

Vietnamese rice exports up

HANOI, Jan 12: Vietnam exported 2.2 million metric tons of rice in 1994...

Exports in 1994 were up 700,000 metric tons over 1993...

Total rice production was reported at 23.5 million metric tons...

Total food production was 26 million tons, up from 13.5 million tons in 1976...

Labour market for new graduates harsh in Japan

TOKYO, Jan 12: Nearly 15 per cent of Japanese university seniors who wanted to work after graduation...

The hurdles were higher for female university seniors who wanted work...

The conditions on the labour market for new graduates remain harsh...

About 127,000 senior university or college students are still seeking work...

Japan's labour market for senior-level students dropped to a 43-year low last year.

In Japan, summer is the job hunting season for university seniors graduating the following March...

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Clinton, Murayama soft-pedal trade gap

WASHINGTON, Jan 12: President Clinton and Japanese Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama...

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Murayama said Japan intends to play a significant financial role in the deal...

After the White House meeting, Murayama went to Capitol Hill to build bridges to the new Republican-controlled...

Congress. He was introduced on the Senate floor and talked briefly with leaders of both political parties...

Even on trade, Clinton appeared more conciliatory, presenting the prime minister with a basket of Washington state apples...

But Clinton said more progress is needed to resolve the nettlesome trade imbalance...

He hoped that 14 trade deals reached during his first two years in office and stronger economic growth in Japan would soon begin to show results...

Clinton and Murayama also announced they had finalized a 19-point 'common agenda' for US-Japanese cooperation on global problems and various technologies.

The two governments broke off auto trade talks in October but agreed last week to resume them later this month.

Senate Republican leader Robert Dole, who in the past has criticized Japanese market restrictions, told the Senate he 'had a very good visit' with the Japanese delegation.

'As you know, we have had a strong, good relationship with Japan' in the 50 years since World War II, Dole said, introducing Murayama, Foreign Minister Yohel Kono and their entourage on the floor.

'Obviously you look to the past and you remember the agonies,' Dole said. 'But we also look to the future. We have our problems and they have their problems with us.'

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No concession in trade talks with US: China

BEIJING, Jan 12: China said Thursday it is not prepared to make concessions in talks with the United States next week...

Last month, the United States suspended 18 months of talks on improving China's protection of intellectual property rights and started action to impose punitive tariffs...

Chinese and US negotiators are to meet January 18-20 in Beijing for another attempt at avoiding a trade war.

'It is not our wish to see a trade war take place. It is our wish to seek a solution to the existing problems through negotiations for retaliation will do no good to either side.'

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But Shen suggested that the success of the talks depended entirely on the United States.

'It is most unwise to carry out trade retaliation,' he said at a weekly briefing. But 'on matters of principle, the Chinese side will make no concessions.'

The United States wants China to close down 29 factories in southern China that Washington estimates are producing more than 70 million pirated compact disks, laser discs and CD-Roms annually...

It also wants China to lower barriers to American films, music and computer products to remove the demand for pirated products, and to reform its legal procedures to make it easier to seek redress for pirated goods.

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US President Bill Clinton (R) shakes hands with Japanese Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama and presents him with a basket of apples after a joint press conference at the White House on Wednesday...

Exchange Rates

Following are the Sonali Bank's dealing rates to public for some selected foreign currencies effective as on January 12.

Table with columns: Currency, Selling, Buying, T.T. & O.D., etc. Lists rates for US Dollar, GBP, DM, Franc, etc.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading of January 12, 1995

Trading continues to fall

The trading on the floor of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) continues to fall on Thursday, closing day of the week.

The turnover in volume on the DSE fell by 56.24 per cent and the turnover in value showed a decline of 61.30 per cent.

A total of 20237 shares worth Taka 3623462.50 changed hands as against Wednesday's 46247 shares valued at Taka 9361944.00.

The DSE All Share Price Index also continued to fall. It dropped to 831.05272 from 832.89469, showing a decrease of 1.0218 per cent.

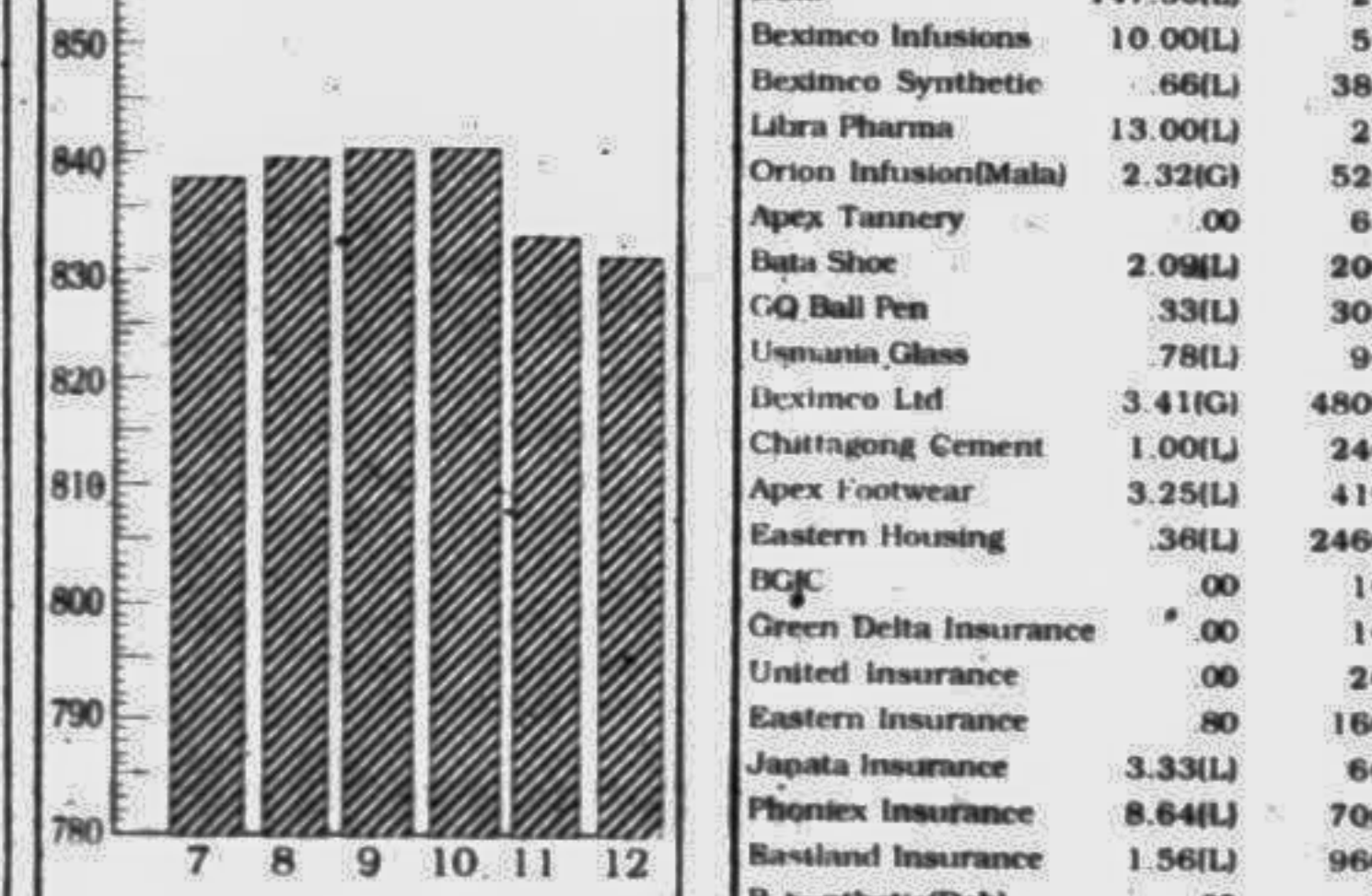
The number of shares traded dipped to 57 from 82 and the losers maintained their domination on the floor. They outnumbered the gainers by 30 to 12 while the share prices of 15 issues remained unchanged.

Bangladesh Chemical Industries Ltd suffered a loss of Taka 147.50 per share, leading the losers in terms of value.

Apex Foods led the gainers with a rise of Taka 119.17 per share.

Beximco Ltd topped the list of the volume leaders 4800 shares traded.

Other volume leaders of the day were: Rupon Oil (1400), Amber Pharma (1000) and Eastern Housing (2460).



DSE Shares and Debentures

Large table listing various DSE shares and debentures with columns for Company, Price, etc.

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Kurmitola, Dhaka. Notice regarding flight operations and safety.

Stock market offenders may face lash in KL

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 12: Convicted stock market manipulators could face the lash in addition to a fine and jail. It was reported Thursday, says AP.

Mandatory beating with a rattan cane for white collar crimes is to be extended to stock market offences, a Finance Ministry official said.

The lash for white collar crimes such as embezzlement, tax fraud, bribery and criminal breach of trust was introduced only last month.

Market manipulation and rigging, short selling, insider trading and giving misleading information to investors, could also lead to the lash, said Finance Ministry Licensing Officer Mohamad Shariff Abu Samah in an interview with The Star.

The Ministry is to amend the Securities Industry Act to include a maximum fine of one million ringgit (392,156 dollars) and/or 10 years jail and mandatory whipping, Shariff said.

Stock market lawbreakers are now fined a maximum of 500,000 ringgit (196,078 dollars) and/or five years in jail.

Shariff's office, when contacted by telephone, said he declined further comment.

We consider such offences to be very serious and that is why we are amending the act to equate stock market offences with any white collar crime, said Shariff, who is also a senior federal counsel in the attorney general's office.

Shariff did not indicate how many lashes would be imposed. Malaysian courts seldom mete out more than five per convict.

He said his staff was only waiting to get the approval from the Finance Minister.

If the new penalties prove an inadequate deterrent, stiffer penalties would be imposed, Shariff said without elaborating.

When he introduced the lash for white collar crimes last month, Law Minister Syed Hamid Albar said 'the purpose is to shame them.'

White collar crime has increased sharply in recent years with the arrest of businessmen, lawyers and civil servants and now accounts for 15 per cent of all crimes reported.

Although criticized in the West, Malaysia and some Asian neighbours wield the cane for a number of offences, including drug abuse, kidnapping, armed robbery, and rape.

Tender Notice

Name of work: O&M of 1994-95 (SH) Renewing of Water proofing work on the roof of Driveway of F.T. Building at ZIA Kurmitola, Dhaka.

Publication of Tender Notice of Khagrachhari Road Divn. II

Sealed tender No. 42/KRD-II (1994-95) is hereby invited from bonafide enlisted contractors 'A' to 'E' General category contractors of RHD in Bangladesh...

Nasir Mohammed, Executive Engineer, RHD, Khagrachhari Road Divn. II, Khagrachhari.

Shipping Intelligence

Table with columns: Berth, Position and Performance of Vessels as on 11.1.95. Lists ship names, destinations, and dates.