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The Daily Star BUSINESS

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HYUNDAI
CARS THAT MAKE SENSE

Citibank rated leading foreign bank in Asia

By Staff Correspondent

The Citibank has been rated the leading foreign bank in Asia for 1996-97 by the 'Review 200', an annual survey of Asia's leading companies, said a press release.

The 'Review 200' conducts annual survey by 'Survey Research, Singapore' on behalf of the Far Eastern Economic Review. It asked business decision makers from 11 countries, namely, Australia, Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, The Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand, to rank multinational companies on five issues.

The issues concerned included, the quality of products and services, innovativeness, long term vision, and financial soundness. The bank became one of the champion banks for the fourth consecutive year.

More than 6,000 Far Eastern Economic Review and local business magazine subscribers participated in the survey, the press release added.

The US-origin Citibank established operation in Asia in 1902 and it has more than 260 branches in 28 countries now in Asia, the press release added.

WB urges govt

Resolve issues affecting project implementation

By Govinda Shil

The World Bank (WB) has suggested the government to resolve issues, such as, strengthening implementation and monitoring of the projects, expediting procurement process, streamlining preparation of project concept paper for the effective completion of the Bank-funded projects, said a WB report.

According to the Bangladesh Country Portfolio Performance Review, CPPR, these issues were undermining the performances of the entire portfolio.

The report, asked the government to raise its ownership (borrower ownership) over the projects at entry point to determine the quality of projects. It said, commitment of individuals concerned, both at the civil service and political levels should also be maintained.

"At the political level, in the past, there was often too little involvement at the conceptual stage and consequently, mis-

ters were rarely the true champions of projects conceived and implemented," the report noted.

It added that a weak commitment to project objectives also seriously affects the quality of implementation which is manifested in inadequate staffing, prolonged procurement processing time, and tardy compliance with financial and audit commitments.

The WB suggested increased participation of stakeholders and beneficiary groups in projects to ensure sound project design and sustainability for all the new projects.

The World Bank is likely to fund 14 projects for the financial years 1997 and 1998 under which it would channelise about 1354.50 million US dollars (Tk 5,670 crore), according to a WB report.

The proposed project include 100 million dollar cyclone shelter project, 110 million dol-

lar 'rural roads and markets' projects 200 million dollar primary education development project, 200 million dollar road rehabilitation and maintenance project, and 200 million dollar 'population and health' project, the report mentioned.

According to the CPPR, a number of projects amounting to another 532 million dollars (Tk 2,234.40 crore) mainly in banking sector reform, power development, environment and private sector infrastructure development have been considered as 'reserve' projects for the coming two fiscal.

Among the proposed projects, rural roads and markets, and silk development projects (18 million dollar), primary education development project, cyclone shelter and Dhaka WASA projects are at preparation and post negotiation stages.

Monno Ceramic's AGM held

'Management forced to declare bonus share'

By Staff Correspondent

The management of the Monno Ceramic Industries Ltd — one of the country's leading manufacturer of ceramic wares — yesterday alleged that a section of shareholders at its 15th annual general meeting (AGM) forced it to declare one bonus share against two shares.

"As soon as the AGM started at the Hotel Sheraton on Monday, a section of shareholders created chaos putting pressure on the management to declare bonus shares instead of 30 per cent dividend," said Harun Rashid Khan Monno, chairman and managing director of the company at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club.

He said a vested section of the unruly shareholders held the management captive and shut down proceeding of the AGM till the declaration of the bonus shares.

Later the board of directors instantly held a meeting and decided to declare the bonus. Monno said adding that the Company Law does not permit this kind of pressure from the shareholders.

Asked whether they would issue the bonus shares the chairman said, "As we have decided it at the board meeting, we are bound to give it."

But he added that due to declaration of the bonus shares the paid up capital of the company would go up to Tk 20.25 crore from Tk 13.50 crore and that this would hamper the profit of the general shareholders.

He said the declaration of bonus share would reduce the company's earning per share from the current Tk 211 to Tk 141. This, he said, would affect future decisions on cash dividends.

Other directors of the company including Moynul Islam, Moazzem Hossain Khan, and Rashid-ul Hasan were present at the conference.

According to the annual report Monno Ceramic Industries earned a net profit of Tk 5.08 crore in the year 1995-96.

During the period the company achieved net sales turnover of Tk 54.11 crore against Tk 46.94 crore in the previous year.

CHITTAGONG STOCK PRICES

Day's trading performance				
Company Name	Closing Rate	Previous Rate	Difference	No. of Securities Traded
Janata Insurance	336.97	345.62	-8.65	350
Federal Insurance	248.10	258.50	-10.48	250
BGIC	515.50	521.48	-5.98	20
Pragati Insurance	1050.00	1059.58	-9.58	100
Beximco Textile	220.00	228.55	-8.55	50
Beximco Knitting	234.00	246.00	-12.00	20
Sajib Knitwear	96.10	101.00	-4.90	500
Sreepur Textiles	133.50	140.50	-7.00	100
Monno Fabrics	216.50	227.50	-11.00	1000
BD Dyeing	359.84	378.00	-18.16	500
Dynamic Textile	108.50	114.00	-5.50	140
Ashraf Tex	48.40	50.90	-2.50	200
ACI Ltd	220.10	231.60	-11.50	1200
Beximco Fisheries	454.50	478.00	-23.50	40
Cig Vegetable	495.00	521.00	-26.00	20
Cig Cement	11194.5	11783.5	-589.00	5
Quasem Drycells	160.30	168.70	-8.48	150
Olympic Industries	2621.50	2497.00	+124.50	5
Apex Tannery	1181.00	1243	-62.00	40
Apex Footwear	1045.50	1100.50	-55.00	20
Shine Pukur	360.00	378.50	-18.50	1100
Eastern Housing	271.50	285.50	-14.00	20
BOC (BD) Ltd	287.00	302.10	-15.10	250

CSE at a glance	
CSE All Securities Price Index	1174.51
Day's Change in Index	-1.3498%
Total Turnover in Value in Taka	1710960.00
Total Turnover in Volume	6170
Total Issued Capital in Taka	16978033590.00
Total Closing Market Capital in Taka	143520029280.9
Total Number of Listed Securities	115
Total Number of Companies	103
Total Number of Mutual Funds	4
Total Number of Debentures	119
Days Contract Numbers	23
Days Issues Traded	22
Days Issues Gained	22
Days Issues Incurred Loss	0
Days Issues Unchanged	0

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 24/12/1996:

Berth No	Name of Vessel	Cargo	Last Port	Local Agent	Date of Arrival	Leaving
J/1	Ocean I	GI	Yang	Cross	23/12	25/12
J/2	Altair Ace	GI	Sing	Everett	22/12	25/12
J/4	Ikan Selar	D Peas	GEEL	AANSL	15/12	31/12
J/5	Monte	GI	Sing	ANCL	17/12	25/12
J/6	Rupea	D Peas	Dubai	RMSA	21/12	29/12
J/7	Alam Tegus	Wheat (P)	ESPE	Seacom	18/12	31/12
J/8	Loudas	Wheat (P)	Vanc	TSA	1/12	25/12
J/9	Feng Tao	GI	P Kel	BDSHP	20/12	26/12
J/11	Kota Berjaya	Cont	Sing	Pil (B)	20/12	25/12
J/12	Fong Yun	Cont	Sing	BDSHP	18/12	24/12
CCT-1	Meng Yang	Cont	Sing	AML	20/12	24/12
CCT-3	Susak	Cont	Sing	Baridhi	21/12	25/12
RM/14	Eva	Idle	Idle	BMA	1/4	27/12
CCJ	Dong Fang Hing	C Clink	Hond	Seacom	14/12	27/12
TSP	Banglar Urmi	Idle	Momb	BSC	15/12	30/12
RM/4	Dali	Cement	Sing	USTC	2/12	24/12
DD	Banglar Asha	Repair	Mong	BSC	29/11	29/12
DDJ/1	Tanary Star	Idle	Para	PSAL	7/6/95	30/12/96
DDJ/2	Banglar Kakoli	Idle	Kobe	BSC	10/12	25/12
RM/8	Banglar Mamata	Repair	Male	BSC	8/12	4/1
CULJ	Blue North	Cement	Qing	PSAL	3/6	31/12

Vessels Due at Outer Anchorage

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Fong Lee	24/12	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Meric	24/12	Ilyc	Litmond	Mop	Sing
Gao Cai	24/12	Sing	Simni	Scraping	Sing
Guardian Angel	26/12	Ind	CCNL	Salt	Sing
Wan Ru	25/12	Sing	MBL	C Clink	Sing
Navira Express	25/12	Sing	BSL	Urea	Sing
Kota Bintang	25/12	Sing	Pil (B)	Cont	Sing
Alexo	25/12	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Anodad Naree	25/12	P Land	Seacost	Wheat (P)	Sing
Stamford	25/12	Viz	RSL	Cont	Sing
QC Teal	25/12	Sing	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Lanka Mahapala	26/12	Mong	Baridhi	Cont	Sing
Freesta	27/12	MGL	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Consistence	26/12	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Qing Yang	25/12	S Hai	BDSHP	GI	Sing
Jon Jin	28/12	Yant	BMA	C Clinker	Sing
Hafez	27/12	Mong	SSL	Urea	Sing
Halvard	27/12	Rawu	UMTL	Urea	Sing
STN-1	27/12	Mong	AMBL	GI	Sing
Banglar Moni	27/12	Mong	BSC	Cont	Sing
Fong Shin	27/12	Sing	BDSHP	Cont	Sing
Parnassus	27/12	Sing	USTC	Cement	Sing
Mehdurechensk	27/12	Lans	Delmure	Cement	Sing
Astro Mercury	27/12	Sing	JF	Vehi	Sing
Seyang Ace	28/12	Susa	Prog	GI	Sing
Astra Sky	28/12	Sing	Rainbow	Cement	Sing
Sea Elegance	28/12	Sing	Pil (B)	Cont	Sing
Feng Ge	29/12	Sing	BDSHP	Fert (Urea)	Sing
Sun Flower	30/12	Sing	Everett	GI	Sing
Qe Pintail	30/12	Sing	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Da Fu	31/12	Sing	APL (B)	Cont	Sing

Tanker Due

Name of Vessels	Date of Arrival	Last Port	Local Agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Soraband	24/12	Jebe	ASTA	Crude Oil	Sing
Tug Veritas	24/12	Col	ASTATowing	Sraband	Sing
Bharati Dasan	25/12	Sing	ECSL	HSD	Sing
Castor	30/12	Kuwa	ECSL	HSD	Sing
Aspiros	2/1/97	Sing	BSL	Crude Oil	Sing

Mongla Port

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 24.12.96:

Berth No	Name of Vessels	Cargo	Local Agent	Date of Arrival
MCM	M V Pelas-K	Clinker	Pioneer	14.12.96
Jetty				
M-2	M V Motovun	Ferti	Pioneer	18.12.96
M-3	M V Mulpha Sibub	Cement	Pioneer	10.12.96
M-4	M V Pioneer	Cement	CTSS	15.12.96
M-5	M V Hafez	Exp	SSL	01.12.96
M-6	M V Sin Hung-1	Cement	HBB	07.12.96
M-7	M V Banglar Kiron	Exp	BSC	21.12.96
M-8	M V Harmoni	Exp	Sow	23.12.96
A-7	M V Golden Sun Light	Cement	D Mure	30.11.96
A-8	M V Su King	Ferti	Bright	15.12.96
A-9	M V Costinesti	Cement	S Sine	11.12.96
A-13	M V Forum Tower	Cement	USTC	03.10.96
A-14	M V Al Mubarak	Coal	Mult	15.12.96
A-15	M V Folt Spring	Clinker	Aera	03.11.96
A-18	M V Amhok Gang	Ferti	Cosmos	21.12.96
A-18 (A)	M V Ada	Mop	OWSL	10.12.96
A-20	M V Alexandra	Exp	OWSL	20.12.96
A-21 (A)	M V International 1	Cement	SSBL	22.12.96

Arrival Programme on 24.12.96

J-9	M V Lanka Mahapala	Cont	Baridhi
A-19	M V Chao Ang	Cement	USTC

The above are the shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong & Mongla Ports as per berthing sheet of CPA & MPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

Exchange Rates

The following are the Janata Bank's dealing rates (BD Tk for one unit of Foreign Currency) to public as on 24/12/96:

Selling	Buying
Name of Currency	T T B C T T Clean O D Sight Export Bills O D Transfer
US Dollar	42.6120 42.6650 42.3200 42.1541 42.0455
GB Pound	71.6201 71.7039 70.5555 70.2649 70.0806
D Mark	27.5742 27.6054 27.0996 26.9880 26.5172
F Franc	8.1757 8.1852 8.0370 8.0040 7.9480
J Yen	0.3770 0.3775 0.3682 0.3682 0.3657
C Dollar	31.3424 31.3790 30.8092 30.6824 30.6019
S Franc	32.0461 32.0835 31.4912 31.3616 31.2793

Janata Bank's selling and buying rates in cash currency for public:

US DLR	GBP	S RYIAL	UAH	DK	KINAR
SELLING	42.6000	70.1201	11.5000	11.5000	140.0000
BUYING	42.0000	67.8701	10.9500	11.0000	134.5000



Chairman of Atlas Bangladesh Ltd Arun Kanti Adhikari presiding over the 12th AGM of the company Monday.

Atlas declares 50 pc dividend, 25 pc bonus share

By Staff Correspondent

Atlas Bangladesh Limited has declared 50 per cent dividend and 25 per cent bonus shares to its shareholders for the year 1995-96, says a press release.

The dividend and bonus were declared at the 12th Annual General Meeting of the company held on Monday at the company premises in Tongi.

The AGM, presided over by its Board Chairman Arun Kanti Adhikari, also approved the company's last year's audit report and nominated auditor for the next year.

The meeting was adjourned till April 10 next year, the press release said.

India promises to continue reforms

NEW DELHI, Dec 24: India on Monday promised it would not back down on the economic reforms launched five years ago and sought to allay fears of a slowdown during fiscal 1996-97.

Finance Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram said steps taken so far by his United Front government should dispel doubts over a slowdown of the reforms launched in 1991 by the previous Congress (I) party administration.

Chidambaram, speaking to the Northern Indian industrial lobby, the PhD Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said the current year would see the same growth as achieved during the last financial year.

"Despite sluggish credit off-take, lower financial institutional sanctions and depressed capital market in the first half of the year, macro-economic fundamentals remain very strong," United News of India (UNI) quoted Chidambaram as saying here.

Indian business lobbies say industrial output grew 8.9 per cent in four months to July 1996 as compared to 12.3 per cent during the corresponding period last year, while exports rose 9.8 per cent compared to 28 per cent.

Infrastructure industries such as petroleum, electricity, steel and coal registered a poor growth of 3.3 per cent compared to 10.7 per cent for the April-July period, they say.

"We are determined to tackle the infrastructure problem. I see signs of hope. I also despair at the dilatory process decision making is put through," the Finance Minister said, referring to the bureaucracy.

Chidambaram, however, said the performance of certain sectors during the first half of

inflation hovered between six and seven per cent in the past six months despite a hike in the price of petroleum products, he said, predicting the actual rate of year on year inflation in 1996-97 would be lower than in 1995-96.

"The real culprit for the slow credit off-take in the initial months of the year is the real interest rate of about 15 per cent," the minister was quoted as saying.

At the same time, money supply would not be squeezed at the cost of industrial growth, he said, adding the centre-left coalition government would also not cut subsidies for farmers and urban consumers.



A B M Kamaluddin Khan, Chairman of M Hossain Garments presiding over 8th AGM at a city hotel yesterday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Barisal PWD Division, Barisal Notice Inviting Tenders Tender Notice No 117 of 1996-97

Sealed tenders in BD Form No 2911 are hereby invited from Special Class-1 (one) Contractors/Firms or from consortiums of each category civil and sanitary Contractors/Firms of PWD according to their financial capacity. The tender will be received up to 12.00 Noon and will be opened on receiving day at 12.15 PM in presence of the Contractor/Firm/Consortium who may like to be remain present. Each tender should be in a sealed covers with the name of work, the name and address of contractors/firms/consortium and where the tender will be submitted, superscribed on it.

- Name of work : Construction of Hostel and Resource Room for extension for development of education of blind children in 17 district one at Barisal. SH: Construction of Hostel and Resource Room attached to Kashipur High School at Barisal.
- Estimated cost : a) Civil Tk 12,96,407/-
b) Sanitary Tk 1,57,942/-
Tk 14,54,349/-
- Earnest money : Tk 29,090/-
- Time allowed for completion : 180 (one hundred and eighty) days.
- Name of office for selling and receiving of tender : Office of the Divisional Commissioner at Barisal and all the Executive Engineers under PWD Circle, Barisal and PWD Division I/II, Khulna under PWD Circle, Khulna.
- Last date of selling : 30.12.96 (up to office time).
- Date of receiving : 31.12.96 (up to 12.00 Noon).
- Contract documents consisting of BD Form No 2911, schedule of items, additional terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the aforesaid offices on payment of usual charges of Tk 750/- (Taka seven hundred and fifty) only per set of notice inviting tender, schedule of items, additional terms and conditions etc. and a sum