

Myanmar to open gem emporium to private sector

YANGON, Oct 14: Myanmar is to open state sponsored gem emporium to the private sector in a bid to curb widespread smuggling and illegal trading in precious stones, an official said yesterday, reports AFP.

The move was aimed at creating a flourishing gem market inside Myanmar deputy mining minister said, adding it would create an environment in which rubies, sapphires and diamonds could be traded freely.

"By permitting local private entrepreneurs to freely engage in all sectors of the gem industry from mining to marketing, we hope to eliminate smuggling and also create a gem market here," he said.

The mining and marketing of gems was previously a state preserve, but with many mines located in rebel-held territory, much of the precious stones recovered were smuggled out of the country to foreign markets.

Myanmar last month promulgated a gem, stone law setting down conditions and requirements for those trading in gems. The law laid down stringent punishments, including life sentences, to deter gem smugglers.

The next state gem emporium will be held from October 16-22 and put gems, jade and pearls worth more than 16 million dollars up for sale. Some three million dollars worth of jewellery and jade figurines will also be on offer.

US Republicans unveil plan to close down Commerce Dept

WASHINGTON, Oct 14: House Republicans announced details of their plan to close down the Commerce Department, calling it the first step in shrinking the federal government, reports Reuters.

The plan would eliminate half a dozen separate agencies of the department and consolidate seven others, eliminate 6,000 jobs and remove 5,100 from the civil service payroll.

At a news conference, Republican leaders and others involved called the plan an unprecedented step in US history that would save 8 billion dollars over seven years.

But the plan, the product of 11 House committees with jurisdiction over the widely scattered functions of the 36,000-person department,

still has far to go. It faces opposition in the Senate and a likely presidential veto.

Rep William Clinger called the plan "a downpayment on our promise to make the government smaller."

Clinger said the plan was "pro-business" and would strengthen the department's trade functions by merging them with the office of the US Trade Representative, a non-cabinet entity under the control of the White House, and setting up a new trade agency.

Rep Tobyroth said 150 separate export programmes, including the Import-Export bank, would be consolidated under the new agency.

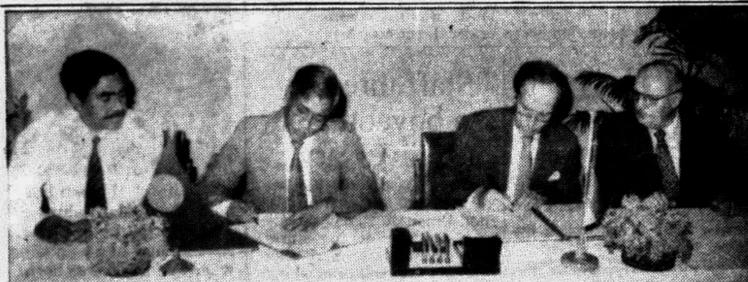
The plan is part of a huge budget reconciliation bill designed to move the govern-

ment toward a balance budget. The House is to consider the bill on October 24.

Republicans said that if the Commerce Department shut down could not be kept in this bill, it would be included in a so-called continuing resolution providing funds to keep the government running.

Terminated under the plan would be agencies such as the US Travel and Tourism Administration and the Minority Business Development Administration.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Bureau of Standards and the office of Space Commerce would be consolidated into the National Institute for Science and Technology.



Bangladesh and Germany signed an agreement in Dhaka on Thursday under which Bangladesh will receive 145 million DM (approximately Tk 406 crore) on grant basis under the bi-lateral financial cooperation programme. ERD-Joint Secretary Abu Saleh and German Charge d' Affaires Roland Grafte seen signing the agreement on behalf of their respective sides. — PID photo

Chittagong Stock Exchange

At the close of trading on October 14
Upward trend continues

Star Report
Upward trend in both the price index and the transaction continued to rise on the floor of Chittagong Stock Exchange on Saturday.

The CSE All Securities Price Index left by 6.13 points, reaching 404.16 from Thursday's 398.03.

Transactions in volume and value increased by 157 and 137 per cent respectively.

A total of 885 shares worth Tk 302099.50 changed hands as against 345 shares valued at Tk 27675.00.

Apex Foods led the gainers with a rise of Tk 118.00 per share while Confidence Cement was the volume leader with 300 shares traded.

The number of issues traded rose to 11 from five, of which only one suffered loss.

CSE at a glance

CSE All Securities Price Index	404.16
Day's change in index	+1.54%
Total turnover (Value)	Tk 302099.50
Total turnover (Volume)	885
Number of contracts	29
Issues traded	11
Issues gained	10
Issues declined	1
Issues unchanged	0
Closing market capital	Tk 8471502345.00
No. of listed securities	30
No. of companies	23
No. of mutual funds	7

Note: Opening price index and opening market cap are calculated as per closing rates of DSE as on 9th October 1995.

Day's Trading Performance

Company Name	Closing Rate (Avg)	Previous Rate (Avg)	Difference	No. of Securities Traded
Rupali	260.00	235.00	25.00 (G)	120
Peoples	600.00	600.00	0.00	0
Green Delta	350.00	350.00	0.00	0
Reliance	348.75	348.75	0.00	0
Janata	195.00	180.42	14.58 (G)	20
GMG Indus	30.00	30.00	0.00	0
Apex Weaving	170.33	163.25	7.08 (G)	15
Apex Spinning	351.00	345.00	6.00 (G)	20
Dulama Cotton	120.00	120.00	0.00	0
TBL	124.00	124.00	0.00	0
Square Pharma	805.00	790.00	15.00 (G)	20
Apex Food	3555.00	3437.00	118.00 (G)	5
Bengal Biscuits	151.00	151.00	0.00	0
Confidence Cement	393.00	393.00	9.80 (L)	300
Cig Cement	715.00	715.00	0.00	0
Apex Tannery	860.00	860.00	0.00	0
Apex Footwear	566.50	561.50	5.00 (G)	100
National Oxygen	80.00	80.00	0.00	0
Padma Oil	150.00	150.00	0.00	0
ICB	140.00	140.00	0.00	0
1st ICB M F	1250.00	1250.00	0.00	0
2nd ICB M F	540.00	540.00	0.00	0
3rd ICB M F	361.59	361.59	0.00	0
4th ICB M F	490.00	490.00	0.00	0
5th ICB M F	307.25	307.25	0.00	0
6th ICB M F	188.00	182.00	6.00 (G)	40
7th ICB M F	142.25	137.92	4.27 (G)	100
AB Bank	222.50	222.50	0.00	0
Usmania Glass	720.00	655.00	65.00 (G)	10
Aramit	58.00	58.00	0.00	0

Dhaka Stock Prices

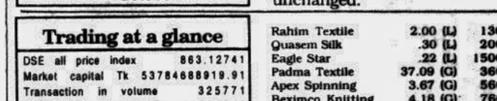
At the close of trading on October 14, '95
15-point rise in Index

Star Report
The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index posted a massive gain of about 15 points in a bullish trend on the floor of DSE on Saturday.

The index leapt to 863.13 from Thursday's 848.32, indicating a rise of 14.81 points. Total market capital surged to Tk 53.78 billion from Tk 53.86 billion.

The transaction in volume fell by 15 per cent to 325771 from 384206 while the value rose by 14.00 per cent to Tk 53.31 million from Tk 46.71 million.

Monno Ceramic experienced a gain of Tk 527.53 per share, leading the gainers in terms of value. On the other hand Amam Sea Food led the losers with a fall of Tk 30.00 per share. The issues traded totalled 98, of which 52 gained, 33 incurred losses and the share prices of 13 issues remained unchanged.



Trading at a glance

DSE all price index	863.13
Market capital Tk	53784888919.91
Transaction in volume	325771
Transaction in value Tk	53311012
Total issued traded	98
Issues gained	52
Issues incurred losses	33
Issues unchanged	13

Company's Change Number

Company's name	Change (per share) Tk	Number of shares traded
The City Bank	3.75 (G)	35
Pubali Bank	0.00	20
IDLC	17.78 (G)	180
United Leasing Company	57 (L)	140
1st ICB M Fund	50.00 (G)	150
3rd ICB M Fund	38.41 (G)	15
4th ICB M Fund	26.64 (G)	160
5th ICB M Fund	4.67 (G)	430
6th ICB M Fund	3.85 (G)	1380
7th ICB M Fund	14 (L)	1880
Aftab Automobiles	0.00	580
Asia Pipes	13.78 (G)	365
Bengal Carbide	11.24 (G)	100
Bangladesh Lamps	10.69 (L)	155
Eastern Cables	7.85 (G)	1020
Karim Pipe	5.44 (G)	1450
Monno Jute	50.00 (G)	10
Monno Jute	20.00 (G)	10
Singer Bangladesh	91.04 (G)	15
Atlas Bangladesh	1.54 (G)	850
Quasem Drycels	0.1 (G)	4750
Metalex Corporation	3.00 (G)	70
National Tubes	15 (G)	880
B Thai Aluminium	1.71 (G)	300
BD Electricity Meter	0.00	30
Alpha Tobacco	67 (L)	100
Amam Sea Food	30.00 (L)	85
Apex Foods	19.78 (G)	175
Bengal Food	39 (G)	250
Bangladesh Leaf	0.00	30
Bangladesh Tobacco	0.00	73830
Zeal Bangla	100.00 (G)	150
Chittagong Vegetable	83 (L)	120
Beximco Fisheries	24 (G)	1680
Bengal Biscuits	18 (G)	4880
MEGNA Shrimp	1.06 (L)	1820
BCC Bangladesh	1.51 (G)	7693
Padma Oil	0.00	300
Heritage Jute	0.00	280
Shine Pakur	78 (G)	6125
Ashraf Textile	16 (L)	6700

BCIC Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Sealed tenders are invited by the Managing Director, Urea Fertilizer Factory Ltd, Ghorasal, Narsingdi for supply of bearing against tender No UFLL/P-234/94-95. Tender will be opened on 24.10.95 at 3.00 PM. Tender documents will be available on all working days on cash payment of Tk 25 (Non-refundable) from (i) BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha, Dhaka, (ii) BCIC, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong & (iii) UFLL, Ghorasal, Narsingdi. No tender documents will be sold on the opening date.

BCIC 1072-8/10/95
DFP-24730-9/10
G-1502

FAO delegates told Future threat to peace will come from food crisis

QUEBEC CITY, Oct 14: The threat to peace in the future will come from food scarcity not military aggression delegates at the 50th anniversary symposium of the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organisation were told Friday, says Reuters.

The politics of surplus will be replaced by the politics of scarcity. The real threat in the future will not be military aggression but food security, said Lester Brown, President of Washington based Worldwatch Institute Inc.

World reserves of cereals by next July were forecast this week to be 233 million tons, according to the US Department of Agriculture. That is the lowest level since 1975.

There's certainly concern in terms of world food security at least in the short term when you get down to the kind of stocks we're looking at, said Lorne Hehn, the top official of the Canadian Wheat Board.

Canada is the second largest grain exporter in the world after the United States with 20 per cent market share.

Crop problems among major exporters like the United States and demand from importers like Russia and China are squeezing supplies drawing down stocks and driving prices up.

World prices for basic staples are expected to rise 30 to 70 per cent by 1999, FAO Director of Commodities and Trade Richard Perkins said.

Vietnam hosts 1st ASEAN meeting

HO CHI MINH CITY, Oct 14: Vietnam hosted its first major meeting of members of ASEAN today since the country joined the organisation in July, reports AFP.

Senior economic officials gathered in Ho Chi Minh City to finalise details of a December summit of leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Bangkok.

Talks will focus on an agreement to enhance economic links among the seven-member countries that will be signed in Bangkok. Amendments to a tariff agreement and cooperation on intellectual property rights will be discussed.

This is the first time Vietnam has organised a major meeting of senior officials since it joined at the annual gathering of ASEAN foreign ministers in Brunet in July.

Senior economic officials from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand are attending the meeting along with representatives of the ASEAN secretariat.

Before Vietnam joined the group, it expressed some concerns about the costs of organising or attending the more than 200 meetings held by ASEAN each year.

In preparation for membership, Vietnam has stepped up training of its civil servants and increased English-language training.

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Ferry Division, Barisal (RHD), Tender Notice

- Tender Notice No: 50 of RHD, Ferry Division, Barisal/1995/96
- Name of work: As described below:
- Eligibility of contractor: (RHD), General category contractor as per financial capacity and territorial jurisdiction.
- Availability of tender schedule: (1) Executive Engineer, RHD, Mech. Ferry Divn, Barisal/Khulna. (2) Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Divn, Patuakhali. (3) Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Ferry Sub-Divn, Barisal (only office hours. No tender will be sold on the date of opening tender schedule).
- Tender receiving officer: (1) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Mech. Ferry Circle, Khulna. (2) Executive Engineer, RHD, Mech. Ferry Divn, Barisal/Khulna.
- Last date of selling tender schedule: 22-10-95/7-14:02 (only office hours).
- Last date of receiving tender schedule: 23-10-95/8-7:14:02 at 12 Noon.
- Date and time of opening tender schedule: 25-10-95/10-7:14:02 at 1 PM.

Gr No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money
1	Supplying spare parts for 225 HP Griming engine of steel Ferry Kheya S.F-011 at Payrakujia Ferry ghat under Ferry Sub-Divn., Barisal during the year 1995-96.	Tk 1,48,800/-	2976/-
2	Repairing of Flaps, tower, pully and winch machine and painting of pontoon No. 007 including supplying materials at Amtaly Ferry ghat under Ferry Sub-Divn., Barisal during the year 1995-96.	Tk 1,76,248/-	3525/-
3	Repairing of Ramp Dala and tower including painting of pontoon No P.I-021 at Patuakhali Ferry ghat under Ferry Sub-Divn., Barisal during the year 1995-96.	Tk 1,29,132/-	2583/-

Executive Engineer, RHD, Ferry Divn. Barisal.

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of The Executive Engineer (RHD) Khagrachhari Road Division-II

Corrigendum Notice

Tender No: 06/EE/KRD.II of 1995-96.
Name of work: Repairing potholes depression & undulation damage portion at Dighinala Thana carrying road and at 8th KM of Dighinala-Babuchhara Road under Khagrachhari Road Division-II, during the year 1995-96 in 2(Two) groups.
Reff: This Office Tender Notice No. 1252 dt 27-9-95 and tender circular memo No. 1272 dt 30-9-95.
D.F.P.No: 23802-30/9 G-9556(7X3)

- Last date of selling of tender: Will be 31-10-95 instead of 15-10-95.
- Last date of receiving of tender: Will be 01-11-95 instead of 17-10-95.
- Date of opening of tender: Will be 04-11-95 instead of 19-10-95.
- Date & time of lottery: Will be 05-11-95 instead of 21-10-95.

All other terms & conditions of the tender will remain valid. This corrigendum notice is a part and parcel of the tender notice No. 06/EE/KRD-II of 1995-96 & should be included with the tender. If anyone submit the tender without this corrigendum the tender may be rejected.

Mohammed Hossain
Executive Engineer, RHD,
Road Division-II,
Khagrachhari
(Current Charge)

Exchange Rates

The following are the Sonali Bank's dealing rates to public for some selected foreign currencies with Bangladesh Taka Effective Date is 12th & 14th Oct '95. This is for your kind information and publication.

(Figures in Taka)

Selling	T.T. & O.D.		B.C.		T.T. (C)		O.D. (Sight)		O.D. (Trans.)	
	T.T.	O.D.	T.T.	O.D.	T.T.	O.D.	T.T.	O.D.	T.T.	O.D.
US Dollar	1=Tk	40.6620	40.7095	40.3625	40.2050	40.0980				
GBP	1=Tk	64.1824	64.2573	63.1928	62.9463	62.7787				
DM	1=Tk	28.6573	28.6908	28.1434	28.0336	27.9590				
F Franc	1=Tk	8.2390	8.2486	8.0904	8.0588	8.0374				
C Doll	1=Tk	30.5307	30.5663	29.9930	29.8760	29.7965				
CHF	1=Tk	35.4119	35.4532	34.7712	34.6355	34.5433				
Jap Yen	1=Tk	0.4069	0.4074	0.3955	0.3940	0.3930				
IRS	1=Tk	1.2009	1.2099	1.1807	1.1630	---				
Iran Rupee	1=Tk	1.2885	1.2982	1.2668	1.2478	---				
Iranian Rial	1=Tk	0.0234	0.0236	0.0229	0.0226	---				

- A) T.T. (DOC) US Dollar Spot Buying Tk. 40.2837
- B) Usance Rate: 30 Days 39.7240, 60 Days 39.4381, 90 Days 39.1522, 120 Days 38.8604, 180 Days 38.5804
- C) US Dollar sight export bill 3 months forward purchase: To be deducted Tk. 0.15 from O.D. sight export bill buying rate.
- D) US Dollar 3 months forward sale: Add cushion of Tk: 0.50 with BC selling.

Indicative Rates (B.T. For one unit of foreign currency)

Currency	Selling T.T. & O.D.	Buying O.D. Transfer
S Riyal	Tk 10.8423	Tk 10.6911
UAE Dirham	Tk 11.0720	Tk 10.9170
Kuwaiti Dinar	Tk 25.6530	Tk 133.5487
D Guider	Tk 25.6413	Tk 25.2697
S Krona	Tk 5.8469	Tk 5.7616
Malaysian Ringgit	Tk 16.0307	Tk 15.8022
Singapore Dollar	Tk 28.4887	Tk 28.0739

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 14.9.1995

Berth	Name of Vessels Leaving	Cargo	L Port	Local	Date of
No					
J1	Hermon	GL P Kela	ANCL	8/10	14/10
J2	Al Salma	GI Sing	ASLL	6/10	14/10
J3	China Star	GI Sing	IFA	5/10	16/10
J4	Zalco Pioneer	Rice (P)	Bomb Seacom	20/9	14/10
J5	Tiger Star	GI King	Prog	1/10	15/10
J6	Bintang Harapan	GI S Hai	Prog	2/10	15/10
J7	Rattana Naree	Mop	Ilye Litmond	30/9	23/10
J8	Siba	R Seed	Stet	2/10	17/10
J9	Lady Elena	Rice (G)	Visa B Bay	4/10	16/10
J10	Pattu	Rice (G)	Kakt AMBS	3/10	17/10
J11	Srinamat	Cont	Sing PH (B)	7/10	15/10
J12	Technomat Pioneer	Cont	Sing SRS	R/A	19/10