Selling TT & Selling BC Buying TT Buying OD Buying OD

Clean

Sight Export Transfer

BUSINESS

Big banks urge IMF to help spot crisis earlier

IIF calls for closer co-op with Fund

REUTERS, Washington

The Institute of International Finance Tuesday called for closer cooperation between the IMF and private banks in an effort to prevent shocks like the Asian financial

The HF, which forwards the agenda of big banks around the world, called for the development spot crises earlier.

economies as far afield as Thai- global economy in some years." land, Brazil and Russia, the IMF to spot crisis.

early warning system for problems tion being of "grave concern," that may lead to systemic crises has been forwarded in recent months by US Treasury Secretary he 1970s. Paul O'Neill, and will likely be discussed at the IMF's spring meetings here next week.

The lobby group said in a letter to ministers and central bankers planning to attend the IMF meetof an "early warning system" that ing that the need for an early would help the IMF and banks to warning system was even more pronounced given the current After the Asian financial crisis economic climate, which it called, of 1997-1999, which shook "the most challenging time for the

IIF Managing Director Charles was accused of not acting earlier Dallara said at a news briefing that with the US economy slowing The idea that the Washington- sharply, growth in Europe moderbased lender should develop an ating and Japan's economic situa-

world leaders had not faced such a tough economic challenge since

"We see clouds in many directions on the horizon for global finance especially for emerging markets," Dallara said.

With the global economy lowing and a cyclical downturn in net capital flows to emerging markets, Dallara said the margin for error for emerging economies was "ra-

And as recent crises in Argentina and Turkey have shown, a strong political will to carry through on reforms is essential if countries are to avoid problems and keep the trust of investors, both at home and internationally.



Commerce Minister MA Jalil opens the 11th branch of Mercantile Bank Ltd at Nayabazar, Dhaka, yesterday. Advisors, directors, managing director, deputy managing director, other executives of the bank and local elite were present on the occasion.



PHOTO: PRIME BANK

K M Khaled, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Prime Bank Limited, delivering speech at a function organised on the occasion of the bank's customer service month at a city hotel Tuesday. Managing Director Kazi Abdul Mazid, other sponsor directors and senior executives of the bank are also seen in the picture.

China vows to accelerate banking reform for WTO

REUTERS, Beijing

China will accelerate reform of its banking sector to prepare for greater foreign competition after the country enters the World Trade Organisation, a top central currency business, Wu said. banker said Tuesday.

"After WTO entry, there will be intensified competition between foreign and Chinese banks in deposits and international settlement," Wu Xiaoling, deputy gov-China, told a business forum.

ees," she said.

sheltered banking sector to foreign last year were \$128 billion, she giants after it joins the WTO, al- said. lowing foreign banks to conduct domestic currency business with after WTO entry, we will accelerate

Mema No. TWD/26/3994

branches in China at the end of

total foreign exchange deposits cent, she said. while making some 20 per cent of foreign exchange loans, she said.

hard currency deposits overseas

"They will also compete for because of difficulties in finding good clients and talented employ- quality projects at home, she said. Total foreign exchange depos-China has pledged to open its its at Chinese banks at the end of

"To brace for the competition

Chinese firms two years after entry the pace of financial reforms and and retail business after five years. the priority is reforming state-There were 158 foreign bank owned banks," she said.

The "Big Four" state banks -2000 and with 33 foreign banks Bank of China, China Construcwere licensed to conduct domestic tion Bank, Industrial and Commercial bank of China and Agri-Foreign banks accounted for cultural Bank of China - now have roughly 4-5 per cent of China's a market share of roughly 60 per

By contrast, Chinese banks tures and share-holding systems, ernor of the People's Bank of have parked roughly half of their while "qualified" ones would be allowed to tap the capital market.

cent capital adequacy ratio," she

this month that China Construction Bank would seek a stock liststructuring.

shown an improvement in profitto debt-clearing firms and cutting costs, but it could take years before they list.

Prime Bank's customer service month begins

In observance of the 6th founding anniversary, Prime Bank Limited has launched a month-long customer service programme on Tuesday, to rejuvenate various products and services offered by the bank for achieving highest level of customers satisfaction. To achieve the goal, the bank held a meeting with the customers engaged in readymade garments at a city hotel Tuesday to discuss prospects and problems of the RMG records showed Wednesday.

Chairman K.M. Khaled discussed about the products and mittee (MPC) advocated a halfservices offered by the bank and point cut at the April 5 meeting, solicited suggestions from the but were outvoted by the remain- was. customers. He stated that on the ling six who favoured a quarterbasis of suggestions and advice of point cut to 5.5 per cent, minutes the customers, steps would be taken to further improvement of the services to satisfy customer

Managing Director, Kazi Abdul Mazid in his speech emphasized the need for organising regular customers' meetings to know problems and prospects and take timely action to resolve the prob-

Leading RMG sector entrepreneurs doing business with Prime Bank Limited were present in the meeting. Among them, Redwan Ahmed, Managing Director of Rolly Apparels, Abul Kalam Azad, State banks would be pushed | Managing Director of Shathi to adopt modern corporate struc- | Fashion Apparels, Ruhul Quddus, Managing Director of Flamingo Apparels Ltd., Shahadat Hossain Kiron, Managing Director of "We will allow state banks to Dekko Group, Neesar Ahmed, raise funds on the capital market | Director of Aboni Textile Ltd. to help them meet the eight per | Golam Sarwar, Chairman of SF Denim Apparels Ltd., Shakhawat Hossain, Managing Director o State media reported earlier | Sharoj Apparels Ltd., Altaf Hossain, Director of Nassa Gloup, Bahauddin Mohammad Youşuf, ing after completing internal re- | Managing Director of Ayman Textile & Hosiery Ltd, Saifuddin Ah-Analysts said state banks had | med, Chairman of Green Lotus (Pvt) Ltd, Moinuddin Biswas, ability after transferring bad loans | Managing Director of Biswas Group, and Mizanur Rahman Finance Director of Shanta Group, spoke on the occasion.

BoE leaves doors open to further rate cuts IMF head calls for euro-zone rate cut

AFP, London

Bank of England policymakers down, falling equity prices and the considered slashing rates by half a percentage point at this month's it was equally important not to meeting and agreed that further over-react. cuts might be needed to deal with a worsening economic situation,

the bank's Monetary Policy Comfrom the meeting revealed.

But the MPC, which has cut rates twice this year to stave off the effects of the deteriorating global economic climate, left the door Fund said. open to further cuts.

agreed that "the downside risks would need to be monitored carefully" and "some of them felt tify a further cut in rates."

international economic slowimpact of foot-and-mouth disease, These members decided that

however argued that despite the

"a greater-than-expected cut in interest rates at a time of fragile Three of the nine members of confidence could even prove to be counterproductive, by implying that the prospect for the UK economy was seen to be worse than it

Meanwhile, another report from Cologne says: Lower interest rates in Europe would help the European and world economy, managing director Horst Koehler of the International Monetary

"Lower interest rates would Records showed that members certainly help in a critical phase for the situation in Europe and the world, without endangering the stability of policy of the ECB that it might not require much (European Central Bank)," Koehler additional downside news to jus- , said in an interview with Capital magazine due to appear on A majority of MPC members Thursday.

Opportunity knocks for DPRK traders

AFP, Pyongyang

International business is starting An IBM with a Pentium III chip to take root in Stalinist North Korea in the shadow of one of the planning.

has been a dangerous blot on the cording to foreign businessmen. Pyongyang landscape for the past world's tallest hotel was never poor infrastructure, is making a finished and the crane on the top tentative name for itself. left to rust.

become a symbol of North Korea's China's economic reforms. South economic collapse of the past Korean leaders predicted he would decade is the Pyongyang Infor- move toward reform and the term matic Centre (PIC), perhaps a "new thinking" started appearing beacon of hope if ever supreme in official propaganda. leader Kim Jong-Il ever does adopt reforms.

of Pyongyang society, which sells are lifted. imported beer and high-class sales of sensitive products. IBM Japan each year.

and Compaq personal computers are on sale in a technology store. costs 1,610 dollars.

In a specially-guarded part of biggest disasters of centralised the centre, experts make high quality software for foreign and The 106-storey Ryukyong Hotel domestic state companies, ac-

It is one of a growing number decade. Found to be structurally of areas where North Korea, deunsafe, what would have been the spite its iron-fist bureaucracy and

Kim Jong-Il went to Shanghai But a few metres from what has and Beijing in February to inspect

Nothing has happened yet but analysts say North Korea's cheap The more discrete block has a and well-skilled labour could cafe, open to wealthier members make it a magnet if the shutters

Already, tens of thousands of food. Despite US sanctions on North Korean-made suits head for

Intel profits slump, but beat prediction

Co sees good and bad times ahead

AFP, Santa Clara, California

Intel, the world's largest computer chip maker, said first-quarter profits for 2001 dropped 64 per cent from the same quarter last

The company said it expects sales for the second quarter to drop 20 per cent. The Santa Clara, California-

based company reported net income of 1.1 billion dollars, or 16 cents a share, compared with 3 billion dollars, or 43 cents a share. during the same quarter last year. Analysts expected Intel to report 15 cents a share on sales of

6.59 billion dollars. Intel CEO Craig Barrett said in a statement accompanying the report that the company sees both good and bad times ahead.

"Our microprocessor business AMD. appears to have stabilized and we expect to see normal seasonal patterns going forward from our current business level," said Bar-

"In our communications businesses, we are experiencing con-

tinued softness," he added. "Looking beyond the current environment, we believe our aggressive investment in new manufacturing technologies and the development of cost-competitive, leading-edge products is the winning strategy.

In March, the computer chip maker said it would scale back sales projections and slash some 5,000 jobs to reduce expenses.

Intel has been cutting prices on its new Pentium 4 processors as much as 19 per cent, and is expected to increase those cuts to 60 per cent later in the year.

The company's computer chip business has been eroded both by a slowing economy and accompanying lackluster computer sales, and also competition from rival

Intel has seen its share of the chip market erode from an 81 per cent late last year to a little over 77 per cent of the market for the first quarter of 2001, with AMD growing from 17 to 21 per cent during that time.

American Express Bank Ltd foreign exchange rates (indicative) to clients

O2 DOHAL		5	4.2800	54.	3100	53.8150	53.0	5970		53.6250
Pound St	3	7	7.9081	77.	9511	76.6648	76.	1967		76.3942
Deutsche Mar		2	4.8749	24.8887		23.8281	23.	23.7759		23.7440
Swiss Fran	nc	3	1.5197	31,5371		CONTRACTOR OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN		8143		30.7730
Japanese	-	(0.4436	0.4439		0.4362	0.4	.4352		0.4346
Dutch Gu	ilder	2	2.0769	22.0891		21.1479	21.	1015		21.0732
Danish Kı	Commence of the Control of the Contr	(5.4558	6.4593		MANAGEMENT OF THE PARTY OF THE		091		6.3007
Australian	15	2	7.7642	27.7796		26.4232	26.4232 26.3			26.3299
Belgian F	Million Services		1.2060	1.2067		1.1553	1.1553 1.15			1.1512
Canadian	-	3	4.9990	35.0184		34.0192	34.0192 33.5			33.8991
French Fr	anc		7.4168	7.4209		7.1047 7.0		891		7.0796
Hong Kong \$		(5.9734	6.9772		6.8862 6.8		711		6.8619
Italian Lira		(0.0251	0.0251		0.0241 0.0		240		0.0240
Singapore \$		3	0.4039	30.4207		29,4667	29.4667 29.4			29.3626
Euro		4	8.6512	48.6781		46.6038	46.6038 46.			46.4393
Saudi Rial		1	4.5122	CONTROL OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 2 IN		14.3106	14.	2792		14.2601
				Bill	buyiı	ng rates				
TT Doc	30	Days	60 D	ays	9	0 Days	120 Day	/5	18	0 Days
53.7512	_	3665	CALLED TO COMPANY			2.4696	52.0212		5	1.1243
	US do	llar	London	Int	er Ba	nk Offere	d Rate (I	LIBOR)	
Buying(\$)	Selling	g(S)	Currenc	y 1 M	lonth	3 Months	6	9		12
							Months	Month	15	Months
53.6250	54.28	-	USD		3875	THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE	4.64625	4.6400	00	4.64563
76.3942	77.90	-	GBP	THE REAL PROPERTY.	0813	5.40031	5.34969	5.3106	13	5.28797
	Cash/		EURO		7563	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	4.60813			
Excl	hange	rat	es of so	me A	sian	currencie	s agains	tUSd	ol	ar

There was no change in dollars demand and supply situation in the interbank market yesterday. The USD/BDT rate remained at the 54.25-54.28 level. The taka market was relatively liquid, which brought the average call rate down to the 10-12 per cent range. Yen hit three-week highs against dollar and a broadly weaker

61.32/61.42 45.41/45.46 3.7999/3.8001 10950/11006

Market Commentary as of April 18

Malaysian

Ringgit

Indonesian

Rupiah

Korean

Won

1313.6/

1313.8

Thai Baht

euro yesterday, benefitting from gains in Japanese stocks and supportive comments from Japanese Finance Minister Klichi Miyazawa who said that the G7 industrial nations would not welcome any attempt by Japan to weaken yen to help its economy. Euro was the biggest loser on the day as concern that the European central bank was not doing enough to foster growth in the region kept euro in a headlock less than a cent away from this year's low against dollar. The Swiss Franc continued to lose ground to dollar in early trade, with the dollar helped by positive US data. Sterling was little changed after minutes of the Bank of England's April policy meeting showed a unanimous vote in favour of an interest

At around 0925 GMT, the exchange rates of major currencies against USD were GBP/USD 1.4271/1.4272, USD/CHF 1.7354/ 1.7364, USD/JPY 123.07/123.12 and EUR/USD 0.8805/0.8807.

SHIPPING

Chittagong port

Rupee

46.847/

46.857

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L Por cal		Date of arrival	Lea- ving
J/1	Southern Queen	GI(Copra)		Aeka	28/11	-
1/2	Asean Premier	GI	Sing	Prog	13/4	_
1/3	Pathein	Rice(P)	Yang	MTA	R/A	19/4
1/4	Bosowa Delapan	Wheat(P)	Tuti	Total	2/4	21/4
1/5	Spring Ocean(72)	GI (St. C)	Lhok	Everett	15/4	18/4
1/6	Glykofiloussa	R. Seed	Marl	Rainbow	8/4	20/4
1/7	Orient Star	GI (S. Ash)	Col	RSA	10/4	19/4
1/8	Andhika Adikarya	Gi(St.C)		ASA	17/4	21/4
1/9 .	Mana	C Clink	Tanj	OLM	29/3	18/4
1/10	Pagan	GI (Y. Ma)	Yang	MTA	8/4	18/4
1/11	Xpress Nuptse	. Cont	Sing	RSL	9/4	20/4
1/12	Banga Birol	Cont	P. Kel	Bdship	9/4	20/4
1/13	Boxer Birol	Cont	P.Kel	TTL	11/4	21/4
CCT/1	Jurong Balsam	Cont	Sing	Nol	7/4	18/4
CCT/2	Banga Biraj	Cont	P. Kel	Bdship	14/4	19/4
CCT/3	Banglar Robi	Cont	Sing	BSC	16/4	19/4
RM/14	Huang Yun	GI	Kawa	laycee	17/4	22/4
RM/15	Ocean Pride	Repair	Yang	Psal	28/3	25/4
GSJ ·	New Vigor	Wheat (G)	Adel	SSST	11/4	19/4
TSP	Bombay	R. Phos	Mali	RML	14/2	24/4
RM/3	Eastern Glory		P. Kel	Sealift	14/4	19/4
RM/4	Pacific Emerald	Copra/CpoI	Damya	Alleseas	15/4	19/4
RM/6	Anawan		Mina	ECSL	14/4	19/4
DOJ	Banglar Shourabh	C.Oil		BSC	R/A	19/4

Name of vessels	Date of	L Port	Local	Cargo	Loading
		call	agent		port
OSG Alpha (Cont)8/4	19/4	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing.
Banglar Kallol	19/4	Mong	BSC	-	
Chol San Bong Chong Nyon	19/4	Lang	NWSL	C. Clink	
Pns Tipu Sultan	19/4	-	MMI	-	-
PNS Moawin	19/4	-	MIMI		
QC Pntail (Cont)12/4	19/4	P. Kel	QCSL	Cont	Sing.
Kota Berjaya (Cont) 12/4	19/4	Sing	Pil (Bd)	Cont	Sing.
Horizon IX	19/4	Khor	ARL	Scraping	
San Mateo (Roro/24)12/4	19/4	Sing	Jf.	Vehi	
Kota Naga(Cont)12/4	19/4	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Sing.
Sea Express	20/4		Pil (Bd)	Scraping	
Alex	20/4	Niger	OTBL		-
Triumph Hong Kong (72)12/4	23/4	Yang	RML	GI (St. C)	
Andhikha Rainbow(72)	20/4		ASA	GI (St. C)	-
Exceed-2(48)12/04	20/4	Sing	Everett	GI (St. C)	
Banglar Robi(Cont) 17/4	21/4	Mong	BSC	Cont	Sing
Bright Star	19/4		MSA	Wheat(P)	
Mawlamyine	22/4	Yang	MTA	Rice(P)	-
Cosman-II	22/4	Hong	Concord		-
Xpress Resolve (Cont) 15/4	23/4		RSL	Cont	Sing.
QC Lark(Cont) 15/4	23/4	-	QCSL	Cont	Sing.
Bay bonanza	23/4		Everett	Urea	-
Jaami (Cont) 17/4	24/4	Sing	Cross	Cont	Sing
Abuja (Cont)16/4	25/4		Everbest	Cont	Col.
APL Colombo (Cont)16/4	25/4		Nol	Cont	Sing.
QC Teal (Cont)8/4	26/4	P. Kel	QCSL	Cont	Sing.
Kota Singa	27/4		Baridhi	Cont	Col
Banga Lanka	27/4	-	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Acturia (Cont)16/4	28/4		QCSL	Cont.	Sing.
Xuan Cheng (Liner)	29/4	-	Bdship	GI	-
laya Mars	30/4		RSL	Cont	Sing

Tanker due					
Urengoy	18/4		Seaco	m CD	SO -
Mona Lisa	20/4		Seaco	m CP. OLI	EIN -
Name of vessels	Cargo	Last	Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Vessels at Kutubdia					,
Energy Explorer-IV	1			BBAL	5/4
Ismaya				Arafeen	17/8
Dea Champion			- 1	Arafeen	R/A(12/4)
Dea Captain	P.Mat			Ibs	R/A(20/3)
					NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE OWNER.

Ismaya		-	Arafeen	17/8
Dea Champion			Arafeen	R/A(12/4)
Dea Captain	P.Mat		Ibs	R/A(20/3)
Seabulk Command			IBS	R/A(20/3)
Danat Qatar	COil	Jebe	USS	9/4
Banglar Jyoti	C. Oil		BSC	R/A(16/4)
Vessels at outer anchora	age			
Ready on				
Kota Bintang (Cont)	Cont	Sing	Pil (BD)	12/4
Alam Selar	-R. Seed	Kemb	Litmond	4/4
Xpress Renown (Cont)	Cont	Col	Everbest	13/4
Banga Bonik (Cont)	Cont	Sing	Bdship	14/4
Artemis (Cont)	Cont	P. Kel	TTL	15/4
Banga Bijov (Cont)	Cont	Col	Baridhi	16/4
Kota Cahaya (Cont)	Cont	Sing	Pil (RD)	16/4

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

Tender invitation notice no. 261 (2000-2001). Tenders on item rate basis through Bangladesh Form No 2908 under sealed cover are hereby invited from Public Works Directorate's licence holder 1 1/2 class E/M contractors having VAT Department's registration certificate for the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received in tender box kept at the office of the undersigned as well as Public Works E/M Division-1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/E/M Workshop Division & Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka offices as per the undermentioned date & time and opened on the same day at 12-15 min in presence (if any) of the tenderers. Supply of mixed materials for Name of work

by contractor.

hours).

Noon).

figures & words. It many be noted that not more than two

15 (fifteen) days.

23-4-2001 (during office

24-4-2001 (up to 12:00

Dated: 04-04-2001 Eng/ 21-12-1407BS

manufacturing furniture. Estimated cost At the 2% of the rate quoted Earnest money

Government of the People's

Republic of Bangladesh

Public Works Timber Workshop Division

Mirpur, Dhaka

Tender Invitation Notice

Time for completion of

tender

Last date of receiving

tender

DFP-9631-12/4

G-707

Rate should be quoted on items of schedule basis distinctly in

digits should be used after point. Earnest money must be submitted with the tender in BD/PO/CD/SDR/Pratirakkha Sanchaya Patra etc. from any scheduled bank otherwise tender will be treated as cancelled. Schedule of work, terms & conditions of contract etc. can be seen & purchased on cash payment of Tk 410/= only (nonrefundable) from the office of the undersigned as well as office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-

tender form on production of registration book with requisite papers. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without any reason.

1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/E/M Workshop Division & Public Works Eden

Building Division, Dhaka up to the last date of selling tender.

Contractor himself or his representative may purchase the

Ansarul Hug **Executive Engineer Public Works Timber** Workshop Division

Mirpur, Dhaka.

wooden



(A' Company of Petrobangla) Planning & Development Division House No. 1, Road No. 12, Sector 3 Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230

গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ, এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।

			Tender Notice
ef N	No. GTCL	P&D/0	05/2001
	Name work	of	Construction of 25,000 gallons capacity underground water tank, shallow tubewell, pump house & pipe line inside Baghabari CT Gate Station (CGS).

		inside Baghabari CT Gate Station (CGS).
2.	Price of tender document	Tk 1,000.00 (one thousand) only (non-refundable).
2.	Estimated cost	Tk 9,99,737.15 (Taka nine lakh ninety-nine thousand seven hundred thirty-seven and paisa fifteen) only.
4.	Earnest money	Earnest money at the rate 2.5% of quoted amount must be submitted through Bank Draft/Pay Order issued from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of "Gas Transmission Company Ltd".
5.	Eligibility of contractor	Petrobangla/PWD/Directorate of Public Health Engineering enlisted 1 st class civil contractors having past experience of deep/shallow tubewell installation with related construction works worth minimum Tk 10.00 lakh under a single work during the past 5 (five) years.
6.	Time limit for completion of work	120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of issuing work order.
7.	Place of selling tender document	Eligible contractors can purchase the tender document from Accounts Department, GTCL, House No. 1, Road No. 12, Sector 3, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka during office hours on all working days from to 15-04-2001 to 29-04-2001.
8.	Date & time of receiving & opening tender	Tenders will be received at GTCL Board Room up to 12-00 noon of 30-04-2001 and the tenders received will be opened at the same place on the same day at 12-15 hours in presence (if any) of the interested

GTPR-10/2001 DFP-9644-12/4

GTCL authority reserves the right to accept/reject any or all

after the date & time.

tenders without assigning any reason,

tenderers/representatives. No tender will be received