### Myanmar FM tells FBCCI leaders

## Dhaka can tap huge potentials in border trade with Yangon

Foreign Minister of Myanmar Ohn Gyaw yesterday said here Bangladesh can tap the huge potentials in border trades with Myanmar, reports

Talking with the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) leaders and the country's entrepreneurs at the Federation Bhaban, the minister said Bangladeshi investors can come up to harness these opportunities either through joint venture initiatives or economic cooperation.

He referred to the huge border trade between Myanmar and its four other neighbours, Thailand, Laos, China and In-

dia, in this regard. Drawing a detailed picture of the present investment climate and package of incentives, including tax-holiday, exemption of duties and guarantee for repatriation of capital and profit offered by Myanmar, Ohn said his country is moving from the centrally controlled economy toward market economy encouraging the private investment in several major sec-

He invited the Bangladeshi investors and business community to have an on-the-spot view of these offers and help boost the bilateral trade and investment.

Earlier, FBCCI President Yusuf Abdullah Harun gave an introductory speech.

The Myanmar minister's statement was followed by questions from bankers association President Abdul Awal Minto, DCCI President R Maksud Khan, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) President Mostafa Golam Quddus and FBCCI executive committee member Abdul Haque.

Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Mustafizur Rahman and Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh Tin Lwin were pre-. sent on the occasion.

In reply to a question, the visiting minister said at present 50 representatives of foreign banks are working in Myanmar but the setting up of foreign bank branches would come later.

Expressing his country's eagerness to develop infrastructure facilities and seek investment in that sector. Ohn said Myanmar is making sincere efforts to enhance shipping facilities with Bangladesh.

The Asian highway will come into reality in the ESCAP shows seriousness in its actions. Ohn added.

FBCCI President Yusuf Abdullah Harun, referring to the opening up of economies of both Myanmar and Bangladesh, said as member of the ASEAN and the SAARC the two nations are

acting as a bridge between the vast regional market. "We should endeavour to exploit the vast opportunities in the region to enhance cooperation in trade and industry to our maximum mutual benefit," he added.

Referring to the 'unsubstantial' and 'unstable' trade volume between Bangladesh and Myanmar, Harun said the total trade volume between the two countries rose to about 13 million US dollars in 1994-95 from one million dollars in 1991-92 but it fell bellow to four million dollars, in fiscal 1995-96.

Bangladesh may offer chemicals, toiletries, leather goods, ceramic and melamine tableware, electrical and electronic goods, tea, dry fish, safety matches, garments, cos-

metics, GI pipe, PVC pipe, fishnet, sanitary ware, ball pen and razor blade to Myanmar to further increase the volume of

trade, the FBCCI chief proposed. Bangladesh exports to Myanmar now consist of jute goods and some manufactured goods while it mainly imports wood and charcoal.

Bangladesh may import boulders, cement, pulse, onion, garlic, dry and fresh fruits, rape seed, spices, cane and betelnut,

Harun said. Harun said Myanmar can utilise the experience of its trade with Laos and China to boost border trade with Bangladesh for which development of infrastructure facilities should be given importance by both the governments.

The FBCCI President called for activation of the joint chamber agreement between FBCCI and the Union of Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UMCCI) signed in 1989 for increasing trade and investment between the two countries, he invited a Myanmar delegation under the leadership of the UMCCI in this re-

Harun proposed the holding of single country fair both in Bangladesh and Myanmar, provision of multiple visa with one to two years validity for businessmen, studying feasibility of establishing free trade zones in border areas, joint ventures in cement plants, marine fishing units, feather and leather products industries.P



Yussuf Abdullah Harun, President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry, welcoming Ohn Gyaw (left), Foreign Minister of the Union of Myanmar at a meeting with FBCCI at the Federation conference centre yesterday. Tin Lwin, Ambassador of Myanmar in Bangladesh is also seen in the picture.

## Nepal, China sign accord to boost economic cooperation

KATMANDU, Apr 18: Nepal and China signed an accord seeking to boost economic cooperation after three days of talks here, reports AFP.

"Both the sides expressed strong desire to further promote bilateral trade," Nepalese Finance Minister Ram Sharan Mahat said.

He was speaking after the signing of the agreed minutes of the 8th session of a bilateral. economic and trade committee at the finance ministry.

Nepalese Finance Secretary Ram Binod Bhattarai and Liu Shanzai, Vice Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of China, signed the minutes.

The Nepalese and the Chinese sides reviewed progress made in bilateral trade, eco-

(with effect from the date of

Taka 2% of the quoted rate should

signing contract up to 30-06-99).

nomic and technical coopera-

The committee also discussed and agreed on jointventure investment, trade and commerce, roads and transport, sports, health, telecommunications, tourism and civilisation, and taxes and duties.

The opening of new entry points, removal of barriers for fairer trade and measures to develop balanced trade between the two countries were also discussed, Mahat said.

A joint-venture cement factory with an annual capacity of 250,000 to 300,000 metric tons. a joint construction company and a tea processing factory here are in the pipeline, an official statement said.

China's Shadong international economic and technical ter of intent on joint production of agriculture machinery.

The Chinese side asked Nepal to provide concessional custom tariffs imposed on goods exported from Tibet and lower the yearly visa fee of 100 dollars for Chinese non-governmental staff working and living in Nepal.

In return, Nepal sought transport subsidy for Nepalese exports to Tibet, an official who attended the meeting said.

Nepal also sought Chinese permission to charter helicopter services between Humla district, 390 kilometres (243 miles) far northwest of here, to Burang in Tibet to promote Nepalese tourism. But the Chinese side re-

sponded negatively on this point citing technical regions.

#### lead to more restrictions, a the final stages of its negotiatightening of the situation tions for entry. Mercosur, Andean Group

firms.

ganisation.

Japan hits out at

int'I trade barriers

within the rules."

Countries from the United

States and Europe to Australia,

Brazil, India, South Korea and

Taiwan are now guilty of anti-

dumping laws targetted against

Japan, it charted in the 436-

page, detailed analysis of inter-

These laws aim to keep out

products with an export price

lower than their sale price in

The United States in particu-

lar is cited for numerous in-

hit some Japanese firms hard,

and over intellectual property

istry's Isayama said.

opaque actions have not been

repeated since then," he added.
The report complains about

a 1996 Meassachusetts state law

which bars companies dealing

with Myanmar, formerly

Burma, from government pro-

curement contracts, that has

now hit some 30 Japanese

accession of China, Russia and

Taiwan to the World Trade Or-

tails a list of improvements

still needed in each nations'

trade laws, saying Beijing is in

Tokyo is also pushing for the

Though in the report it de-

rights.

the exporter's own country.

national rule-breakers.

TOKYO, Apr 18: Japan, long criticised for its tough market

restrictions, complained yes-

terday the Asian economic cri-

sis was bringing out unfair

trade laws from a string of na-

tions across the world, reports

anti-dumping laws to fend off

cheap exports. Tokyo's trade of-ficials said as they published a

weighty 436 page analysis of in-ternational rule-breakers.

grown used to listening to hard-

talking US officials demanding

more open markets in Japan, a

country which once tried to

block imports of foreign skis

saying Japanese snow was dif-

ley was on the polite but stern

war path again this week dis-

missing Japan's latest deregula-

tion measures as "too vague on

of the group of eight industrial

nations summit in Birming-

report Tokyo trade officials are

Asian countries but other more

industrialised countries are be-

coming more protectionist be-

cause of (Asia's) reduced ex-

change rates which are making

exports cheaper," said Takeshi

Isayama, head of the ministrys'

international trade policy bu-

ing measures has dramatically

increased since July last year,"

when the Thai baht was effec-

tively devalued, triggering the

"Our concern is that this will

"The number of anti-dump-

ham, in Britain, next month.

It will also be on the agenda

But in their seventh annual

"Our concern is that not only

US Ambassador Thomas Fo-

ferent.

key points.'

more worried.

regional crisis.

Tokyo's businessmen have

Countries have jacked up

South American Common Market ( Mercosur ) and the Andean Group signed a framework agreement on establishing a free trade zone by the year 2000, a step closer to the regional economic integration on

ber countries of the two groups including Brazil, Argentina. Paraguay, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela signed the agreement in the Argentine capital.

-The two groups have a population of 300 million and a total GDP of one trillion US dollars.

The framework agreement, which will replace all the existing agreements between the two sides, will gradually eliminate trade tariffs and barriers within the proposed free trade ing effects.

Under the agreement, negotiations on preferential tariffs should be finished before September 30.

Ultimately, the two groups should reach a concrete agreement on tariffs reductions and elimination by the end of the century, so that the free trade zone can take off in 2000.

It is widely believed the establishment of the trade zone will speed up the formation of the cross-America free trade zone, also known as Alca.

The merger will also fortify the negotiating weight and positions of the two groups in regional and international affairs.

Argentine President Carlos Menem, who hosted the signing ceremony, said the merger was not only an economic but also a political event with far-reach-

# sign free trade deal

BUENOS AIRES, Apr 18: The

Thursday, says Xinhua. Senior officials from mem-

CHITTAGONG STOCK PRICES Slight rise in price index

CHITTAGONG, Apr 18: Week's trading at the Chittagong Stock Exchange began today through a slight rise in price index as the gainers outnumbered the losers, reports

The all Securities Price Index at the country's second bourse rose by 0.94 points or 0.32 per cent to 292.44 from Thursday's 291.50 points.

Shares and debentures of some 27 listed securities were transacted, of which 23 gained, two incurred loss and two remained unchanged.

Company

Some 149,855 shares and debentures valued at Tk 68.47 lakh were changed hands as against 68,425 shares worth Tk 34.81 lakh on the previous trading day.

Chic Tex (66,000), Beximco Pharma (30,750). Quasem Drycells (15,000) and Eagle Star (13,200) were among the volume leaders.

There was no significant gainer or loser on the day. Market capitalisation stood at Tk 49.34 billion equivalent to 1.06 billion US dollars.

#### Saturday's trading performance. Avg. Rate Prv. Rate Change Shares

				Raded
Quasem Drycels	21.45	21.40	0.05	15000
Olympic Industries	207.02	206.00	1.02	230
Bengal Biscuit	64.85	66.36	-1.51	1360
Beximeo Fisheries	130.00	127.00	3.00	60
Tripti Industries	140.26	139.59	0.67	115
Apex Weaving	54.40	53.50	0.90	750
Beximco Synthetics	162.00	160.33	1.67	40
Beximco Knitting	130.00	130.00	0.00	100
Sajib Knitwear	35.00	35.00	0.00	200
Chic Tex Ltd.	7.80	7.70	0.10	66000
Monno Fabrics	93.50	91.50	2.00	1550
Eagle Star	8.80	8.87	0.02	13200
Alltex Ind.	63.03	62.00	1.03	1000
Dynamic Textile	29.00	31.00	-2.00	100
Ashraf Tex	16.78	16.61	0.17	2000
H R Textiles	105.00	102.75	2.25	200
Square Pharma	783.00	779.95	3.05	20
Beximco Pharma	59.21	58.20	1.01	30750
Shine Pukur	82.21	82.01	0.20	4750
Eastern Housing	133.64	129.69	3.95	5480
Confidence Cement	271.00	270.94	0.06	180
Ctg. Cement	715.21	705.75	9.46	2850
Meghna Cement	229.41	228.50	0.91	850
Niloy Cement Indus.	189.50	188.00	1.50	200
Apex Tannery	285.00	284.44	0.56	170
Beximco	65.50	65.50	-1.00	200
RH Ball Pen Ltd	24.56	24.40	0.16	2500

### CSE at a glance

CSE All Securities Prices Index		292.44				
Day's Change in Points			0.94			
Day's Change in Percent (%)			0.3225			
Turnover in Value (Taka)			6,847,652.60			
Turnover in Volume		149.855				
Total Issued Capital (Taka)			23,048,262,890.00			
Total Market Capital (Taka)			49,342,226,449.92			
Total Market Capital (US\$) 1 US\$=46.50 Taka				61,123		
Total Number of Contracts			20		393	
Total Issues Traded			95		27	
ssues Gained					23 2	
ssues Declined					2	
ssues Unchanged					2	
Total Listed Securities		278			143	
Listed Companies	32	0.70			130	
Listed Mutual Funds					g	
Listed Debentures					4	

### The defaulting borrowers

Responding to a query from Jainal Abedin Hajari, MP, of the Awami League, Finance Minister S A M S Kibria placed in parliament on March 4 a list of defaulting borrowers as provided by the Credit Information Bureau, Bangladesh Bank. The list contains names of 2117 businesses having an overdue amount of at least one crore taka or above. Considering the

reader interest, The Daily Star is publishing the list in phases, M/s Quddus Virginia Tobacco Traders Allardarga, Daulatpur, Kushtia M/s Baby Text (Pvt) Ltd. **BCCIC Industrial Estate, Comilla** 

M/s Steel Craft Ltd. 119, New Elephant Road, Dhaka Bangladesh Ganaparibahan, CK. S Samittee 150, Kalabagan, Dhaka M/s MM Corporation

7. Arambagh New 183, Dhaka. Asia Industries (Pvt) Ltd. Hospital Road, Pirojpur fringements, particularly in its 2041. M/s Chowdhury Textile Mills Ltd anti-dumping laws, which have Topkhana (Kazir Bazar), Sylhet

2042. Lameeco (Pvt) Ltd. Sectar-3, Road No. 7, Plot No. 8, Uttara M Town, Dhaka M/s Bismilla Traders

Japan is still pushing for 19/2. Shajahada Mia Lane, Badamtali, Dhaka commitments from Washington M/s United Leather International not to repeat its decision to 40/1, Moneshwar Road, Rayer Bazar, Dhaka, Dhaka impose dumping duties on ex-

M/s Nahar International ports of supercomputers to the 12/3, Siddeshwari, Dhaka United States made by NEC 2046. M/s Ali Traders 101, Fakirapool, Dhaka, Dhaka

The US Commerce Depart-M/s Micro Max & Associates Ltd ment last year imposed a 454-50-57 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka, Dhaka, Dhaka per cent anti-dumping tariff on M/s Bengal Frands & Co. Ltd. NEC's supercomputers - a

BSCIC Shilpa Nagar, Chittagong, Chittagong clearly "unfair" move, the min-Sunwah Industrial Corporation 103, Stadium Market, Dhaka, Dhaka "However such unclear and

M/s Intercon Fabrics Ltd. 67, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka. 2051. Gazi Brothers

50, New Airport Road, Dhaka M/s Johan Keller (Bangladesh) 104, Shantinagar, Dhaka 2053. M/s SV Enterprise

Road No. 3, House No.12 Nasirabad Housing Society, Chittagong M/s Freshmer Bucker & Ridging Industries

Nasirabad, Chittagong M/s Essential Services & Resources (Pvt) Ltd. Vill. Dadpur, Mehendiganj, Barisal M/s Superform Enterprise

Shantinagar, Dhaka. M/s Khan Electronic 29/1, Masdair, Narayanganj M/s AR Younus Flour Mills Ltd.

71. New Chakta, Chittagong M/s N R Textile Mills Ltd. 2059. Masimpur, PO Munnonacar, Gazipur. M/s Azharul Haque & Sons Ltd. Doulatpur, Khulna

M/s M R Trading Co. 83/3, Kallyanpur, Mirpur, Dhaka M/s R Ali Garments Ltd. 251, New Elephant Road, Dhaka. M/s. Shilpalaya Ltd.

BCCIC, Estate Bogra Tass Garments (Pvt) Ltd. 177, Dakhin Khan, Dhaka. M/s Standard Sponge & Rubber Industries. Godarpara, Santahar Road, Bogra

Adamjee Sons Ltd (Tea) 17, Kakrail, Dhaka M/s Karacha Autos Baragola, Rangpur Road, Bogra, Bogra. M/s Chandpur Jute Supliers

GM Sengupta Road, Chandpur M/s Tawakkul Textile Mills Ltd. Mill Site, 134, West Showta, Manikgoni FF Fashions Ltd.

145/63, Airport Road, Munipuri Para, Tejgaon, Dhaka Khan Chemical Industries (Pvt) Ltd. Karim Chamber (Ist Floor), 99, Motijheel, Dhaka

Dhaleshwary Ice and Cold Storage (Pvt) Kundar Bazar, Tongi Bari, Munshigani Al Amin Complex Ltd.

Nawabari, Bogra M/s Sonali Engineering Works 32, Chandmach Lane, Asadgoni, Chittagong Modern Shipping Co. Ltd

53. Motijheel C/A, Dhaka M/s Mostafa Brothers Kill of Gunggari, PS Banshkhali , Chittagong

DT Road, Chittagong Salamatullah Textiles Mills Ltd Rupdia Kotwali, Jessore

M/s Kokil Textile Mills Ltd. Medda, Brahmanibaria M/s Uttara Steel Corporation Ltd. Vill . Kamarpukur, PO, Saidpur, Nilphamari M/s Islam & Sons

1/1, Isdar, Narayanganj M/s Hussain Text (Pvt) Ltd Vill. Dowra, PO. Karura, Faridpur. M/s Hog Textile Mills

New Zail Road, Maijdee Court, Noakhali Shamol Specialised Textile Mills Ltd. Khalder Rd., Jessore M/s Sonali Engineering (Pvt) Ltd. 79, Sher-e-Bangla Road, Jhenidah

Kazi Mesbahuddin Ahmed 3/11 Elephant Road, Dhaka. M/s Krisan Textile Mills Ltd

C/451, Tal Tala Khilgaon, Dhaka 2088 M/s Iron King 7. Outer Stadium Road, Dhaka. M/s Daud Textile Mills Ltd

84/5 Karail Road, Dhaka

2090. Beximco Knitting Ltd 17. Dhanmondi R/A, Road No. 2, Dhaka, Dhaka. M/s Arcadia Apparels (Pvt) Ltd

1/1, West Hajipara, Khilgaon, Dhaka, Dhaka M/s H T Rope Twisting Factory Vill-Goshaibhag, PO Panchaser, Munshinganj

M/s Linnet International Ltd 47, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, Dhaka M/s Paradise International

Sholashawar, Po Chowkbazar, RS-Chandgaon, Chittagong M/s Shuttle Fight Textile Mill **BGCIC Industrial Easte, Pabna** 

M/s Mona Specialised Textil Mills Ltd. Morkun, Munnonagar, Tongi, Gazipur, Hatgopalpur Textile Mills ltd.

Hatgopalpur, Jhenaidah Jegs Auto Industries (Pvt) Ltd. BGCIC I/C, Jessore M/s Matin Plastic Ind. (Pvt) Ltd.

130/95, Khan Market, 3rd Floor, Chawk Mughul Toly, Dhaka M/s Ameen Enterprise Pagla Bazar, Fatullah, Narayangaonj Feroz Alam Bhuiyan

Nurul Islam 201 North Shajahanpur, 2nd Floor, Dhaka M/s Magnet Ltd Daulatpur, Khulna

48. Purana Paltan, Dhaka

M/s Sucharu Garments Limited 29, Andorkilla Supermarket, Chittagong M/s Taher Cloth Mills Ltd House No. 27, Road No 10, Gulshan, Dhaka

M/s Matin Metal Industries (Pvt) Ltd. 5 B, BSCIC I/C, Tongi, Gazipur Hazi Madan Ali Stores Ltd.

PO & Vill- Sikalbaha, Boalkhali, Chittagong. Mags Colar Scann Ltd. 10/2, Mirpur Road, Dhaka M/s Reaz Garments Ltd.

39, 40, Urdu Road, Dhaka M/s Polash Textile Mills Ltd. 144/2, Haji Osmangoni Road, Dhaka M/s Sunjary Garments (Pvt) Ltd.

23/8/C, Shyamoli, 4th Floor, Shyamoli Cinema, Dhaka, Dhaka Jesmin Fabrics RAC Course Po Comilla, PS-Kotowali, Comilla, Comilla M/s Overseas Enterprise

M/s Fahad Builders 430/ A. Khilgaon, Dhaka, Dhaka M/s Ekota Cold Storage Limited 22, Karwan Bazar, Jalalabad Bhaban (2nd Floor), Dhaka 2116. M/s Viva Trade International

31, B K Roy Road, Khulna, Khulna M/s Hotel Shugandha International 29/C, 29/D, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka.

Noniachata, Cox's Bazar

Concluded

#### Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H) Road Division, Brahmanbaria Telephone: 53632 **Quotation Invitation Notice**

Government of the People's Republic

of Bangladesh

(3rd Call) Quotation Notice No Name of work

03/EE, RHD, B'baria 1997-98. Quotation notice for toll collection through lease from transports crossing by ferry at Ashuganj-Bhairab Ferryghat under B'baria Road Division during 1998-99 financial year (including supply of lubricant & fuel by the lessee)

Earnest money Name of offices

Date & time of

holding lottery

12 Eligibility

be submitted through BD/CDR/ Pay Order from any scheduled bank in favour of the undersigned. Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong/Executive Engineer where quotation documents to be had (R&H) Road Division, Comilla/ Chandpur/Planning & Design Division, Comilla/Planning (P&D) Division, Dhaka and offices of all Sub-Divisional Engineers under this Division and office of the undersigned.

Name of offices to Additional Chief Engineer (R&H) receive quotation Comilla Zone, Comilla/Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong/ Superintending Engineer (R&H) Road Circle, Comilla/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle (P&D), Dhaka

and office of the undersigned. Price of quotation Per set Tk 2000/- (two thousand) only (non-refundable). schedule For 1998-99 financial year (with Prescribed time for toll collection effect from the date of signing contract up to 30-6-99).

Last date & time of 26-4-98 during office hours. selling quotation Last date & time of 27-4-98 up to 12-30 PM. receiving quotation 29-4-98 at 11-00 AM. Prescribed date & time of opening quotation

30-4-98 (if applicable) at 11-00 AM.

of : Reputed persons, contractors & trading firms. contractor Md Abdus Salam DFP-7395-2/4 Executive Engineer (R&H) G-798 Road Division, Brahmanbaria.

### cooperation group singed a let- officials said. Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H) Workshop Division, Santahar, Bogra Price of schedule for each group Tk - 510/= with Bangladesh Form No-2908.

#### **Tender Invitation Notice** Tender Notice No-47 (forty seven)/year-97-98.

Group-'A' - Supply of spare parts for Name of work immediate repair of Ittefaq Roller (6 cylinder) and Fedroma Roller of different Road Divisions under (R&H) Workshop Division, Santahar, Bogra during 1997-98 financial year.

Group-'B' - Supply of spare parts for Bedford Truck of Road Division, Gaibandha under (R&H) Workshop Division, Santahar, Bogra during 1997-98 financial year. Group 'A' — Tk 1,52,300/-, 'B' Tk — Estimated cost

Group 'A' Tk — 3,100/-, 'B' Tk —

2300/= should be submitted through BD from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer (R&H), Workshop Division, Santahar, Bogra. (Which should be encashable at Santahar, Bogra).

Amount of earnest

will be received at

holding lottery (if

applicable)

DFP-7844-12/4

G-800

15 (fifteen) days (from the date of ssue Time limit for of work order) for both groups. completion of work Eligibility of tenderer (R&H) Directorate's 'A' to 'C' general class and Workshop Circle, Bogra's 'D' general class and Workshop Division, Santahar, Bogra's 'E' general class

contractors.

Executive Engineer (R&H) Workshop Offices where tender Division, Santahar/Rajshahi/ Ferry will be sold from Division, Bogra/Sub-Divisional Engineer Workshop Sub-Division, Santahar, Bogra. Offices where tender Superintending Engineer (R&H)

Santahar, Bogra/Rajshahi/Ferry Division, Bogra. 26/4/98 (during office hours). Last date of selling 27/4/98 up to 12:00 Noon. Date & time of receiving tender

27/4/98 at 12:30 PM. Date & time of opening tender box 30/4/98 at 12:00 Noon. Date & time of opening cover by the undersigned after collecting at the tenders in sealed condition 30/4/98 at 1:00 PM. Date & time of

> Meer Aminul Islam Executive Engineer (R&H) Workshop Division, Santahar, Bogra.

Workshop Circle, Bogra/Executive

Engineer (R&H), Workshop Division,