

Arab food
imports rise
by \$1b in '95

ABU DHABI, Feb 12 Arab food imports increased by nearly one billion dollars in 1995 and the gap is set to widen due to a rapid population growth and worldwide protectionism, officials Arab reports said yesterday, according to AFP.

Imports by the 22 member Arab League of wheat, sugar, oil and meat were estimated to have increased by between 793 million dollars and 1.15 billion dollars in 1995, said the report by the Khartoum-based Arab Corporation for Agricultural Investment and Development (KACID).

It said the increase and a projected growth in farm imports in the near future widened the deficits in Arab balances of payments, already under pressure by the slow growth in exports and a steady rise in imports.

"Given the steady growth in the population of the Arab countries and an improvement in eating habits due to better economic and social conditions their need for food will increase day after day," said the report, published in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper Al-Khaleej.

The continued reliance on abroad to bridge the food gap will always be costly not only financially but economically, socially and politically because he who does not own his food does not own his security and future," it added.

KACID, the Arab League's main farm group, said Arab farm imports far exceeded exports, creating a deficit of around 11 billion dollars a year.

Training on
ISO 9000 held

Quality Institute of America and MRK Consultants, jointly organised a two-day training programme on "How to interpret and implement ISO 9000" at Hotel Sonargoon, recently, says a press release yesterday.

Eighteen top-level executives from fourteen organisations participated in the training programme.

The programme was inaugurated by RA Mazumdar, former Director of Bangladesh Tobacco Co Ltd and currently partner of MRK Consultants. Wali Alam, a renowned consultant for implementation of ISO 9000, conducted the programme.

A H Mofazzal Karim Secretary of Commerce attended the closing session of the training programme and handed over certificates among the participants. He underscored the need for adopting ISO Quality Systems and procedures in business organisations in the country to gain confidence of customers both at home and abroad.

Biman
BANGLADESH AIRLINES

Za International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka. Phone: 994771-9, 994730-4
Cable: AIRBANGLA, Tel: 64249 DABG BJ
Stores & Purchase Directorate Fax: 990-2-993028
Ref: DACPB/Int'l Re-Tender/015 & 016/95-96 Dated: 08-02-1996

Corrigendum of Int'l Re-Tender

This refers to our Int'l Re-Tender Notice No. DACPB/Int'l Re-Tender/015/95-96 dated 14-01-96 and DACPB/Int'l Re-Tender/016/95-96 dated 02-01-96 and Corrigendum of above Tender Ref: DACPB/Int'l Re-Tender/015 & 016/95-96 dated 03-02-96. Published earlier for procurement of Communication Equipments and Hot and Cold Beverage Flask/Jug respectively.

All participants are requested to please note the following amendment.

1. Tender schedule are to be sold up to 24-02-1996.
2. The last date of Tender submission will be 25-02-1996 instead of 17-02-1996 up to 1100 Hrs (BST) and in the same day tender will be opened at 1400 Hrs (BST).

All other terms and conditions of the tender schedule will remain unchanged.

D-183
Dy. General Manager S&P (Comm)

Tender Notice
No. 10/95-96

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the BWDB enlisted 'B', 'C' & 'D' Class Contractors for manufacturing, supplying, placing and dumping of CC & sand cement blocks in connection with the protection of Dapadia ferry ghat during 1995-96.

1. Details of work are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money Normal	Earnest money Token	Eligibility of contractor	Time allowed
1.	Manufacturing & supplying of CC & sand cement block.	12,174,91/-	30,437/-	12,175/-	B' Class, under BWDB	90 days
2.	-Do- -Do- -Do-	12,174,91/-	30,437/-	12,175/-	-Do-	90 *
3.	-Do- -Do- -Do-	8,55,352/-	21,384/-	8,554/-	C' Class	90 *
4.	Placing and dumping of C. C. & sand cement block	4,65,200/-	11,630/-	4,632/-	D' Class	60 *
5.	Manufacturing and supplying of CC & sand cement block.	15,72,590/-	39,315/-	15,726/-	B' Class	90 *
6.	Placing and dumping of CC & Sand cement Block.	2,26,460/-	5,662/-	2,265/-	D' class	60 *

2. Office where availability of Tender document

3. Office of receiving Tender

4. Date & time of opening Tender

5. Name of advertiser

6. Name of advertiser

7. Name of advertiser

8. Name of advertiser

Dhaka given priority

Delhi's bid to triple
export earnings

NEW DELHI, Feb 12: In an ambitious bid to triple export earnings by the turn of the century, India has unveiled a plan to focus on 15 countries including Bangladesh and 15 products in sharp contrast to the earlier policy of concentrating on 34 extreme focus items, officials of the Commerce Ministry told SANA News Service here yesterday.

Export volume has been targeted to rise from 31 billion US dollars to a massive 75-100 billion dollars in the next five years.

In a deft management gambit, the Minister of State for Commerce, P Chidambaram, has unveiled a "country-commodity matrix" for 15 destinations and 15 products together with some "new products" and "new markets". His audience comprised of ambassadors' captions of industry's leading chambers of commerce and industry.

The presentation was designed to bolster India's export promotion drive by stepping up its share in global trade from a meagre

0.6 per cent to one per cent by the turn of this century. India has in the meantime announced plans for an India Brand Equity Fund with a seed capital of 75 crore rupees to be contributed by both the government and industry.

An investment of 75 crore rupees would result in an exponential export volume of 10,000 crore rupees over a period of time if the thrust areas are concentrated through focused attention and action.

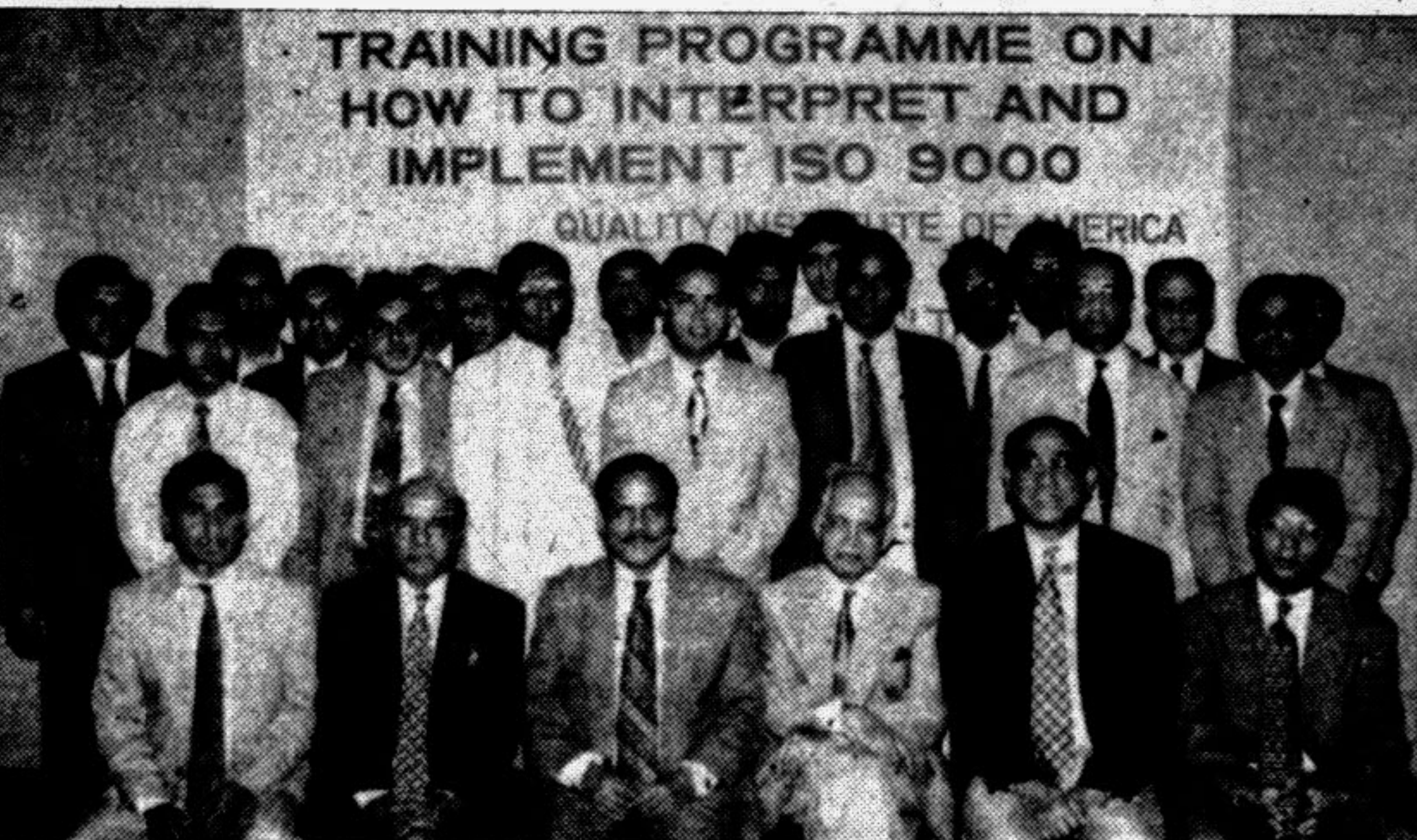
Officials of the Indian Commerce Ministry told SANA here that both the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister have supported the scheme which would be set in motion by early next month. He said Chidambaram asked the industry to contribute generously to popularise Indian products abroad.

The 15 identified countries are the US, Japan, Germany, the UK, Hong Kong, the UAE, Belgium, Italy, Russia, Singapore, Bangladesh, Netherlands, France, Saudi Arabia and

Thailand. The countries together accounted for 20 million US dollars of the 26.2 billion dollars export volume in 1994-95.

The 15 products are gem and jewellery, readymade garments (RMG), cotton yarn, fabric, and madeups, marine products, drugs and pharmaceuticals, transport equipment, metal manufactures, machinery and instruments, leather manufactures, manmade yarn, oil meals, leather footwear, dyes/intermediates, plastic and linoleum products.

Referring to emerging markets and products, Chidambaram said these include the UAE, Malaysia, UK, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Germany, Netherlands, Russia and France, while the products identified for this segment include fruits and vegetables, processed fruits and juices, sports, goods, cosmetics and toiletries, woolen (yarn, fibre and madeups), RMG (Silk), RMG (wool), electronic goods and computer software.



Eighteen participants from fourteen organisations, who took part in a training programme on "How to interpret and implement ISO 9000", are seen in the picture with Mofazzal Karim, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

'Developing states must count
on domestic resources'

PARIS, Feb 12: Developing nations must increasingly count on domestic resources and sound policies to attract private funds amid growing competition for scarcer offi-

cial aid, a key OECD committee warned today, reports AFP.

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) said Japan, the world's largest aid donor, accounting for one-fifth of total DAC aid, as well as France and several smaller countries continued to increase their official aid in 1994.

But major donors facing large budget deficits, including the United States, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, cut their Official Development Assistance (ODA) significantly.

"It is hard to imagine that the volume of ODA will increase dramatically in the near term," DAC chairman James Michael said in the annual DAC report on development cooperation.

DAC set the total 1994 net flow of resources to the developing world at 184 billion dollars, with 164 billion coming from OECD countries.

It said private flows including direct investment, bank lending and equity purchases topped 110 billion, accounting for 60 per cent of the total, with official aid at 59.7 billion dollars or one-third of the total.

Ten years ago, at the height of the Latin American debt crisis, ODA accounted for more than half and pri-

vate flows for barely 34 per cent of net total flows.

Official aid from 22 donors in the 25-nation Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) rose to 59 billion dollars in 1994 after a 4.3 billion dollar fall to 56.5 billion in 1993, the report said.

But in real terms, taking inflation and exchange rate movements into account, the 1994 figure was unchanged from 1993 and lower than in 1992.

And as a share of their gross national product (GNP), aid from the 22 DAC members dropped from 0.31 per cent to a 22-year low of 0.30 per cent.

The ratio had remained at around 0.35 per cent, half the United Nations' target of 0.7 per cent, for two decades up to 1992, DAC said.

Only four DAC countries — Norway, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands — topped the 0.7 per cent target in 1994.

Top donor Japan boosted its aid by two billion dollars to 13.2 billion but its ODA to GNP ratio, at 0.29 per cent, remained below the DAC average.

The US, top donor until 1992, cut its aid to 9.9 billion dollars from 10.1 billion in 1993, and its ratio fell to 0.15 per cent, half the average and the lowest of all DAC donors.

France, the third-ranking donor at 8.5 billion dollars, was the only group of seven (G7) country providing aid in excess of 0.5 per cent of its GNP. Aid from non-OECD countries, including Arab oil producers, fell to 1.4 billion dollars in 1994, one-quarter of the 1990 level.

The report said East European countries and the former Soviet republics received aid worth some 7.5 billion dollars, with Germany accounting for one-third. But this aid was not counted as ODA.

DAC chairman Michael said "heated budget debates, especially in the US, were grounds for serious concern about future levels of ODA resources." Although the United States now has "a significantly reduced budget deficit, continued budget consolidation meant US aid may be cut yet again," the report said.

Michael welcomed sharply increased private flows but stressed that they remained "highly concentrated" in a small number of advanced developing economies.

Asia business briefs

NEW DELHI, Feb 12: American Paints India Ltd. signed an agreement with US-based Sherwin Williams Co. to manufacture and market Sherwin Paint products in India, a report said Monday.

American Paints will raise funds for the project through a public issue, the Pioneer newspaper said.

In April, American Paints hopes to begin commercial production of paints that can be used on houses, industries and automobiles.

BEIJING — Annual per capita income in China's 35 largest cities grew 3.9 per cent in real terms last year to 5,059 yuan (609 dollars), an official report said Monday.

Last week, media reports showed per capita income growing around 4 per cent in the cities and 5 per cent in the countryside. Monday's report, in the newspaper Economic Information Daily, showed city wages to be 1.5 times higher than those in the countryside.

The data, supplied by the State Statistical Bureau, showed that the main source of income growth was higher wages, which grew 22 per cent from last year to 3,482 yuan (dls 419). Wages accounted for 69 per cent of total income the report said.

Wage increase was highest at private enterprises, reaching a nominal growth rate of 35 per cent, while wages at state-run enterprises rose an average of 23 per cent, and at collectives 13 per cent, it said.

SEOUL: South Korea's largest car maker, Hyundai Motor Co. plans to sell its idle car plant in Bromont, Canada, company officials said Monday.

The Canadian plant, the first overseas plant built in 1989 by a South Korean auto maker, has been idle since 1993 because of a dwindling demand for its medium-size model in North America.

"In view of various problems expected from a reactivation of the plant, sale of the plant is the most viable option," Shin Dong-ho, a Hyundai spokesman, said.

"Negotiations are under way to sell off the plant to GM, Ford, Chrysler, and we can expect to announce something concrete soon," he said.

According to the spokesman Hyundai's Canadian Plant had planned to produce 100,000 units of its mid-sized Sonata model annually, but produced only about 20,000 units until 1993.

Hyundai Motor Co. is a subsidiary of the giant Hyundai group, South Korea's second largest conglomerate. It controls some 60 per cent of the nation's automobile exports and some 46 per cent of domestic sales.

It has an annual production capacity of 1.26 million vehicles. It produces 300,000 units abroad. — Source: AP

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 Feb '96.

	Selling	T.T. & O.D.	B.C.	T.T. (C)	O.D. (Sight)	O.D. (Trans.)
US Dollar	1 Tk	41.1615	41.2015	40.8650	40.7050	40.5935
GBP	1 Tk	63.0231	63.0844	62.0807	61.8376	61.6683
DM	1 Tk	28.0171	28.0444	27.5199	27.4122	27.3371
F Franc	1 Tk	8.1520	8.1599	8.0096	7.9782	7.9564
C. Doll	1 Tk	30.1423	30.1716	29.6058	29.4899	29.4092
SFR	1 Tk	34.2728	34.3061	33.6595	33.5277	33.4359
Jap Yen	1 Tk	0.3894	0.3898	0.3788	0.3773	0.3762

A) T.T. (DOC) US Dollar Spot Buying Tk. 40.7850

B) USANCE RATE.

	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	120 Days	180 Days
US Dollar	40.8000	40.2185	39.9291	39.6396	39.0607

C) 1 US Dollar sight export bill 3 months forward purchase: Same as O.D. sight export bill buying rate.

D) US Dollar 3 months forward sale: Add cushion of Tk. 0.50 with BC selling.

Currency	Selling	T.T. & O.D.	Buying	O.D. Transfer
S Riyal	Tk	10.9752	Tk	10.8232
UAE Dirham	Tk	11.2074	Tk	11.0519
Kuwait Dinar	Tk	137.8483	Tk	135.7188
Qatar Rial	Tk	24.9388	Tk	24.5872
S Krona	Tk	5.8735	Tk	5.7842
Malaysian Ringgit	Tk	16.2085	Tk	15.9785
Singapore Dollar	Tk	29.1141	Tk	28.6920

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 12.2.96

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Unimarine	Rice (G)	Kald	16/1	16/2
J/2	Maximo Gomez	Rice (G)	Kald	17/1	16/2
J/4	Hang Cheong	Cement	Rashid	9/2	14/2
J/5	General Mojica	R.Serd	Sing	MSA 4/2	12/2
J/6	Kabirbas	E/L	Mong	SSL 10/2	13/2
J/7	Komsomolets	Cement	Viza	USTC 16/1	14/2
J/8	China Star	GI	Sing	EEA 7/2	13/2
J/9	Kota Bintang	Cont	Sing	PIL (B) 11/2	14/2
J/10	Banglar Sampad	Wheat (G)	Lams	R/A 2/2	12/2
J/11	Golden Krie	C.Clink	Sing	CEL 7/2	20/2
J/13	Sintra	Cont	Sing	PIL (B) 9/2	14/2
CCT/1	Marine Schulte	Cont	Sing	Baridhi 11/2	14/2
CCT/2	Meng Lee	Cont	Sing	AML 9/2	13/2
CCT/3	Fong Yun	Cont	Sing	BDShip 7/2	13/2
RM/14	Sea World	Repair	Viet	Litmond 9/12	15/2
CJ	Nearchois	C.Clink	Sing	PSAL 9/2	22/2
CSJ	Karakos-M Wheat	(G)South	RSA	5/2	15/2
RM/6	Norholm	HSD	Sing	MSPL 11/2	13/2
DOJ	Cretan Trader	Cement	Lams	AML 14/1	18/2
ID	Blue Ocean	Repair	Yang	Cross 30/1	16/2
DDJ/1	Tammy Star	Idle	Pala	PSAL 7/6	21/2
DDJ/2	Banglar Kallol	Repair	Mong	BSC 1/1	18/2
RM/9	Banglar Jyoti	Repair	BSC	R/A 12/2	12/2
CUP/J	Amareida	Idle	Kaki	OWSL 5/1	15/2
Kafco/Ulan Yang Jiang	Urea	Sing	Prog	24/1	12/2

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Local agent	Cargo	Loading
Fong Shin 1/2	12/2	Sing	BDShip	Cont
Jonian Challenger-1	12/2	Sing	OTBL	Cont
Sea Beauty	15/2	Haid	Bday	Rice
Feng Xiang Ling	13/2	Mong	ANCL	Cont
Eagle Jia 3/2	13/2	Sing	BDShip	Cont
Orang Sky	13/2	Sing	APL (B)	Cont
(Roro/24) 30/1	15/2	Mad	BDShip	GI
An Sai Jiang	15/2	Yang	BDShip	Fishing Boat
Jing Yu-601	15/2	Yang	BDShip	Fishing Boat
Jing Yu-602	15/2	Yang	BDShip	Fishing Boat
Jing Yu-603	15/2	Yang	BDShip	Fishing Boat
Jing Yu-604	15/2	Yang	BDShip	Fishing Boat

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Ismaya	Sing	Bday	4/12	
Ron Tappmeyer	Sing	Bday	8/12	
Lady Caroline	Sing	Bday	8/12	

Vessels at Kutubdia/Outside Port Limit

Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Ismaya	Sing	Bday	4/12	
Ron Tappmeyer	Sing	Bday	8/12	
Lady Caroline	Sing	Bday	8/12	

Vessels awaiting instruction

Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Banglar Shourab	Rice (G)	Lams	R/A (9/2)	
Banglar Baani	Rice (G)	Lams	R/A (11/2)	
Patru	Rice (G)	AMBL	R/A (26/1)	
Tug Indonesia	Kuri	Karna	R/A (11/2)	
Eagle(Inb)	Litmond	R/A	(11/2)	
Sea Light				

Movement of vessels for 13.2.96

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J/6 Kabirbas	J/1 B Jyoti	J/2 M Gomez to J/9
J/6 China Star	J/2 Fong Xiang Ling	Citrodores to J/2
CCT 3 Fong Yun	CCT 3 Fong Shin	
RM/6 Norholm	J/10 Eagle Prestige	
	RM 5 P Hunter	

The above were the shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on February 12, '96

Index slides

Star Report

The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index slid on Monday. The index lost 1.07 points, decreasing from 780.84 to 779.77.

The transaction in volume fell by three per cent to 1.11 lakh from 1.15 lakh while value rose by ten per cent to Tk 2.42 crore from Tk 2.21 crore.

Total market capital of DSE declined to Tk 5081.08 crore from Tk 5088.06 crore.

The leading gainer of the day was IDLC with a rise of Tk 55.80 per share while the losers were led by Singer Bangladesh with a fall of Tk 78.32 per share.

The volume leaders of the day were: Chic Tex (15100) and Beximco Pharma (7790).

A total of 97 issues were traded, of which 49 gained, 38 incurred losses while prices of ten remained unchanged.

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