

Travel, Tourism Fair '96

Bangladesh stall wins 1st prize

Bangladesh stall won the 1st prize in the Travel and Tourism Fair '96 held at Netaji Indoor Stadium in Calcutta from September 12-15, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation chairman A K A Mubin led Bangladesh delegation — comprising government and private organisations — to the fair.

More than 150 government and private organisations of different countries including host India participated in the fair, said a press release yesterday.

Romania to buy Tk 9cr raw jute from Bangladesh

Romania will buy raw jute worth two million US dollars equivalent to Tk 8.50 crore from Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Romanian Charge d'Affaires in Dhaka Peter Stamatescu communicated this to Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed yesterday, said an official handout.

The envoy, who had met with the minister on Tuesday, also assured that a trade agreement between Bangladesh and Romania would be signed within few weeks.

The minister thanked the envoy for his prompt response and requested him to convey his good wishes to the Romanian government and people.

He hoped that the friendly relations between the two countries would be strengthened further through mutual trade and investment.

Coca-Cola opens 17th China plant

The Coca-Cola Company opened its 17th Chinese bottling-plant in Zhengzhou, the capital city of Henan province, expanding the availability of Coca-Cola further into central China, says a press release.

The new state-of-the-art 18 million US dollars facility is the first of three plants scheduled to open in the next few months. Four more plants will begin operations before the end of next year, bringing the total number of bottling plants to 23 and representing an investment of more than 500 million US dollars by the Coca-Cola system in China.

We are continuing to build on our leadership in China and are investing aggressively in the country's rapidly growing soft drink industry," said Douglas N. Daft, Senior Vice President of the company and President of its Middle and Far East group. "Most importantly, with more than 32 per cent volume growth in the first half of this year, we are driving the momentum for our products in China."

Seventy per cent of the new plant — Swire Coca-Cola Beverages Zhengzhou Ltd — is held by BC Development Co Ltd, which is a joint venture between the Coca-Cola Company, Swire Beverages Ltd and CFC, while 24.4 per cent is held by Zhengzhou General Food Products Factory and 5.6 per cent by Beijing Chong Yin Industrial and Trading Co.

SIA, Lufthansa Cargo to expand cooperation

Singapore Airlines and Lufthansa Cargo AG are to expand their cargo co-operation by increasing the frequency of their joint freighter services between Frankfurt and Singapore. These services will also link with the Lufthansa Cargo hub at Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates, says a SIA press release.

From October 31 1996, two additional B 747 freighter services will be launched each Thursday and Friday. On each of these days, SIA will operate from Singapore to Sharjah, while Lufthansa Cargo will operate between Frankfurt and Sharjah. The schedules of the two services will be co-ordinated to ensure a seamless and immediate transfer of cargo between the two flights at the Lufthansa Cargo hub in Sharjah.

These services are in addition to the two current freighter frequencies operated jointly by the two airlines between Singapore and Frankfurt. From November 26 '96, the service currently operated out of Singapore on Thursday will instead operate on Sunday.

Plying of ships at Mongla Port hampered

KHULNA, Sept 18: The plying of ships in the route to Mongla Port is being hampered due to lack of sufficient number of floating lighting buoys, reports UNB.

The ships have to wait for long for green signal before entering the port.

There are 18 lighting buoys in 20-25 km routes from deep sea to the confluence of the Pashur river for smooth plying of the ships.

By involving the government's own fund along with as-

A gigantic project aimed at bringing under irrigation vast tracts of cropland in Pabna district and its adjacent areas remained inoperative for alleged inbuilt flaws and malpractice in its implementation process, reports UNB.

The behemoth is the Pabna Irrigation and Rural Development Project (PIRDP) which does not yet serve its due purpose even after five years of completion of its works spending Tk 385 crore.

A treasury-bench MP from Pabna-3 constituency, Waziduddin Khan, tried to raise the issue (question number 340) during the first session of the present Parliament.

By involving the government's own fund along with as-

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