

Malaysian cement cheapest in East Asia

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 22: Malaysia's controlled cement price, unchanged since 1981, makes it the cheapest producer of the building material in East Asia, officials said yesterday, reports AFP.

"Despite the price deficiencies, there's still good prospects for the local cement industry," David Tan, Chairman of the Cement and Concrete Association of Malaysia, said.

Tan said that although the price of cement has remained the same since May 1981, soaring demand for the building material, owing to a construction boom, had cushioned rising cost of raw materials, wages, utilities and services.

"Clearly, Malaysia cement price is among the lowest in the region," Tan said at a two-day international cement conference here.

Tan compared Malaysia's November 1993 price of 66 US dollars per tonne with 148 dollars in Japan, 97 dollars in Taiwan, 94 dollars in Singapore, 77 dollars in the Philippines and 70 dollars in South Korea.

He also noted Indonesia's price of 70 dollars per tonne and Thailand's 68 dollars for the same amount.

OPEC freezes production levels for '95

DENPASAR (Indonesia), Nov 22: The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) agreed today to freeze oil production levels for all of 1995 in a bid to drive up oil prices and help their cash-strapped economies, reports Reuters.

"This agreement is expected to raise oil prices gradually but not to the OPEC target level of US dollar 21 (per barrel)," OPEC President and Indonesian Oil Minister Ida Bagus Sudjana told reporters after the group's morning meeting.

When asked if the deal could push oil prices to 18 dollars to 19 dollar per barrel, Sudjana said "I hope so".

"Opec has kept its production ceiling at 24.52 million barrels per day (BPD) since September 1993 but oil prices have continued to deteriorate because of higher Non-OPEC output."

Oil prices now are little better in real terms than they were before the Arab oil embargo of 1973.

Slumping oil markets have chopped OPEC's oil earnings by more than half since 1980, when the group held the world

to ransom with high oil prices. Even mighty Saudi Arabia, the world's largest and richest oil producer, has had to pinch pennies to meet budgets and pay off Gulf War debts.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazar said he was happy with the new deal and hoped prices would rise. But he added OPEC was concerned about rising production from non-OPEC producers, which would be likely to curb price gains.

Oil trader, encouraged by any OPEC deal to keep production off the market, sent oil prices 20 cents higher in Asia on expectations of a shortfall in world supplies next year. North Sea Brent crude oil, the world benchmark traded at 17.12 dollars per barrel in Singapore.

"Crude prices will initially bump up as the rollover for 12 months is bullish," one oil trader in Singapore said.

With OPEC production capped, world refiners will have to drain their storage tanks to meet rising world demand next year, Asian oil traders said.

Refiners will then have to

buy heavily to refill their storage tanks heading into the next northern winter, when demand soars, traders said.

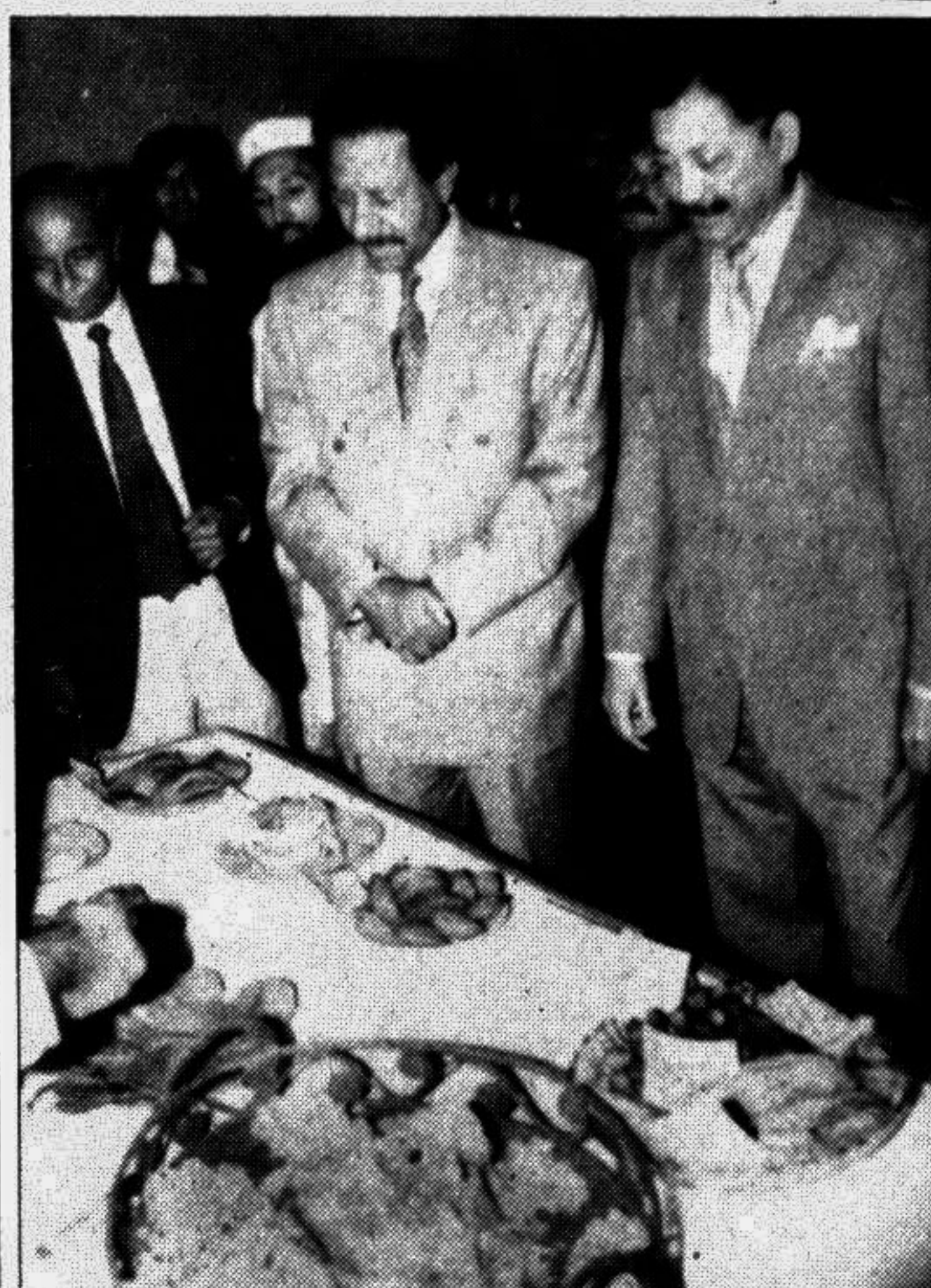
"It gets more bullish as you get into the third and fourth quarters next year," one Singapore trader said.

Libyan Oil Minister Abdalla Salem el-Badri said he expected world oil demand to rise by 700,000 BPD this year to about 66 million BPD and climb another one million BPD in 1995. Much of the growth will come from the booming economies of Asia.

"The reference price of 21 dollars for the OPEC basket is an entirely reasonable objective," Badri said.

Opec also hopes strong world demand will make it easier to integrate Iraq when it eventually returns to the world oil markets. Iraq, once the world's sixth largest oil producer, has been banned by the United Nations from selling oil since its invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

Most analysts do not expect UN sanctions on Iraq to be lifted in 1995 and possibly even 1996, but oil markets remain nervous that its return will flood world oil markets.



Food Minister Mir Shawkat Ali and State Minister For Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan are seen visiting a food stall at Hotel Purbani yesterday in observance of Tourism Month '94.

Clinton receives support from opponent for GATT

ATLANTA, Nov 22: President Bill Clinton received support for the world trade treaty yesterday from an unexpected source — one of his staunchest republican foes, reports Reuters.

Congressman Gringrich, who is expected to be named speaker of the House of Representatives in the new Republican dominated Congress, said yesterday that failure to pass the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) "would have catastrophic consequences for the American economy and the world economy."

Appearing at a news conference just before returning to

Washington, Gringrich pledged to work with Clinton in a bipartisan effort get the trade pact passed.

"I'm going to work actively with the President in a bipartisan manner to try to get this very, very important trade agreement passed. My hope is that next week we will pass it."

The Georgia Republican, looking refreshed after a weekend cruise financed by a conservative policy research group, spoke after senator Robert Dole, who is slated to become senate majority leader, disclosed that he wanted White House support for a cut in the US capital gains tax in exchange for GATT approval.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on November 22, 1994

Index rises, turnovers fall

Star Report

The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index continued to leap on Tuesday while the turnovers on the DSE decreased.

The index rose to 874.45288 from 870.33278, indicating a gain of 4.12 points.

The turnovers in volume incurred a loss of 28.12 per cent and the turnover in value showed a decline of 22.02 per cent.

A total of 116911.00 shares worth Taka 13193713.50 changed hands as against Monday's 162647.50 shares valued at Taka 16918980.50.

The number of issues traded fell to 77 from 95, in which 39 gained, 27 incurred losses and the share prices of 11 issues remained unchanged.

Singer Bangladesh experienced a gain of Taka 407.39 per share leading the gainers in terms of value.

Apex foods and Bengal Carbide also gained significantly.

ACI Ltd led the losers with a fall of Taka 16.67 per share.

Ashraf Textile was the top volume leader on the day. Its 25650 shares were traded.

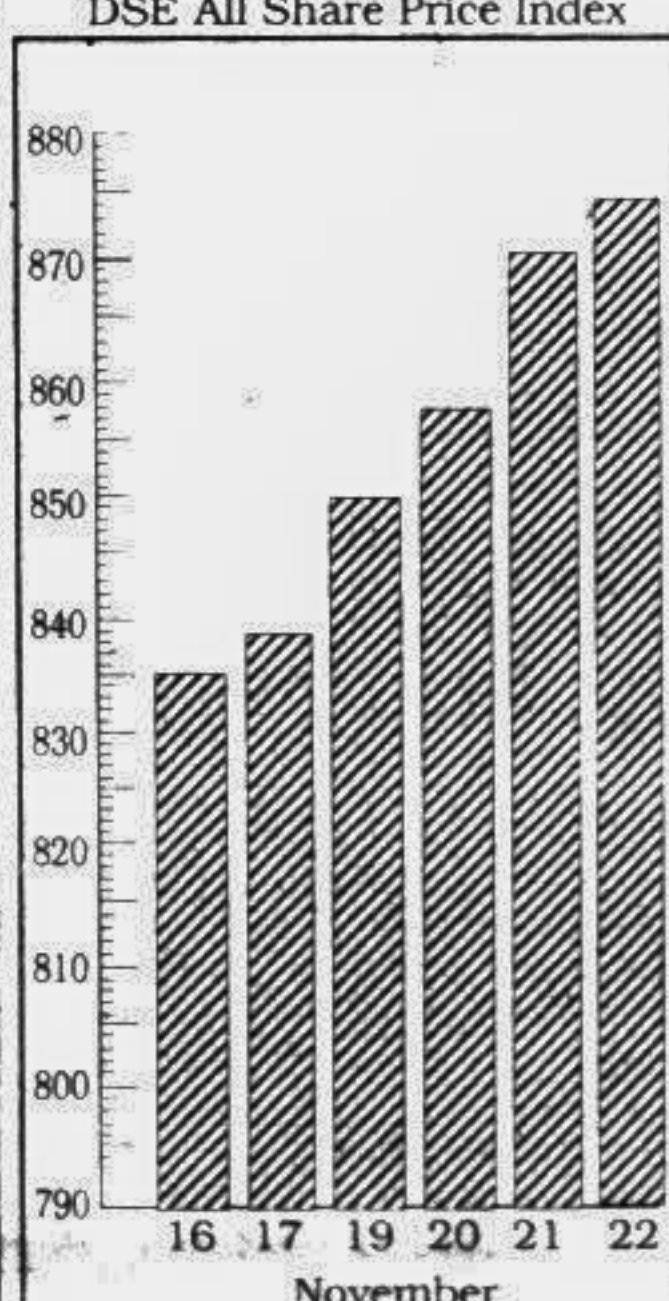
Other volume leaders of the day were: Quasem Drycells (7300), Zeal Bangla Sugar

Traded at a glance

DSE All Price Index	874.45288
Market Capitalisation	41429435201.69
Turnover in Volume	116911.00
Turnover in Value	13193713.50
Total Issues traded	77
Issues gained	39
Issues incurred losses	27
Issues unchanged	11

Company's Name	Change (per share)	Number of shares traded
National Bank	88 (G)	50
Uttara Bank	102 (G)	1446
IULC	25.58 (G)	100
United Leasing Co	62 (G)	60
1st ICB M Fund	35.00 (G)	100
3rd ICB M Fund	00 (G)	40
5th ICB M Fund	63 (G)	50
8th ICB M Fund	1.41 (G)	1850
Aftab Automobiles	95 (G)	50
Bengal Carbide	40.60 (G)	100
Eastern Cables	2.20 (G)	300
Kartm Pipe	5.40 (G)	20
Singer Bangladesh	407.39 (G)	100
Atlas Bangladesh	83 (G)	1490
Bangladesh Autocare	08 (G)	180
Quasem Drycells	04 (G)	200
Renwick Japanswar	00 (G)	200
Howlader PVC	3.57 (G)	50
National Tubes	12.56 (G)	80
Itha Aluminium	7811 (G)	7716
Alpha Phosco	28 (G)	100
Apex Foods	100.00 (G)	100
National NTC	8.33 (G)	300
Dhaka Vegetables	6.28 (G)	800
Zeal Bangla Sugar	08 (G)	7850
Rupom Oil	100 (G)	800
Chittagong Vegetable	17 (G)	400
Beximco Fisheries	4.37 (G)	2500
Bengal Biscuits	4.37 (G)	2500
Bangladesh Oxygen	7.82 (G)	100
Padma Oil Co	1.00 (G)	100
National Oxygen	2.23 (G)	270
Northern Jute	1.47 (G)	3200
Shine Pukur Jute	00 (G)	60
Ashraf Textile	17 (G)	25650
Quasem Textile	20 (G)	100
Quasem Silk	100 (G)	550
Quasem Textile	10 (G)	7300
Silham Textile	00 (G)	440
Modern Dyeing	00 (G)	300
Eagle Star Textile	07 (G)	1800
Dalamia Cotton	08 (G)	100
Tallu Spinning	13.24 (G)	340
Apex Spinning	10.25 (G)	2300
Beximco Knitting	7.28 (G)	3400
Beximco Textile	3.37 (G)	100
Mithun Corporation	8.61 (G)	200
Ambee Pharmaceutical	01 (G)	2500
Beximco Pharma	13.73 (G)	200
ACI Limited	16.67 (G)	1200
Petro Synthetic	00 (G)	200
Reckitt and Colman	10.00 (G)	100
Therapeutics	11 (G)	300
Pharma Aids	5.82 (G)	100
Kohinoor Chemical	70 (G)	1450
BCL	00 (G)	100
Beximco Infusions	6.22 (G)	90
Beximco Synthetic	7.28 (G)	3400
Libra Pharma	100 (G)	100
Mala Chemical	9.36 (G)	2500
Bata Shoe	27 (G)	2200
CG Ball Pen	10.59 (G)	200
Modern Ceramic	7.29 (G)	100
Modern Industries	00 (G)	20
Savar Refractories	1.27 (G)	2800
Beximco Ltd	1.90 (G)	80
Apex Footwear	20 (G)	100
Eastern Housing	1.69 (G)	5200
BCL	11 (G)	100
Green Delta Insurance	15.00 (G)	100
United Insurance	9.55 (G)	220
Eastern Insurance	25 (G)	200
Janata Insurance	1.74 (G)	200
B Fisheries (Deb)	00 (G)	15
B Knitting (Deb)	6.00 (G)	15

DSE All Share Price Index



DSE Shares and Debentures

Company	FV/ML (Taka)	Closing Rate (Taka)
BANKS (13)	1000/1	835.00
AB Bank	100/5	160.00
City Bank	100/5	125.00
Eastern Bank	100/20	102.00
IDLC Ltd	100/20	571.00
UCL	100/20	406.00
IFIC	100/5	162.00
Islami Bank	100/1	1585.00
National Bank	100/5	120.00
Purbani Bank	100/5	100.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	78.18
U.C.B.L.	100/5	100.00
Uttara Bank	100/5	100.02

INVESTMENT (8)

1st ICB M Fund	100/5	135.00
2nd ICB M Fund	100/5	845.00
3rd ICB M Fund	100/5	300.00
4th ICB M Fund	100/10	290.00
5th ICB M Fund	100/10	380.00
6th ICB M Fund	100/10	255.00
ICB Unit Cert.	100/10	169.83

SALE PRICE

Re-Purchase	100/5	100.00
INSURANCE (6)	100/10	390.00
BCL	100/20	233.97
Green Delta	100/10	340.00
Peoples Insurance	100/10	465.00
United Insurance	100/10	334.55
Janata Insurance	100/10	213.38

ENGINEERING (19)

Alpha Automobiles	100/5	304.40
Alpha Bangladesh	10/50	80.07
Atiz Pipe	100/5	830.58
Bangladesh Autocare	100/5	144.25
Bangladesh Loups	100/5	1500.00
L. The Aluminium	100/10	128.51
Bengal Carbide	100/5	1140.00
Bengal Steel	10/50	20.00
Eastern Cables	100/5	171.17
Howlader PVC	100/10	75.00
Kartm Pipe	100/5	110.00
Metals Corp	100/5	74.00
Monno Staffers	100/5	500.00
Monno Jute	100/5	2000.00
National Tubes	100/10	116.88
Panther Steel	10/50	8.00
Quasem Drycells	10/50	21.84
Renwick Japanswar	100/5	85.00
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	3536.00

FOOD & ALLIED (25)

AB Biscuit	100/5	190.00
Bengal Biscuits	100/20	236.98
Alpha Tobacco	10/50	70.20
Amam Sea Food	100/5	525.00
Apex Food	100/5	1900.00
Aroma Tea	100/5	58.00
Bangas	100/5	190.50
B.D. Plantation	100/5	500.00
Bengal Food	100/5	350.50
B.L.T.C.	100/5	695.00
B.T.C.	10/50	195.00
Cig. Vegetables	100/10	128.97
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	160.00
E.L. Camella	100/5	1700.00
Froglies Export	10/50	3.50
Gemini Sea Food	100/5	74.00
Hill Plantation	100/5	550.00
Modern Industries	100/5	375.00
N.T.C.	100/52	311.67
Rabeya Flour	10/100	NT
Rupom Oil	10/100	9.49
Tulip Dairy	100/10	71.98
Zeal Bangla Sugar	10/50	32.51
Beximco Fisheries	100/20	290.00

FUEL & POWER (4)

BD Oxygen	10/50	209.89
Eastern Lubricant	10/50	14.00
National Oxygen	100/10	116.15
Padma Oil Co	10/50	106.00

TEXTILE (22)

Alpha Textile	100/50	NT
Apex Spinning	100/20	436.94
Apex Textile	100/10	112.00
Ashraf Textile	10/50	32.51
Deesh Garments	100/10	77.00
Dalamia Cotton	100/10	122.00
Eagle Star Textile	10/50	18.07
GMC Ind. Corp.	10/50	10.00
Modern Dyeing	100/5	68.00
Padma Textile	100/20	475.00
Quasem Silk	10/100	5.60
Quasem Textile	10/50	6.30
Rupin Textile	100/5	107.00

PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (22)

Ambee Pharma	10/50	24.96
Bangla Process	100/5	250.00
BCL	100/10	500.00
Beximco Infusion	100/00	625.00
Beximco Pharma	100/5	1446.00
B. Synthetics	100/20	262.00
Libra Pharma	100/20	110.00
Glaxo	10/50	149.00
ACI	10/50	171.00
Kohinoor Chemical	100/5	198.22
N Polymer	100/10	100.00
Petro Synthetic	10/50	100.00
Sava Ltd	100/5	260.00
Pharma Aids	100/5	260.00
Pharmaco	100/5	160.00
Progressive Plastic	100/5	35.00
Rackitt & Colman	10/50	190.00
Libra Chemicals	100/10	120.00
Therapeutics	100/5	144.21
The Ibsinsa	100/10	110.40
Wata Chemical	100/20	365.00
MA Chemical	100/20	265.43

PAPER & PRINTING (6)

Eagle Paper	10/50	22.00
Manas Paper	10/50	35.00
Paper Converting	100/5	105.00
Paper Processing	100/10	36.00
Padma Printers	10/50	25.00
Sonali Paper	10/50	30.00

SERVICE (2)

Bangladesh Hotel	10/50	12.00
BD Service	10/50	NT

MISCELLANEOUS (20)

Apex Footwear	100/20	560.40
Apex Tannery	100/5	930.00
Aramit	10/50	30.00
Bata Shoe	100/100	146.00
Specimen Jute	100/10	65.00
B.S.C.	100/5	90.00
Cig. Cement	100/5	585.00
G. G. Ball Pen	10/50	150.00
High Speed	100/5	50.00
Himadri Ltd	100/100	6.00
Monno Tannery	100/5	10.42
Monno Cement	100/5	921.30
New Dhaka Refac	100/20	40.00
Phoenix Leather	100/5	180.00
Savar Refractories	100/5	85.00
The Engineers	100/5	100.00
Textile Ind.	100/10	85.00
Umanata Glass	100/5	434.00
Mithun Corp	100/20	172.01
Eastern Housing	100/20	230.37

JUTE (12)

Ahad Jute	100/10	
Awawara Jute	10/50	
Delta Jute	10/50	
Gawasa Jute	10/50	
Islam Jute	100/5	80
Jute Spinner	100/5	120
Mutual Jute	100/5	120
Northern Jute	10/50	20
Shanser Jute	100/5	100
Specialised Jute	10/50	
Shine Pukur Jute	100/5	500
Sonali Aarsh	100/5	160