



HYUNDAI

CARS THAT MAKE SENSE

World Bank against govt intervention in fertilizer market

The World Bank has expressed concern at the government's repeated intervention in the urea market resulting in 'collusive practices' in fertilizer marketing, reports UNB.

The bank recently communicated to the caretaker government its disapproval of frequent state intervention in fertilizer trade since last year.

"We believe, along with other donors, that the government's intervention in the urea market has been problematic," said World Bank mission chief in Dhaka in a recent

letter to the Adviser for Agriculture AZM Nasiruddin.

In another communication to the Adviser for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Pierre Landell-Mills suggested urgent 'interim measures' to improve the functioning of the legal system.

He also offered funding assistance to the government for any programme to strengthen the legal infrastructure and build judicial capacity.

On the fertilizer issue, Landell-Mills observed that the policy of "first come first served" and irrevocable letters

of credit (ILC) at factory gates, which were in force up to July 1994, ensured equitable distribution of urea at competitive prices.

Discontinuation of the policy and following steps, including replacement of ILC system by advanced cash deposits, resulted in irregularities and corruption in urea marketing, he said.

Localised shortages in the recent boro season was attributed by the World Bank to subsequent government interventions since July 1994.

In the letter to the Adviser

for Law, the World Bank mission head suggested the interim administration to initiate a project to strengthen the legal infrastructure and build judicial capacity including modernising of the court facilities and updating the laws.

He said the Bank has now available grant resource at its disposal which could be rapidly deployed to such project.

As preparation, it proposed to set up an inter-ministerial task force with representatives from Bar Council and chambers.

Dhaka takes part in Tripoli Int'l Trade Fair

The Embassy of Bangladesh in Tripoli in cooperation with the Export Promotion Bureau and Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation participated in the month-long Tripoli International Trade Fair during March 7-25, says a press release yesterday.

The Libyan minister for tourism visited Bangladesh pavilion after inauguration of the fair and admired the range and quality of Bangladeshi exportables on display.

The daily 'Al-Shams' highlighting the participation of Bangladesh for the first time listed the wide range of Bangladeshi items.

A large number of businessmen and people visited Bangladesh stall to have a glimpse of the colourful carpets, readymade garments, sarees, ceramic, leather products, silk, pharmaceuticals and jute products.

A Libyan company evinced interest in the import of 2.6 million pieces of jute bags from B.J.M.C. A Yugoslavian company has been in touch with the Embassy and B.J.M.C. to procure 2 million pieces of jute bags for foodgrain. A Maltese merchant also contacted the Embassy and B.J.M.C. with specific queries to procure jute bags.

A leading carpet merchant is considering placing order for one container of jute carpet.

Lankan plantation workers' strike still on

COLOMBO, Apr 25: Sri Lanka's tea, rubber and coconut plantation workers spent another day away from work today as their six-day-to-strike for guaranteed work days and more pay entered the fourth day, reports Reuters.

Two unions had decided to go back to work, but the Ceylon Workers' Congress, the main force behind the stoppage, was pressing ahead with the protest, a CWC spokesman said.



Bangladesh Embassy with the assistance of EPB has participated in the Tripoli International Trade Fair for the first time. Libyan Minister for Tourism visited Bangladesh pavilion after opening the fair.

Ban anonymous accounts, UN urges all states

VIENNA, Apr 25: The United Nations, fighting a rearguard action against illegal drugs and money laundering, yesterday turned its fire on sloppy banking laws and called on all states to ban anonymous accounts, reports Reuters.

The commission on Narcotic Drugs, the principal UN policy-making body on drug control, is certain to pass United States resolution against anonymous bank accounts when its 10-day meeting ends on Thursday, diplomats said.

Money laundering has emerged as the top priority when it comes to the drug problem, said Giorgio Giacomelli, Executive Director of the United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP).

UNDCP is the umbrella organisation of UN drug control groups.

Experts say anonymous bank accounts are a safe haven for drugs money and are an ideal vehicle for laundering cash.

They say the drug trades must be attacked at its roots by cracking down on transfers of narcotics-based "dirty money". Giacomelli said an estimated 500 billion dollars a year are generated through drug trafficking. Exceeding the

gross national product of most countries.

Drug barons use a number of ruses including anonymous bank accounts and specially set up front businesses, such as restaurants, to channel large sums of money and obscure its origins. The money comes out "clean" or laundered.

Helmut Buke, who chaired the meeting of the 53 member commission of narcotic drugs, said the United States was the main sponsor of the resolution which seeks to streamline and increase international cooperation against money laundering.

The draft resolution, which was shown to Reuters, urges states to prohibit banks and other financial institutions from offering accounts identified only by a number, anonymous accounts or accounts in obviously false names.

It also urges states to take all reasonable measures to ensure that such institutions are informed of the identities of beneficial customers in all transactions.

All European Union states said they would bank the resolution.

Austria, the only country in the EU which allows anonymous bank account, was adamant its current legislation did not run counter to the resolution.

Austria's banking system is not suitable for money laundering, Austria's Ambassador to the United Nations, Ferdinand Mayrhofer, Grunbuehler, told Reuters. "It conforms to the conventions on money laundering."

Austria has come under fierce attack from the European Union for its unorthodox banking practices. The European Commission estimates about 1.4 trillion schillings (134.6 million dollars) are stashed away in the country's anonymous accounts.

Load-shedding hampers economic activities in Noakhali

MAIJDEE COURT (Noakhali), Apr 25: Economic activities of greater Noakhali district have been severely affected due to frequent power failure and load-shedding for the last one month, says UNB.

Production in mills and factories is being hampered seriously for power failure and the entrepreneurs are incurring huge losses due to loss of working hours and rise in the cost of production.

They said they were forced to retrench many workers due to continued shortage in power supply. Many workers are passing their days in great hardship due to non-availability of alternate jobs.

Meanwhile, sales in shops and markets, particularly after sundown have been affected due to the hours long power failure. Services in commercial organisations including banks and insurance companies have also been affected adversely.

Irrigation is also facing a setback with the advent of dry season as most of the deep and shallow tubewells are rendered inoperative due to erratic power supply.

Students, particularly, the SSC examinees are the worst sufferers as they cannot give attention to their studies due to frequent power failure.

US gas prices rise \$2 per gallon as UN-Iraq oil talks falter

LOS ANGELES, Apr 25: Rising gasoline prices, surpassing two dollars a gallon at one California station, are driving some motorists into carpools, buses and trains, reports AP.

The prospect for relief didn't get any better as talks that could release Iraq oil onto world markets, something that would relieve a supply squeeze and drive down prices, were suspended Wednesday at the United Nations. The talks are to resume next month.

"We're probably as high as we've been since the Gulf War," said J. Scott Susich, vice president of St. Paul, Minnesota-based Computer Petroleum Corp., which monitors gasoline prices nationwide.

Prices could stabilize in a week or so, but there was little chance of them going down in the immediate future, he said.

"Now we're sitting here at almost the end of April with gasoline prices that already are historically high, and the driving season when gas prices traditionally go up is about to begin," he said.

Prices were up nationwide but Southern California has the highest hit, with self-service prices ranging from 1.53 dollars a gallon in Los Angeles to 1.65 dollars in Santa Barbara. Self-serv premium was selling for 1.89 dollar in Santa Barbara, where one Chevron station set its full-service price at 2.23 dollars.

A lot of people don't notice when they're pumping, but then they double check when they see (the price) is 30 to 40 dollars to fill up, said Ernest

Move to enhance customer services at ZIA

Zia International Airport Coordination Committee at its first meeting Wednesday adopted some important resolutions to enhance the customer services and to save the passengers from unnecessary harassment at Zia International Airport, reports UNB.

The meeting held at the conference room of the Civil Aviation Authority with Syed Manzur Elahi, Adviser for Civil Aviation and Tourism in the chair, asked to ensure security of both the airport and air passengers, said a PID handout.

The Adviser urged the officials to work with sincerity and honesty. He underscored the need for coordinated efforts and to follow the chain of commands and rule of business in order to increase the customer services at ZIA.

Martin, who helps run his father's station in downtown Los Angeles.

In Denver, salesman Jerry Smith, 34, said he had no option but to pay up. Prices in Denver were at 1.30 dollars for regular self-serve and 1.54 for premium, about 10 to 13 cents more than at the end of 1995.

The charge for fuel is ridiculous, but there's nothing you can do about it," Smith said. "You just pay more, and suck it in, or don't go nowhere. In today's society, how do you not drive?"

For some Californians, mass transit provided a solution. Metrolink reported ridership on trains serving five Southern California counties jumped as much as 10 per cent on some lines during the past week.

One of the new riders was 76-year-old George Hall. He parked his car and took the train from suburban Northridge to downtown Los Angeles on Wednesday partly because of gasoline costs, he said.

"The cost will add up and the gas is getting more expensive," he said.

Southern California Rideshare, which helps match up carpooling commuters in the Los Angeles area, noted an increase in calls from people seeking information, spokesman Jim Sims said.

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COMMISSION IN BANGLADESH AIR FORCE AS GD (PILOT)

Suitably qualified gentlemen of Bangladeshi nationality are invited to participate in selection tests leading to grant of Commission in GD (Pilot) Branch of Bangladesh Air Force.

BRANCH

GD (Pilot)

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

HSC (Sc) Second Division with Physics and Mathematics.

OTHER ELIGIBILITY

Nationality

Male Citizen of Bangladesh.

Height

Minimum 1.63 metres (5'4").

Age on 30 June 1996

16½ yrs to 22 yrs.

Weight

According to age and height

Chest

Minimum 81.28 cm (32") with 5.08 cm (2") expansion.

Marital Status

Unmarried

INELIGIBILITY

- Twice Screened out/ Twice Rejected/ Screened out once and rejected twice by ISSB.
- Withdrawn/Discharged from Army/Navy/ Air Force or any other Govt Service.
- Convicted by any Court.
- Rejected by Appeal Medical Board.
- Incomplete information in the Application Form.

WRITTEN TEST

IQ, English, Physics and Mathematics.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WITH THE APPLICATION FORM

- Attested copies of all Academic Certificates/Testimonials and Marksheet.
- Nationality Certificate with marital status from Class-I Gazetted Officer or Union Parishad/ Municipal Chairman.
- Two copies recent passport size photograph duly attested by Class-I Gazetted Officer.
- No Objection Certificate from the Head of the Organization (for serving person).

SELECTION PROCEDURE

- Preliminary Selection Test at I&SC, BAF, b. ISSB, c. Medical Examination by CMB, d. Final Selection by Air Headquarters.

TRAINING PERIOD/AWARD OF ACADEMIC DEGREE/COMMISSION

- Initial Joint Services Training at Bangladesh Military Academy, Bhatiani, for 12 weeks.
- Academic and Flying Training for 2½ years at BAF Academy, Jessore.
- Award of B.Sc (Aero) degree from National University and grant of commission.
- Free messing, accommodation, medical and clothing during training period.
- Allowance during training Tk 1100/- p.m.

PAY & ALLOWANCES ON COMMISSIONING

- Basic Pay : Tk. 2850/- to Tk. 8900/- Plus 10%.
- Flying Pay : Tk. 1120/- to Tk. 1400/-
- Other Pay & allowances : Tk. 1891/- to Tk. 3277/-

For additional Information please Contact I&SC, BAF, Old Airport, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215, Tel : 888011, Ext : 4255 & 5149



DIRECTORATE OF RECRUITMENT
BANGLADESH AIR FORCE,
AIR HEADQUARTERS, DHAKA-CANTONMENT

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Friday 26th April

(All programmes are in local time. We recommend programmes printed in bold.)

BTV

Morning Session

8:00am Opening Announcement
8:10 News in Bangla 8:15 Alor
Dishari 8:40 Chetona : Education
on Art & Culture for the young
stars 9:05 Educational Film: The
World of Mathematics/Numbers
and Figures 9:30 Comedy series:
Murphy Brown 10:00 The News
10:05 Moner Mukure: Selected
Drama 11:15 Cartoon: The
Jungle Book 11:40 Prescription
11:55 Shiksha-Dhaka 12:30 Evening
Transmission

STAR PLUS

6:30am Transformers 7:00 Teen
age Mutant Ninja Turtles 7:30 GI
Joe 8:00 Jem 8:30 The Wind in
The Willows 9:00 Aerobics 9:30
Style 9:30 Nanny and the Professor
10:00 The Beverly Hillsbillies
10:30 The Urban Peasant 11:00
Fashion Television 11:30 Gabrielle
12:30 Santa Barbara 1:30 The
Bold & the Beautiful 2:00 The
Oprah Winfrey Show 3:00 Remington
Steel 4:00 The Urban Peasant
4:30 Fashion Television 5:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
5:30 The New Lassie 6:00pm
The Adventures of The Black
Stallion 6:30 Batman 7:00 Home
and Away 7:30 Entertainment
Tonight 8:00 MASH 8:30 Hearts
Afire 9:00 Grace Under Fire 9:30
Dynasty 10:30 The Bold and the
Beautiful 11:00 Santa Barbara
12:00am Hard Copy 12:30 The
X-Files 1:30 Empty Nest 2:00 The
Golden Girls 2:30 Entertainment
Tonight 3:00 Movie: The Shiralee
5:00 The Sullivans 5:30 Barnaby
Jones

Evening Session

2:30pm Opening Announcement
Al-Durra 2:40 Recitation from the
Tripitak 3:00 Bangla Feature
film 4:00 News in Bangla 5:00
News in Bangla 6:00 News in
Bangla 6:05 Documentary Film :
Sik Road 7:00 News in English
7:05 Open University 7:25 Maloncha:
Modern songs programme
7:45 Apanader Chitthi Pelam 8:00
News in Bangla 8:30 Film show:
Arabian Nights 9:00 Giti Bichitra
Song based Magazine 10:00
News in English 10:25 Janmabumi
10:35 Drama series: Thund
er In Paradise 11:30 News in
Bangla 11:35 Tomorrow's
programme summary 11:40 Close
down

BBC

6:00am BBC Newsroom in
World Business Report/Asia To-
day 24 Hours 9:00 BBC World
Headlines 9:05 Question Time
10:00 BBC Newsday 1:00 BBC
World Headlines 1:05 Question
Time 2:00 BBC World News 2:30
Time Out : Madhur Jaffrey's
Far Eastern Cookery 3:00 BBC
World News 3:30 Time Out: One
Foot In The Past 4:00 BBC
Newsday 6:00 BBC World News
6:15 Heart Of The Matter 7:00
BBC World News 7:15 World
Business Report 7:30 BBC News-
show Asia and Pacific 8:30 Time
Out : Tomorrow's World 9:00 BBC
World Headlines 9:05 Question
Time 10:00 BBC World News
10:30 Time Out: Holiday 11:00
The World Today 1:00 BBC World
Headlines 1:05 Question Time
2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Time
Out: Film '96 3:00 BBC World
Report in: World Business Report/
24 Hours 5:00 BBC World News
5:10 Newsnight

Tray

2:00 Rewind VJ Sophiya
3:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra
4:30 Sony Yalla 5:30 Billboard US
Countdown 7:30 First Day First
Show 8:00 Indian Top Ten 9:00
House of Noise 10:00 The Ticket
10:30 First Day First Show 11:00
Rewind VJ Sophiya 11:30 Music
Master Bos Shoot 12:00am
Haysha 2:00 By Demand VJ Trey
3:00 Over The Edge VJ Sophiya
4:00 Frame By Frame

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STAR Sports

6:00am Live NBA Playoffs 1st
Round Game 1 8:30 Spanish
Football League HIL 9:00 Inter-
national Motorsports News 10:30
1996 World Motorcycle Champion-
ship Japan Grand Prix Highlights
From Suzuka, Japan 12:30 World's
Strongest Man 1996 1:00 German
Football League HILs 2:00 NBA
Playoffs 1st Round Game 1 Teams
TBC 3:30 Asia Sports show 4:00
Lyle Benson & Hedges Cup War-
wickshire vs Leicestershire @
Edgbaston 12:30 Spanish Football
League H/L 1:00 World's Strongest
Man 1996 1:30 NBA Playoffs 1st
Round Game 1 Teams TBC 3:30
Thai Kickboxing Highlights 4:30
US Senior PGA Championships
1996 Final Day From PGA National
Resorts & Spa, Florida

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Action : Firehawk 18
(Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Family:
The New Adventures of Oliver
Twist 6 (Arabic Subtitles) 11:30
Classic : Son of The Sheik 12
(Silent) 12:30 Family : Thumbelina
G (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30 Family:
Family Secrets PG (Arabic Subti-

Tray

2:00 Comedy : The Party PG
(Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 Oscar
Winning Cinematography : A
Farewell to Arms (1932) PG
(Arabic Subtitles) 7:30 Adventure:
Super Girl 12 (Arabic Subtitles)
9:00 UK Top Ten 9:30 Gold:
Do Pal (Serial) 9:00 Break for
Headline News 10:00 Khabar-
nama & Commercial News 10:35
Lollywood Top Ten Countdown
Film 11:35 Spectrum 12:00
Friday Night Classic Cinema &
Khas Khabar/Close down.

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