**Transfin Trading Limited** 

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Telephone: 815306-09, 819625-29, Fax: 813062

DHAKA MONDAY, JULY 28, 199

Hotel Purbani, 11:45 am

Hotel Sonargaon, 3:30pm

Hotel Sonargaon, 3:30 pm

Guishan Youth Club

CHITTAGONG STOCK PRICES

Sunday's Market Performance

931.00

76.70

226.00

376.00

562.98

130.50

207.00

129.00

150.00

343.57

161.33

178.56

139.00

149.08

265.71

120.00

150.93

171.16

104.74

184.80

122.20

210.50

187.00

124.60

56.76

71.67

123.8

14.00

86.44

315.61

58.00

30.07

85.00

910.72

126.66

122.92

196,83

104.00

105.24

250.63

80.00

121.54

152.16

527.30

1708.50

569.00

610.46

476.20

201.29

113.00

132.00

163.10

794.00

470.00

297.28

277.08

303.55

253.59

295.00

494.77

767.50

170.00

CSE at a glance

98.90

25.08

117.33

Hotel Sonargaon, 5 pm

Avg. Rate Prv. Rate Change Shares

846.67 +84.33

69.81 +6.89

206.09 +19.91

342.12 +33.86

516.45 +46.53

118.75 +11.75

188.60 +18.40

120.00 +9.00

138.00 +12.00

331.00 +12.67

153.00 +6.33

162.83 +15.73

132.00 +7.00

147.85 +1.23

253.15 +12.56

132.83 -12.83

140.06 +10.87

165.33 +5.82

98.63 +6.11

174.05 +10.75

114.69 +7.51

191.55 +18.95

173.80 +13.20

115.94 +8.66

437.68 +43.32

51.89 +4.86

11.25 +0.57

70.00 +1.67

12.73 +1.27

81.25 +5.19

289.07 +26.54

53.16 +4.84

27.45 +2.62

114.83 +2.70

54.33 +0.67

853.64 +57.08

117.45 +9.21

117.16 +5.76

186.60 +10.23

23.62 +1.46

94.60 +9.40

98.96 +6.28

230.72 +19.91

81.00 -1.00

118.27 +3.27

142.42 +9.74

481.43 +45.87

1553.37 +155.13

517.55 +51.45

564.38 +46.08

434.67 +40.53

193.40 +7.89

102.88 +10.12

120.00 +12.00

89.92 +8.98

141.89 +21.21

721.90 +72.10

450.00 +20.00

271.17 +26.11

266.86 +10.22

293.44 +10.11

235.00 +18.59

470.48 +24.29

725.00 +42.50

163.00 +7.00

300.00 -5.00

115.60 +8.21

RAOWA Club New DOHS 11:30 am

**Dividend Proposed** 

Traded

26050

100

300

600

300

535

200

3900

1000

4400

100

1500

220

100

500

1280

2300

150

78500

13400

7550

350

1000

6800

150

550

4280

59500

154500

3400

5850

400

1340

100

93550

3180

1375

1700

1810

1050

150

100

1500

200

265 50

250 260

1120

850

200

200

438.75

19.41

4.6287

505,585

61,050,790.00

21,088,416,790.00

66,266,709,594.46

1,541,086,269.64

100

15B:100

Exporters properly maintaining rules

# BGMEA urges EU not to 'harass' members importing knitwears

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has urged the European Union not to 'harass' importers of their member states which buy Bangladeshi knitwears.

The president of the association, Mostafa Golam Quddus, said following EU's investigation into the Country of Origin Rules' last year, the Export Promotion Bureau has become seriously strict in checking compliance with the EU regulations, says a press release.

He claimed knitwear exporters were now properly

#### City Bank exports gold ornaments

The City Bank Limited, Islampur branch, has started exporting gold ornaments from the country, says a press re-

The EPB, Bangladesh Bank, NBR and Bangladesh Biman have extended cooperation to materialise this scheme.

The City Bank is the first to export gold ornaments abroad.

#### Insurance fraud in China growing

BEIJING, July 27: China's biggest auto insurer says fraudulent claims have grown dramatically, and as many as 20 per cent are phoney, an official newspaper reported Sunday,

Fraudulent auto claims average about 5,000 yuan (600 dollars), but can rise as high as 200,000 yuan (24,000 dollars), the China Daily said, citing figures from PICC Property Co. About 30 fraud cases could

be found every year in any medium-sized city," Jia Haimao, deputy manager of PICC's motor insurance department, was quoted as saying. PICC has 70 per cent of the Chinese insurance market and settled 1.9 million claims last year, paying out more than 10

the newspaper said. Rising fraud cases have slowed the process of paying claims, which now takes an av-

billion yuan (1.2 billion dollar),

erage of 30 days, Jia said. Fraud cases involve drivers who burn, blow up or push their vehicles over a cliff, report sold vehicles as stolen and try to use a single policy for multiple vehicles, according to Jia.

"We do not spare compensation, but we will not compensate recklessly either," he said.

#### BIBM course on trade, forex concludes

An 18-day training course on "International Trade and Foreign Exchange" was concluded yesterday, at the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), says a press release. A H M Nurul Islam Choud-

huri, Director General of BIBM, presided over the concluding session and gave away certificates to the participants.

The course was designed with a view to familiarising the participants with different foreign exchange market operations, exchange rates determination, managing foreign exchange risks and operation of different foreign currency accounts.

The course also dealt with the techniques, laws, principles, documentation and procedures followed in financing foreign trade of the country.

maintaining EU rules. Quddus said, "When we are this much serious about strict compliance with the Country of Origin Rules as per the EU suggestion, it is reported that Bangladeshi made garments are being raided and harassed by EU custom authorities."

Bangladeshi manufacturers urged EU last year to allow them a two-stage derogation instead of earlier provision of three-stage (from cotton production to apparel manufacturing) while availing the generalised system of preference (GSP). The GSP is a unilateral

favoured market access treatment the EU countries have been providing Bangladesh with a nil-level-duty on Bangladesh knitwears.

BGMEA president urged the EU governments to show respect to Bangladesh government and its competent authority that issues GSP certificate.

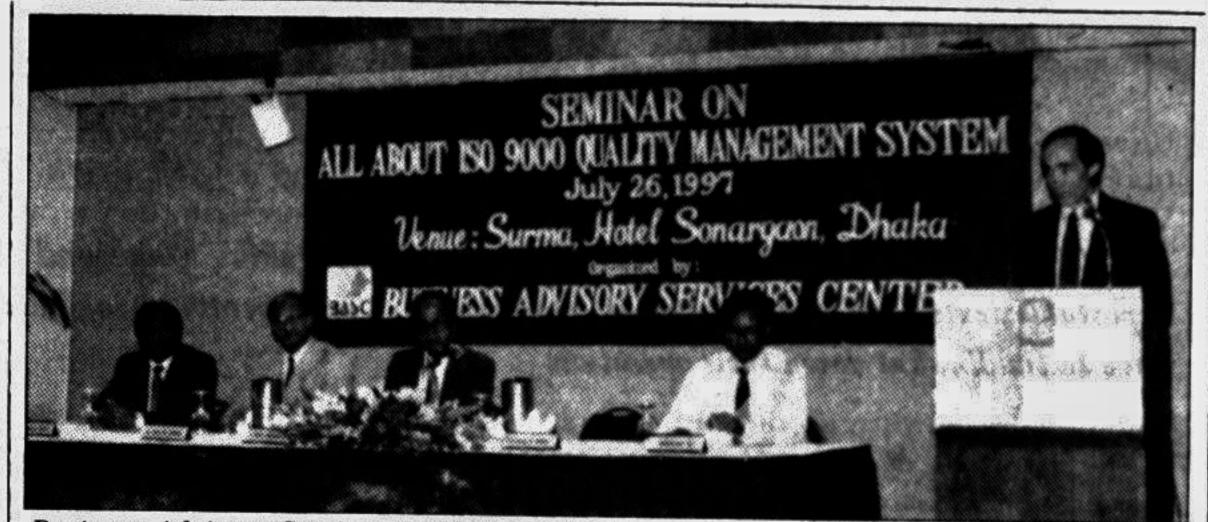
Quddus said presently no single GSP certificate is being issued with any irregularity from the Country of Origin Rules.

He said while the World Trade Organisation recognises least developing countries'

lapses and allows favourable market access treatment on soft terms for easy transition to the multi-fibre arrangement (MFA) free global economy. EU bureaucrats' stance against postfacto simple anomalies in observation of the provisions for the Country of Origin Rules would cause great damage to the industrial-base of Bangladesh.

He said Bangladeshi people expect a large-minded generosity and nobleness from EU as a last resort.

He appealed to EU to look into the GSP issue with a softer



Management System' in the city Saturday. Anis Ud Dowla, Chairman and MD, ACI Ltd., attended the seminar as chief guest, and Dr Richard Brown, Mission Chief, USAID, as special guest. A Hafiz Chowdhury, Chairman of BASC Board of Directors who presided is also seen sitting along with Muhammad Ali, Executive Director, BASC. Dr Mozammel H Khan, Professor and Manager, Sheridan Quality Institute of Toronto, Canada was the key-note speaker.

## Rhone-Poulenc income rises by 20 pc in 2nd quarter, '97

Rhone-Poulenc achieved net income of FF 934 million on the second quarter of 1997, an increase of 20.2 per cent compared to the second quarter 1996, says a press release.

Excluding Centeon, the increase in net income would have been 43 per cent. This growth is due to the improvement in operating income in business activities and confirms the improvement in financial results recorded in the first quarter of 1997. Over the first six months of the year, net income has increased 14 per cent compared to 1996.

Pharmaceuticals sector sales increased by 10.6 per cent, on a comparable structure, a result of good sales by new products from Rhone-Poulenc Rorer (Taxotere (r), Granocyte (r) and new applications of Lovenox (r)) and the strong growth in vaccines on the American market. Earnings from operating activities decreased by 15.2 per cent. Excluding Centeon, these would have increased by 13.1 per cent.

Sales increased by 8.4 per cent, in animal and plant health sector on a comparable structure, due to the strong improvement in sales of Fipronil on the Asian and South American markets and Frontline (r) on the American market. Earnings from operating activities. which increased 7.8 per cent compared to 1996, were curbed by the cost linked to new product launches and by the increased investment in research and development.

Sales in chemical sector increased by 8.7 per cent, on a comparable structure, due to the growth in volumes and the development of specially products. Earnings from operating activities increased 66.1 per cent because of the improvement in most businesses and the reduction in provisions for restructuring.

#### Sales in fibres and polymers sector rose 1.7 per cent, on a comparable structure, a result of a good level of business activity in polyamide. Earnings from operating activities tripled (from FF 54 million in

1996 to FF 158 million in 1997)

despite the still depressed

polyester market and continued ow prices. Consolidated sales in the second quarter rose to FF 23.435 billion, an increase of 8.5 per cent on a comparable structure (+3.3 per cent on a comparable exchange rate basis) because of the increase in volumes and a favourable dol-

lar rate. Earnings from operating activities rose of FF 2.162 billion. an increase of 9.7 per cent on a comparable structure. Excluding Centeon, these would have increased by 27 per cent. Net income was FF 934 million, an increase of 20.2 per cent compared to 1996.

EPS were FF 2.83, an increase of 17.4 per cent. Before amortisation of goodwill, EPS were FF 3.64 (+11 per cent). Excluding Centeon, EPS would have increased by 40.5 per cent. Commenting on the results, Jean-Rene FOURTOU, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Rhone-Poulenc, said: "The second quarter has confirmed the continued growth in the Group's results. We are therefore maintaining our objective of increasing earnings per share by 20 per cent in 1997,

excluding exceptional items." Operating income and equity in earnings of affiliated companies in which Rhone-Poulenc owns an interest of between 20 and 50 per cent, on a compara-

ble basis. The first half results did not take into account the possible effects of the projects announced on June 26, 1997.

### Delay in launching single Euro

launching the single European currency would amount to the death of the project, German

said Saturday, reports AFP. Waigel was responding on

Biedenkopf, to delay the project by five years. "He who pleads now for a five-year delay must know that is probably the death of this project." Waigel said. That

# **Exchange Rates**

Bank's dealing rate (BD Tk for one unit of Foreign Currency) to public as

TT OD Sight

US Dlr 43.9700 43.8008 43.6860

GB Pound72.8604 72.5630 72.3729

Export

OD

Transfer

717 10 11 11 11 11 11	S	elling	Buying	
Janata Bank in cash curr	ency fo	or public:	ying rates	
Franc		9.3435	29.3764	
C.Dollar		2.1245	32.1607	
JP. Yen		).3831	0.3835	
F. Franc		7.1836	7.1917	
D.Mark	24	1.2106	24.2378	
GB Pound	97:57	3.8982	44.3010 73.9815	
US Dollar	44	1.2615		
Currency	18			
Name of	TTA	k O.D.	B.C.	
Mi Maria sa	Sel	ling		
S Franc 28	.8559	28.7381	28.6628	
	.6002	31.4713	31.3888	
	.3743	0.3727	0.3718	
VS-1002 (NET-10)	.0655	7.0366	7.0182	
	.8111	23.7139	23.6518	
		12.5050	12.3123	

currency opposed BONN, July 27: A delay in Finance Minister Theo Waigel

German public television ZDF to a proposal from another Christian-Democrat, Kurt

means a five-year setback" for industry. The economy and technology, he added.

# The following are the Janata

on 27/7/97: Buying

Clean

	.0000	1.0102	
JP Yen 0	.3743 0.3727	0.3718	
C.Dlr 31	.6002 31.4713		
S Franc 28	.8559 28.7381		
M waa ahaa ahaa ahaa ahaa	Selling		
Name of Currency	T.T.& O.D.	B.C.	
US Dollar	44.2615	44.3010	
GB Pound	73.8982	73.9815	
D.Mark	24.2106	24.2378	
F. Franc	7.1836	7.1917	
JP. Yen	0.3831	0.3835	
C.Dollar	32.1245	32.1607	
Franc	29.3435	29.3764	
Janata Bank in cash curr	's selling and be ency for public	uying rates	
	Selling	Buying	
US Dir	44.6000	44.1000	
The state of the s			

72.900

11.8000

5,365 dollars per tonne. OIL: Buoyant. Brent North Sea crude prices held between 18 and 18.5 dollars per barrel this week, buoyed by a fall in

But the imminent return of Iraqi crude to the international market place may unleash a slump in prices soon, in the light of an agreement reached by the United Nations and Baghdad.

The oil-for-food deal, that was implemented for an initial period of six months in December last year, allows Iraq to export a limited quantity of crude to finance humanitarian aid to

RUBBER: Soft. Rubber prices fell by 15 pounds to 595 pounds per tonne, after Thai authorities said that they would pursue a scheme designed to support prices but on a smaller scale than had been previously implemented.

The government said that it would only purchase a limited quantity of rubber from local producers, given financial turmoil that has racked the econ-

COCOA: Cool. A surge in the lar — the two currencies quoted on cocoa contracts - and the prospect of a hefty crop in the world's number one producer country, Ivory Coast, whipped up a chilling cocktail for cocoa

COFFEE: Brakes. Coffee prices hit the brakes after the slump seen last week and settled at 1,585 dollars per tonne of robusta beans on the London market, which was the same as

the London auction houses rose on the wings of strong demand this week. The price of medium quality leaves rose by five pence to 128 pence per kg. The first consignments of high-grande teas from Assam were not expected to arrive until August. SUGAR: Soursweet. Sugar

prices rose on the wings of speculative purchases this week, but dealers warned that prices may fall back sharply soon because the latest rise seemed unwarranted given the abundance of current stock levels.

five dollars to 322 dollars per tonne.

warned that prices looked set for an imminent meltdown, as Brazilian producers had stepped up output to take advantage of the high prices commanded by sugar.

other region in the world, continued to trouble dealers on the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT).

Prices rose by 14 cents to 7.52 dollars per bushel (of 27.2 kg — for delivery in August). Prices also gained from

strong demand for the US produce, notably from China. On the Rotterdam market palm oil prices fell by 27.5 dol-

lars to 475 dollars per tonne. Sunflower oil prices fell by five dollars to 540 dollars per tonne. Rapeseed oil prices held firm at 104.5 guilders per 100 kg and

groundnut oil prices held at 1.110 dollars per tonne. Grains: Jumping. A hefty order of US wheat from Egypt and rumours of large-scale purchases from several other coun-

Wheat prices rose by 27 cents to 3.58 dollars per bushel (of

27.2 kg — for delivery in September). The GNI trading house said that some US farmers have refused to sell off wheat stocks, in the expectation that prices will rise further in the coming months.

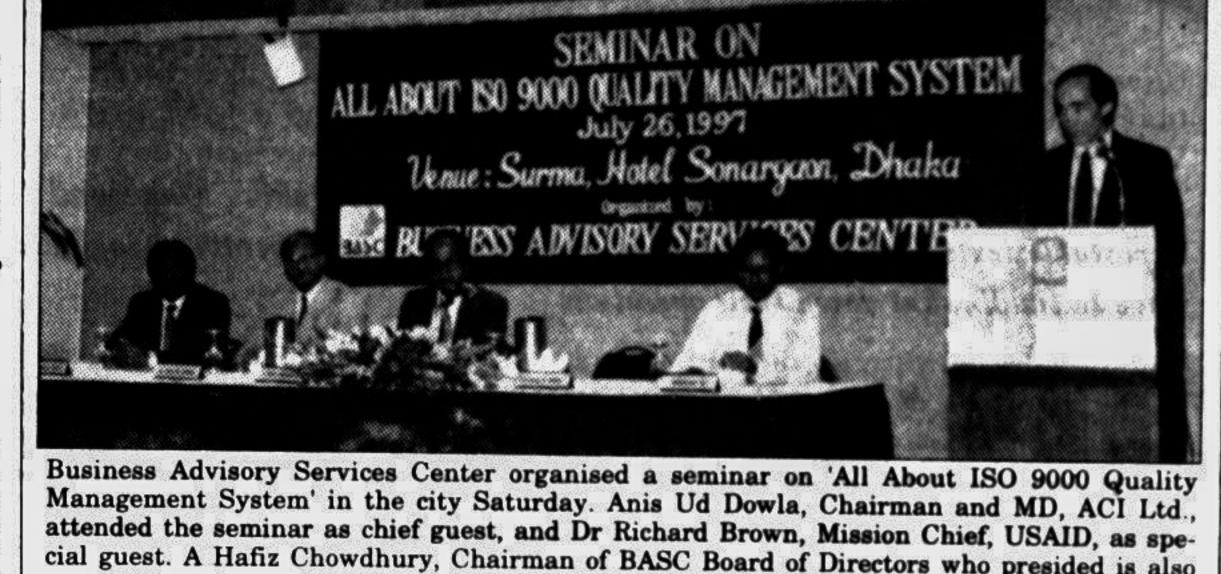
Dealers said that they were concerned about the impact of hot, dry weather in the United States, that threatened this year's maize crop at its crucial pollination phase.

Nonetheless, prices fell by four cents to 2.43 dollars per bushel (of 25.4 kg-for delivery in September).

Cotton: Stable. Cotton prices covered by the Cotton Outlook Index showed little sign of change and held at 81 cents per pound amid quiet trading.

Rainfall fell on cotton-producing regions in north eastern China, but dealers said that far heavier rain would be needed to avert drought damage in the region.

Wool: Muffled. With the Australian auction houses closed this week, the British market showed little sign of activity. Prices rose by three pence to 423 pence per kg.



#### US allocating \$240m micro-credit for world's poorest families WASHINGTON, July 27: The Yunus founded the now-famous Grameen Bank and demon-

ADB, BBS organise workshop

Prepare accurate data for

proper planning in

every sector'

out under the programme.

It also targeted some pilot

surveys in the next three years

on private health, private edu-

cational services, small-scale

manufacturing, construction

activities, private transporta-

tion, communication and stor-

Inaugurating the workshop. State Minister for Planning Dr

Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir

stressed the need for preparing

current and timely macro-data

for economic policy and man-

agement, market analysis and

Plan set a significant pro-

gramme for the development of

non-agriculture economic en-

terprises and establishments

will be conducted in the year

2000, the decennial population

census in 2001 and the agricul-

tural census in 2002, the state

Secretary of the Statistical

Division and Director General

of BBS Waliul Islam, ADB offi-

cial F Narayanan and Project

Director of SNAB programme M

Zobdul Hoque also spoke on the

national statistical system.

He said the fifth Five Year

Under the plan, the census of

investment decisions.

age activities.

minister said.

occasion.

80 Zpp (Deb

Company Name

Quasem Drycells

Anwar Galvanizing

Olympic Industries

**Wonderland Toys** 

Eastern Cables Ltd

Beximco Fisheries

Aziz Pipe

Aftab Auto

**BD** Zipper

**BD** Luggage

**BD Autocars** 

Bengal Biscuit

Ctg Vegetable

BOC (BD) Ltd

Prime Textile

Apex Weaving

Apex Spinning

Beximco Textile

Beximco Denims

**Beximco Knitting** 

Padma Textile

Sajib Knitwear

Sreepur Textiles

Dynamic Textile

Monno Fabrics

Chic Tex Ltd

**Eagle Star** 

Alltex Ind

**BD** Dyeing

Ashraf Tex

HR Textiles

ACI Ltd

**BCIL Ltd** 

Anlima Yarn

Square Pharma

Beximco Pharma

Reckitt & Colman

Perfume (Manola)

**Eastern Housing** 

Meghna Cement

Apex Tannery

Apex Footwear

**Excelsior Shoes** 

Paragon Leather

Monno Ceramic

Bengal Fine Cera

Janata Insurance

Central Insurance

Federal Insurance

National Life Ins

Pragati Insurance

Sandhani Life Ins

Day's Change in Points

Turnover in Volume

**Total Issues Traded** 

**Issues Gained** 

**Issues Declined** 

**Issues Unchanged** 

Listed Companies

Listed Debentures

Listed Mutual Funds

**Total Listed Securities** 

Day's Change in Percent(%)

Total Issued Capital (Taka)

Total Market Capital (Taka)

Total Market Capital (US\$)

**Total Number of Contracts** 

Turnover in Value (Taka)

**CSE All Securities Price Index** 

Aramit

BGIC

Beximco

GQ Ball Pen

Mark Bangladesh

Confidence Cement

Ambee Pharma

Imam Button

Shine Pukur

Ctg Cement

Orion Infusion

Beximco Synthetics

Tripti Industries

Meghna Shrimp

Preparing reliable, accurate,

timely and relevant data for the

users of all levels in the coun-

try's statistical system is the

need of the hour for proper

planning in every sector, re-

shop on improvement of na-

tional accounts here yesterday.

Organised jointly by

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

(BBS) and the Asian Develop-

ment Bank (ADB), the work-

shop was inaugurated by State Minister for Planning. Civil

Aviation and Tourism Dr Mo-

shop on an ADB-assisted three-

It was the inception work-

ar programme — Strengthen-

Bangladesh (SNAB) - being

implemented by the Planning

provement of data sources.

training of personnel, installa-

tion of compilation package.

holding review workshops and

seminars and dissemination of

data, current crop survey, sur-

vey of primary markets, cur-

rent input survey and non-farm

economic survey will be carried

For the improvement of

The programme aims at im-

National Accounts of

hiuddin Khan Alamgir.

This was observed at a work-

ports UNB.

Ministry.

compiled data.

United States is allocating 240 million US dollars over two years to make small, low-interest loans available to the world's poorest families, officials said July 24, according to

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton joined lawmakers and administration officials at a Capital Hill ceremony renewing the 1994 Microenterprise Development Initiative, through which the US Agency for International Development (USAID) funds lending and training programmes that help poor families start or expand small businesses.

"Microcredit is one of the strongest strategies we can employ to assist people to help themselves," the first lady said. The microcredit movement began more than 20 years ago in Bangladesh, where Muhammad

tablish small businesses. "Microcredit is not charity, it is not a handout," Hillary Clinton stressed. "It operates according to the rules of free en-

strated that tiny loans - as

small as a few dollars - could

help impoverished women es-

The renewed USAID programme builds on more than 15 years of support for microenterprise as a tool for development. It also builds on the momentum of the first-ever Microcredit Summit in Washington this past February, where donor governments, multilateral banks and non-governmental organisations pledged to make microcredit services available to 100 million families worldwide by the year 2005. Those services now reach an estimated 8 to 10 million families.



Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum (R), Chairman, announced the Emirates Group's financial results with Maurice Flanagan (L), Group Managing Director, recently. The Emirates Group comprising Emirates Airline and Dnata registered record Group profits of 52.87 million US dollars in financial year 1996/1997, an increase of 35 per cent on last year.

Jommo	dity mar	ket: Price	es of gold	d, tea, oil	, sugar r	ise over t	ne week
LONDON, July 27: Cocoa and ffee were off the menu for eculators, who gorged them-	bullion market.	But three-month prices managed to recover ground by	strong demand	TIN: Fall. The price of tin,	omy, dealers reported.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE TRANSPORT OF THE TRA	the Chicago market this week.

70.9000

11.4500

selves on sweet white crystal, driving up the price of sugarcane and sugarbeet to a ninemonth high in a buying frenzy which left many analysts perplexed, reports AFP.

In a context of booming world sugar production, especially in Brazil, the world's top exporter, there is no reason for prices to climb like this, a number of experts on the London market said.

But some other analysts explained that speculators were thinking ahead to the likelyhood of a poor harvest in India. The world's largest producer but crucially also the biggest con-

A disappointing sugar crop would force the country to rely heavily on the international markets to provide enough sugar for its population. Elsewhere on the commodi-

ties markets, zinc and aluminium prices shot up as market stockpiles of the two metals melted away. GOLD: Brighter. Speculative buying, coupled with strong demand on the cash market,

drove gold prices up to 328 dol-

lars per ounce on the London

in India, and a wave of pur-

But analysts from GNI trading house said that subsequently, the dollar's strength and the surging US stock market weighed heavily on prices. per ounce.

ing around five cents to 4.30 dollars per ounce.

PLATINUM AND PALLA-DIUM: Nervous. Platinum prices rose by 12 dollars to 422 per ounce, while palladium gained 22 dollars to 2000 dollars per ounce, spurred by strong demand and the continued problems affecting Russian deliveries to Japan due to administrative reasons.

Traders also reacted to an incident at Norilsk which partly shut down output at the

chases by individuals in South-East Asia after the sharp fall of the region's currencies, dealers explained.

which ended the week only 1.75 dollars higher at 324.75 dollars SILVER: Rise. Silver prices rose on the wings of gold, gain-

largest Russian producer. COPPER: Pressure. The swelling stockpiles of copper in London Metal Exchange (LME) warehouses weighed on prices.

the end to the week and ended up at 2,315 dollars per tonne. Over the week, official LME

stocks - seen as an accurate reflection of supply and demand grew almost 10 per cent, nearly 20,000 tonnes to 210,000 tonnes. LEAD: Lighter. The price of

lead, a metal mainly used to make batteries, climbed 10 dollars to 650 per tonne, lifted by a fresh rally in zone prices. The International Lead and Zinc Study Group (ILZSG) reported that world consumption of lead rose modestly by 0.4 per cent to 2.42 million tonnes in the first five months of the year compared to the same period in

Mined output of the metal fell by 0.8 per cent to 1.19 million tonnes, which was viewed positively by the market, although production of refined metal was up 1.8 per cent to 2.39 million tonnes in the same period. ZINC: Peak. The price of

zinc, a metal mainly used in

anti-corrosive treatments, con-

tinued to soar towards fresh

beaks, gaining 50 dollars to

1,560 dollars per tonne, lifted

by speculative buying and

first five months of 1997 from the same period of 1996, to 3.26 million tonnes, according to

GBP

S Riyal

the ILZSG. Stocks of zinc held in the worldwide warehouses of the LME, meanwhile, fell by 170,000 tonnes over the past 12 months to 400,000 tonnes. Zinc three-month prices have shot up in recent months

in response to the surging de-

mand, reaching a high since

September 1990.

ALUMINIUM: Light. The price of aluminium gained 70 dollars to 1,650 per tonne, supported by a sharp fall in market stockpiles. But GNI trading house said that not all the 18,000 tonnes

which are draining away each

week from LME warehouses

around the world have gone to

industrial users, part of the

metal has been used for "financial operations," GNI said. NICKEL: Lower. Prices shrugged off an incident at Russia's Norilsk, one of the world's major nickel producers, which shutdown part of the furnaces. Prices fell 50 dollars to 6,800 dollars per tonne.

zinc climbed five per cent in the cans, fell despite a drop in market stocks, losing 65 dollars to

US petrol stocks.

the Iraqi people.

value of the pound and the dolthis week.

Prices fell by 45 pounds to 980 pounds per tonne, which was the lowest level since

one week previously. TEA: Strong. Tea prices in

tries drove prices upwards on

The GNI trading house

VEGETABLE OILS: Strong. Hot weather on the American great plains, where more soyabeans are grown than in any