



Sonali Bank to give loan for betel leaf farmers

Sonali Bank will provide credit for production and export of betel leaf...

The credit will be given to marginal farmers on a group basis and to well-off farmers against fixed collateral...

Loan activities in this respect have already been started in Mohanpur thana of Rajshahi district.

Betel leaf grows in abundance in districts of Rajshahi, Munshiganj, Patuakhali, Barisal, Jamalpur and Moulvibazar.

Nearly 1,000 tons of betel leaf are exported annually to different countries of Middle-East and Far-East from Bangladesh after meeting the domestic requirements.

The state-run commercial bank took the decision to keep up the export earning from the non-traditional export item by providing the farmers with financial assistance.

Volume of export thru' Mongla Port rises in '94-95

KHULNA, July 27: The volume of export through Mongla port marked rise in the fiscal 1994-95 though the port is suffering from various problems...

According to the official sources, in the fiscal, the commodities worth about Taka 1350.48 crore were exported through the port which was 227.17 crore higher than that of previous fiscal (1993-94).

In the fiscal 93-94, the amount of exported goods through the port was Taka 1123.31 crore.

Port officials said the export items through the port in the fiscal '94-95' included rice and rice goods of Taka 749 crore and frozen foods of Taka 554 crore.

ADP implementation in '94-95 115.72 pc progress achieved in power, mineral sectors

Power and mineral resources sector has achieved 115.72 per cent financial progress in the implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) in the last fiscal, reports UNB.

According to official assessment, the physical progress in the power sector was over 110 per cent and in mineral resources sector 90 per cent. The achievement in 1994-95 was the highest ever in ADP-implementation in the field of energy and mineral resources.

The second highest record was achieved in 1993-94 scoring over 105 per cent financial progress and about 97 per cent physical progress.

This was disclosed at a

high-level review meeting on the implementation of ADP for the year 1994-95 under the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Wednesday with Dr Khandaker Mosharrar Hossain in the chair.

An amount of Tk 1815.03 crore, including a project aid component of Tk 920.32 crore, was utilised in the last fiscal against revised allocation of Tk 1568.40 crore, including project aid of Tk 667.60 crore.

Some Tk 1537.31 crore has been utilised in the power sector against the revised allocation of Tk 1328.40 crore and Tk 277.72 crore in the mineral resources sector against the revised allocation of Tk 240 crore.

As many as Tk 1815.70

crore, including a project aid component of Tk 801.40 crore, has been allocated in power and natural resources sectors for the current fiscal (1995-96).

The meeting was also informed that four projects in power sub-sector and five in natural resources sub-sector were completed during the last financial year.

The projects in power sector are: Seven Transmission Line Project and Manpower Development Project under the PDB, Area-based Rural Electrification Project (third phase-c) under REB and Kabirganj-Manikganj 132 KV Transmission Line Project under DESA.

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), gas supply to Tea

Estates in greater Sylhet, Peat Development, Small Scale Technical Assistance for Evaluation of Private Sector Investment Proposals for Oil and Gas Exploration and Development projects under Petrobangla and Emergency Petroleum Oil Lubricant Depot in Dhaka project under the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) were completed in natural resources sector.

Energy Secretary Mohammad Faizur Razzak, heads of corporations and departments of the ministry and representatives of Planning Commission, Implementing, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), World Bank and Asian Development Bank attended the meeting.

BARD seminar on planning held

State Minister for Planning Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan said in Comilla Wednesday that the document of participatory planning was not the document for expressing opinion of any political party or the government, reports BSS.

He said this document was formulated at the suggestion of professionals of local levels and the people. This document would have the guidelines for bringing improvements in the lot of common-man, he said.

Dr Moyeen Khan was speaking at the seminar on "Participatory District Planning: A Framework for Action" organised jointly by Chittagong University, Unicef and Bangladesh Academy for Rural Academy (BARA).

The seminar presided over by the Director General of BARA Dr Saleh Uddin Ahmed and was attended by Unicef country representative Rolf C Carrier.

The Planning Minister said the participatory planning introduced by the government would leave a long standing and permanent impact on the socio-economic and political infrastructure of the country. This would help continue the process of development even after the government of a particular political party was changed, he said.

'Comprehensive rural uplift scheme being implemented'

COMILLA, July 27: Shipping Minister M K Anwar has said the BNP government is implementing a comprehensive rural development programme to change the lot of the people living in the rural areas, reports BSS.

Since 80 per cent people live there no substantive development will be achieved without uplift of the rural economy, he added.

The minister was addressing a series of gatherings at Taltoli Bazar, Mollakandi, Lakkhankhola, Kashipur Bazar, Barohazari, Chengakandi, Karimabad, Mugarchar and Pararband under Homna thana in Comilla district on Wednesday.

He said the government did not claim that it had solved all the problems of the people.

Entrepreneurs to leave for Tokyo in August

Two groups of leading Bangladeshi entrepreneurs will leave here for Japan next month under two separate programmes at the invitation of the government of Japan, reports BSS.

The programmes under the Japanese government's new Asian Industries Development Plan have been organised by the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS) of Japan in collaboration with its Dhaka office.

Speaking at a function marking the inauguration of the office-cum laboratory building of the Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute here on Wednesday the minister said innovation of new technologies was must to enhance food production to meet the growing demand of the population.

Call money rate

Money rates in the call money market during the week ended Wednesday ranged from 2.75 per cent to 4.50 per cents, says a Bangladesh Bank press release.

During the same week interest rates offered by the bank on Certificate of Deposits varied from 3.00 per cent to 7.75 per cent. The bank rate, however, remained unchanged at 5.50 per cent.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on July 27, 1995 Index up by 2 points

Star Report

Table with 2 columns: Title, Value. Includes DSE All Share Price Index, Market Capital, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Company Name, Change (per share) of shares traded. Lists various companies like Sonali Bank, BDC, etc.

The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index rose by about two points on Thursday while transactions on the floor continued to fall.

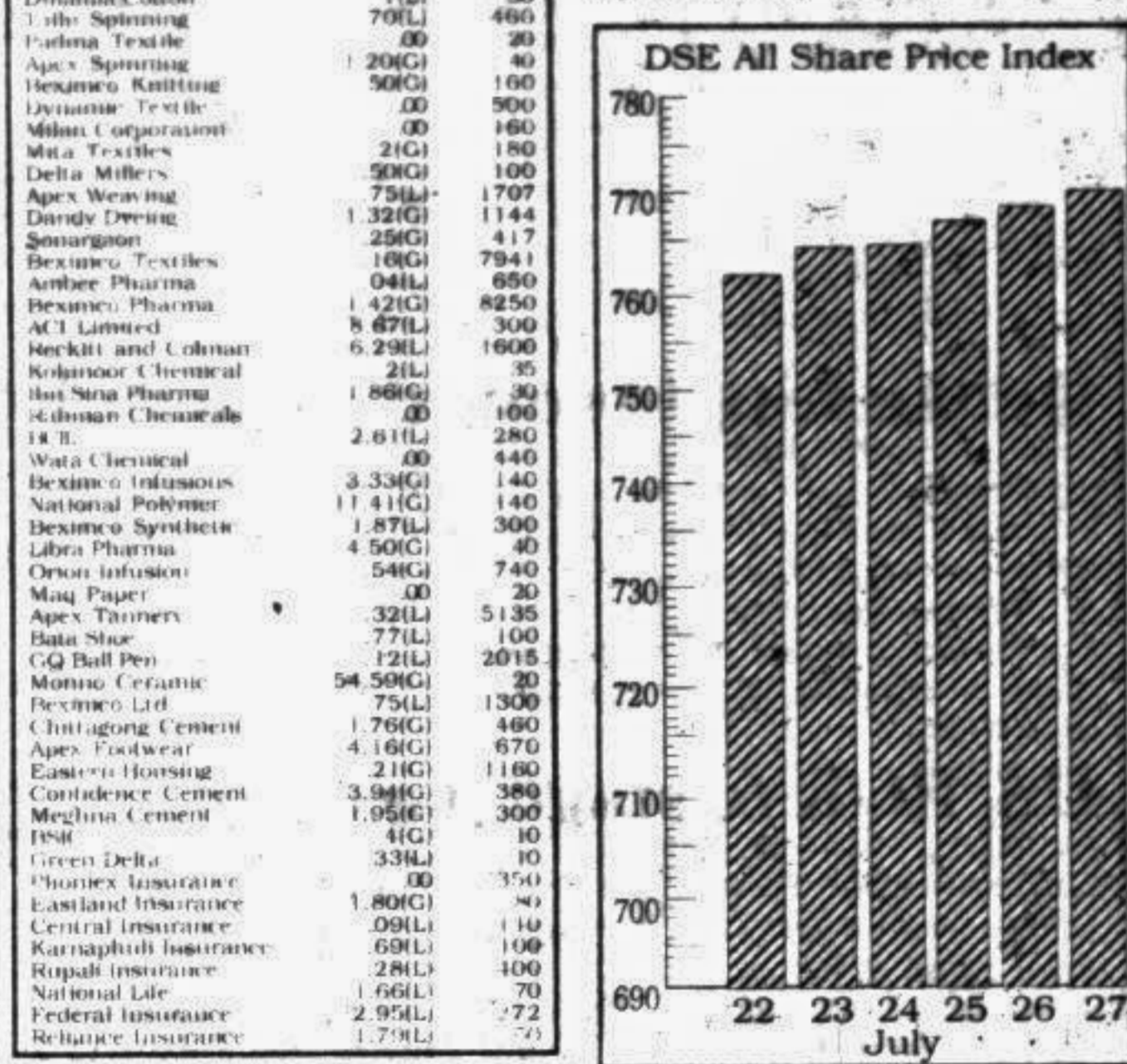
The price index reached 770.16 from Wednesday's 768.31 posting an increase of 0.24 per cent. Total market capital rose to Tk 47.63 billion from Tk 47.51 billion.

Transaction in volume fell by 62.99 per cent and the transaction in value showed a decline of 56.99 per cent. A total of 48,595 shares worth Tk 12.63 million changed hands as against 131,325 shares valued at Tk 29.37 million.

The number of issues traded totalled 82 of which 37 gained, 30 incurred losses and the share prices of 15 issues remained unchanged.

Bangladesh Lamps, IDLC, United Leasing Co, Apex Foods and Monno Ceramic were the leading gainers in terms of value.

Volume leaders of the day were: Beximco Pharma (8250), Beximco Textiles (7941) and Apex Fannery (5135).



DSE Shares and Debentures

Large table listing various companies and their share prices, including Delta Millers, Beximco Pharma, etc.

Tk 70 lakh fish damaged from 1,913 ponds in B'baria

BRAHMANBARIA, July 27: Fish resources worth about Taka 70 lakh have been damaged or washed away from 1,913 ponds in Nabinagar thana of the district during the current flood, official sources said, reports UNB.

According to the officials, most of the ponds and dighs of the thana were brought under intensive pisciculture programme. For this farmers were given bank loan.

The pisciculturists finding no other way out have been passing their days in great hardships. They said with great hope they cultured fish but the flash flood has made them pauper.

"Without fresh loan we will not be able to meet up the heavy loss," said a pisciculturist.

Labour Minister tells ICFTU team Trade unions should aim at productivity increase

Labour and Manpower Minister Mir Shawkat Ali has said the main objective of the trade union should be welfare of the workers and the productivity enhancement in the mills and factories, reports BSS.

It is a matter of regret, that trade unions have somehow or other been highly politicised and they are more often dictated by the political programmes than by genuine interest of the workers, he said.

The minister was exchanging views with an evacuation team of International Confederation of Free Trade Union (ICFTU) - Asia Pacific Regional Organisation (APRO) on workers' education project in Asia which met the

minister at his secretariat office on Wednesday.

The team includes Flemming Sorensen, General Secretary, Trade Union Council for International Cooperation, Miss Kamalan, Director for Project Development ICFTU and Niels-erik Nielsen, Project Manager ICFTU-APRO headquarters in Singapore.

General Secretary of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal and a member of ICFTU-APRO Nazrul Islam Khan, Joint General Secretary Zafrul Hasan and Education Secretary of Sramik Dal Kabir Hossain were also present on the occasion.

present state of international trade union movement especially in the developing countries.

He said that the present government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is committed to ensuring the betterment of the workers alongwith increased productivity in the mills. With this end in view, the government has taken a mass education programme to educate all sections of people particularly the working people.

The handout said the purpose of this evaluation mission is to assess the administration and management of the project in eight countries including Bangladesh covered by this project.



Salman F. Rahman, President, FBCCI and leader of the investment and trade promotion mission, seen addressing the Southern Asia Advisory Group (SAAG), Department of Trade and Industry of the British government in London. Earl Ferrers, British Minister for Consumer Affairs, Peter Lee, Managing Director, McDonald and Board Member, SAAG, Peter Fowler, High Commissioner of UK in Bangladesh, Dr. Noel Bre-hony, Rolls Royce PLC, are also seen in the picture.

IFC to provide \$ 40m Islamic financing for Pakistan

WASHINGTON, July 27: The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has signed financing agreements totalling 40 million US dollars with three privately-owned leasing Modarabas in Pakistan to increase their lending capabilities to small- and medium-scale enterprises, says a press release.

A Modaraba is a corporate entity similar to a closed end fund with a two-tiered structure. The Modaraba has a pool of capital provided by private

investors managed by a specialized investment management company. Modarabas operate in accordance with the tenets of Islam, earning returns through leasing and other Islamic financing modes.

The Modarabas being financed by IFC are all engaged in asset leasing. They include First UDL Modaraba, Second BRR Modaraba, and First Crescent Modaraba. IFC's investment is in the form of a subscription to

Income Notes, a new quasi-equity instrument structured by IFC. The Income Notes are US dollar denominated and are partly convertible into ordinary capital of the Modarabas. IFC will subscribe to Income Notes of an aggregate face value of 20 million US dollar for its own account and mobilize the remainder of the investment through a placement of Income Notes with Islamic investment institutions.

"This is IFC's first major initiative to tap the vast pools of Islamic funds in the Middle East and elsewhere and channel these resources through the Modarabas into long-term investments in productive assets in Pakistan," said Andre Hovagimian, IFC's Director for the Central Asia, Middle East, & North Africa Department. "IFC expects to mobilize Islamic resources to finance industrial and financial sector projects in Pakistan as well as Middle Eastern and North African Countries by introducing new Islamic financing products."

IFC is a member of the World Bank Group and is the largest multilateral source of equity and loan financing for private sector projects in developing countries.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Dhaka PWD Divn. No IV, 15, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka

Notice Inviting Tender

No. 18/1995-96

- 1. Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from special Class-I (one) and Class-I (one) enlisted Building Contractors/Firms of PWD for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Motijheel/Resources/Azimpur/Medical College, Dhaka PWD Division No. I/II/III/City/Eden Building/Sher-e-Bangla Nagar PWD Divn No. I/II/III/Maintenance PWD Division/Mirpur/ Mohakhali/Savar PWD Division, Dhaka in their respective office chamber up to 12-00 Noon of 23/8/95 and will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence of the intending tenderers who may like to be present. The tender will be in a sealed cover with the name of the work superscribed on it. No tender Form and schedule will be sold to the Contractor/Firm who has no VAT Registration.

Md Mohsin Farouque Executive Engineer, Dhaka PWD Divn No. IV, Dhaka Telephone No. 237108

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার স্নাতকোত্তর চিকিৎসা ও পবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট শাহাবাগ, ঢাকা. নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি. অত্র প্রতিষ্ঠানের ব্যবহৃত অকজো খালি প্রান্তিকের স্যালাইনের ব্যাগ, এম-৩৫ ফিল্ম, ফিজিং পানি নিলামে বিক্রয়ের জন্য ১৯৯৫-৯৬ অর্থ বৎসরে ত্রিকাদার নিয়োগ এবং হাসপাতাল ও পবেষণাগারে ব্যবহৃত সার্জিক্যাল যন্ত্রপাতি, মেসিনারী ও অন্যান্য দ্রব্যাদি বিক্রয়ের নিমিত্তে প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী ও ত্রিকাদারদের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরযুক্ত দরপত্র আশীয়া ১২/৭/৯৫ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকার সময় আহবান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্র সিডিউল ও শর্তাবলী নম্বর ১০০/- (একশত টাকা) মাত্র (অক্সেসযোগ্য) প্রতিবেশে বিনিময়ে পাওয়া যাইবে।