


SANYO
Micro Computer Controlled Automatic Washing Machine ASW-40MT



Price: Tk. 25,000

The Daily Star BUSINESS



HYUNDAI
CARS THAT MAKE SENSE

DHAKA MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1996

Tk 450 cr programme undertaken for expansion of BSC: Siraj

CHITTAGONG, Dec 31: State Minister for Shipping Shajahan Siraj said here today that the present government had undertaken massive programme worth Taka 450 crore for expansion of Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) fleet to make the organisation a profitable one reports BSS.

Addressing the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of BSC as chief guest, the state minister said, under the programme, two container ships and one mother oil tanker would be procured soon, while seven other ships would be procured in phases by next few years.

Shipping Secretary Anwarul Islam, BSC Managing Director S M Shamsul Alam, among others, spoke. Shareholders and officials attended the meeting.

The state minister said that only 10 per cent external trade of the country was being carried by 18 ships of BSC and 12 ships in the private sector. He said to overcome the situation, the government had withdrawn duty on import of ocean-going ship and declared shipping as an industry.

Siraj called upon the local and foreign entrepreneurs to avail the opportunity being provided by the government

for expansion of shipping sector.

Referring to the congestion surcharge imposed by shipping lines on freight rate for Chittagong, Shajahan Siraj said there was now no justification on imposing the surcharge. The congestion in Chittagong Port is over, he said adding this is also admitted by the business community of the country.

He called upon the main line operators and feeder service operators to withdraw the unjustified surcharge.

Giving a brief financial picture of BSC, the state minister said due to pursuance of

wrong policy in procuring ships the corporation had incurred loss amounting to Taka 277 crore till June this year since its inception.

BSC earned an operational profit of Taka 19.34 crore in the last fiscal year, its net loss in that year stood at Taka 12.88 crore.

However, he noted with satisfaction that net loss of BSC in 1994-95 fiscal had been decreased by Taka three crore than the fiscal 1993-94.

The state minister informed that average age of BSC's ships is about 13 years. Four old ships of BSC will be disposed off, he said.

Lockout of Titas Apparels protested

By Staff Correspondent

Garments trade union leaders have protested the lockout of the Titas Apparels which has made at least three hundred workers jobless, said press release of the Titas Apparels Workers and Employees Union (TAWEU) yesterday.

The workers of the just closed Apparels factory made a procession in front of the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) at Kawranbazar and held a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

The rally was addressed among others by Amirul Hoque Amin, General Secretary, National Garments Workers Federation, Jahangir Hossain, Tofayel Ahmed, Nasima Akhter, Minara Akhter of the TAWEU.

The speakers alleged that the management have closed the factory illegally. The trade union leaders have demanded the factory reopen soon, said the press release.



Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd. held its annual sales conference at BPATC, Savar on Friday at which (from left) Arshad-ul Alam, Marketing Manager, Dr. Ali Reza Quader Baksh, Executive Director, Tapan Chowdhury, Managing Director, CR Patra, Executive Director (MIS), KM Saiful Islam, Sales Manager, are seen.

Two new digital exchanges start functioning in Ctg

Two new digital exchanges, each with a capacity of 2,000 lines at Sagorika and Bayejid in the port city of Chittagong, started functioning technically from December 28, reports UNB.

Some 660 lines of Sagorika exchange under EMD system were converted into digital and the EMD exchange was closed down, said a T&T Board press release yesterday.

Following introducing of the digital system, the previous 5-digit analogue telephone of Sagorika has been turned into a 6-digit digital number.

Now, one more digit — seven — is needed to be dial before the previous five digit number of Sagorika exchange. For instance, a telephone number which earlier was 51000, is now 751000.

The previous 1900-line EMD exchange will remain in operation with the new 2,000-line digital exchange at Bayejid, the press release added.



The 17th annual general meeting of the shareholders of Hotels International Ltd, the Owing Company of Sonargaon Hotel, was held on Thursday. Maj (Retd) Abdul Mannan, State Minister in-charge of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism and Chairman of the company presided over the meeting.

Aussie coal export earnings may double

SYDNEY, Dec 31: Australia's coal industry could double annual export earnings to 15 billion Australian dollars (11 billion US dollar) by 2010 if producers harnessed opportunities in Asia, the Resources Minister said in newspaper reports today, says AFP.

New executives of Kushtia chamber

Bijoy Kumar Kejrwal has been elected President and Haji Md Rafiqul Alam Tuku and Md. Aminul Islam has been made Vice Presidents of the Kushtia Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the term 1995-96 and 1996-97, says a press release yesterday.

More pragmatic role of bankers in N-region stressed

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAH, Dec 31: Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank, Mahbubur Rahman Khan, has emphasised the need for more pragmatic and dynamic role to be played by the bankers in the northern region for encouraging potential investors.

He was addressing a reception organised in his honour by the banking community of Rajshahi recently at a local community centre.

Elaborating the progress and achievements of the Financial Sector Reform (FSRP) activities in the country during the last few years, Khan said that there are indications that the FSRP initiatives were beginning to yield improved financial performances. But there still remains much to be done for which continued efforts will be needed, he added.

Khan explained why the Letter of Credit (LC) margin had recently been increased up to 30 per cent. He said that the increment was necessary in view of the alarming increase in the quantum of unnecessary imports of some commodities and keeping our hard-earned foreign exchange reserves within a safe limit. He disclosed that over the past few months the foreign exchange reserves of the country had declined from 3.6 billion US dollar to 2.5 billion US dollar.

Bakhrabad Gas makes Tk 19cr net profit

By Staff Correspondent

Bakhrabad Gas System Limited (BGSL) made a net profit of Tk 19 crore and 21 lakh during the 1994-95 financial year, said a press release of the company on Saturday.

The company earned a revenue of Tk 304 crore and 19 lakh by selling 166.2 crore cubic metre of gas, and contributed Tk 160 crore and 80 lakh to the national exchequer.

This was disclosed at the 15th annual general meeting

of the company in the city on Saturday with Md Mosharaf Hossain, Director (Planning) of Petrobangla and Chairman, Board of Directors of BGSL, in the chair.

During the last financial year, the company constructed a 114 km network pipeline and gave 11716 connections to the consumers. The sale of gas by the company registered a growth of 11.08 per cent over that of the previous year.

Meanwhile, the Third Gas Development Project, fi-

nanced by the Asia Development Bank, is progressing well and expected to be completed on June 30, 1997, the press release added.

After the completion of the project, Rangunia and Kaptai thana sadar, tea estates of Fatikchhari and Rangarh, Chhagainaiya, Fulgazi and Parshuram thana sadar, BISC industrial estate of Feni, Laxmipur district headquarters, Chatkhil thana sadar, Matlab and Barura thana sadar will come under gas distribution network.

Greenback mixed against Asian currencies over the week

HONG KONG, Dec 31: The US dollar had a mixed week against Asian currencies, reports AFP.

The yen slipped slightly while the Australian dollar gained more than half a US cent and brought its New Zealand counterpart up with it. Most other regional currencies were practically steady against the greenback.

JAPANESE YEN: Slipped to 102.91 yen against the US dollar from 102.77 the previous week. Slipped briefly below 103 to the dollar for the first time in nearly two months on Friday after a week of light trading sandwiched between Christmas and new year holidays.

But the Japanese unit is not expected to weaken much more with exporters poised to sell dollars for yen at around 103.30, dealers said.

TAIWAN DOLLAR: Fell slightly against the US dollar which closed yesterday at 27.288 Taiwan dollars, up 0.3 Taiwan cents from the previ-

ous week's finish of 27.285.

SINGAPORE DOLLAR: Closed higher at 1.4140 to the greenback from 1.4145 the previous week-end.

"The medium-term trend is looking bearish for the US dollar but we expect the greenback to continue trading sideways in the coming week," said an analyst at a Singapore bank.

MALAYSIAN RINGGIT: Strengthened by just eight points against the US currency to close at 2.5382 from 2.5390 last week.

Major players were on the sidelines towards year-end but some end-of-year window-dressing helped boost the ringgit.

The central bank, Bank Negara, intervened on Wednesday when the local unit was trading at 2.5420 against the greenback.

THAI BAHT: Finished Friday at 25.19 baht to the dollar, down slightly from the previous week's close of 25.16 baht.

PHILIPPINE PESO: Gained

slightly against the US dollar over the week, closing at 26.228 to greenback from 26.24 on December 22.

HONG KONG DOLLAR: Closed at 7.7317-7.7327 to the US dollar, up from the previous week's 7.7323-7.7333. The Hong Kong currency is closely pegged to its US counterpart.

INDONESIAN RUPIAH: Closed on Friday at 2,297 rupiah to the dollar, nine rupiah lower than the previous week's close.

SOUTH KOREAN WON: Weakened against the greenback trading at 773.20 to the dollar Saturday compared to 772.10 the previous week.

NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR: Closed Friday worth 65.34 US cents, slightly firmer than its close last Friday at 65.18.

The Kiwi peaked at 65.43 at the close Thursday but weakened on the back of the softer Australian dollar.

Dealers said the New Zealand currency was in good shape and was likely to nudge 65.50 early in the new year.

Two branches of Islami Bank open

The 89th branch of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited has been opened on Saturday at Mohakhali in Dhaka, says a press release.

Mohammad Younus, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors and M Kamaluddin Chowdhury, Executive President of the bank, addressed the inaugural function as chief guest and special guest respectively. Presided over by M Tajul Islam, Senior Vice President and In-charge of Dhaka Zone of the Bank, the function was also addressed among others by Advocate Mokbul Ahmed, eminent businessman Abu Taher, Col. (Retd) Haider, Al-Haji Sharif, Jada Mohammad Montruazzaman and Sheikh Moshir Rahman, Manager of the branch.

Patuakhali Branch has also been opened on the same day.

Mohammad Shahidullah Mia, Deputy Commissioner of Patuakhali, attended the function as chief guest. Prof. Mohammad Abdul Bari Mia and Abdul Maleque Khan, Vice President of Patuakhali Chamber of Commerce and Industry, also attended the function as special guest.

Presided over by MA Awwal, Vice President and In-charge of Khulna Zone, the function was also addressed by Principal Abdul Jabbar Azadi, eminent businessman Haji Kanchan Ali, Nurul Islam Khalifa, Manager of Barisal Branch and Abdul Gani, Manager of Patuakhali Branch.



Ali Hossain new DCCI President

Ali Hossain (Hasan) has been elected President of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the term 1996 in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held yesterday, says a press release.

He is the Chairman of the Tejaon Re-rolling Co. Ltd, Jamuna Steels Ltd, Jamuna Shipping Lines Ltd, Hossain Cold Storage Ltd, Shabnam Cold Storage Ltd, Haji Sattar Cold Storage Ltd and Zoura Sattar Textile Mills Ltd. He is one of the leading industrialists of the country who has been making valuable contributions for the economic development as well. Ali Hossain is also entrusted with the responsibility of the Chairman of the Bangladesh Re-rolling Mills Association over the years.

He is also the Director of the City Bank Ltd, which is one of the leading private sector bank in the country. He is also the Director of the Industrial Development leasing Co. (IDLCO).



The Bankers Community of Rajshahi accorded a reception to Mahbubur Rahman, Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank, at a community centre in Rajshahi recently. — Star photo

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Environment
House No 2, Road No 16 (New)
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209

Memo No DOE/Dev. (ODS)-162/95

Appointment Notice

Applications are hereby invited from bonafide citizens of Bangladesh for filling up the following posts on purely temporary basis under a development project namely "Institutional Strengthening for the Phase out of Ozone Depleting Substances" being implemented under the Department of Environment which may be continued for 3 years.

Sl No	Name of post	Monthly consolidated salary	Number of post	Age limit	Academic qualification and experience
1	Computer Operator	Tk 6,000/- (Tk six thousand only)	1 (one)	Maximum 35 years	Science graduate having adequate experience in Computer Data Management and Word Processing Operation & Maintenance

Interested candidates are requested to apply with CV and 3 copies of passport size photographs along with attested copies of certificates within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice to the undersigned.

Departmental candidates should apply through proper channel.

Md Shahjahan
Project Director
"Institutional Strengthening for the Phaseout of Ozone Depleting Substances Project"
Department of Environment

DFP-32749-28/12
G-9

বাংলাদেশ উন্মুক্ত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
BANGLADESH OPEN UNIVERSITY
HOUSE # 16, ROAD # 02, DHANMONDI R/A, DHAKA # 1205, BANGLADESH. TEL # 865221 865662

INVITATION OF TENDER

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Education
Office of the Vice Chancellor/Project Director
Bangladesh Open University
House # 16, Road No # 02, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205

Memo No.: BOU/MEDIA-PROJECT/531/Tender/95/96 Date: 31/12/95

Subject: Invitation for International Competitive Bids (ICB) for Construction of Building and Procurement & Installation of Plants and Equipment for building and Audio & Video Equipment on turnkey basis for the Bangladesh Open University, Media Centre, Board Bazar, Gazipur.

Credit No. ADB LOAN NO. SF 1173 BAN

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), in various currencies towards the cost of the turnkey Construction and Procurement/Supply/Installation of Plants and Equipment for the Media Centre of Bangladesh Open University (BOU), and it is intended that a part of the proceeds of the loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract (hereinafter referred to as the Contract) for which this invitation for Bid is issued. Payment by the ADB will be made only at the request of the borrower and upon approval by the ADB in accordance with the Loan Agreement, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of that Agreement. Except as the ADB may specifically otherwise agree, no party other than the borrower shall derive any rights from Loan Agreement of having any rights to the loan proceeds.
- Bangladesh Open University (BOU), House No. 16, Road No. 2, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205 and Board Bazar, Gazipur the Employer (hereinafter called the "EMPLOYER") invites sealed Technical and Commercial (general conditions) Proposals from the eligible intending bidders from ADB member countries for construction of Media building and supply, installation and commissioning of Audio-Video equipment on turnkey basis for BOU Media Centre. The Proposal will include the Technicalities and Commercial requirement as specified in the tender document and which will ensure smooth Operation and Performance requirements.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information on Bid Form and inspect bidding documents at the office of the EMPLOYER Vice Chancellor/Project Director, BOU, House No. 16, Road No. 2, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205, Phone-880-2-865221, 880-2-862676 and Fax-880-2-865750.
- A complete set of bidding document may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the EMPLOYER'S office and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Taka 8,200/- only (Taka Eight Thousand Two Hundred only) or US\$ 200/- (US Dollar Two Hundred only) in the form of A/C Payee Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of Project Director/Vice Chancellor, BOU, Dhaka.
- The Bidding document will be available on all working days from 01 January '96 to 31 January '96 during office hours.
- All Bids must be reached submitted on or before 12-00 hours of 01 April '96 in sealed cover and or be dropped in the tender box on the same day, the purpose in the office of Vice Chancellor/Project Director, BOU, House No. 16, Road No. 2, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205, and project office at BOU Campus, Board Bazar, Gazipur-1700.
- The Bids will be opened immediately thereafter in presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to be present.
- All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security of 2% of the quoted amount in the form of A/C payee Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Project Director/Vice Chancellor, BOU, Dhaka. The above security amount issued from any foreign bank must have endorsement from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh.
- Design, Drawings and Bill of Quantities included in the bidding documents are indicative only. All bidders must submit detailed design, drawings and bill of quantities and other related documents to complete the works of Media Centre to be submitted along with the bids.
- The work is to be completed within 18 months time and the maintenance period for the project is 12 months. The time schedule includes construction of Media Centre building procurement and installation of Audio & Video equipment for the Media Centre and testing and commissioning. A maximum of 8 months shall be allowed for the procurement and installation of Audio & Video equipment and another 2 months for testing & commissioning. The bidder shall furnish a work plan indicating the project completion by 18 months from the date of signing of the contract.
- The BOU authority will not be liable for any cost or expenses incurred by bidder in connection with the preparation of tender/bids.
- The authority reserves the right to reject/accept any or all the tenders either in full or part, without assigning any reason thereof and without incurring any liability/obligation whatsoever to the affected bidder/bidders regarding the grounds for EMPLOYER'S action.

Vice Chancellor/Project Director
Bangladesh Open University

D01