills to mop up excess dollars in the market. An upsurge in the volume and volatility of the fluctuations experienced in the second week of November "was due to what I think was some specu-

above" those of previous days. Singson said. He said the banks, which he did not identify, sold dollars in the morning and bought them back when the Greenback was at its lowest point in the after-

lative trading done by some

banks. The buying and selling

volume of these banks was way

But he stressed that they were "free to speculate" as Manila had lifted most foreign currency restrictions.

cember 1993 rate. The surge has been at-

tributed to foreign capital inflows and increased remittances of Filipino workers abroad, as well as withdrawals from dollar deposits which are converted to pesos. Pak-US talks

on economic agamaration cooperation ISLAMABAD, Nov 21: Pakistan's Commerce Minister and US Assistant Secretary of

Commerce yesterday held de-

tailed talks to enhance eco-

nomic cooperation and expan-

Raymond Vickery, US Assis-

sion of trade, reports AFP.

tant Secretary of Commerce and his delegation was briefed that Pakistan has deregulated its trade regime and has opened up all areas for foreign trade and investment. The foreign participation in the services sector has also been allowed, said Pakistan's Minister for Commerce, Ahmad Mukhtar.

The peso briefly surged to a two-year high of 23.52 to the Greenback last week, more than 15 per cent from its De-