OD Transfer

50.5631

0.4814

31.8514

29.7255

33,9578

5.9313

31,5514

13.1555

6.4502

13.3641

0.0439

81.0173

50.6390

180 Days

47.8126

OD Sight

50,6516

0.4822

31.7664

29.7775

34,0859

5.9438

31.7585

13,1888

6,4640

13.6756

13.6756

0.0440

81.3110

50.7276

120 Days

48.9821

"There are no reds on the

screen. Everything is up, across

were heartened by the smooth

start to the year but noted that

while all systems were go, many

market participants had de-

cided to extend their holiday

happened in the market today.

said Oliver Plana of Asiasec

Equities, as the bourse slipped

cast on the Asian markets

readving themselves to open on

Sharp gains were also fore-

In Japan, where its eight

stock exchanges will resume

with a half-day session, final

check-ups had been competed

after some brokerage houses

experienced glitches with in-

that there is no serious Y2K

problem on January 1, the New

York market should gain

strongly when trading is re-

sumed on January 3, benefit-

ting the Tokyo market on the

following day," said Tetsuya

Ishijima, chief strategist a

cign and institutional investors

Analysts also said that for-

Okasan Securities.

'Once investors discover

house back-office systems.

"Actually, nothing much

In the Philippines, brokers

the board," he said.

break for another day.

slightly in early trade.

Tuesday.

No bugs in sight as Asian bourses open seamlessly

HONG KONG, Jan 3: Asian share prices surged in brisk trade today as bourses opened without a sign of Y2K bugs, in an encouraging start to the financial system's first full business day of the new millen-

trading sessions over the weekend raised expectations of a smooth transition to 2000 and a New Year rally fuelled by a flood of funds held back in December by nervous investors.

The pent-up demand and continuing bullishness in technology stocks drove trade early Monday on the four markets

which opened. Some of the hest-prepared markets, including Tokyo and Sydney, were closed until Tuesday, but some smaller bourses. where trouble was considered most likely to strike, reported a problem-free start to 2000.

In Hong Kong, the biggest

WASHINGTON, Jan 3: US

utilities, refineries, pipelines

and other energy firms spent

about \$5 billion to prevent Y2K

computer problems, but the in-

vestment also means compa-

nies have more efficient deliv-

ery systems, the Clinton Ad-

ministration said yesterday.

Richardson said the energy in-

dustry's spending on computer

software fixes kept the lights on

and cars moving over highways.

Energy Secretary Bill

reports Reuters.

Y2K fears with a decisive morning rally that extended the record close made in the last

The failure of the millennium bug to send the Hong Kong stock exchange into chaos left high-tech stocks free to continue the upward spiral which has spurred trade in exchanges across the region.

"At the moment it just isn't an issue," said David Lui, research director at Schroder Investment Management. 'The issue had been properly addressed and everybody here was wellprepared," he said as the Hang Seng index gained 1.6 per cent

Other dealers said there was relief over the uneventful start to 2000, and predicted a bullish month ahead for Hong Kong

"It does seem that the market is confident of Y2K not being a problem, and that is reflected in bourse to kick off the year the index this morning," said Kedia at domestic brokerage Monday, investors brushed off William Li, research manager Alchemy Equities.

at Celestial Asia Securities. Malaysian share prices were

2.3 per cent higher in morning trade after feared computer problems failed to materialise.

"The main thing is trading has gotten off well; no glitches at all, very smooth," a dealer at a local brokerage said. "We are not out of the woods yet. But for now the indications are pretty

good." In Singapore, which also racked up a series of record highs in the dving days of 1999. the market barometer, the Straits Times Index, shot up 2.7 per cent in Monday's morning session.

Share prices on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) surged more than five per cent as trading for the new millennium

The market is euphoric at the start of trading for the new millennium. The rise is across the board," said dealer Ashwin

US energy cos spend \$5b on Y2K

are expected to leap back into South Korea's stock market. extending its meteoric rise of the end to last year. "Investors who sold stocks

due to fear of Y2K-related problems are expected to return with abundant liquidity," said LG Securities analyst Kim Jung-

Trading on the Australian Stock Exchange is expected to commence smoothly.

SINGAPORE. Jan 3: Most

Asian currencies put up a stel-

lar performance in 1999 and

are forecast to appreciate again

this year on stronger regional

economic fundamentals and an

inflow of investments, analysts

which chalked up a 10 per cent gain against the US dollar last

year, seems uncertain with evi-

dence of Japan's economic re-

and every currency in non-

Japan Asia except those in the

Indian sub-continent as well as

the Chinese yuan," said Bhanu

Baweja, senior economist with

financial markets analysis

the band on which the yuan

traded against the US dollar in

the third quarter of 2000 with a

He expected China to widen

We are very bullish on each

covery remaining patchy.

firm IDEAglobal.com.

DFP-29397-29/12

G-15

But the direction of the yen,

say, reports AFP.

China's economy seen growing 7.8 pc in '00

BEIJING. Jan 3: China's ery in exports and easing deflaeconomy is expected to grow 7.8 per cent this year compared with 7.1 per cent in 1999, a senior government economist said today, reports Reuters.

"The growth of the national economy this year could reverse a slowing trend in the past seven years," Chen Dongqi of the State Development Planning Commission wrote in the official People's Daily.

The growth of gross domestic product this year is expected to recover and match the 7.8 per cent rate recorded in 1998,"

Chen said. The economy would grow a year-on-year 6.5 per cent in the first quarter of this year before gradually accelerating, he pre-

dicted. Some economists have forecast relatively robust economic growth this year, citing a recovtion. US investment house Merrill Lynch has forecast 8.5 per cent growth this year. China's exports, buoyed by

expected entry into the World Trade Organisation and government support, were expected to rise seven per cent in 2000 from last year, Chen predicted. The inflow of foreign in-

vestment could recover as China opens wider to the outside world once it is WTO member, he said.

The overall investment demand will show a marked increase if the size of actual utilisation of foreign capital hits \$55 billion this year," he said.

China's actual foreign direct investment slipped a year-onyear 9.7 per cent in the first 11 months of this year to \$37 billion, according to the latest official data.

'UAE banks under no merger pressure'

DUBAI, Jan 3: National banks. banks in the United Arab Emi rates are under no pressure to merge as the market is big enough to accommodate all players without threatening their business, a top banker was reported today as saying. reports Reuters.

"If you look at mergers globally, they are either to protect a company's business or to consolidate its position by sharing the success of a competitor," MashreqBank Chief Executive Officer Abdul Aziz al-Ghurair told the Khaleej Times daily.

"As far as UAE banks are concerned, they have enough business for the funds available with them and they are quite happy with that," he was

quoted as saying.

Economists have long called for some consolidation in the UAE banking sector, which they say is overcrowded. Some say the UAE needs more bigger banks to serve its growing number of large corporate

Early last year, Emirates Bank Group (EBG) said it was in preliminary merger talks with National Bank of Dubai (NBD) to form what would be the largest bank in the UAE.

Both banks have been mostly tight-lipped on plans since then, but in October EBG Managing Director and Chief Executive Anis al-Jallaf was reported in the local press as saying the union would go ahead The UAE has about 20 local in the first quarter of 2000.

the middle of that year result-

ing from a regional currency

reversals now in Asian cur-

rency fortunes, most regional

best 1999 Asian currency per-

former with 11 per cent gains

against the greenback, could re-

peat that performance in 2000

if Jakarta was able to promote

political and social stability.

forecast it would dip to 110

against the dollar at the end of

2000 from its current level of

other hand, expected the

Japanese unit to strengthen.

piercing the psychologically-

important 100 level.

For the yen, IDEAglobal.com

Banque Paribas, on the

vital for the return of capital.

units remained undervalued.

Thio said despite the large

She believed the rupiah, the

meltdown.

Shipping Intelligence Chittagong Port

Exchange Rates

51,2700

32.7918

31.6481

36.4911

34.7611

13.6375

6,6455

13.7823

14.0743

0.0450

83,8931

52,9363

30 Days

Intervention cushioned dollar/yen's decline.

and GBP traded at 1.6183/88 against Dollar

TT/OD

51,2300

32,7662

31,6235

36,4626

34.7339

13.6268

13.7715

14.0634

0.0449

83.8276

TT Doc

6,6403

0.5178

Following is yesterday's forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank, Dhaka

Central Bank USD/BDT rate: Buying-BDT 50.85/Selling-BDT 51.15

USD

JPY

CHF

SGD

CAD

SEK

AUD

MYR

SAR

AED

KRW

GBP

EUR

60 Days

49.9846

TT Clean

50.8200

0.4838

31,8721

29.8765

34.1992

5.9635

31.8641

132327

6.4855

13.7210

13.7210

0.0441

81,5813

50.8962

90 Days

49.5042

Usance export bills

Exchange rates of some Asian currencies against US dollar

Indian Rupee Pak Rupee Thai Baht Mal. Ringit Indo. Rupiah Sing. Dollar

43.45/43.50 | 51.88/51.90 | 37.40/37.60 | 3.7995/05 | 7060/7090 | 1.6635/1.6645

Market commentary

On the first trading day of the year 2000, the local foreign exchange market was subdued.

optimism about euro zone economies, the market was responding to bullish comments by

European Central Bank officials. On the other hand, wariness of possible Bank of Japan's

In the international markets, euro was upbeat as it began its second year. Amid growing

At 15300 hours local time, USD traded at 1.0113/17 against EUR, 101.70/75 against JPY

Call money market was also very thin. The call rate ranged between 5.5 and 6 per cent.

Berth Position and Performance of Vessels as on 01.01.2000. Local Date of Leaving Name of Vessels Cargo L Port Agent Arrival G Indo SSLL 30/12 Joy World (48) C Clink Indo MBL 27/12 Pelcas-K MSA 23/11 Lady Emily Wheat (P) Sing R/A BSC Banglar Doot Wheat (G) 3/12 Sing GI (Copra) Allseas Apj Anand MSA 26/11 Edip Karashasan DP/ET (P) Sing MSA 20/11 Phonix-M RS/WT(P) Ayubia 27/12 Urea (G) Litmond 1/9 Jin Cheng Banglar Urmi Wheat (G) J/11 9/12 Jin Bi GI (DP) Seacom J/12 27/12 St Irens Cont Banga Birol 26/12 BDShip Cont 20/12 CCT/1 Jaya Mars Baridhi 22/12 Sing CCT/2 Tiger River Cont 20/12 CCT/3 OSG Alpha Sing RSL Cont 22/12 RM/14 Jidi GI (WT CE) Cindy 19/12 RM/15 Xinag Cheng BDShip 21/12 Al Marzan C Clink Evrimedon Wheat (G) Ancient 13/12 Tia Estela R Sulp Seacom 23/12 ECSL 29/12 HSD Sing Temasek CClink Pada 22/12 Sibirsk Apex R/A COI BSC Banglar Jyoti BSC R/A DDJ/1 Banglar Maya Repair R/A Banglar Kallol Onion BSC BSC R/A

Wheat (G) CUFLJ Banglar Gourab Fert (Bag) Mong SMSL 17/10 16/1 KAFCO (U) Martina Vessels due at outer anchorage Name of Vessels Date of L Port Local SMSL GI (Onion) Sarah-1 QC Teal (Cont) 22/12 Fairbanks Norbulk Oak (48)15/12 Ocean Leo (48) 26/12 Kota Naga (Cont) 23/12 Da Fa (Cont) 20/12 R Seed Gun Maiden Slchy Driling/S Ostertor Xpress Nilgri (Cont) 28/2 5/12 Vanc QC Fintail (Cont) 26/12 Banga Biraj (Cont) 23/12

Bunga Mas Lapan (Cont) 28/12 6/12 P Kel EOSL Cont Tanker Due HSD Ervilla 1/1 Sing ECSL 4/1 Rainbow CPO Name of Vessels Cargo Last Port Local Date of Agent Arrival

Urea (C)

Estrella Eterna (Roro/24) 26/12 5/12

Vessels of Kutubia Energuy Exdplorer-IV --- BBAL K Dia BBAL R/A (01/12) Dea Champion BBAL Ismaya BBAL MFB Devi Matha 24/10 BBAL MFB Sona MFB Lakshmi 24/10 Seabulk Command R/A (26/12) SI Chy Smit Lloyd-27 2/12 Marine-305 Sing SI Chy

The above are shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information Statistics (BANBEIS)

Government of the People's

Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Education 1, Sonargaon Road (Plassey-Nilkhet) Dhaka-1205

Tender Notice

Memo No. BANBEIS/Docu-3/97-2201 Dated: 26/12/99 Tenders are invited for printing the publication on an urgent basis to implement the programme titled "Compilation and Publication of a Retrospective Bibliography on Reference Materials published in Bangladesh" of Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information Statistics (BANBEIS).

Description

Compose and tracing Offset paper (80 gm) Pasting, plate making, printing.

Cover cromolex board (250 gsm) DC 1/8.

DFP-29445/30-12-99

G-13

Major

For Director General

Plate making for cover and cover printing (4 colours). Binding and cover laminating.

Proof reading per forma.

Technical offer and financial offer of the tender will have to be submitted in separate envelopes. On evaluation of the technical tender, the financial tender of eligible tenderers only will be opened and evaluated.

2% of the total cost as the earnest money in the form of Pay Order from approved commercial bank will have to be submitted with the tender to the undersigned and tender schedule can be procured by depositing the specific fee of Taka 450/- (non-refundable) for the tender from 05/01/2000 during office hours from the office of the undersigned or Room No 1804 (18th floor),

Ministry of Education at Bangladesh Secretariat. Tenders can be deposited till 12-00 Noon on 16/01/2000 in both the addresses and will be opened in the BANBEIS office the same day at 12-30 PM before the tenderers present (if anyone remains present). It is mentionable that no schedule will be sold on the day of opening tender.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason.

Professor Muhammad Shafiul Alam Director, BANBEIS

session of 1999. nium, reports AFP. A series of successful mock-

in morning trade.

future emergencies with oil

natural gas or other fuel

cient and more reliable electric-

ity, natural gas and oil supply

and delivery systems because of

the joint efforts of the US En-

ergy Department and the pri-

vate energy sectors in preparing

ergy firms - estimated at about

\$5 billion - was worth it.

The money spent by US en-

for Y2K," Richardson said.

Bangladesh Textile Mills

Corporation

Wanted

full-time technical consultant with

experience in textile mills will be appointed

in BTMC head office, BTMC Bhaban, 7-9

Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka. After procuring

the application form and detailed rules and

regulations from the Personnel Section

candidates will have to apply by 13.1.2000 to

"We have safer, more effi-

It was also a useful drill for any

The fact the fire department didn't have to put out any fires this weekend doesn't mean we shouldn't have a fire department." Richardson said.

In total, the US government and private sector spent about \$100 billion to prepare and upgrade software programmes to recognise the year 2000, according to Clinton Administration officials. Worldwide estimates for Y2K trouble-shooting

ranged as high as \$300 billion. Throughout the holiday weekend. Richardson stayed in close contact with oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Venezuela and other major producing nations in the event of a problem as computers ticked over to the new year 2000. But worldwide energy supplies operated smoothly, except for a handful of utilities that had minor problems with clocks

The Y2K preparations also helped the DOE fine-tune its own procedures for using the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve in the event of a future oil supply disruption. The stockpile, created during the Arab oil embargo of the 1970s. holds about 572 million barrels

which did not affect power out-

"If we were to face some serious threat to our infrastructure down the road, our experience this weekend will serve us well." Richardson said.



High spirits on the German Stock Exchange Monday as the German DAX index of 30 blue chip shares shot above the 7,000 level shortly after trading opened. European stock markets were in champagne mood with share prices breaking new records as it became apparently that there would be no computer breakdowns on the 1st day of trading in 2000.

Asian currencies forecast

to gain further this year

swift follow-up from Beijing to

"guide their currency gently

lower" for greater competitive-

Asian currency research at

Banque Paribas, said top Asian

currency performers in 2000 would be those whose

economies showed "not only

continued economic improve-

ongoing reforms."

were Asian, she said.

ment but also commitment to

Of the world's 10 best per-

forming currencies against the

US dollar in 1999, four - the

Indonesian rupiah, the

Japanese yen, the South Korean

won and the Taiwanese dollar -

rankings list in 1997, when

half of the worst performing

currencies were Asian. Finan-

cial turmoil erupted in Asia in

This was a far cry from the

Thio Chin Loo, head of

Biman Flight Catering Centre

Zia International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Phones: 8914700-4, Cable: Airbangla, Tlx: 642649 DABG BJ Fax: 880-02-8913006, E-mail: bfcc@citechco. net

Ref: BFCC/HS/TENDER/44/99/280

the Secretary, BTMC.

TMC-41/99/41

DFP-29287-29/12

Date: 26-12-1999

Tender Notice No. 38/99

Biman Flight Catering Centre (BFCC) invites sealed tender from the experienced Supplier/ Contractor for the following jobs:

All the Control of th	The state of the part of the p					Control of the Contro
SI. No	Name of items	Date for sale of tender	Earnest money Taka	Cost of schedule	Time & date of dropping tender	Time & date of opening tender
01.	Supply of Fresh Dairy Items (Tender)	From 02-01-00 to 19-01-00	300,000/- (three lac)	1,000/- (Non- refundable)	From 10:00 hrs. to 14:30 hrs. on 20-01-00.	At 14:30 hrs. on 20-01-00.
02	Supply of Stationery Items (Tender).	From 02-01-00 to 23-01-00	15,000/-	200/- (Non- refundable)	From 10:00 hrs to 14:30 hrs. on 24-01-00	At 14:30 hrs. on 24-01-00
03.	Supply of .Computer &	-do-	15,000/-	200/-	-do-	-do-

Printer (Re-tender) Schedule of fender along with other terms and conditions may be obtained on request in the official Letter Head Pad during office hours on payment of cost of schedule from the Office of the Manager Finance, BFCC, Zia International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka. Any eligible bidder may participate in the tender.

BFCC Management reserves the right to accept/reject any or all tender/tenders and also to change the opening date of the tender without assigning any reason whatsoever. If tender opening day happens to be holiday, the tender will be opened on the next working day at the same scheduled time.

DFP-29447-30/12

BFCC Authority



Chittagong/Dhaka basis:-

BCIC International **Tender Notice**

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Limited (ZFCL), Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria-3403 invites sealed quotation in two envelope system for supply of the following items on C&F

S1 No	Tender Enquiry Number	Items	Date & Time of closing/opening	Tender documents value (Tk)
1)	ZFCL/OS-2137	Welding Electrode.	19-1-2000 at 2:30 PM	750/-
23		Country of Origin.		
		G-7 countries and Austria/Spain/ Netherlands/Sweden.		
2)	ZFCL/OS-2138	Return Roller with Rubber Disc.	02-2-2000 at 2:30 PM	400/-
(3)	ZFCL/OS-2136	Tube for 120 T/H Boiler.	02-2-2000 at 2:30 PM	750/-

Tender documents with detailed terms and conditions will be available from (1) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka (2) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong and (3) ZFCL on cash payment. No tender document will be sold on the opening date. Quotation will be opened immediately after closing.

ZFCL reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

BCIC 1224-22/12/99 DFP-28987-27/12 G-2205

General Manager (Commercial) Zia Fertilizer Company Limited.

Directorate General Defence Purchase

Ministry of Defence New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in local currency are invited from bonafide manufacturers/ dealers/ suppliers/indentors (enlisted farms and farms applied for enlistment in DGDP) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Army.

SINO	Name of Items & Qty	Date of	Selling	Date of Opening	Currency	Tender No
		From	То			
a	Capes Water Proof Nylon Combat Print Size- 2 & 3. (10,000 Nos)	18-1-2000	15-2-2000	16-2-2000	Local	2252/P-6
b	Kurta Cotton Size-1 & 2. (3,500 Nos)					
	Pajama Cotton Size-1 & 2. (3,000 pair).	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	2253/P-6
C	Jersey Pullover Double Knitted Brown Officers.(2,370 Nos)	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	2255/P-6
d	Appron Cook (White)	-do-	-do-	-do- ·	-do-	2254/P-6
	Tendered schedule with		specificati			

payment as per I/T selling rate (Not refundable) during office hour between 0800 hours to 1300 hours. The tender can be dropped latest by 1000 hrs and opened at 1005 hours on the specified date of opening in the presence of tenderers (if present). ISPR/Misc/99/966