

Myanmar boosts trade with Malaysia

YANGON, Aug 9: Myanmar has made efforts to boost trade with Malaysia in recent years and has made progress to some extent, reports Xinhua.

Change-resistant bureaucracy a bar to Asian reforms

SINGAPORE, Aug 9: Change-resistant bureaucracies are to blame for the inability of crisis-hit Asian countries, from Japan to Indonesia, to adapt crucial reforms, according to an independent risk consulting firm, reports AFP.

worst overall scores were South Korea with 7.43 Indonesia with 8.11 Vietnam with 8.13 and Thailand with 8.19.

PM urges S'poreans to get ready for tougher times

SINGAPORE, Aug 9: Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong vowed to protect Singapore's vital foreign exchange reserves but warned people to brace themselves for tougher times, reports AFP.

Obuchi govt ready to amend key financial bills

TOKYO, Aug 9: To accommodate demands from opposition parties, Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's government would be willing to amend key bills aimed at cleaning up the morass of bad loans weighing down Japan's economy, Obuchi was quoted as saying Sunday, reports AP.

Power situation in India may worsen further

NEW DELHI, Aug 9: An Indian official said Saturday that power supply situation in the country might further worsen following anticipated slippage in the planned capacity addition, reports Xinhua.

'India's exports need to change direction'

BOMBAY, Aug 9: India's exports need to change direction and content if the current downturn is to be reversed, the chairman of the country's largest commercial bank said yesterday, reports Reuters.



Latifur Rahman, chairman and managing director of Transcom Group, hands over a Philips colour television set to DSE chairman Rakibur Rahman. The Transcom supremo paid a visit to the newly-renovated DSE office Saturday to see the automated system, ready to be launched today.

Shipping Intelligence

Table with columns: Berth, Name of vessels, Cargo, L port, Local agent, Date of arrival, Leaving. Includes Chittagong port and Vessels due at outer anchorage.

Tea exports earn Lanka \$394m

COLOMBO, Aug 9: Sri Lanka earned a total of 394 million US dollars from the export of tea during the first half of this year, an increase of 45.5 per cent over the same period of last year, reports Xinhua.

Indian stocks set to witness another dull week

BOMBAY, Aug 9: Indian shares are set for another subdued week as traders fret over continued political and economic uncertainties, brokers said, reports AFP.

Most Arab stocks fall

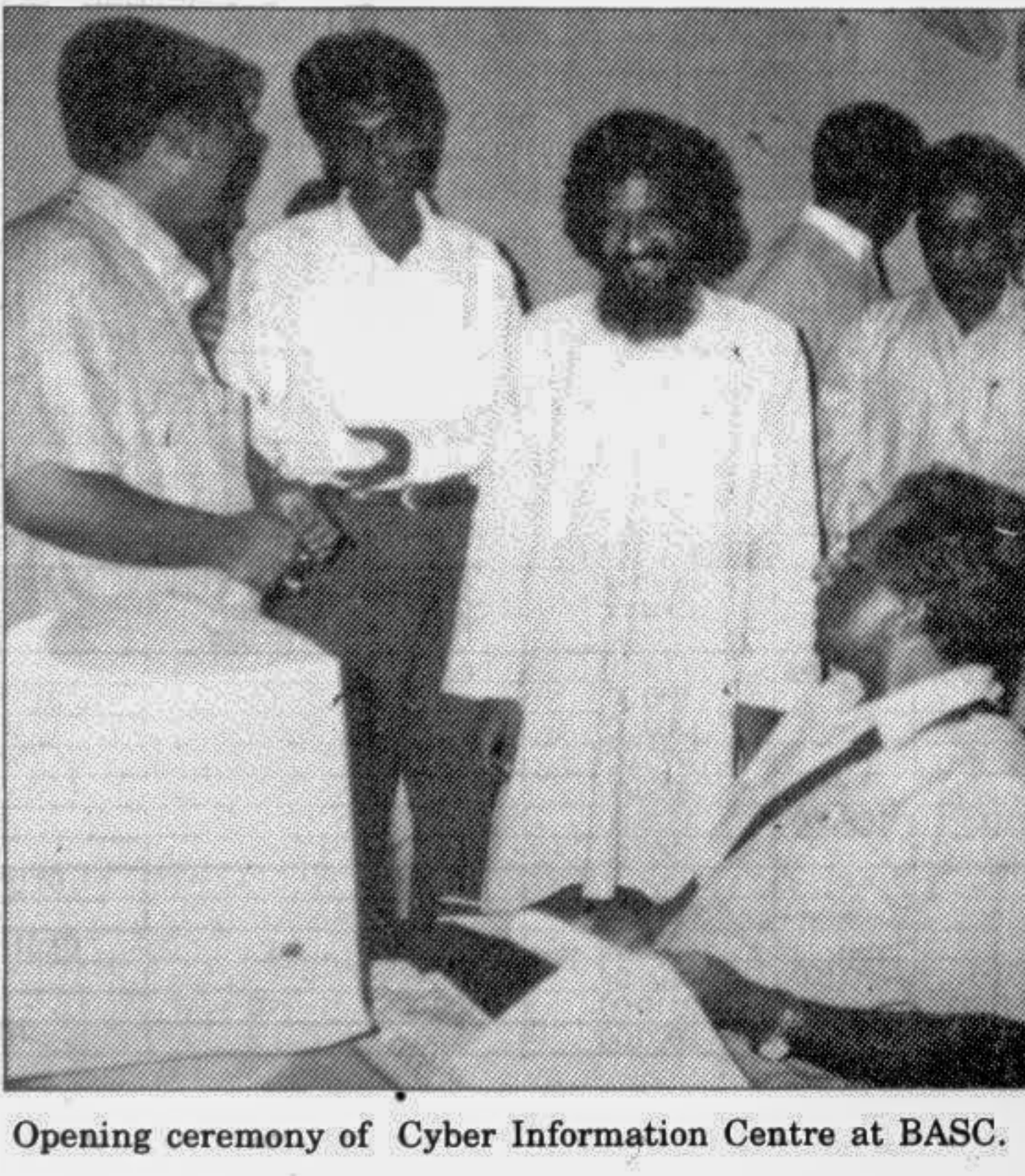
RIYADH, Aug 9: Seven Arab stock markets posted losses this week, while the four advanced made only slight gains, Bakheet Financial Advisors (BFA) said yesterday, reports AFP.

2-week BIA course begins in Ctg today

A two-week 'basic course for executive development' arranged by Bangladesh Insurance Academy (BIA) will begin at Chittagong Commerce College, Chittagong today.

Cyber information centre at BASC

A Cyber Information Centre (CIC) was formally opened at the Business Advisory Service Centre (BASC) recently, says a press release issued yesterday.



Opening ceremony of Cyber Information Centre at BASC. — BASC photo

S'pore may cut pension fund contributions

SINGAPORE, Aug 9: Singapore may cut contributions to its compulsory state pension fund if the economic situation in Asia worsens, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said in his national day address yesterday, reports Reuters.

Coco Cola Amatil suffering losses in Indonesia

SYDNEY, Aug 9: Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd managing director David Kennedy said Sunday its Indonesian operations had reached bottom and were running on a cash-flow basis with no short-term sign of improvement, reports AP.