

DHAKA THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1994

Import duty on wheat reduced by 75 pc

The government has reduced the import duty on wheat from 15 per cent to 7.5 per cent, reports BSS.

A notification to this effect issued yesterday said that the reduction was made with a view to increasing the supply of wheat in the country. The notification would take immediate effect, a National Board of Revenue announcement said.

Canada's trade surplus grows in Oct

OTTAWA, Dec 21: Canada's merchandise trade surplus grew in October to 1.7 billion dollars (1.2 billion US) from September's figure of 1.4 billion dollars (one billion US), the government reported yesterday, says AFP.

Both imports and exports hit record highs during the month, said Statistics Canada.

Tea prices firm at Ctg auction

By Staff Correspondent

Strong all-round demand led tea prices to remain firm to dearer at the week's auction sale held in Chittagong on Tuesday last.

According to a Unity Brokers market report, the market opened at fully firm rates but continued to climb as the sale proceeded. By closing time the larger brokens gained by over Taka three per kilogram. The brokens rates are now above that of the corresponding fannings grade.

The strength of the market is likely to continue during the coming auction sales, the market report said. The major buyers at the sale were Russia, Poland, Jordan, Sudan and Pakistan. Internal traders were also quite active.

Withdrawals at the sale were low and stood at 17 per cent of the offerings as against last week's 20 per cent. In the leaf category 22,290 packages were offered at the sale. Of which, the export buy-

ers accounted for 56 per cent of the sale while the local traders brought 29 per cent and the remaining 15 per cent was withdrawn.

In the dust category 4,449 packages were offered for sale at the auction, of which, the internal traders purchased 51 per cent while the export buyers brought 24 per cent and the rest remained unsold.

Following is the category-wise market performance report as prepared by Unity Brokers:

CTC: Brokens opened at firm to dearer rates. Prices continued to climb as the sale progressed and by close, most brokens, particularly the larger ones were dearer by about Tk 3/-. Small well-made types sold between Tk 45.50-Tk 50.60.

Fannings were fully firm to dearer. Better types often inclined substantially. Plain and medium sorts were dearer by about one taka. Internal popular lines sold between Tk 46.00-Tk 54.20.

GREEN TEA: 444 packages were on offer and these sold between Tk 75.00-76.50 whilst the CTC types sold between Tk 32.00-37.60.

DUST: 4,449 packages were on offer and prices were about firm. Lower sorts occasionally inclined nominally.

The next weekly tea auction sale would be held in Chittagong on December 27 and would comprise about 23,000 packages of leaf and 3,500 packages of dust.



AHM Abdul Hye, Secretary, Ministry of Industries, handed over the ownership document of Eagle Box & Carton Mfg Co. Ltd, an enterprise of BCIC to the representative of the buyer Helalur Rahman at a simple ceremony held at the Ministry of Industries in the city on Monday. Peter J Fowler, British High Commissioner in Bangladesh, also seen in the picture.

Massive gas reserves in northern Afghanistan await buyer

MAZAR-I-SHARIF, Afghanistan, Dec 21: An estimated 50,000 million cubic metres of natural gas reserves in northern Afghanistan are awaiting an international buyer, said an official in Mazar-i-Sharif yesterday, reports AFP.

"Potential buyers have shown interest, but they want to pay below the market price for our gas," said General Pyendah Mohammad, Deputy Director of the foreign relations department in Mazar-i-Sharif.

A representative of Junbish, or the National Islamic Movement headed by Uzbek General Abdul Rashid Dostam, Pyendah said although the export of gas reserves would solve financial problems in the northern provinces, this gas "was the property of all the people of Afghanistan."

Pyendah said he could not predict what the expected earnings from these massive reserves might be.

He said that if future gas exports were channelled through an existing gas pipeline

that runs across the former USSR, the newly independent Central Asian republics would likely demand payment of a transit fee, adding to the end-user price.

The 1960 discovery of natural gas in the Northern province of Jawzjan and its development by the Russians, who built a 200-kilometre-long pipeline into the former Soviet Union, promised an era of prosperity that was scuttled by

the Red Army invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

The gas in these older fields, 90 per cent of which was bought by the Russians at bargain-basement prices, Pyendah says, "is now unsuitable for export owing to its low pressure," and it is used for local consumption only.

"Around 7000 families in Mazar-i-Sharif receive this gas in their homes - free of charge," stated Pyendah.

The newer gas fields were discovered during the former Afghan Communist regime by Russian and local engineers in the provinces of Jawzjan and Sar-i-Pul, now controlled by Dostam.

"Everything will change when and if this gas can be sold," commented Dostam's spokesman Pyendah.

Dostam, who for the past year has been allied with Gulbuddin Hekmatyar against President Burhanuddin Rabbani, is unlikely to share any potential gas revenues with his Kabul-based rivals.

Bangladesh export fair in Toronto next August

An export fair of Bangladeshi products and commodities will be held in Toronto, Canada in August, reports BSS.

Bangladesh-Canada Friendship Society, based in Ottawa, Canada has taken the initiative of organising the fair.

Trade Ministry of Canadian government is extending all facilities to make the fair a success, a message from Ottawa sent by the organisers said.

The President of the Bangladesh-Canada Friendship Society will visit Bangladesh in January for the preliminary discussion with Bangladeshi exporters regarding the fair.

A press release of the society says that the forthcoming fair will give Bangladeshi exporters a big opportunity to introduce their products to Canadian importers, retailers and consumers.

Ciba-Geigy quality award for nine categories

Ciba-Geigy (Bangladesh) Ltd on Tuesday extended recognition to several of its business partners involved with the organisation in supplying "material and services" by awarding them crests and certificates.

The "Quality Award" initiated by Ciba-Geigy Bangladesh has been launched this year by giving awards to nine categories of recipients. It is for the first time that an organisation has embarked upon a programme to promote quality in business associates.

Addressing the award giving ceremony at the Sonargaon Hotel, Gerhard G Doege, Managing Director of Ciba Bangladesh said the awards were being given to honour and maintain high performance and ethics of his organisation's business partners in materials and services.

Doege said, "Quality means continuous compliance with mutually agreed standard requirements," and added that for Ciba-Geigy Bangladesh "It means delivering products and services of consistent standards to its customers."

Ciba's Managing Director also hoped that it would become a standard practice to foster and promote specified quality standards in the industrial and related sectors in Bangladesh.

Later, speaking to newsmen Gerhard Doege told that many of Bangladesh's products, including garments and pharmaceuticals which have got an export market must continuously strive to maintain continuous compliance in quality so that the sale of products not only remains in high demand, but also gets chance for attracting an increasing market by the goodwill created through maintaining highest consistent standards.

He also said that there were many quality products produced in Bangladesh, and those required to be marketed outside projecting their high standard of quality.

Those who received the

award-giving ceremony was attended by officials of Ciba, distinguished businessmen and elite of the city.

On behalf of the recipients, M Nurul Islam, General Manager of American Life Insurance Company expressed his belief that Ciba Bangladesh's efforts will create an everlasting impression on the country's business community in general.

The award-giving ceremony was attended by officials of Ciba, distinguished businessmen and elite of the city.

US dollar higher in Tokyo

TOKYO, Dec 21: The dollar closed marginally higher at 100.22 yen in Tokyo Wednesday, up 0.03 yen from the previous day's finish of 100.19 yen, after moving in a tight range, reports AFP.

The market lacked fresh incentives the morning after the US Federal Reserve Board's policy-making open market committee did not raise key short-term interest rates at its meeting Tuesday, dealers said.

The added that few market players offered to sell or buy actively ahead of the Christmas and new year holidays.

After opening the day at 100.30 yen in Tokyo, up from a late Tuesday quote of 100.15 yen in New York, the spot dollar moved between 100.22 yen and 100.32 yen.

Spot turnover remained small at 2,309 billion dollars, against the previous day's 2,854 billion dollars.

Shopowners' Assoc accords reception to FBCCI chief

FBCCI President Salman F Rahman stressed that an enabling environment be created by skipping political confrontation for businesses to be operated smoothly to ensure sustainable economic growth, reports UNB.

"We will be the strongest economic force of the sub-continent if we have comfortable socio-political stability," Rahman said at a reception accorded to him by Bangladesh Shopowners Association and Dhaka Metropolitan Shopowners Association at Sonargaon Hotel in the city yesterday.

Referring to the criticism for the FBCCI's initiative towards resolving the present political crisis, he said they have the right to speak of the situation if they have to pay tax, make investment and create employment opportunity.

"The business community is an important part of this society. We're not doing politics. We just want to run our business smoothly. Please give us that scope," he said.

The FBCCI President urged the leaders of political parties to resolve the crisis immediately to enable the businessmen to play their part in changing the economic fate of the country.

"Democracy is not threatened, political leadership is in danger now. The business community will continue to exert pressure on the politicians to resolve the political deadlock," he said.

Stressing the need for unity of the business community, he said any attempt to break the unity by vested quarters must be resisted. Problems of the community should be resolved through discussion, he added.

Pak rupee falls

KARACHI, Dec 21: The Pakistani rupee closed 0.01 rupee weaker at 31.88 rupees to the dollar in the kept market as dollar supply dwindled due to a transport strike and worries about more violence in Karachi, dealers said, reports Reuter.

"Trading in the market was dull with low dollar supply because of fear of violence and a transport strike," dealer Owais Kalia of Khanani and Kalia International said.

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ASA's chief executive Md Shafiqul Haque Chowdhury and Knud K Nielsen, Danish Charge d'Affaires in Bangladesh, signing an agreement on implementation of human development programme.

Economists predict 9pc GDP growth in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 21: Malaysia's economy should grow by a robust 8.5 to nine per cent in 1995 with the government's hawkish stance on inflation damping possible overheating, analysts and economists said, reports Reuter.

If the forecast is realised, Malaysia would have notched eight consecutive years of more than 8.0 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) growth, the analysts said.

Their forecasts compare with the government's estimate of 8.4 per cent GDP growth in 1994 and 8.5 per cent in 1995.

Growth is expected to be broad-based with Malaysia's booming manufacturing sector once again leading the pack, followed by construction and services.

"Manufacturing will remain strong due to external demand and the effects of manufacturing activity relocating from Singapore," said Kevin Chew, economist at Baring Research (Malaysia) SDN BHD.

Although no major surprises are expected next year, possible blips could come from the inflation front, analysts said.

The government announced a mildly expansionary 1995 budget at the end of October, but inflationary effects of the budget are widely expected to be countered by the determination of Malaysian authorities to keep price pressures at bay in an election year, analysts said.

The government's five-year term ends in October but elections are widely expected to be held in the first half of next year.

"If you can have early elections, interest rates can rise progressively through the year," said Bruce Gale, analyst at Political and Economic Risk Consultancy Ltd (PERC).

On December 19, Malayan Banking BHD, the country's largest bank, reversed a two-year trend by raising its base lending rate (BLR) by five basis points to 6.55 per cent.

The bank's move is a clear signal that Malaysian interest rates are heading higher next year, partly also in tandem with firmer global interest rates, analysts said.

These three companies will provide technical knowhow, design and guaranteed marketing of 3000 pairs per day which represent 100 per cent production capacity of the AFL.

AFL is a public limited company listed with the Dhaka Stock Exchange.

The projected turnover of the AFL in 1995 will be around 12 million US dollars.

Italy's financial markets plunge into crisis

ROME, Dec 21: Political turmoil in Italy and the threatened collapse of the government have plunged financial markets into crisis, sending the lira into a nosedive as foreign investors prepare to move out, reports AFP.

"Chaos in the markets. The lira is going under," headlined the daily Corriere Della Sera Tuesday in response to the historic plunge of the national currency Monday to 1,048.3 lira to the dollar-an all-time record low.

Industrial bosses are worried at the negative impact of the political warfare on the economy warning that Italy could miss out on the recovery now taking hold elsewhere.

Luigi Abete, the head of Confindustria, Italy's Board of Industry, advised politicians a few days ago to "get the political debate back to concrete issues."

"We cannot confine ourselves to thinking in terms of political orientations. The whole future of the country is at stake," he warned, adding: "Italy needs political stability."

After signing an agreement recently with Pikolinos and Co. of Elchi, Spain seen in the picture (L to R): Md Rahmatullah MD and Syed Manzur Elahi Chairman, Apex Tannery Group, Juan Peron Fundo, President and Manuel Ferrandez (both of Pikolinos & Co).



After signing an agreement recently with Pikolinos and Co. of Elchi, Spain seen in the picture (L to R): Md Rahmatullah MD and Syed Manzur Elahi Chairman, Apex Tannery Group, Juan Peron Fundo, President and Manuel Ferrandez (both of Pikolinos & Co).

প্রতিরক্ষা ক্রয় মহাপরিদপ্তর
প্রতিরক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়
বন বিমান বন্দর সড়ক, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২১৫

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কম্পিউটার সেন্সারিয়ার জন্য বিভিন্ন প্রকারের লেখ সামগ্রী (সর্বমোট ০৯টি) হার্ডওয়্যার ক্রয়ের নিমিত্তে দেশীয় মুদ্রায় প্রকৃত প্রকৃতকরক/ আমদানিকরক/ বিদেশী মুদ্রায় স্থানীয় প্রতিদ্বন্দিতা প্রতিদ্বন্দিতা ক্রয় মহাপরিদপ্তরে অফিসে প্রদর্শন করা হইবে। বিক্রেতা হইতে সীলমোহরযুক্ত দরপত্র প্রদর্শন করা যাইতে পারে।

কম্পিউটার সেন্সারিয়ার দরপত্রসমূহ অফিসে ঢাকাতেই সন্ধ্যা ০৮:০০ থেকে ১২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত যথাক্রমে ১৫.০০, ১০.০০, ১০.০০ এবং ১০.০০ টাকার বিনিময়ে (অফিসকর্তৃক) ২৪ ডিসেম্বর '৯৪ইং হইতে ০৯ জানুয়ারী '৯৫ইং পর্যন্ত যে কোন দিন অত্র মহাপরিদপ্তর হইতে সংগ্রহ করা যাইতে পারে।

উক্ত দরপত্রসমূহ ০৯ জানুয়ারী '৯৫ইং সন্ধ্যা ১০:০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সাক্ষাতে খোলা হইবে।

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মেজর
মহা-পরিচালকের পক্ষে

Dhaka City Corporation
Zone-8 (Mirpur)

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন
আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন

Tender Notice

Dhaka City Corporation has received a loan No. 942-BAN (SF) from the Asian Development Bank towards the cost of Dhaka City Corporation Infrastructure Improvement Project. The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) now invites sealed tenders in Bangladesh form No. 1 for the proposed 1st Class enlisted Contractor of Dhaka City Corporation for the following works and tender will be received by the Executive Engineer, Dhaka, DC, Dhaka and all Executive Engineers of Zonal Offices of Dhaka City Corporation upto 12:00 noon on 29/12/94 and will be opened by the respective Officer on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence of the tenderers or their representatives who may choose to be present. Earnest Money shown against the works shall have to furnish along with each tender in the form of Bank Draft from any Schedule Bank in favour of the Mayor, Dhaka City Corporation.

Tender documents may be obtained from all Zonal Offices of Dhaka City Corporation and Cashier of Accounts Section on payment of requisite amount (non-refundable) mentioned against each work. Detailed information may be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer, Zone-8 (Mirpur) during office hours.

The rate should be quoted both in words and in figures on the basis of percentage above or below the estimated amount of the Schedule of item of works otherwise the tender will be treated as cancelled.

The quoted rate is more than 5% above or below the estimated amount the contractor shall have to submit analysis along with the tender. If the Contractor quoted rate is less than 5% below the estimated amount they shall have to deposit double earnest money before issuing the work order.

No tenders should submit tender who have not completed any road or drain work amounting to Tk 15 (Fifteen) lacs in a single work order.

All papers and documents mentioned in the special terms and conditions should be submitted along with tender otherwise the tender will be treated as cancelled.

No tender paper will be sold on the date of opening of the tenders.

The authority reserves the full right to accept or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

No.	Name of work	Estimated Amount	Earnest Money	Cost of tender document (per set) Non-refundable	Time of Completion
1	Improvement of link road No. 1 and construction of drain from Haji road to Avenue No. 2, Block-H, Section-2, Mirpur.	Tk 10,63,787/-	Tk 31,915/-	Tk 1000/-	80 days.
2	Improvement of Link road No. 2, from Haji road to Avenue-2, Block-G, Section-2, Mirpur.	Tk 6,52,515/-	Tk 19,580/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
3	Improvement of Link Road (from road No. 4, Block-E, to Avenue-1) at Section-1, Mirpur.	Tk 5,79,484/-	Tk 17,390/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
4	Improvement of Road No. 4 from Plot No. 19 to Plot No. 28 at Block-E, Section No. 1, Mirpur.	Tk 2,07,528/-	Tk 6,230/-	Tk 500/-	30 days.
5	Improvement of Mazar road from main road No. 1 to Plot No. 83 at Section No. 1, Mirpur.	Tk 6,38,926/-	Tk 19,170/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
6	Improvement of Link road and Construction of drain from Haji road to road No. ... at Block-H, Section-2, Mirpur.	Tk 5,42,560/-	Tk 16,280/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
7	Improvement of Link road from Main road No. 1 to Plot No. 98 Uttar Bishil at Section-1, Mirpur.	Tk 7,21,120/-	Tk 21,635/-	Tk 500/-	75 days.
8	Improvement of Link road from Avenue-2 to Avenue-1 at Block-C, Section No. 10, Mirpur.	Tk 6,73,460/-	Tk 20,205/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
9	Improvement of Lane No. 16, from Plot No. 9 to Avenue-1 (near Electric sub-station) at Block 'C' Section-10, Mirpur.	Tk 5,52,209/-	Tk 16,570/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
10	Improvement of road and Construction of drain at road No. 9, Block-B, Section-10, Mirpur.	Tk 5,51,682/-	Tk 16,555/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
11	Improvement of link road and construction of drain from Avenue-1 to road No. 25, Block-A, Section-10, Mirpur.	Tk 8,14,392/-	Tk 24,435/-	Tk 500/-	80 days.
12	Improvement of road and Construction of drain at road No. 6, Block-H, Section-2, Mirpur.	Tk 5,36,274/-	Tk 16,090/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
13	Improvement of street No. 5, at Section-2, Mirpur.	Tk 5,47,739/-	Tk 16,435/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.
14	Improvement of Link road from Avenue-1 to Plot No. 23 of road No. 1 Block-A, at Section No. 2, Mirpur.	Tk 3,59,707/-	Tk 10,795/-	Tk 300/-	45 days.
15	Improvement of Link road and Construction of drain from road No.1 to Haji road at Section-2, Mirpur.	Tk 5,23,414/-	Tk 15,705/-	Tk 500/-	60 days.

Executive Engineer (In-charge)
Zone-8 (Mirpur),
Dhaka City Corporation.

DCC/PRD/274/94-95
D-1295