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FAO to give \$250,000 for forest dev projects

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has indicated to provide 250,000 US dollars as technical assistance for implementing different project components under a master-plan for forest development in Bangladesh, reports

This was learnt while Naoto Yoshikawa. Acting FAO Representative in Bangladesh called on Environment and Forest Minister Akbar Hossain at the latter's Sangsad Bhaban office vesterday.

Mr Naoto Yoshikawa handed over an invitation letter of the Director General of FAO to the minister to attend the first ministerial session on forestry to be held in Rome on March 13 to 17 this year.

Later. Ambassador of the Netherlands in Bangladesh Robert a Vermes called on Environment and Forest Minister Akbar Hossain at his Sangsad Bhaban office.

They discussed matters relating to forest and environment sector of both the coun

Mannan visits BPC head office

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan yesterday stressed the need for taking initiative to exploit vast tourism potential of Bangladesh by both public and private sectors to generate more employment opportunities and earnings from this sector, reports BSS.

To meet this objective, he laid emphasis on establishment of small and moderate tourist facilities in the tourist attractive and potential sports located throughout the coun-

He was speaking to the officials of the Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) here while visiting the head office.

He also discussed the overall activities of the corporation Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation Nuruddin Al-Masud and Chairman of the BPC Abdus Samad Bhuiyan were present at the mee-

The state minister also stressed on the improvement of the service standard with view to developing tourism industry.

Thailand likely to import more Bangladeshi items

Thailand is actively considering importing new items from Bangladesh to expand the bilateral trade, reports UNB.

This was stated by Thai Ambassador in Dhaka Sunthorn Vidhyameth when he met with Commerce and Information Minister M Shamsul Islam at his office in the city on

Discussing different aspects of improving trade relations between the two countries, the Commerce Minister said a good scope had been created for augmenting trade in private sector by the open market policy of Bangladesh.

গ্রহণ করা হইবে

তারিখ ও সময়

তারিখ ও সময়

১২। ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা

DFT-2014-412

G = 209

Commerce Minister's reply to call attention notice

Measures taken to keep prices of essentials stable

The government has taken a series of measures to keep under control the prices of essential commodities during the month of Ramadan, Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam told the Jatiya Sangsad today, reports BSS.

Replying to a call attention by K J Hamida Khanam on the increase of the prices of the essential commodities during the holy month of Ramadan, the minister said that the government is keeping strict vigil on the market situation and will not besitate to take any action to stabilise the prices.

Ms Khanam in her notice drew the attention of the minister to the rising trend of prices of several essential items in the market during the month of fast which was causing great hardship to the fixed income groups.

She said paucity of supply or production is not responsible for this situation but the tendency of a section of busi-

The Jativa Sangsad vester-

day further amended the

protection and conservation of

Fish Act of 1050' incorporating

certain new provisions to suit

the need of the hour and pro-

viding for sterner punishment

Livestock Minister Abdullah al-

Noman, the bill now includes a

new provision defining "fis-

hery', which was absent in the

original act that underwent

amendments thrice in 1964.

1970 and 1982, causing prob-

inserted in the act reads as: (1

a) 'Fishery' means any water

body, natural of artificial, open

or closed, flowing or stagnant

(such as river, haor, baor, beel,

floodplain, canal etc.), where

activities for growing fish, or

for conservation, development,

demonstration, breeding, ex-

ploitation or disposal of fish or

President, DCCI, are also seen in the picture.

The definition of fishery.

lem in materialising the act.

Piloted by Fisheries and

for violation of the Act.

nessmen to size this opportunity to make fortune at the cost of the people is the root

The middle class, lower middle class, poor and fixed income groups have been rendered helpless in this situation, she said, and urged the government to fix the prices of several commodities and mon itor the prices through mobile courts.

The minister said the government is aware that some essential commodities are showing upward trend in their prices but the government is moving to face the situation.

He said some businessmen have a tendency for excess profits during Ramadan and added that this is simply unacceptable.

He said there is no import restrictions on most of the essential items and as such the government has a limited role to play in this situation.

JS amends Fish Act of 1950

of living organisms related to

such activities are undertaken.

but does not include an artifi-

cial aquarium of fish used as a

decorative article, pond or

ture, import, marketing, carry-

ing, transporting or possessing

of such fishing nets, traps,

gears and other contrivances

as may be specified in the

rules for protection of fish fry

and spawning fish. In absence

of this provision the existing

law could not be made effec-

destruction of or any attempt

dewatering of any fishery ex-

cept ponds or tanks and artifi-

cial aquariums of fish used as

rigorous imprisonment as the

minimum punishment for any

offence, which may be ex-

tended up to six months, and

The bill fixes one month's

decorative articles.

. to destroy fishes by drying or

The bill also prohibits the

The bill prohibits manufac-

tank."

But as a welfare-oriented democratic government, the minister said, a number of steps have been taken to stabilise the market for the interest of the people. He said several meetings taken place under the aegis of the Commerce Ministry attended by government officers, businessmen and journalists on controlling the prices.

The minister said the busi nessmen agreed that prices of mutton will remain at Tk 100. beef Tk 60 and buffalo Tk 50 during the month and added that no increase was noticed in prices of sugar as government had a sufficient stock. He said steps taken by the government include import of rice and wheat to stabilise the market

The government will not hesitate to take necessary actions under the laws if a section of traders showed tendency to cash in on the situation in the holy month for prohibitive profits, Islam said.

also with fines which may be

extended up to one thousand

taka. For repetition of the of-

fence the bill fixes a minimum

punishment of rigorous im-

prisonment for two months

which may be extended up to

one year, and also with fines

which may be extended up to

two thousand taka in absence

of any minimum limit for pun-

ishment the accused person in

many cases, used to be given

very light punishment thereby

The bill also empowers the

government to decide the pro-

cedure for disposal of forfeited

fish, fishing nets or other con-

trivances and fixed engines.

Fixed engines mean any net,

cage, trap or other contrivance

for catching fish, fixed in the

earth or made stationary in any

other way the existing law em-

powers the authority only to

decide the procedure for dis-

posal of forfeited fish.

failing to check the offence.

Only 5 to 10 US insurance firms may come to India for business'

CALCUTTA. Feb 8: The President of International Insurance Council, Washington, Gordon J Cloney, today said that only five to ten US insurance firms might come to India for business "if conditions were favourable and dispelled the fear that India would be swamped by US insurers, says PTI.

When his attention was drawn to the agitational programmes undertaken by the employees of OIC and GIC in protest against the current visit of the US insurance trade mission' to India. Cloney told PTI that a number of myths were circulating about US insurance companies.

He said that it was a myth that US insurers would reduce insurance employment in India and unload capital to make quick profits.

He said that it was wrong to think that the entry of foreign insurance firms would jeopardise the existence of GIC and LIC and result in loss of jobs for their employees.

JS told Tk 5763.14 cr

collected from internal resources

State Minister for Finance M Mojibur Rahman yesterday informed the Jatiya Sangsad that the government had collected a sum of Taka 5763.14 crore from internal resources from July 1 to December 31, 1994 which was higher by 1066 erore during the same period in the previous year. reports BSS.

In reply to a question from Sarder Sakhawat Hossain Bakul (Narsingdi), the minister said the collection by the revenue board was Taka 4619.55 crore while the collection outside the board was Taka 1143.59

BJMC output increases

Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) has produced 171,283 metric tons of jute goods in the first seven months (July-January) of the current fiscal year, which is 8,047 metric tons higher than that of the corresponding period of the last fiscal year, reports BSS.

The jute goods include hessian, sacking, carpet and carpet backing cloth (CBC).

This was disclosed by Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah while reviewing the progress of production of BJMC-run jute mills at a meeting at the BJMC headquarters here yesterday.

The meeting was informed that the BJMC has a target of producing 285,000 metric tons of jute goods in the current fiscal year.

The meeting was attended by the chairman, directors, zonal managers and general managers of different jute mills under BJMC. Hannan Shah directed the mills officials to boost production taking proper administrative measures.

Most tea prices decline at Ctg auction

By Staff Correspondent

Most tea prices declined as overall demand eased at this week's auction sale held in Chittagong on Tuesday last.

According to a Unity Brokers market report, most tea prices weakened as demand slackened. The first sale during the month of Ramadan met with good demand for the larger brokens at about firm rates. Prices of most others eased as the internal traders operated at weaker strength.

The major export buyers at the sale were Poland, Sudan, Jordan and Pakistan. A large volume of season teas was of fered at the sale.

Total withdrawals at the auction sale stood at 30 per cent of the offerings as against last week's 23 per cent.

In the leaf category 14,740 packages were offered, of which, the export buyers accounted for 48 per cent of the sale while the local traders bought 23 per cent and the remaining 29 per cent was

withdrawn. In the dust category 3.591 packages were offered at the sale, of which, the internal traders purchased 51 per cent while the export buyers bought only 16 per cent and 33 per cent remained unsold.

Following is the categorywise market performance report as prepared by Unity Brokers:

CTC: Bolder brokens opened at little lower rates than last but with the progress

Fisons' senior executives due today

Chief Executive of Fisons Otoup S M Wallis and Managing Director of Fisons Pharmaceutical Division, M Redmond is expected to arrive in Dhaka today (Thursday) to look into the Bangladesh operation. says a press release.

of sale, prices for these hardened and generally sold between Tk 47.00-Tk 49.00 with few lines selling at higher levels, All others, including the well made, grainy types, eased by Tk. 1/2. Lower types shed less. Few good lines sold between Tk 49.50-Tk 51.90.

All fannings were lower than last as prices generally eased by Tk 1/2. Better types declined more. Selective lines sold between Tk 45.50-Tk

GREEN TEA: 90 packages we're on offer and these were all withdrawn.

DUST: 3.591 packages were on offer. Cleaner and popular lines were about firm. Plainer fibrious types often eased. Towards close, prices declined by Tk. 1/2.

The next weekly tea auction sale would be held in Chittagong on February 14 and total offerings would consist of about 13,500 packages of leaf and 3:300 packages of dust.



U.S Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown (C). Israeli Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish (2nd-R), Jordanian Trade Minister Ali Abu Ragheb (R), his Egyptian counterpart Mahmud Mohammed Mahmud (L) and Palestinian Planning and Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaat (2nd-L) pose for photographs in Taba on Tuesday. Brown began unprecedented talks in Egypt with Arabs and Israelis on boosting trade and investment in the Middle - AFP photo

Washington to allow duty-free imports of Palestinian goods TABA. Egypt, Feb 8: The Palestinians will be able to ex- 'minister, Nabil Shaath, com-

permit duty-free imports of goods from the economically depressed the Palestinian-controlled Gaza Strip and Jericho. US and Palestinian officials said Wednesday, reports AP.

US Commerce Secretary Ron Brown told Palestinian economic leaders Tuesday that the United States was committed to easing restrictions on goods from the areas now under Palestinian administration.

Brown was attending a twoday meeting in this Egyptian resort on regional trade with officials from Egypt, Israel Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. Under a proposal that is in

the final stages of approval,

States without paying tariffs. said Richard Scorza, a spokesman of the US Embassy in Tel The decision applies mostly

to manufactured goods. But several types of products, such as electronics and leather, will still be subject to tariffs, said Saleh Salman, a spokesman for Palestinian Economics Minister Ahmed Oureia. The meeting of trade minis-

ters was aimed at forming a regional trade coalition and encouraging private investment in the Middle East. The leaders were expected to make a joint announcement Wednesday.

The Palestinian planning

United States has decided to port goods to the United plained in Taba on Tuesday that Israel's closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip contradicted the idea of cooperation and also drove more Palestinians into the arms of Muslim militants.

> Israel imposed the closure after a January 22 bombing by Islamic militants in which 21 Israelis were killed. It bars tens of thousands of Palestinians from their jobs in Israel and prevents trade between the territories and Israel.

> When you have a closure that leads to more unemployment, you create suddenly an open market for the militants to recruit people who are willing to die rather than to live for the peace process." Shaath said.

> > 45.00 Lac

80.00 Lac

26.00 Lac

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় (সওজ) সড়ক বিভাগ, মৌলভীবাজার, দুবালাপনীঃ ২২৪৫

৬৩ (তেষষ্টি)/নিঃপ্রঃ (সওজ), সড়ক বিভাগ

- মৌশভীবাঞ্চার ১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং। ্র ১৯৯৪ – ৯৫ইং আর্থিক বৎসরে মৌলজীবাজার ২। কাজের নাম বিভাগাধীন জুড়ী-ফুলতলা সেতুর কাঠের ডেকিং ১/৩নং বেইলী পরিবর্তনের কাজ
- **ोका २.8**%,७२०.००। ৪) বায়নার টাকা
 - ঃ ৪.৯৮৬.০০ নিৰ্বাহী প্ৰকৌশলী (সওজ), সড়ক মৌলভীবাজারের অনুকূলে তফসীলভুক্ত হইতে ব্যাংক ডাফট/টেজারী চালান/ প্রতিরক্ষা সঞ্চয়পত্র/বোনাস সঞ্চয়পত্র/৫–বৎসর भ्यामी वेश्नारम् अक्षय्यज्ञ- धत्र माधारम् जमा দিতে হইবে।
 - কার্যাদেশ প্রদানের তারিখ হইতে ২০ (বিশ) দিন ১) নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (সপ্তজ), সড়ক বিভাগ মৌলভীবাজার/হবিগঞ্জ/সিলেট/সুনামগঞ্জ। ২) উপ-বিভাগীয় প্রকৌশলী (সওঞ্জ), সড়ক মৌলভীবাজার/কলাউডা/
- শ্রীমংগল/যান্ত্রিক উপ-বিভাগ, মৌলভীবাজার। ৭) দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ ঃ ১৫-০২-৯৫ই৩/০৩-১১-১৪০১বাং চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত। তত্তাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সওজ), সিলেট সড়ক b) य जकन कार्यानाय मंत्रभव श সার্কেল, সিলেট/নিম্নসাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয়। দরপত্র গ্রহণের সময় ঃ ১৬-০২-৯৫ই৩/০৪-১১-১৪০১বাং অপরাহ্ন
- ১২.৩০ মিনিট পর্যন্ত। ১৬-০২-৯৫ই৫/০৪-১১-১৪০১বাং ১০) দরপত্র খোলার নির্ধারিত ১২.৪৫ মিনিটে। ১১) লটারী অন্ষ্রিতবার ঃ 129-05-9656/04-77-780746
 - ১১.৩০ মিনিটের সময় নিম্নসাক্ষরকারীর অফিস . সওজ দপ্তরের বৈধ তালিকাভুক্ত "এ" হইতে "ডি" বিশেষ শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদার।

মোঃ আবদুল খালেক মিএৱা নিৰ্বাহী প্ৰকৌশলী (সওজ) সড়ক বিভাগ, মৌলভীবাঞ্জার।

US move to facilitate foreign investment

WASHINGTON, Feb 8: Federal regulators unveiled a plan Tuesday that could make it easier for foreign companies to invest in US phone companies, broadcast stations and other telecommunications businesses, reports AP.

A delegation of the Board of Directors of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry led by

its President, R Maksud Khan (L), made a courtesy call on the interfer for Commerce and

Information M Shamsul Islam (2nd-L) at his Secretariat office in the city on Wednesday.

Hossain Akhtar (5th-R), Senior Vice-President, DCCI and Syed Toufique Al. (1) R) Vice-

The Federal Communications Commission's plan comes as the agency considers two high-profile cases: Whether the ownership of Fox Inc complies with federal foreign ownership restrictions and whether French and German telecommunications

companies should be permit- . ted to take a 20 per cent stake th Sprint Corp. Final rules to be adopted in

June would not affect Fox but are expected to apply to Sprint, Scott Harris, chief of the FCC's International Bureau. said in an interview. "This will have zero impact

on Fox," he said, because any

changes will be applied only to

future deals. Harris said the FCC plans to apply the new rules to Sprint, but would not hold up the deal

if the rules take longer than expected to put in place. Current rules prohibit foreign companies from taking more than a 25 per cent stake in any US telecommunications

business. The FCC said it would so-

licit public comments on whether that level should be increased.

The proposal "liberalizes rules for foreign access to our market," Harris said.

Such a liberalization could prove a boon to NBC, which has been talking to a number of foreign investors, including Sony. NBC is in a battle with Fox over the legality of Fox's ownership.

Congress, meanwhile, is considering repealing the foreign ownership restriction, with opponents saying the rule is outdated and retards legitimate foreign investment.

Sprint said it did not know what impact the FCC's proposal would have on its deal. France Telecom and Deutsche Telekom are seeking FCC

permission to take a 20 per cent stake in Sprint, the United States' third-largest long-distance phone company. Rivals ATT and MCI have objected, saying the deal shouldn't be approved until the French and German markets

are open to US companies. Harris said the FCC's review of the foreign ownership restriction was prompted by the dramatic increase in the number of global alliances in the telecommunications business. particularly in telephone and wireless communications mar-

The FCC's latest action responds to a 1993 request by

ATT Corp. Harris said. ATT asked the FCC to look at the openness of a country's market when determining whether a foreign company should be permitted to invest in a US telecommunications carrier.

Under the FCC proposal, the agency would add a twopart test to its procedures for reviewing foreign ownership applications - something that could affect regulatory approval of the Sprint deal, telecommunications attorneys said.

For example, if a foreign company wanted to invest in a US phone company, the FCC would determine whether a US company could do the same in the foreign investor's

Then the FCC would determine whether other telecommunications markets - such as broadcast and wireless - were open in the same country. The FCC said the test should provide an incentive to

other countries to open their

telecommunications and media markets to US companies. While supporting the FCC's review of the ownership provisions, FCC Commissioner James Quello suggested delaying action, citing Congress'

interest in the matter.

Gore to be keynote speaker at G-7 meet on information

WASHINGTON, Feb 8: Vice President Gore will be the keynote speaker at the first G-7 conference on the Information Society, February 25-26 in Brussels, reports USIS.

For the first time, leaders of private sector will take part in a G-7 meeting. Some 50 executives, including 12 Americans, will participate in a roundtable discussion on the impact of telecommunications technology on society.

As part of the European Union sponsored event, an international exhibition will be held in Brussels, February 24-26, at the new European Parliament building.

This is not a trade show. but an opportunity to demonstrate the benefits and capabila ities of the new technology worldwide. The displays will show uses in developing countries, as well as industrialized nations.

It was Vice President Gore's call last year for a worldwide structure to exchange information and ideas worldwide that sparked the movement towards building a Global Information Infrastructure (GII) to link local and national information networks.

Military Engineer Services Bangladesh Navy **Notice of Tender**

Applications are hereby invited by DW & CE

(Navy) Lalasorai Nabik Colony, Mirpur-14, Dhaka-1206 for issue of Tender documents up to 14 Feb'95 for the following works:-Description of works Approximate cost

Earth filling in the East south side lowlaying area of NHQ, Complex, Dhaka. Provn. of RCC pressure pipe drain 17.50 Lac

at East south side of NHQ, Complex, Dhaka. Constn. of 3 storied 120 Men SM BK

with five storied foundation and storage facilities in the ground floor at BNS Haji Mohsin, Dhaka

Constn. of SM BK for 42 Men with 76.09 Lac CH/DH (3 storied foundation) at Cox's Bazar, Ctg.

Extension of existing boundary wall at Naval Base, New Morring, Ctg up to 0.61M high and Provn. of barbed wire fencing over the wall at 1.22 M height.

Const. of 1 x 'C' type qtr with 36.00 Lac ancillary works at BNS Titumir, Khuina. Provn. of Deep-tubewell with 16.50 Lac

ancillary works at BNS Titumir, Khulna. MES enlisted contractor may apply for tender documents mentioning their index number and VAT

registration number for each work separately according to their tendering capacity. ISPR/Navy/95/217

G-208

DFP-2732-2/2