

India, Israel agree to give MFN status to each other

NEW DELHI, India, Jan 30: India and Israel Monday agreed to give the most favoured nation status to each other and signed three agreements to boost economic and trade relations, reports AP.

The accord on bilateral investment promotion and protection said investment funds shall be freely transferred, without unreasonable delay, and not be discriminated against, a government press statement said.

The other agreements related to customs cooperation and double taxation avoidance. The agreements were signed by India's Finance Minister Manmohan Singh and visiting Israeli finance minister, Avraham B Shochat in New Delhi.

The two governments will also assist in promoting joint ventures between Israeli and Indian private companies, particularly for hi-tech industries, telecom, aviation, agriculture, textiles and other fields of mutual interest.

The Israeli government has offered to provide 100 million dollars credit facility to India's Export and Import bank for the financing of exports of capital goods and related services from Israel to India.

Likewise, the Indian bank would extend 25 million dollar credit to Israel on a reciprocal basis.

World food summit in Rome must tackle hunger: FAO

ROME, Jan 30: World leaders must tackle hunger as a threat to global stability when they gather in Rome later this year for an unprecedented summit on food, a senior diplomat at the UN Food and Agriculture Organization said yesterday, reports Reuters.

In a speech to the agency's 144-nation committee on World Food Security, Chilean Pedro Medrano said humanity was already witnessing the biggest migratory flows in its history as a result of hunger and poverty.

He estimated that 100 million people were already on the move, often across borders, in search of food, work and a better life and said the phenomenon could grow unless action was taken to stem what he called the globalisation of poverty.

What is at stake here is not only the destiny of agriculture but the very foundations of political, economic and social stability of the new international order, Medrano said.

Medrano, Chile's permanent representative to the Rome-based FAO, was elected to a two-year term as chairman of the food security committee at the start of a five-day session on Monday. The committee will coordinate preparations for the November 13-17 summit, the first world gathering of heads

of state and government on the problem of hunger. Medrano told Reuters in an interview that more than 120 leaders had already confirmed their attendance, including Cuba's Fidel Castro and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The summit is expected to adopt a policy statement on the need to end hunger in the next century and a plan of action on how to meet the goal.

Draft documents for the summit being studied at this committee meeting would be working for a world in which every man, woman and child has the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition.

They note that the world's population, now 5.8 billion, is expected to grow to 8.6 billion by 2025.

In order to ensure sustained progress towards universal food security, today's global food production will have to increase by more than 75 per cent over the next 30 years, the draft policy statement noted.

While a sustainable production increase of this magnitude is considered to be technically possible, it will require a formidable human, political and technological effort, it said.

The draft action plan calls among other steps for stable economic and political conditions and manageable levels of foreign debt in developing countries to help ensure countries are able to feed their people.

FAO estimates that more than 800 million people are chronically undernourished, either because they do not produce enough food or do not have enough money to buy it.

Medrano told Reuters that the threat posed to international stability from hunger and poverty-driven migration had not yet been adequately recognised.

History teaches us that when there is hunger, people go on the move, Medrano said. But it has not yet been understood what poverty and hunger in the third world means to stability in the first world.

Chittagong Stock Exchange

At the close of trading on January 30, '96

Index declines

Star Report

Chittagong Stock Exchange All Share Price Index marked a slight decline on Tuesday. The index lost 0.07 points from 396.34 to 396.27.

The transaction in volume increased by 50 per cent to 1950 from 1300 while value declined by nine per cent from 130967 to 119255.

The CSE market capital closed on Tuesday at Tk 2386.74 cr from previous figure of Tk 2387.17 cr.

A total number of two issues were traded during the day namely, Chic Tex 500 securities traded and Beximco Pharma 1450 securities traded. Both the issues incurred losses and Chic Tex Ltd topped with a loss of Tk 4.40 per share.

CSE at a glance table with columns: CSE All Securities Price Index, Day's Change in Index, Total Turnover (Value) Tk, Total Turnover (Volume), Day's Contract Numbers, Total Issues Traded, Day's Issues Declined, Day's Issues Unchanged, Total Closing Market Capital Tk, Total No. of Listed Securities, Total No. of Companies, Total No. of Mutual Funds.

Day's trading performance table with columns: Company's name, Closing rate (ave), Previous rate (ave), Difference, No. of securities traded.

Exchange Rates

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies including US Dollar, GBP, DM, Franc, SFR, and Jap Yen.

Table showing US Dollar Spot Buying rates for various denominations (30 Days, 60 Days, 90 Days, 120 Days, 180 Days).

Table showing Indicative Rates (B. Tk. for one unit of foreign currency) for various currencies like S Riyal, UAE Dirham, Kuwaiti Dinar, D Guider, S Krona, Malaysian Ringgit, Singapore Dollar.

Table showing Shipping Intelligence for Chittagong Port, listing Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 30/1/96.

Table showing Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage, listing Name of Vessels, Date of Last Port, Local agent, and Cargo Loading port.

Table showing Tanker Due, listing Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local agent, and Date of arrival.

Table showing Vessels at Kutubdia, listing Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local agent, and Date of arrival.

Table showing Vessels at Outer Anchorage, listing Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local agent, and Date of arrival.

Table showing Vessels Arriving Instruction, listing Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local agent, and Date of arrival.

Table showing Movement of Vessels for 31.1.96, listing Outgoing, Incoming, and Shifting vessels.

Table showing the above vessels shipping and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by MRC Group Dhaka.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on January 30, '96

Index continues to decline

Star Report

The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index on Tuesday continued to decline. The index lost 0.37 point ending at 774.81 from 775.18.

The transactions in volume decreased by 46 per cent from 244116 to 132297 and value fell by 65 per cent to 1.75 cr from five crore.

Total market capital of the shares slid to Tk 5048.75 cr from Tk 5051.18 cr.

The leading gainer of the day was Bangladesh Thal Aluminium with a rise of Tk 150 per share while the losers were led by Islami Bank with a fall of Tk 159.30 per share.

The volume leaders of the day were: Chic Tex Ltd (39000), Beximco Pharma (10700) and Meghna Cement (7300).

Table showing DSE All Share Price Index and Market capital Tk 5048.75 cr.

Table showing Trading at a glance with columns: DSE All Price Index, Market capital Tk, Transaction in volume, Total issues traded, Issues gained, Issues incurred losses, Issues unchanged.

Table showing Company's name, Change (per share), Number of shares traded.

Table showing DSE Shares and Debentures with columns: Company, PV/ML, Closing Rate, Rate.

Table showing PHARMACEUTICALS & CHEMICALS (23) with columns: Company, PV/ML, Closing Rate, Rate.

Table showing ENGINEERING (30) with columns: Company, PV/ML, Closing Rate, Rate.

Table showing FOOD & ALLIED (37) with columns: Company, PV/ML, Closing Rate, Rate.

Table showing SERVICE (3) with columns: Company, PV/ML, Closing Rate, Rate.

Table showing MISCELLANEOUS (34) with columns: Company, PV/ML, Closing Rate, Rate.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H) Sirajganj Road Division, Sirajganj Corrigendum Notice

Subject: Various developmental work on different roads under Sirajganj Road Division during 1995-96 financial year.

Reference: This office Memo No. 48 (20) dated 4-1-96/21-9-1402 BS.

It is hereby notified for information of all concerned that under unavoidable circumstances the undermentioned amendments are made in the tender described under the above mentioned subject & reference.

- 1. Last date of selling tender document - shall be 7-2-96 instead of 27-1-96.
2. Last date & time of receiving tender - shall be 8-2-96 instead of 28-1-96.
3. Opening date of tender - shall be 10-2-96 instead of 30-1-96.
4. Date & time of lottery - shall be 12-2-96 instead of 4-2-96.

Other terms & conditions of tender shall remain unchanged and this should be treated as integral part of the tender.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Facilities Department Kishoreganj Zone, Kishoreganj

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from A-1 & A-2 class enlisted contractors of Facilities Department for construction works of the undermentioned high schools under 'Selected Private Secondary Educational Institution Renovation & Development Project'.

Table listing names of schools, districts & thanas as stated below.

Table with columns: Group No, Name of District, Name of Thana, Name of Educational Institution, Name of Project.

Table with columns: Estimated cost, Time for completion of work, Earnest money, Last date & time of purchasing tender, Last date & time of receiving tender, Date & time of opening tender.

Tender documents will be available on cash payment of Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (non-refundable) per set from Head Office, Facilities Department, Shiksha Bhaban, Dhaka/Executive Engineer's Office, Facilities Department, Mymensingh/Dhaka/Savar/Narsingdi/Narayanganj/Tangail/Faridpur/Madaripur/Kishoreganj Zone & Assistant Engineer's Office, Facilities Department, Kishoreganj/Netrokona district on all working days during office hours, and the tender documents will be received at the above offices in time & opened before the tenderers (if any) present.

Earnest money in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Kishoreganj Zone, Kishoreganj should be submitted with the tender.

- 1. Current year renewed contractors licence, enlistment registration book must be produced at the time of purchasing tender document.
2. Original copy of VAT registration certificate & current year renewed Income Tax certificate must be produced at the time of purchasing tender document.
3. Rate quoted by the respective contractor should be written both in figures & words.
4. Tender quoting rate more than 5% (five per cent) below the estimated cost will be treated as cancelled outright.
5. If more than one contractors submit the same rate in any group, then the contractor will be selected through lottery.
6. Those contractors/firms who have failed to complete/complete 80% (eighty per cent) of construction work of 1994-95 financial year, cannot participate in the tender.
7. It is not required to mention Group No. at the time of receiving written permission to purchase tender document only mentioning Tender No will do. But the contractor should mention the Group No. in figures & words on the top sheet of the tender document.
8. If any contractor/firm receives construction work of more than 3 (three) groups in the same tender through lottery, then he will not be given more than 3 (three) construction works.
9. Scrap rod cannot be used in construction work and prior to using rod in construction work, the contractor/firm should submit tensile stress report with other necessary test reports at own cost.

The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.



Maurice Flanagan, (C) Emirates Group Managing Director, is flanked by Emirates cabin crew, Don Foster (R), Senior General Manager (Inflight Services) and Mohammed Qasim Al Ali, General Manager (L) for UK and Ireland, who hold the six major awards presented to Emirates at the Airline of the year awards ceremony in London.

Emirates win six new premier awards

Emirates, the international airline of the UAE, emphasised its position as one of the world's leading airlines when it won six premier awards and was runner-up in three other categories at the prestigious Airline of the Year Awards at the Dorchester Hotel, London, says a press release.

Emirates was voted the best airline by Executive Travel readers in the following categories: Best long-haul Airline, Best Airline to the Middle East, Airline with the Best Inflight Food and Wine, Airline with the Best Inflight Entertainment, Airline with the Best Inflight Magazine, Airline with the Best Cabin Staff.

In addition Emirates came runner-up in the second position for Airline of the Year (which was won by Swissair), Airline with the Best First Class and Airline with the Best Economy Class.

This is an unprecedented honour for Emirates as only nine airlines featured in the 14 categories open to Emirates who won six of them and came second in three.

The awards were presented by Pierre J Jeannot, Director General of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to Maurice Flanagan, Emirates Group Managing Director who commented 'These new awards are a wonderful surprise and an excellent start for 1996. They reflect our continuous commitment to provide the best possible service to every single customer.'

Unemployment up in Russia

MOSCOW, Jan 30: The number of people applying for Russia's meager unemployment benefits rose more than 40 per cent in the past year, the Federal Employment Service said Monday, reports AP.

About 2.3 million Russians were receiving the benefits as of Jan 1, employment service spokeswoman Irina Milkina told the ITR-Tass news agency. This is up from 1.6 million a year before.

The total unemployment figures, however, have risen less sharply. The State Statistics Committee said 8.2 per cent of the working population was unemployed, compared to 7.1 per cent a year ago.

In past years, few Russians brother to file for jobless benefits. The number is now up to about 38 per cent of the 6 million unemployed.

DM Nawajesh Kuli Khan Executive Engineer Facilities Department Kishoreganj Zone, Kishoreganj.