Bank Indonesia refuses to freeze Suharto son's accounts

JAKARTA. Jan 6: Indonesia's central bank has refused an order to freeze the bank accounts of a fugitive son of former president Suharto, saying it has no authority to do so, the state Antara news agency said Saturday, reports AFP.

"Under the Bank Indonesia (Bl) law, the central bank only has the power to permit judicial authorities to examine someone's bank accounts but not to freeze them." the agency quoted the bank's director of legal affairs. Sys Abadi, as saying on

Abadi said BI was currently preparing a reply to the attorney general's office stating that it had no legal power to freeze anvone's accounts.

The attorney general's office had asked Bank Indonesia to freeze the accounts of Suharto's youngest and favorite son. Hutomo "Tommy" Mandala Putra, who has been on the run from the law for more than two

Prosecutors have already seized two downtown Jakarta houses owned by the 38-year- Intel CEO Craig Barrett lashed brain inside many of the world's "PC X" campaign. Backing him old millionaire businessman. Jour Friday at critics who have who since November 3 has been been predicting the death of the dodging police trying to arrest personal computer. reports and jail him on corruption AFP

BI Governor Syahril Sabirin | the giant Consumer Electronics the predictions of the com- computer as the exchange point told Antara earlier that he had received the written request from the Attorney General.

Tommy disappeared without | computer industry was dving -- in December, when a host of a trace on Novmber 3 after President Aburrahman Wahid refused to grant him a pardon on a Supreme Court verdict sentencing him to 18 months in jail for a corrupt land-swap

French consumer confidence hits record high

PARIS, Jan 6: French consumer confidence confounded forecasts to hit a record high in December, fanning hopes that euro zone domestic demand will bolster growth despite weakening industrial output and a US slowdown, says Renters.

French statistics institute INSEE said its consumer confidence index climbed to 3 in December from -3 in November, jumping past average market forecasts of -3 and topping a previous record of 2 set in

For the euro zone as a will next week renew their drive Bill Clinton leaves office in two ington last month, but added whole this suggests that private consumption is going to hold that would be a first for an . "We have always said our would be whether it was good up for the first quarter and Asian state with Washington. eve is not on the calendar, our maybe the second quarter, said | reports AFP. Adolf Rosenstock, economist at Noumra in Frankfurt.

It gives a cushion from what Barshefsky said Friday a team rea business lunch here. is happening in the US. but of negotiators from Singapore looking into summer and the would return to Washington we have taken for eight years. second quarter we still need to early next week, after a break and we are certainly not going ask whether positive sentiment | for the holiday period. will retain the upper hand," he

Government of the People's

Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

PWD Division. Moulvibazar

Notice Inviting Tenders

Tender No. 33/EM of 2000-2001

Sealed tenders are invited in B. Desh Form No. 2911 for the

1. Name of work : Conversion of Existing Sarkari

Tk. 1.44.721/-

60 (sixty) days

Tk. 2,895/-

undermentioned work as per terms and condition stated below:

boost knowledge economy

edge-based sectors such as IT and biotechnology, reports AFP, knowledge super power by the contributions in the countries year 2010. You can help us they were residing in the fields fulfil this aspiration." Vajpayee of information technology, bio-

"We do not merely seek investment and asset transfer, role by making a similar contri-What we seek is a broader rela-bution to India in these sec-

During a press conference at

Show in Las Vegas Nevada,

Barrett castigated reporters for

predicted next generation tele-

Earlier in the conference, Bar-

for a free trade deal -- a pact weeks.

But she stressed there was

Shishu Sadans into Shishu Paribar

Phase-II one at Srimongal in the

district of Moulvibazar. (Sub-Head:

Providing Internal Electrification

work of 1000 Sft Residential Bldg).

Tk 400/- per set (non-refundable).

Office of the undersigned and as well

as by the Executive Engineer, PWD

Division, Sylhet/Sunamgonj/

Habigonj under PWD Circle, Sylhet.

During office hours upto 17/01/2001.

a) Special Class-I. Class-I

(Combined) & Class-I approved

Electrical/Mechanical contractors of

PWD, Class-II approved E/M

contractors Cit. PWD Zone.

Chittagong & Class-III approved

E/M contractors of Sylhet PWD

Circle. Sylhet having respectively

ABC/BC/C Enlistment of contractors

b) The intending tenderers must have

c) Attested copy of VAT registration

& TIN certificate is to be enclosed

Upto 12.00 noon of 18/01/2001 and

will be opened on the same day at

If more than one tenders are received

having same rates stand lowest,

selection will be made by lottery to

be held on at 28/01/2001 in office of

the undersigned in presence of

intending tenderers who like to be

and Supervisor.

12.15 PM.

VAT Registration.

along with the tender.

personal computer's demise. Friday night.

own Web browsers.

people of Indian origin.

NEW DELHI. Jan 6: Indian tionship -- in fact, a partner- tors he said Prime Minister Atal Behari Va- ship among all children of payee on Saturday called upon Mother India so that our counexpatriate Indians to boost the try can emerge as a major country's global clout in knowl- global player," he said.

Vajpavce said expatriate In-We aspire to make India a dians had made significant

They can now play a vital

rumours on PC demise

LAS VEGAS. Nevada, Jan 6: chips that act as the calculating pounded home the company's

year, computer sales have flat- vices.

the victim of such gadgets as computer makers, including "extended" - is the computer

the Internet-connected cell Compaq. Gateway and others, chip maker's proposition that

phones, hand-held organizers issued warnings that quarterly the personal computer will ac-

like the Palm devices -- and the earnings would be down, as tually stand at the heart of the

visions which will sport their noses up at computers, instead revolution, where everything

their Palms and other gadgets.

"You're dead wrong." Barrett But it is exactly this trend sion set, or an electronic book

said about rummations of the that gave Barrett his pulpit - will receive and pass along its

art ensemble "Blue Man

bias: Intel's core business is men with blue painted heads. Vegas Hilton, "will be the centre

US, S'pore meet again on

free trade deal next week

WASHINGTON. Jan 6: The unsatisfactory deal in order to made during discussions be-

United States and Singapore ink the pact before President tween the two sides in Wash-

eve is on negotiating a good

to change it now."

no question of settling for an nificant progress" had been ington.

"That has been the tack that

US Trade Representative agreement." she told reporters

Trade Representative Charlene after attending a US-South Ko-

It is easy to see Barrett's Group," consisting of three bald rett from the stage of the Las

rett called these predictions featuring the edgy performance ning, of course, Intel chips,

manufacturing the computer Barrett again and again of the digital universe."

essors.

speculating that the personal tened. The trend was starkest

thousands of computer software workers have left India's shores to take up IT jobs with top notch global firms in developed nations such as the United

Indian PM urges expatriates to

India's domestic software exports have also boomed logtold an maugural conference of technology, agriculture, space ging an annual revenue growth mittee had recently been set up of more than 50 per cent.

nies has forecast software reve-

up were repeated demonstra-

ing and other futuristic sce-

PC X - the X standing for

be it a video camera, a televi-

data through a central com-

The computer, declared Bar-

the only "test" for an agreement

at the end of President Clinton's

term or whether that is an early

order of business for the new

administration is of little mo-

Asian state to conclude a free

Singapore would be the first

"Whether that is concluded

for both countries.

ment," she said.

Barshefsky said "very sig- trade agreement with Wash-

Md Nazrul Islam, Chairman of Mantrust Software and Mul-

timedia Systems Ltd, exchanges the documents of an agree-

ment with Karan Ramnandanlall, Representative of VUE, at

I won't hide it," said Barrett. tions of digital video, still pic

It's also easy to see where narios -- all using the personal

"I want to sell lots of microproc- tures, home wireless Web surf-

puter's demise come from. This of data too and from these de-

holiday shoppers turned their next wave in the information

flocking to buy digital cameras. that can handle information -

In a gaudy multimedia show puter in the home, PCs run-

mies of about 6 25 billion dolin recent years, hundreds of lets in the year to March 31. 2001, up from 5.3 billion dollars the previous year

> The Prime Minister said the Indian government will go all our to help Indians overseas to maintain their links with the home country.

He said a high-level comto study the contribution that The National Association of expatriates can make towards Software and Service Compa- India's economic, social and bedmological progress

Call to link Intel CEO rails against Australia, NZ, Taiwan, HK

SINGAPORE, Jan 6: Former Indonesian foreign minister Ali Alatas has called for the ASEAN plus three forum to be extended to take in Australia. New Zealand. Taiwan and Hong Kong.

In an address to a regional outlook seminar here. Alatas said an extended forum should locus on economic, social and technical cooperation.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is already working on a regional free trade zone with Australia and New Zealand, aiming to merge the 10-nation ASEAN free trade area with the Australasian Closer Economic Relations

In his address Friday night Alatas said the economic interdependence and cooperation between ASEAN and its current plus-three partners - Japan, China and South Korea - were

But the influential ASEAN figure and Indonesian foreign policy chief under presidents Subarto and BJ Habibie said the link should be limited to economic and social coopera-

political and security issues at the moment." he said because of substantive differences in policy among East and South east Asian countries.

But the arrangement "will not fail to contribute to peace and stability in this region."

In due course, he said. ASEAN should consider the informal participation of New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong and Taiwan in line with its economic principles.

Mantrust Software signs deal with US VUE

of Mantrust Software, signed the agreement with Karan Ramnandaniall. Representative of VUE held at its head office at Banani in Dhaka recently.

It has a team of dedicated

savs AFP.

now facts of life.

The tie-up could be enhanced if it was developed into an institutional framework that would "help member countries meet the challenges of global-

It would not be appropriate to venture into cooperation on

Mantrust Software and Mulrimedia Systems Ltd has signed an agreement with Virtual University Enterprise (VUE), an US-based certification organi-

With this agreement, Mantrust enters into a new era as its students will be able to get world-class certification from Dhaka, says a press release.

Md. Nazrul Islam. Chairman

Md Shah Miraj. Director of Mantrust Software and Multi media Systems Ltd. was also present on the occasion.

Mantrust Software is dedicated to the IT industry and has been delivering its services in the field of software development, data processing, IT education and e-Commerce solu-

US economy remains in solid shape, claims White House to ASEAN WASHINGTON, Jan 6: White

rector General, BIBM, at the inaugural ceremony of the programmes.

House officials, bristling at suggestions by members of the incoming administration that the economy is lagging, said vesterday that President Bill Clinton was leaving the country in solid shape, says Reuters.

A day after President-elect George W. Bush said he might have to speed up his proposed \$1.3 trillion tax cut to help jump-start a slowing economy. White House spokesman Jake Siewert cited figures that he said indicated the economy's strength.

He noted that unemployment statistics released on Friday showed the jobless rate holding steady at 4 per cent in December - a sign that the economy remains in "relatively solid shape," Siewert said.

"It's remarkable that it's un remarkable that the unemployment rate is at 4.0 per cent today, a rate that many economists thought unthinkable when we took office," he said. "It's now been there well over a year, and we, in the year 2000, had the lowest unemployment rate since 1969.

"And as we move forward, as we said before, we leave the incoming administration with a very solid employment picture - 22.5 million new jobs and a tremendously low unemployment rate, one below what most economists thought was achievable," he said.

But figures released on Friday also showed that the growth in jobs outside the farm sector was up on the month but far below highs of a year ago - a sign of a slowing economy.

Siewert agreed there had been a "slight decrease" in the rate of overall economic growth but rejected the idea that the reconomy was in need of recov-

The economy is growing. and the economy remains in ery solid shape, he said.

Growth slowed to an annualised rate of 2.2 per cent in last year's third quarter, compared with sizzling 5.6 per cent rate in the previous three

"The economy was growing at a torrid pace early last year. around 5 per cent. It is now growing at a lower pace." Siewert said. He described the change as "a slowdown in an economic growth rate that many thought was unsustainable" and said "most private economists ... think the economy will continue to grow this

Bush said on Thursday that he felt tax relief was necessary and that his tax cut might be implemented faster than planned. Bush's plan to reduce income tax rates across the

board was due to be phased in way of stimulating the econover five years beginning in only.

of Bank Managem

Lawrence Lindsey, appointed week slashed key short-term this week to head economic interest rates by an aggressive policy at the White House, said half percentage point and the timetable could be com- promised more rate cuts if necpressed to use tax relief "as a essary.

The MBM Day 2001 and Job Fair 2000 for the 3rd batch Masters students in Bank Manage-

ment programme conducted by the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM) were

held on Thursday. Picture shows (From Right) Dr. Mohammed Farashuddin, Governor,

Bangiadesh Bank, Dr. Toufic Ahmed Choudhury, Director, CPGS, and Dr. Muinul Islam, Di-

But Bush economic adviser The Federal Reserve this

Metal: Weekly Roundup

Gold, silver slip along with base metals

weakened this week amid con- Thursday after reaching its cerns about the state of the lowest level since August 1997. global economy and a shift out from 4.595 dollars the previous of safe havens in response to week. the stock market rally sparked by a cut in key US interest. The sister metals powered rates, says AFP.

for 267.40 dollars on the Lon- within sight of 1,000 dollars an don Bullion Market from ounce. 272.65 dollars last week.

now seems to have ignored the from 956 dollars a week ago. strength of the dollar and is more concerned about the als complex continued to de-The recent (US) interest rate als mounted.

cut couple with the revival in the stock markets has also de- change (LME). three-month tracted from gold investment to nickel prices fell back to 6.350 a limited extent."

fell to three-year low points this market caused by large stock-

An onnice of silver was sell- dropped 65 dollars to.

LONDON. Jan 6: Gold prices ing for a 4.495 dollars on

Platinum and Palladium: ahead this week, propelling An ounce of gold was going palladium to new historic highs

By Thursday, palladium was "Gold remains weak and selling for 991 dollars an ounce

Base Metals: The base metweakness of the ven." Lawrence cline this weeks as concerns Eagles at the GNI brokerage over the outlook for the global economy and demand for met-

On the London Metal Ex-

dollars a tonne from 6.810 dol-Silver: Slum Silver prices lars last week. Three-month copper prices week owing to a glut on the shed 60.5 dollars to 1.767 dol-

lars, aluminium lost 67.5 dollars to 1.515 dollars, tin

বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম এক্সপ্লোরেশন এভ প্রোডাকশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (বাপের) প্রেরাংলার একটি কোম্পানী) মালামাল নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ বিভাগ

> এইচবিএফসি বিভিং (১০ম তলা), ২২, পুরানা পল্টন, ঢাকা টেলিফোন নং- ৯৫৬৮৯৫১ ফাব্রে নং-৮৮০-২-৯৫৬৮৯৫১ গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত পালন করুন

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি সংশোধনী

টেভার নং ১২৩, ৭১,১৪ (নি:ক:)-২ তারিখ ১৩-১২-২০০০ ইং গত ২-০১-২০০১ইং ভারিখে দি ডেইলী ষ্টার পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত উপরোল্লিখিত টেভার বিজ্ঞপ্তির ১নং অনুচেছদের ক্রমিক ক হইতে এঃ তে বর্ণিত অফিসসমূহ ছাড়াও "ট" ক্রমিক সংযোজনপূর্বক নিম্ন্বর্ণিত সংশোধনী জারি করা হইলঃ "(ট) পশ্চিমাঞ্চল গ্যাস কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী) এর

হিসাব ও অর্থ বিভাগ, নলকা, সিরাজগঞ্জ, এই ঠিকানায়ও আগ্রহী দরদাতাগণ টেভার সিডিউল ক্রয় ও দাখিল করিতে পারিবেন।" উল্লেখিত সংশোধনী ছাড়া টেভারের অন্যান্য সকল শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকিবে।

মহাব্যবস্থাপক (কনসালটেন্সী)

আহ্বায়ক, স্থায়ী নিলাম কমিটি



Chittagong Port Authority (Stores Division)

Office of the Controller of Stores

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in two-envelope system are invited from bonafide manufacturers/suppliers for purchasing the following goods for the employees of Chittagong Port Authority during 2000-2001. Tenders and specimens will have to be given in two separate envelopes. Under this system, in the first envelope will contain the rate of the goods and necessary security money while the second envelope will contain specimen. If the tender is submitted through other means other than this, then it will be treated as rejected outright. The envelopes containing specimen will be opened on 23-01-2001. The envelopes containing tenders of those tenderers whose specimen will be accepted, only their envelopes will be opened later for consideration.

SI Tender no & Cost of tender form Description Date & time of Last date & time. (non-refundable) depositing tender date of selling tender Tk 300/- (three 22-01-2001 23-01-2001 3536 Sharee hundred taka) only 17-12-2000 Tk 300/- (three 22-01-2001 23-01-2001 3541 Khaki Woolen hundred taka) only 17-12-2000 Jacket

Tender forms containing detailed terms and conditions, tender schedule can be purchased from the Controller of Stores/CPA; Chief Finance and Accounts Officer/CPA and Liaison Office of the Chittagong Port Authority House No-49/C. Road No-4/A, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka (Telephone No-8615492) within the date and time mentioned. Tender schedule can be purchased by depositing the cost mentioned through challan in the port fund taking from the office of the Controller of Stores and Chief Finance & Accounts Officer/CPA and from the liaison office in Dhaka at the same cost in the form of Pay

Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of the "Chittagong Port Authority" Sealed tenders will have to be dropped in the tender box kept at the office of the Controller of Stores,

Chief Finance & Accounts Officer/CPA on 23/01/2001 by 11 45 am. By collecting the tenders from the box kept at the office of the Chief Finance & Accounts Officer/CPA will be opened simultaneously with these received from the box kept at Controller of Stores/CPA on 23/01/2001 at 12-00 noon at his office. No tender form will be sold on the day of opening. Tenderers or their representatives may remain present at the time of opening tender. At the time of taking each tender schedule, original copies of the valid trade licence, GIR/TIN and VAT registration certificate will have to be produced. Otherwise tender schedule will not be given. 1 set of attested photocopies of these will have to

be submitted with tender. The office of the undersigned may be contacted for detailed information. The port authority reserves the right to accept or reject any part of tender or in full without assigning any reason.

DFP-25-2/1

Chittagong Port Authority

analysis and programmers. Digital is the word at giant US electronic trade show

Craig Eggers, a portly and ex- ber of devices.

mon as the pinging of slot ma- size chips and carried to one's chines in the nation's desert car. There, they can be loaded use the capabilities of these gambling and convention capi- into a dashboard device for new gadgets. tal this weekend.

industry -- which makes eve- user-defined play lists. They about personalisation now." rything from televisions to car can even be loaded back into a said Jeffrey Joseph. a vice stereos to DVD players to digital computer and altered to drown president with the Consumer cameras - believes its future out an annoying voice or par- Electronics Association. "It lets rests with devices that can ticular disliked instrument, or consumers listen or see what make or play back songs, mov- combined with another song to they want, when they want it, ies, and pictures converted into create a new tune. core of digital data.

chable Toshiba executive, re- for instance, audio equip-

mantra of this year's giant Con- along with other manufactur-Conversations about digital then be loaded from that matechnology are almost as com- time onto small, matchbook playback. Songs can played The consumer electronics back in random order or from

Arlington, Virginta-based trade group staging CES, digital devices helped fuel a recordsetting 90.1 billion dollar year just ended for consumer electronics sales.

"Digital electronics now is all

wherever they want it." This next wave of the so- The challenge, however, is to called "digital revolution" - make devices simple enough to

Compact disks have been computers and the Internet are be used regularly by regular the mass market's first full em- considered the first and second folks. Joseph smiled when rebrace of digital technology stages of the digital revolt -- is minded of the video cassette Digital's second act now in- considered vital to the health of recorder: though it's now an volves freeing data from the the consumer electronic indus- ubiquitous appliance in most homes, its capabilities to record ers to manipulate it, pass it According to figures released and playback shows, studies along to their friends, and enjoy here Friday by the Consumer have shown, are rarely used.

its Banani head office recently. Md. Shah Miraj, Director, Mantrust Software, was present on the occasion. - Mantrust photo

cited what is fast becoming the ment maker Harmon-Kardon.

zeros and ones that form the

sumer Electronic Show staged ers. is showing off here a home this weekend in Las Vegas: audio receiver that can easily "Digital, digital, digital, receive and play back digital digital, and digital", reports music files downloaded from the Internet. These songs can

plastic disk itself, allowing us- try.

Predictions of a 95.6 billion dollar year in 2001 are based on a boom in the number and availability of digital devices. and the hopes that consumers will spend the time to learn and

Controller of Stores

Md Abdur Rob DFP-31695-31/12 Executive Engineer PWD Division, Moulvibazar. G-64

selling tender Eligibility of contractors/firm to compete in the tender

Estimated Cost

Earnest money

Time allowed

for completion

Price of tender

Place of selling

& receiving

Last date of

of the work

schedule

tenders

and opening of tender 10. Lottery (Applicable

Date of receiving

where Becessary)

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