

**SHOWROOMS :** **SANYO**


Gulshan — 31 Gulshan Tower, Gulshan-2, Dhaka.  
Tel: 9882192

Malibag — 89, DIT Road, Malibag, Dhaka.

Mirpur — 674, Rokeya Sarani, Kazipara  
Mirpur, Dhaka.

Uttara — Baly Complex, Sec-3, Uttara, Dhaka  
Transfin Trading Limited  
Tel: 8196259, 8153069

# The Daily Star BUSINESS



**HYUNDAI**  
CARS THAT MAKE SENSE

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## 22-member executive body to be formed New revised policy for distribution of agri khas land soon

The government is soon going to announce a new and revised policy for distribution of agricultural khas land to the landless farmers, official sources disclosed here, reports BSS.

The sources hinted that the proposed policy would be placed before the next cabinet meeting for approval.

The distribution of agricultural khas land among the landless farmer, except the Adarsha Gram Project zone, was suspended under the principles of agricultural khas land management and settlement of 1987.

Unlike 1987 policy, the new and revised one would be more dynamic and democratic, based on consensus of all sections of the community, irrespective of political affiliation, the sources said.

A 22-member national executive committee headed by the state minister for land would be formed for effective implementation of the new and revised policy.

The sources said, there will be committees at district and thana levels headed by Deputy

Commissioners (DC) and Thana Nirbahi Officers (TNO) respectively comprising public representatives and representatives from all sections of professionals, including NGOs, for selection of the landless people.

The decision regarding distribution of agricultural khas land will depend on the recommendations of the committee and, not DC and TNO alone as was done in the past, the sources said.

The revised policy is simple and easily understandable for smooth distribution of agricultural khas land among the dis-

ressed people without usual red-tapism, the sources said.

The proposed policy, it is learnt, gave top priority to distressed freedom fighters' families which reiterates present government's willingness and efforts to rehabilitate freedom fighters.

"They were deprived in the past," the source added.

The revised policy has proposed maximum one acre of agricultural khas land for each landless family.

## MOU signed with Japanese co to set up sock industry

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) to establish a multi-designed socks industry in Bangladesh was signed between Orient Export Import Co Ltd of Bangladesh and Taisho Fiber Co Ltd of Japan at the Bangladesh Embassy in Tokyo recently, says a press release.

Senior officials of the Embassy were present during the signing ceremony.

Under the MOU, the Japanese side will provide necessary technical support in setting up the industry.

Machinery for the industry will also be provided by the Japanese side. Further they will buy back all products.

Gazi AZM Shamim, Managing Director of the Orient Export Import Company Ltd. and Takeshi Yamada, President of the Taisho Fiber Co. Ltd. signed the MOU on behalf of their respective sides.

This agreement, fourth in the series, is an outcome of understanding following business talks during global business opportunities convention 1996 in Osaka and Bangladesh trade and investment seminar in Tokyo jointly organised by Bangladesh Embassy and Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in October 1996.

## Dhaka to receive Tk 1cr as grant from FAO

Bangladesh will receive Taka one crore as grant from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of United Nations to finance essential support services in irrigated agriculture, reports UNB.

An agreement to this effect was signed here yesterday by Deputy Secretary of ERD Muhammad Abu Taher Khan and FAO Representative in Bangladesh Hiroyuki Konuma.

The project — Strengthening of Support Services in Irrigated Agriculture — is funded from the regular budget of FAO.

Hiroyuki Konuma told UNB that the new project is given one of the highest priority by the government and the FAO to attain food security at the household and national levels as followup to the World Food Summit.

He said the project aimed at assisting the agriculture ministry in planning, training, mobilising, organising and focusing resources, activities, services and functions along a sound programme framework for sustainable minor irrigation development.



President Suleyman Demirel of Turkey being welcomed at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel by Atique Rahman, Director of Food & Beverage of the hotel, when he arrived here on March 27.

## Prices of poultry go up

By Staff Correspondent

Prices of poultry have risen sharply over the last few days for which traders blame high mortality of the stocks and sudden stoppage of imports of chicks from India.

Within the last few days the price of a kilogram of chicken in the retail market shot up from Taka 60 to Taka 87. A trader in Mohammadpur said that a large stock of chicks died at different farms around the city within a short span of time after being vaccinated.

When the matter was brought to the notice of the Central Laboratory of the Livestock Department at Mahakhali, an official of the Vaccine Quality Control said that they had received no such report.

"Before delivering each lot of vaccine we have to see if that is okay for use. Then we supply it to the user. Here, they have to make sure that the temperature chain of the drug is kept constant," said the official. But the chance of contamination remains because that chain is hardly kept due to lack of proper refrigeration facility in the field level, he added.

Another official said that recently there had been outbreak of an epidemic which "wiped out a good percentage of the stocks in the farms." The official also pointed out that this kind of epidemic was not uncommon in the country.

It was also learnt that the government put a price tag of Taka 0.20 per dose of vaccines from January this year. This decision sent most of the five thousand field workers on the docks who made a living by vaccinating at different farms. The department is now seriously thinking of revising the price tag on the vaccines.

Another trader in New Market said that the other reason for the price hike was the sudden disappearance of Indian stocks in the market. The hatcheries in the country could hardly make up fifty per cent of the demand, he said explaining why the shortage hit the market and consequently the prices went up.

## Steps taken to increase export earnings: Tofael

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed yesterday said the government has taken about measures to increase export earnings and find out new markets for Bangladeshi products abroad, reports UNB.

He was addressing a meeting of officers and employees of Trading Corporation of Bangladesh at the TCB Bhaban in the city.

Tofael said the government was against any sort of control and wanted to act as facilitator in regard to trade and investment.

## P&G shampoo launched in Bangladesh

By Staff Correspondent

Procter and Gamble (P&G) yesterday launched its new product in Bangladesh. Pantene Pro-V, the world's highest selling shampoo.

This introduction is entirely consistent with P&G's principles of bringing superior products to the Bangladeshi market. It is our honour to introduce Pantene Pro-V in Bangladesh. I am confident about its success," said Bharat Patel, Managing Director of P&G (India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka).

Addressing a press conference at a city hotel in connection of the launching of hair care product, Patel said, "we are confident to become the market leader in Bangladesh."

Patel said, P&G was actively considering to set up a packaging plant here.

After Ariel detergent, the first P&G product marketed in Bangladesh in 1995, Pantene Pro-V is the second product to be launched here.

The shampoo, manufactured in UK, would be made available for consumers in Bangladesh in 6 ml sachet priced at Tk 4, 200 ml bottle at Tk 95 and 400 ml bottle at Tk 175.

Replying to a question, Bharat Patel said, P&G employed 500 Bangladeshi nationals for the marketing purpose while it spent Tk eight crore as taxes and Tk six crore to advertise products in Bangladesh. Half of the money spent on advertisement went to BTV, added he.

Marketing Manager of P&G (Bangladesh), Apurv Nagpal told the newsmen that with a worldwide turnover of Tk 1,53,500 crore, P&G possessed 18 per cent, the highest share in the world of hair care products.

P&G operates in 140 countries to market its 300 brands, said he.

Canvassing the product quality, he said, "Pantene Pro-V is the only shampoo in the world to receive the prestigious seal of approval from the Swiss Vitamin Institute. It strengthens hair, reduces hair loss due to damage and makes it shiny."

The press conference was followed by a slide show of the newly-launched product and cat-walk display by two models, who used the shampoo on their hair.

Sumit Bhattacharya, Vice Chairman and Director of P&G (India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka), Gazi Mahfuzur Rahman, Managing Director of P&G (Bangladesh) and Anis Ahmed, distributing partner of P&G, were also present on the occasion.



Two brunettes modelling at the launching ceremony of Pantene Pro-V, the world's highest selling shampoo, in the city yesterday. —Star photo

## Process for ripe mango powder production leased out

A process for production of ripe mango powder for instant drink developed by MA Gafur, Chief Scientific Officer, BCSIR Laboratories, Rajshahi has been leased out to a local entrepreneur for commercial production, says a BCSIR press release.

An agreement in this regard has been signed between Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Chapai Agro Food Industries yesterday in the office of Dr Enam-e-Rasul Chowdhury, Member (Development), BCSIR, Dhaka. Dr Chowdhury and Gislam Mohammad, Executive Manager of Chapai Agro Food Industries signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.

According to the agreement, the entrepreneur has to go into commercial production within one year.

## New GM of ANZ Grindlays Bank



Muhammad A (Rume) Ali has been appointed General Manager of ANZ Grindlays Bank for Bangladesh, says a press release.

He replaces Frank Gamble who takes over as Managing Director of the bank subsidiary in Papua New Guinea.

At present District Manager, East Melbourne in the Retail Division of the Bank in Australia, Ali joined the then Grindlays Bank in Dhaka after completing his Honours and Masters in Economics from Dhaka University in 1975.

During his career at the Bank, he has attended executive development courses and seminars at the Bank's training centres at Bombay and Melbourne.

He held several senior positions in the Bank including Area Manager, Dhaka and Chittagong, Chief Manager Business Banking, Bangladesh, Credit Inspector, London and Deputy General Manager, Bangladesh, the position he held till his departure for Melbourne in Oct 1995.

## Overuse of chemical fertiliser 75 pc farming land loses fertility

The country's 75 per cent of the nine million hectares of farming land has lost fertility mainly because of overuse of chemical fertiliser, reports BSS.

Experts at Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) said that the soil fertility level of arable land in Bangladesh fell from 2.5 per cent to 1.5 per cent over a period of just one decade. The organic contents of soil is five per cent while the critical level is thought to be 2.5 per cent, they said.

An international study on the impact of environmental degradation on soil fertility revealed that half of the arable land in the South Asian countries had lost production capacity and these were incurring loss to the tune of about 1000 crore US dollar every year.

The study was jointly conducted by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

One expert said, "The drastic reduction in the soil fertility is caused by overuse and indiscriminate application of chemical fertiliser on the agricultural land."

These findings are illustrated by the experiences of the farmers nationwide who have been troubled by decreasing yields of rice over the past decades. At the same time, they are increasingly driven to use

## Three-day SAARC workshop on agri information needs begins tomorrow

A three-day long regional workshop on "agricultural information needs, mode, mechanism and information flow in SAARC countries" will begin on March 31 under the auspices of the Dhaka based SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC), reports BSS.

Minister of Agriculture and Food Matia Chowdhury is expected to inaugurate the workshop as chief guest.

The workshop will be held in the conference hall of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council.

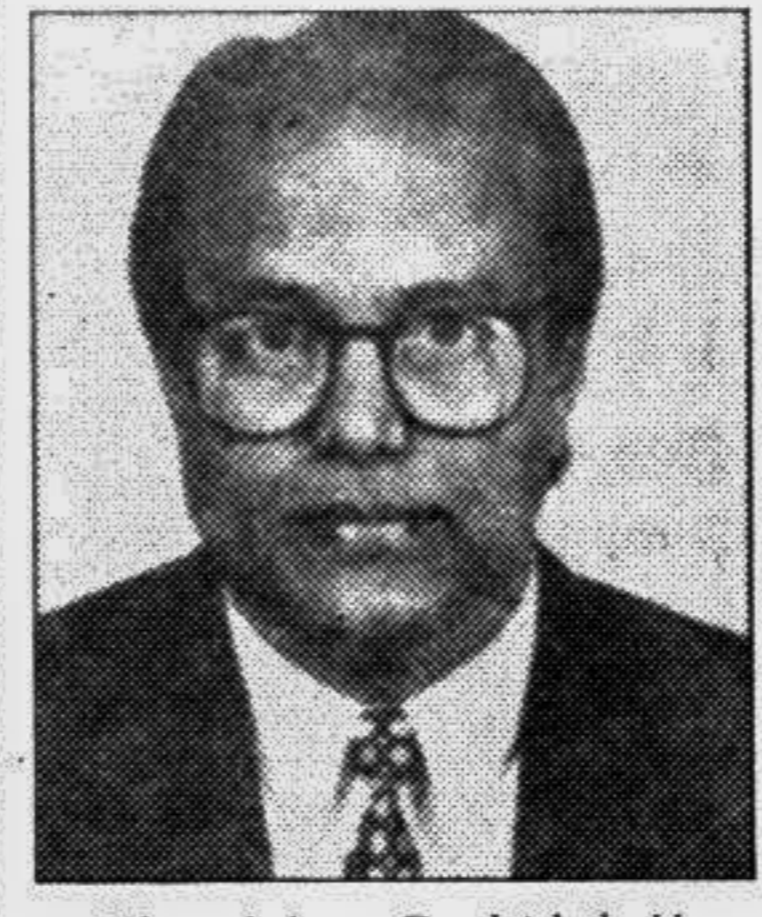
The main objectives and facets of the workshop are to identify the information needs and mechanism required for increased information flow among the SAARC member countries necessary for accelerating their agricultural growth.

The outcome of this workshop would help and contribute towards drawing up a perspective plan for SAIC in the coming years.

The workshop will be attended by senior level agricultural information professionals in the fields of agricultural library and information, agricultural communication (broadcast and audiovisual) and publications, agricultural extension and transfer of technology from the SAARC member countries.

Besides, information experts from relevant international organisations are also expected to participate as resource persons in the workshop.

## New chairman of BPC



Khondoker Rashidul Huq has joined Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation as Chairman in-charge, says a press release.

Prior to joining BPC, he was Member (Administration), Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR).

Earlier, he was Member (Cooperative and Marketing) of Bangladesh Handloom Board. He also served BPC as Secretary and later as Director (Administration and Commercial), and Deputy Chief, Personnel and Training in the then Water and Power Development Board.

Widely-travelled, Huq has visited India, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, Turkey and many other countries.

## New US immigration law won't lead to mass deportation: INS

WASHINGTON, Mar 29: A new US immigration law that goes into effect April 1 will not lead to mass deportations of undocumented immigrants from the United States, says the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), according to USIS.

At a packed March 26 news conference at INS headquarters, agency officials emphasized they have no intention of conducting "mass sweeps" to deport immigrants such as domestic workers and nannies whose visas have expired or are in the country illegally because of other circumstances.

The focus will remain, INS lawyer Paul Virtue said, on the expedited removal of inadmissible aliens at US ports of entry, and those who have committed serious crimes.

Virtue, acting executive associate commissioner for programs, rejected suggestions that the new law, called the illegal

Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, will lead to masses of aliens being deported to their home countries, such as Nicaragua, Guatemala and other Central American nations where civil wars resulted in large numbers of people fleeing to the United States.

INS Deputy Commissioner Chris Sale also affirmed that the new law, which is divided into six titles, does not provide for mass deportation. She added that, contrary to rumors sweeping the immigrant community here, there was no benefit to aliens in marrying a US citizen before the law goes into effect.

The new law, she said, does not provide for, "nor will we engage in, mass deportations. The law does not require nor trigger any such thing."

But the law, she said, "does change the terms and conditions under which persons will be removed from the United States, the requirements that we will use to adjudicate cases on a one-on-one basis, and the requirements that persons in those proceedings have to comply with in order to make their cases."

The law, she added, "does not mean that a person may apply for a change in status or get married before April 1. The law does substantially change the (existing) statute and therefore creates an extraordinary need to inform the public" on what the law provides.

The 1996 Act, which President Clinton signed into law last Sept. 30, continues the administration's commitment, Sale said, to be "tough on illegal immigration while upholding the American tradition of helping people who are fleeing persecution and torture around the world."



A team of Kanagawa International Association of Japan visited the poverty alleviation programme of CEDAR recently. During the visit, the team met the workers of Jamalpur unit of Kaligan thana in Gazipur district and exchanged views with them about the programme. The Project Coordinator (Loan) Mohammad Shahin apprised them of the success of different programmes of CEDAR and its future planning. The team lauded the activities of the organisation.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
PWD E/M Division-VIII, Mirpur, Dhaka

**Notice Inviting Tender**  
No 2 Pra : 24/96-97

1. Sealed tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No 2911 from the undermentioned work from PWD enlisted special class/1st class/2nd class E/M contractors/firms those have got valid ABC/BC contractory & supervisory licence issued from Bangladesh Electric Licensing Board and have got VAT registration certificate. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept in this Division & the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-7, Wood Workshop Division, Workshop Division & PWD Eden Building Division, Dhaka on 5-4-97 up to 12-00 Noon and the tenderers will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence of the tenderers and their representatives who may like to remain present.

2. Tender form, schedule, terms and conditions etc. can be seen & purchased by the tenderers or their authorised representatives up to 4-4-97 from the office of this Division & the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-VIII, Wood Workshop Division, Workshop Division and PWD Eden Building Division, Dhaka on payment of Tk 425/= only in cash (non-refundable) on production of registration book & other necessary documents.

3. Earnest money @2% (two per cent) of the total quoted amount in the shape of BD/PO of any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-VIII, Mirpur, Dhaka shall have to be furnished along with each tender. Otherwise the tender will be outrightly rejected.

4. The undersigned reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Sl No	Name of items & quantity	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed
১	মহাখালীস্থ তিতুমীর কলেজের কলা ভবনের অর্ধেকের বৈদ্যুতিক সরঞ্জাম ওয়ারিং ও ফিটিংস (মেরামত পরিবর্তন ও প্রতিস্থাপন কাজ)	টাকা ১,০৮,৪৬৬/০৫	টাকা ২৭৭০/=	৩০ (ত্রিশ) দিন

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী  
গণপূর্ত ই/এম বিভাগ-৮  
মিরপুর, ঢাকা।

DFP-6694/22/3  
G-853

**Tender Notice**  
বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহারে মিতব্যয়ী হোন

Sealed local tenders are hereby invited by the Bangladesh Power Development Board for the procurement of materials for the following:

The expenditure will be booked against Operation & Maintenance Budget in the financial year 1996-97.

Sl No	Tender No & date	Description of materials	Cost of tender document	Date of opening & receiving tender
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Pur-246/96/Lot-5 Dated 4-3-97	100, 200.& 300 Amps 400 Volts MCCB = 1200 Nos	Tk 1000/-	6-4-97

A complete set of tender documents may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of written application and upon payment of Non-refundable fee of Taka 1000/- (Taka one thousand) only in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order favouring Director, Purchase, Power Development Board, Dhaka.

A bid bond equivalent to 2% (two and half per cent) of the offered price shall be submitted with the tender. Tender will be received up to 11-00 AM and will be opened at 11-30 AM on the same date as mentioned in Col No. 5 above in presence of the intending bidder or their representative, if any. Tender shall neither be sold on the date of opening nor it could be collected by post. Offer sent by Post/Telex/Fax will neither the acceptable, nor it will be received.

Biddut/Jana-1054(5)/96-97  
DFP-5819-11/3  
G-848

**Director, Purchase**  
PDB, Dhaka.