

Japan-Bangla joint venture in leather, ceramic sectors likely

By Govinda Shil

A section of Japanese entrepreneurs have shown keen interest in launching joint ventures in the country's leather and ceramic sectors.

A group of the Japanese traders have also expressed enthusiasm to import electronic goods, garments and apparel products, gold-made ornaments and leather goods from Bangladesh.

Japan's Noriketa Group of Industries showed interest to go for joint venture with the Monno Ceramics, while, that the Marusho Company limited wished to collaborate with the Dhaka Leather in this regard, entrepreneurial and the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) sources said.

"I am really happy that some Japanese entrepreneurs are showing interest to import Bangladeshi electronics," said MA Karim, Director, EPB. He said that Bangladeshi producers of electronics, leather and ceramic products had been asked to send samples to Japan.

The sources said that the EPB were trying to build a bridge between Japanese and Bangladeshi entrepreneurs to carry out joint ventures. Dwelling on the outcome of a recently held international trade fair in Tokyo, the Director said, "It was quite a success." He said that the visitors had bought all gold-made jewellery items and sport shoes exhibited at the

booths. The single country trade fair was attended by 20 different manufacturers. The week long fair has successfully mobilised the Japanese importers," said SM Lokman, Director, Sales and Marketing, Absolute Leather Products. He said, Bangladeshi leather products, specially sports shoes won the choice of Japanese consumers.

Bangladesh got 65 trade enquiries and received spot orders of more than four lakh US dollars, EPB sources told The Daily Star.

The sources said that the Grameen Check had also attracted visitors. "If we march for markets aggressively, we obviously expand our export

markets," said another official of the EPB.

He said, the country should develop its overseas telecommunication system and open trade enquiry centres abroad. The EPB should open such centres in Belgium, South Africa, Singapore and in Dubai," said the official adding that mere work of Bangladesh Missions were not enough to cope with the modern and competitive trading system.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh, seeing the export potentials in Japan market, is going to take part in the next international fair that will be held in Osaka during the first week of the next March, sources pointed out.

Prime Bank's Khulna branch opens

A branch of the Prime Bank Limited was opened in Khulna on Monday, says a press release.

The Mayor of Khulna City Corporation Sheikh Tayabur Rahman inaugurated the branch.

Dr Ghani, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the bank, presided over the opening ceremony.

The Managing Director of the bank, Lutfur Rahman Sarker, explained the programmes of the bank.

Members of the board of directors M A Khaleque, Md Shahadat Hossain (VIP-Income Tax), Md Mofiz Ahmed Bhuiyan, KM Hussain, Kazi Sirajul Islam and Md Nader Khan were present on the occasion.

JS body on housing meets

The 34th parliamentary standing committee meeting of the Housing and Public Works Ministry was held at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday with Housing and Public Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia in the chair, reports UNB.

The meeting discussed in details to progress of the construction of the remaining 2,000 government officers' and employees' flats by the Public Works Department.

The construction of these flats will be completed within the specific time. When completed, the housing problems of the government employees will be solved to a great extent, the meeting was informed. Meanwhile, 1000 flats have already been completed and allotment of these flats were made to the government officers and the employees.

The meeting asked the RAJUK authority to take proper action against the defaulters who have violated the rules and regulation in building their houses.

Members of Parliament Mirza Abbas, ATM Alamgir, Md Mahmudul Haq and Ahsanul Haq Mollah attended the meeting. Secretary of the ministry Hasinur Rahman was also present.

Israel signs trade deal with EU

BRUSSELS, Nov 21: Acting Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres signed a key trade and cooperation deal with the European Union yesterday, putting another brick in the wall of security the EU is building round its southern flank, reports Reuter.

The deal, which replaces a pact dating from 1975, was struck in July after EU foreign ministers negotiated their wayround Spanish worries over imports of oranges, Austrian fears about apple juice imports, French difficulties with foie gras and maize and an agreement allowing Israel to sit on EU research and development committees.

Israel, which will be contributing to the bloc's research and development, far, has won a seat on the various committees but will not be allowed to vote.

Seoul shares fall sharply as Roh probe continues

HONG KONG, Nov 21: Asian bourses began the week on a mixed note, with Tokyo and Hong Kong stocks enjoying solid gains and Seoul shares falling sharply as the slush fund scandal involving ex-president Roh Tae Woo continued, reports Reuter.

In Seoul, brokers said stocks fell sharply as investors went on a selling spree on worries that the market's weakness may deepen.

Investors have hoped the market would rebound early this week from the recent dullness, said Kim Hengng Shik of Hundal Securities. They started selling as the weakness continues.

The bearish mood is expected to continue for the time-being without any market boosting factors said Kim Young Bum of Seoul Securities.



David N Merrill (3rd from right), US Ambassador in Bangladesh, seen speaking at the monthly meeting of the American Bangladesh Economic Forum (ABEF) at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel yesterday. Persons sitting from right are A Gafur, Executive Secretary, Forrest Cookson, President, and M Nurul Islam (L), Vice President of ABEF.

Villagers' participation in dev projects' planning sought

Bangladeshi and Japanese experts here yesterday advocated villagers' participation in the planning process of development projects to ensure better life for 80 per cent of the country's 112 million people, according to UNB.

They were addressing a day-long seminar on the Joint Study on Rural Development Experiment (JSRDE) Project conducted by Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) and Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA).

Opening the seminar at a local hotel, Deputy Minister

for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Md Abdul Hye called on rural experts to evolve an appropriate framework for rural development and rapid poverty alleviation of the huge mass of population. The Deputy Minister stressed the need for linking up the local administration with the development process to facilitate a smoother flow of the service delivery system and for coordination among the line departments and other development partners.

Morimasha Kanamaru, Resident Representative of

JICA, said a coordinated programme of action linking village, union, thana and greater district is required in development structure for any future rural planning in Bangladesh.

Chaired by Rural Development and Cooperatives Secretary Md Mahe Alam, the inaugural session was also addressed by Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University Dr Shah Mohammad Farouk, Japanese Embassy official Hideyuki Sakamoto, BARD Director General Md Abdul Quddus and JSRDE project Director Saleha Begum.

South Asia must move boldly to liberalise economies:WB

WASHINGTON, Nov 21: South Asia must move boldly toward economic liberalisation to benefit from the post Uruguay Round global market, the World Bank said in a new study on the region, reports AFP.

The Uruguay Round of talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will likely generate seven billion dollars annually in income gains for South Asia in 1992 dollars raising economic output by two per cent and real wages by 2.5 per cent, it said.

But the World Bank report called for Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to accelerate major trade reform programmes already underway.

"The Uruguay Round improves market security for both exporters and im-

porters, but South countries must do more to adjust their domestic policies to the realities of the post-round global environment, author Nader Majid said.

There must be further liberalisation and more integration with both the region and the world, Majid said.

Tariff cuts by South Asia's trade partners would lower average tariffs on South Asian exports to developed countries by more than two per cent and on those to developing countries by 8.5 per cent.

The most dramatic effect of the Uruguay Round would be eradication of non-tariff barriers on South Asian exports to the rest of the world.

South Asia's manufacturing sectors would get the biggest boost, notably in textiles and clothing under the multifiber arrangement, with

regional textile output projected to rise 12 per cent and exports by 26 per cent.

Regional agriculture would be only modestly affected by the Uruguay Round with future tariff cuts needed.

Greater transparency and higher regulation would boost transportation, travel and tourism in the region.

Hanoi to export extra 150,000 tonnes of rice

HANOI, Nov 21: The Vietnamese government is to export an extra 150,000 tonnes of rice this year, taking total export to 2.15 million tonnes, the Saigon Giai Phong Daily said yesterday, reports AFP.

EU-Nepal first cooperation accord signed

BRUSSELS, Nov 21: The European Union and Nepal Monday signed their first ever cooperation accord, designed to shore up the major reform programme that the impoverished mountain kingdom has embarked on since moving to democracy in 1991, reports AFP.

The accord foresees cooperation in areas including trade, development and economic cooperation, science and technology, the environment and the fight against drugs.

"This accord represents a most important step for Nepal," said Foreign Minister Prakash Chandra.



A Korean food festival to raise money for charity was organised by the Embassy of the Republic of Korea at the residence of the Ambassador in the city recently. Traditional Korean delicacies, prepared by ROK women's associations and restaurants in Dhaka, were put on sale during the two-day event.

Asia-Pacific currencies end week mixed

HONG KONG, Nov 21: Currencies in the Asia-Pacific region ended the week mixed vis-a-vis the US dollar, as concerns eased over the possibility of a debt default by

the United States amid a standoff between the White House and the Republican-dominated Congress, reports AFP.

JAPANESE YEN: The yen traded at 101.93

to the dollar here Friday afternoon against 100.60 a week earlier.

It began the week with an advanced to 100.45 on Monday as dollar sales gained momentum amid the US budget financing crisis.

The Japanese unit was then swayed by developments in the US situation. But with **AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR:** The Australian dollar ended the week stronger, largely unaffected by an imminent industrial war as strike action spread across the country.

The local unit finished the week at 74.12 US cents, compared to 73.83 US cents last week.

HONG KONG DOLLAR: The Hong Kong dollar ended the week at 7.733-7.734 to the US dollar, virtually unchanged from the previous week's 7.7325-7.7335 range.

INDONESIAN RUPIAH: The Indonesian currency closed at 2,291 rupiah to the dollar, or two rupiah stronger than at closing the previous week.

MALAYSIAN RINGGIT: The Malaysian ringgit ended the week 40 points higher against the US dollar at 2.5295 on the back of a weaker greenback.

Dealers said the ringgit was expected to rise to 2.5280 in the coming week, as the US dollar could come under pressure with the US budget dispute still unresolved.

NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR: The New Zealand dollar closed Friday worth 64.75 US cents, down from the previous week's close of 65.20 cents.

"The main driving factor for the Kiwi seems to be that it is out of favour with offshore people at Themonet. This week's Goldman Sachs report (on the outlook for the Kiwi) seems to have had an effect, a dealer said.

PHILIPPINE PESO: The Philippine peso depreciated further to 26.248 pesos to the US dollar on Friday from 26.098 pesos to the dollar on November 10 due partly to speculation by traders.

SINGAPORE DOLLAR: The Singapore dollar closed the week a shade lower at 1.4120 to the greenback from 1.4110 at the previous week's finish.

THAI BAHT: The Exchange Equalisation Fund fixed the official mid-rate on Friday at 25.15 baht to one US dollar, compared with the previous week's close of 25.12 baht, a Nakornthon Bank official said.

SOUTH KOREAN WON: The Korean won strengthened slightly against the greenback, trading at 768.80 to the US dollar on Saturday as compared to 269.60 a week ago.

Notice Inviting Tender of RHD

Tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 in sealed cover.

1. Tender Notice No. 27/JRD of 1995-96.

2. Name of work & group list.

Group No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractor
1 (One)	Construction of 6.10 metre (20'-0") span RCC box culvert at 32nd KM of Madhapur-Jamalpur Road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1995-96.	Tk 16,35,374/=	Tk 32,710/-	80 (Eighty) days	RHD, Special category contractors as per financial capacity and territorial jurisdiction.
2 (Two)	Construction of 6.10 metre (20'-0") span RCC box culvert at 4th KM of Sherpur-Sreebordi-Bokshiganj Road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1995-96.	Tk 14,47,295/-	Tk 28,950/=	80 (Eighty) days	-do-
3 (Three)	Construction of 1.52 metre (5'-0") span RCC box culvert at 13th KM of Sherpur-Sreebordi-Bokshiganj Road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1995-96.	Tk 4,26,379/=	Tk 8,528/-	50 (Fifty) days	-do-
4 (Four)	Construction of 6.10 metre (20'-0") span RCC box culvert at 22nd KM of Sherpur-Sreebordi-Bokshiganj Road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1995-96.	Tk 15,78,335/=	Tk 31,567/-	80 (Eighty) days	-do-
5 (Five)	Construction of 4.57 metre (15'-0") span RCC box culvert at 3rd KM of Border (Sandakura-Dhanuakamalpur) Road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1995-96.	Tk 14,36,528/-	Tk 28,731/-	75 (Seventy-five) days	-do-
6 (Six)	Construction of 13.72 metre (45'-0") span in 3 (three) vent RCC box culvert at 30th KM of Border (Sandakura-Dhanuakamalpur) Road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1995-96.	Tk 22,71,366/-	Tk 45,428/=	100 (One hundred) days	-do-
7 (Seven)	Construction of 4.57 metre (15'-0") span RCC box culvert at 7th KM of Jamalpur-Dhanuakamalpur Road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1995-96.	Tk 12,58,567/=	Tk 25,172/=	75 (Seventy-five) days	-do-

- Last date for selling tender documents : Up to 28-11-95 (during office hours).
- Last date & time for receiving tenders : 29-11-95 up to 12.30 PM.
- Date & time for opening of tenders : 3-12-95 at 12.45 PM.
- Date & time of lottery : 5-12-95 at 11.00 AM.
- Name of offices where Tender documents will be sold : Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Jamalpur/Mymensingh/Tangail/Kishoreganj/Netrakona/Planning Division (Roads & Bridges), Dhaka/Planning & Design Division, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Dhaka Road Division, Dhaka & Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Road Sub-Division-I/II/1st Line Workshop, Jamalpur/Sherpur.
- Name of offices where tender will be received : Addl. Chief Engineer, RHD, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer, RHD, Mymensingh Road Circle, Mymensingh/Planning Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Monitoring & Evaluation (Roads & Bridges) Circle, Dhaka/Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, RHD, Jamalpur Road Division, Jamalpur & Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division, Sherpur.

Note: i) Tenders for group No. 3 will not be sold by the offices of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Planning Division (Roads & Bridges), Dhaka/Planning & Design Division, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka & Dhaka Road Division, Dhaka.
ii) Tenders for group No. 3 will not be received by the Office of the Addl. Chief Engineer, RHD, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer, RHD, Planning Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Monitoring & Evaluation (Roads & Bridges) Circle, Dhaka & Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka.
iii) All tenders will be opened at a time in the office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Jamalpur Road Division, Jamalpur on the due date & time fixed for opening after collecting all tenders (if any) from all tender receiving offices in sealed condition.

Mohammed Bayazid
Executive Engineer, RHD
(Current Charge)
Jamalpur Road Division
Jamalpur.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, জনস্বাস্থ্য প্রকৌশল
ভাভার বিভাগ, শহর বালিশপুর, খুলনা
দরপত্র আহবান বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ডায়েরিয়া প্রতিরোধ করে স্বাস্থ্য সম্ভব
পান্যথানা ব্যবহার করুন।

গৃহস্থালীর সকল কাজে নলকূপের
পানি ব্যবহার করুন।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ০৪(১৯৯৫-৯৬) তারিখঃ ১৫/১১/৯৫ ইং।

১৯৯৫-৯৬ইং অর্থ বছরের তালিকাভুক্ত/নবায়নকৃত ডি. পি. এইচ. ই. সি ১ম/২য় শ্রেণী টিকাসার/ব্রকড জলকৃষি প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে মঞ্জুরি বিদ্যমান ও শর্তাবলী মোতাবেক নিম্নে বর্ণিত মাসামাল সরবরাহের নিমিত্ত বাংলাদেশ কর্তৃক নং-২৯০৬ এ পৃষ্ঠক পৃষ্ঠক সীলনসহিতকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইবে। দরপত্র দাখিল আশামী ২৯/১১/৯৫ ইং তাং অবধি চম্পাকাশীল সমগ্র পৃষ্ঠক পৃষ্ঠক নিষ্পত্তিকারী কার্যালয়, নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী রূপায়ণঃ ভাভার বিভাগ, ঢাকা/চট্টগ্রাম/নাটোরের কার্যালয় হইতে নির্ধারিত মুদ্রা (অফিসের/স্বাক্ষর) করা করা যাইবে। দরপত্রসমূহ ৩০/১১/৯৫ ইং তাং দুপুর ১২-০০ টা পর্যন্ত একযোগে নিষ্পত্তিকারী কার্যালয়ে নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, জঃ স্বঃ প্রঃ ভাভার বিভাগ, ঢাকা/চট্টগ্রাম/নাটোরের কার্যালয়ে স্বাক্ষর করণের পরে একযোগে গৃহীত হইবে এবং ০২/১২/৯৫ ইং তারিখে সকাল ১০-০০ ঘটিকার তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, জঃ স্বঃ প্রঃ ভাভার সার্কেল ১৯০-আরামবাগ, ঢাকা এর কার্যালয়ে উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতা অথবা তাহাদের মনোনীত প্রতিনিধিগণের সম্মুখে যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন। দরপত্রসমূহ গোপা হইবে।

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	মাসামালের পরিমাণ	বায়নার টাকা	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ	মুদ্রিত পত্রিকার ফিস	দরপত্রদাতার শ্রেণী	সমসংসীমা
১।	আরওকার প্রকৌশলীর নির্দেশ ও সিদ্ধান্ত অনুযায়ী প্রকৌশলী, ডি. পি. এইচ. ই. সি-৪ প্রকৌশলীর আদেশ মোতাবেক ডি. পি. এইচ. ই. সি-৪ ভাভার বিভাগ, খুলনা ভাভারের সরবরাহ-করণ।	৩০০০ টি	উচ্চ মুদ্রার ২%	৩০/১১/৯৫	০,০০০/-	স্বত্বকারী	৩০ দিন
২।	১৯৯৫-৯৬ইং অর্থ বছরের তালিকাভুক্ত/নবায়নকৃত ডি. পি. এইচ. ই. সি ১ম/২য় শ্রেণী টিকাসার/ব্রকড জলকৃষি প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে মঞ্জুরি বিদ্যমান ও শর্তাবলী মোতাবেক নিম্নে বর্ণিত মাসামাল সরবরাহের নিমিত্ত বাংলাদেশ কর্তৃক নং-২৯০৬ এ পৃষ্ঠক পৃষ্ঠক সীলনসহিতকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইবে। দরপত্র দাখিল আশামী ২৯/১১/৯৫ ইং তাং অবধি চম্পাকাশীল সমগ্র পৃষ্ঠক পৃষ্ঠক নিষ্পত্তিকারী কার্যালয়, নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী রূপায়ণঃ ভাভার বিভাগ, ঢাকা/চট্টগ্রাম/নাটোরের কার্যালয় হইতে নির্ধারিত মুদ্রা (অফিসের/স্বাক্ষর) করা করা যাইবে। দরপত্রসমূহ ৩০/১১/৯৫ ইং তাং দুপুর ১২-০০ টা পর্যন্ত একযোগে নিষ্পত্তিকারী কার্যালয়ে নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, জঃ স্বঃ প্রঃ ভাভার বিভাগ, ঢাকা/চট্টগ্রাম/নাটোরের কার্যালয়ে স্বাক্ষর করণের পরে একযোগে গৃহীত হইবে এবং ০২/১২/৯৫ ইং তারিখে সকাল ১০-০০ ঘটিকার তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, জঃ স্বঃ প্রঃ ভাভার সার্কেল ১৯০-আরামবাগ, ঢাকা এর কার্যালয়ে উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতা অথবা তাহাদের মনোনীত প্রতিনিধিগণের সম্মুখে যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন। দরপত্রসমূহ গোপা হইবে।	২০০০ টি	মোট মুদ্রার ২%	২০/১১/৯৫	নাই	স্বত্বকারী/ডি. পি. এইচ. ই. সি-৪কারী/সরবরাহকারী	২৫ দিন
৩।	চম্পাকাশীল সীলন	৩০০০ টি	১.০০ টি	৩০/১১/৯৫	০.৫০ টি	স্বত্বকারী	২৫ দিন
৪।	সীলন	৩০০০ টি	১.০০ টি	৩০/১১/৯৫	০.৫০ টি	স্বত্বকারী	২৫ দিন
৫।	সীলন	৩০০০ টি	১.০০ টি	৩০/১১/৯৫	০.৫০ টি	স্বত্বকারী	২৫ দিন

শর্তাবলীঃ বিজ্ঞপ্তির পেশিফিকেশন, চুক্তির শর্তাবলী, বিল অব কোয়ানটিটিস, বাংলাদেশ কর্তৃক নং-২৯০৬ এবং অফিস প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়ে স্বাক্ষরিত দরপত্র সীলন (প্রতিটি প্রকৌশলীর আদেশ মোতাবেক) উপরে বর্ণিত হারে নগদ মুদ্রা (অফিসের/স্বাক্ষর) অফিস চম্পাকাশীল সমগ্র নিষ্পত্তিকারী কার্যালয়ে একে নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, রূপায়ণঃ ভাভার বিভাগ, ঢাকা/চট্টগ্রাম ও নাটোরের কার্যালয় হইতে পাঠানো যাইবে। তবে বিদিক সাব-কন্ট্রোলিং শাখায় তালিকাভুক্ত স্বত্বকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের ডি. পি. এইচ. ই. সি-৪ এর সীলন চুক্তিমোতাবেক সিদ্ধান্ত প্রদান করা হইবে।

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