



Aynul Hoque of Lloyd's Register Bangladesh hands over the first combined ISO certificate in Bangladesh to Mazhar Iqbal, Plant Manager, Khulna Power Operators Ltd on Saturday.

SingTel invests another \$200m in India's Bharti Group

AFP, Singapore

Singapore Telecommunications Ltd. (SingTel) will invest another 200 million US dollars in India's Bharti Group, the city-state's dominant carrier said Monday in a statement.

The latest investments raises SingTel's total commitment in the Indian telecom group to 650 million dollars.

SingTel's 200 million dollar investment, together with 260 million dollars from other investors, will be used to finance the group's cellular and fixed line businesses, the statement said.

These include the construction

of a long distance network as well as provision of fixed line services in new service areas.

"As a strategic partner, SingTel is able to share its international experience and expertise in different aspects of operating a telecommunications business," said SingTel chief executive Lee Hsien Yang.

"We strongly support Bharti's goal to become a leading integrated telecommunications player in India," he said.

Last year, SingTel acquired a 20 per cent stake in Bharti Telecom and 15 per cent in Bharti Televentures, the holding entities of the Indian group.

ADB to meet to shepherd Asian economies thru' US slowdown

AFP, Manila

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will hold its annual meeting in Hawaii this week aimed at helping member-nations plot their course through a looming recession in the United States.

Over three days from Wednesday, the bank managers hope to advance long-term plans to jack up the bank's capital base amid exploding demand for funds by developing member nations, ADB president Tadao Chino told AFP.

Bank governors would review progress of the ADB's efforts to reduce the region's sprawling poverty, under a new long-term strategy unveiled last year, he added.

Key donors -- the United States and European countries in particular -- have long been pushing for more tangible results as tonic for growing donor fatigue.

Capitalized at 45.5 billion dollars, the ADB lent 5.85 billion dollars last year, with 27.2 per cent funnelled through its soft-loan window intended for the poorest

of members which have little access to the global capital markets.

Chino said, "Hawaii is a good place to discuss poverty issues because it's very close to many Pacific island countries," many of them among the world's poorest.

But the wealthy tropical islands of Hawaii are also a magnet for opponents of capitalism. A coalition of anti-globalization pressure groups have vowed to stage demonstrations against the meeting to protest lending policies they claim lead to the marginalization of the poor.

Chino said his bank and the protesters "at the end of the day have the same goal -- that of an Asia-Pacific region free of poverty."

He said the bank's new poverty reduction strategy "will be a major issue" as the ADB sought ways to make a difference in the lives of the region's 3.2 billion people, particularly the bottom segment who make up two-thirds of the world's poor.

The plan would "focus our re-

sources on the things we do best, and to be more efficient in our operations," said Shoji Nishimoto, ADB director for strategy and policy.

After the 1997 Asian crisis, which forced the ADB into the unusual business of making billion-dollar rescue packages for stricken economies of South Korea, Indonesia and Thailand, the bank has been pressing borrowers to keep up the pace of reforms to avoid a second bout of the flu.

In March it applied the screws on Indonesia, one of its largest borrowers, telling its leaders that fresh loans would be linked to success in curbing corruption, among other reforms.

The bank is signing "poverty reduction partnership agreements" with borrowers, which tie the loan spigot to performance targets.

Chino said the region's growth pace should slacken to five per cent this year from a world-leading 7.1 per cent clip in 2000, but he expected a swift rebound

with nearly six per cent growth next year.

His main worry was about the cooling US economy and slowing demand for electronics, the foundation of some of the countries' phenomenal advances in recent years.

Prospects vary by country, but "so long as they continue their ongoing reforms they will not really derail their growth path," Chino said.

"They will not be going into another crisis despite the sluggish US economy and the downturn of (information technology products) demand," he said.

Chino said the bank should soon complete its operational framework for the next five years, allowing its managers to assess demand for resources to be put forward to the bank governors.

Donors last year topped up the bank's principal soft-loan window, the Asian Development Fund, for 5.65 billion dollars including 2.91 billion dollars in fresh contributions.

Taiwan's labour import hits new high

AFP, Taipei

The number of Taiwanese foreign workers hit a record of nearly 330,000 people in March, a labour official said yesterday, despite attempts to tighten controls alien workers amid a 15-year record jobless rate.

"The number of foreign workers in March reached a new high of 327,529 at the end of March as a result of growing demand for domestic helpers," an official from the Council of Labour Affairs told the news agency.

Foreign caretakers in March rose 16.1 per cent from August last year, with the number surging to a historic high of 100,870.

But the figure was only up by 507 people from February as opposed to previous increases of

3,000 to 4,000 people a month before the government tightened control on foreign labour imports, the official said.

The government's efforts to cut foreign labour also prevailed in the manufacturing and construction sectors, in which the number of alien workers dropped 1.1 and 6.0 per cent respectively to 180,739 and 36,493 from August last year, he said.

Taiwan's total population of foreign workers in March -- mostly come from the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam -- only increased by 592 people from the previous month, he added.

Thousands of Taiwanese workers marched through Taipei on Labour Day Tuesday demanding job protection and reduction in foreign labour imports, which they

blamed as a key factor for jacking up the unemployment rate.

They also called for immediate action from the government to improve an ailing economy and ease unemployment, which hit a 15-year high of 3.89 per cent in March.

Some 380,000 people were left jobless in March -- 160,000 of them as a result of company closures. Around 5,000 businesses were forced to close last year and it is feared the figure will exceed 6,000 this year.

Officials have hinted the jobless rate for April could top the record 4.1 per cent posted in August 1985, as more layoffs were expected amid mergers and closures in the continued economic slowdown.

Philippines sees credit ratings boost as political tension eases

AFP, Manila

President Gloria Arroyo's swift and decisive action in quelling a takeover bid the political opposition last week should boost the country's credit rating, a senior economic official said Monday.

"Much of the uncertainty has disappeared" and we can move forward," Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas said in a statement.

While foreign investors could still have "lingering fears" on the economy, Canlas said the government's "proper handling" of the May 1 uprising has stabilized the country's financial markets.

"I think this really speaks well on the future of the economy," he stressed.

At least 50,000 supporters of jailed ex-president Joseph Estrada stormed the presidential palace last week in a bid to topple the government and install a civilian-military junta. Four people were killed and over a 100 were injured in the violence.

Arroyo declared a "state of rebellion" that allowed her to crush the uprising and launch a crackdown on the alleged plotters even without court orders.

New York-based Moody's Investors Service last month said it has retained its negative outlook on the Philippines due to continued political uncertainties and declining economic fundamentals.

It rated the Philippines below investment grade or B1, saying that Arroyo was faced with "considerable challenges due to structural, economic and political problems."

Zimbabwean trade minister resigns over lawlessness

AFP, Harare

Zimbabwe's Minister of Industry and International Trade, who has publicly opposed raids by militant war veterans on businesses here, has resigned, newspaper reports said Sunday.

Nkosana Moyo handed in his resignation in a letter to President Robert Mugabe on Friday, the privately owned Standard reported.

Shortly after resigning, Moyo left Zimbabwe for neighboring South Africa, the state-run Sunday Mail said.

Moyo refused to comment to either the Standard or the state-run Sunday Mail on the reasons for his resignation.

But unnamed sources told the Standard that Moyo felt he was unable to perform his duties in attracting international investment and promoting Zimbabwean industry when the ruling party's policies scared investors away.

Moyo has publicly criticized the raids by pro-government war veterans on Zimbabwean businesses, where they have extorted money and beaten managers in the name of settling labour disputes.

"There is a government machinery put in place to solve such disputes," Moyo told the official ZIANA news agency last week. "These are the people who should assist in labour disputes and not the war veterans."

Moyo was well-regarded in the business community, and was considered a technocrat who would help revive the nation's crumbling economy when he was appointed to cabinet 10 months ago.

KOHINOOR CHEMICAL COMPANY (BD.) LTD.

36, Shahid Tajuddin Ahmed Sharani Tejaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208

NOTICE OF THE TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Tenth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of KOHINOOR CHEMICAL COMPANY (BD.) LTD. will be held on 8th June 2001 at 9-30 a.m. at Factory Premises, 36, Shahid Tajuddin Ahmed Sharani, Tejaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 to transact the following business:

AGENDA

1. To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Accounts as of 30th June, 1997 together with reports of the Auditors and the Directors thereon.
2. To elect Directors.
3. To accord post-facto approval to the appointment of the Auditors and their remuneration for the year 1997-1998.
4. To transact any other business of the Company with the permission of the Chair.

By order of the Board

Dated : 07th May, 2001

Sd/-

(A. A. Mahbubul Islam)

Acting Company Secretary

NOTES :

1. The Register of Members and Share Transfer Book of the Company will remain closed from 25th May, 2001 to 7th June, 2001 (both days inclusive). During that period no share transfer will be effected.
2. A member entitled to attend and vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his/her stead. The Proxy Form, duly stamped, must be deposited at the Registered Office of the Company not later than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting.
3. Members are requested to notify change of address, if any, to the Company.
4. Admission to the meeting venue will be strictly on production of the attendance slip sent with the Notice.

Gazipur PWD Division Tender Notice

1. Tender No : 218/02-2000-2001.
2. Name of work : Supplying and installation of computer of any one brand Dell/Gateway/IBM with Laser Printer, Scanner, UPS, Computer Table & Chair for the Office of the Executive Engineer (Training) of Public Works Department, during the year 2000-2001.
3. Specification : As per attached schedule.
4. Earnest money : Tk 2% (two per cent) of the total quoted amount.
5. Time allowed : 20 (twenty) days from the date of for completion of the work.
6. Price of tender : Tk 425/- (Tk four hundred twenty-five) only per set.
7. Place of selling : Office of the undersigned including & receiving the tenders.
8. Last date of : During office hours up to 20/5/2001.
9. Date of receiving : Up to 12-00 Noon of 21/5/2001 and will be opened on the same day at 12-15 PM.
10. Eligibility of : Bonafide computer distributors/contractors/dealers and authorised agent in Bangladesh.
11. To compete in the tender, pre-conditions, terms and conditions with special terms and conditions along with relevant informations are laid down in the tender schedule which may be seen accordingly.
12. The undersigned reserves the right to reject or accept any or all of the tenders without assigning any reason.

Md Noor Solaiman
Executive Engineer

Gazipur PWD Division, Gazipur

Phone: 952468



BCIC Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়ণে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Ltd (ZFCL), Ashuganj, B'baria for the following work from the BCIC enlisted contractors of category A-3 & above.

Sl No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Cost of schedule (non-refundable)
01.	Dredging of river bed earth by Mini-dredger around Intake Water Pump area in Jetty ghat & development of the Truck Yard with dredged sand in ZFCL, Ashuganj, B'baria.	Tk 3,80,800/=	Tk 500/= per set

Tender documents will be available for purchase from the office of the General Manager (Accounts & Finance), ZFCL, Ashuganj, B'baria & the Controller of Accounts, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka during office hours on all working days up to 15-5-2001. Tenders will be received simultaneously in a tender box kept in the office of the General Manager (Construction), ZFCL, Ashuganj, B'baria and the Sr General Manager (Construction), BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, on 16-5-2001 up to 11-00 AM and will be opened on the same day immediately after receiving the tenders in presence of tenderers or their representative (if any). 2.5% (two & half per cent) normal earnest money of the estimated value & 15% (fifteen per cent) additional earnest money of quoted value in case the rate quoted within 10% to 15% less than estimated value in the form of PO/DD from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of ZFCL must be enclosed with the tender. The tender without earnest money or with less earnest money will be rejected outright. The ZFCL management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders including the lowest one without showing any reason whatsoever.

BCIC 1512-29/4/2001
DFP-11770-2/5

G-855

SHIPPING

Chittagong port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 7.5.2001.

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
I/2	Huang Yun	GI(S Scraping)	Kara	Jaycee	17/4	11/5
I/3	Pacific Emerald	GI(Copra)	Danya	Allseas R/A(15/4)	7/5	
I/4	Dewan-1	Rice(P)	Kara	OWSL	5/4	7/5
I/5	Banglar Kakoli	Rice(P)	Kara	BSC	11/4	14/5
I/6	Leona (Liner)	GI	Sing	Prog	26/4	8/5
I/7	Yong Ilang	GI	S Hai	Bdship	3/5	10/5
I/8	Wood Link	Wheat(P)/GI	Vanc	Mutual	17/4	12/5
I/9	Zara	GI(Y MA)	Sanlo	Angelic	12/4	8/5
I/10	Agios Fanorios	C.Clink	Krab	NWSL	28/4	8/5
I/11	Banglar Robi	Cont	Sing	BSC	5/5	9/5
I/12	Sea Bright	Cont	Sing	Pil(BD)	3/5	8/5
I/13	Boxer Capt Cook	Cont	G Brit	TTI	1/5	8/5
CCT/1	Xpress Nutpie	Cont	Sing	RSL	2/5	10/5
CCT/2	Salzach	Cont	Sing	Bdship	1/5	7/5
CCT/3	Banga Bonik	Cont	P Kel	Bdship	4/5	9/5
RM/14	Sung Risan-9	Cement	Tuba	ANCL	28/4	16/5
RM/15	Bright Star	Wheat(P)	Momb	MSA	20/4	12/5
GSJ	Maria-M	Wheat(G)	Donki	KSA	28/4	8/5
TSP	Thank God	R Phos	Humr	Seacoast	12/4	20/5
RM/4	Theresa	CP Olein	Dama	Seacom	6/5	8/5
DOJ	Var		Mad	IF	2/5	7/5
DDJ/1	Banglar Jyoti	Repair		BSC	R/A	14/5
DDJ/2	Sea Bulk Command			IBS	R/A	
RM/9	Banglar Shourabh	Repair		BSC	R/A	6/5
RM/8	Le Cheng Ling	C.Clink	Koshi	RML	9/4	7/5
RM/9	Banglar Shourabh	Repair		BSC	R/A	6/5
CUFLJ	Mary Nour	Cement	Lang	BSL	29/4	12/5
KAFCO(U)	LUO Qing	Urea	Mong	MBL	2/5	8/5

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
KS Prince	8/5	Krabi	Uniship	C.Clink	-
Brave Eagle	7/5	Hal	UMTL	Demolition	-
Dea Conqueror	3/5	-	Arafeen	P. Materials	-
L.Karavelov	8/5	-	Kapiti(GI(M.S.Bilets))	-	-
Orient Independence(Cont)	29/4	-	TTI	Cont	Sing
Tug Ocean Mercury	10/5	Sing	MBL	P Items	-
Barge Labroy-160	10/5	Sing	MBL	-	-
Banga Biraj(Cont)	26/4	-	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Eltanin	8/5	Yang	SMSL	GI+Rice(P)	-
Arabella(Cont)	28/4	P Kel	QCSL	Cont	Sing
ST. Aubin	8/5	-	Everett	(W/LD Urea)	Austri-
Kota Naga(Cont)	29/4	7/5	Pil(BD)	Cont	Sing
Kota Berjay(Cont)	10/5	Sing	Pil(BD)	Cont	Sing
OSG Alpha(Cont)	3/5	-	Everbest	Cont	Col
Kuo Hsiung(Cont)	30/4	10/5	P Kel	QCSL	Cont
Jaami (Cont)	2/5	10/5	-	Cross	Sing
Banglar Shikha (Cont)	2/5	12/5	-	BSC	Cont
QC Lark(Cont)	3/5	11/5	Sing	QCSL	Cont
Xpress Resolve(Cont)	3/5	12/5	-	RSL	Cont
Abuja(Cont)	3/5	12/5	-	RSL	Cont
APL Colombo(Cont)	3/5	12/5	-	NOL	Cont
Ocean Blue(Roro)	24/3/5	13/5	-	EverettRoro	Car Carrier
QC Pintail(Cont)	26/4	14/5	-	QCSL	Cont
Ravidas(E/L)	3/5	15/5	-	SSL	E/L
Banga Lanka(Cont)	5/5	12/5	-	Bdship	Cont
Jaguar	16/5	-	Everett	Spl Cargo	-
Khaleda	17/5	Mong	OWSL	-	-
Capt Ionitis	8/5	-	PSL	GTSP(G)	-

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
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Vessels at Kutubdia				
Energy Explorer-IV	-	-	BBAL	5/4
Ismaya	-	-	Arafeen	17/8
Dea Champion	-	-	Arafeen	R/A (12/4)
Dea Captain	-	-	Arafeen	R/A(26/4)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Ready on				
Xuan Cheng(Liner)	GI	S Hai	Bdship	30/4
Dacheng (Line)	GI(PMAT)	Xiang	Bdship	1/5
Titans	GI(MA)/WT	Darb	USL	28/4
Xpress Renown (Cont)	Cont	Col	Everett	3/5
Banga Birol(Cont)	Cont	Sing	Bdship	3/5
Macler	CDSO	Para	Seacom	3/5
Bay Fortune	GI(Log)	Yang	SMSL	4/5
Artimis(Cont)	Cont	Sing	TTI	5/5
Chief of Cherokee(72)	GI(St C)	Sing	ASA	5/5
Triumph Hong Kong	GI(St R)	Viza	RML	5/5
Danat Tobal(48)	GI(St C)	Yang	Everett	5/5
Kota Cahaya(Cont)	Cont	Sing	Pil(BD)	5/5
Dawci	GI	Yang	Everett	5/5
Jaya Mats(Cont)	Cont	Sing	RSL	6/5
QC Teal(Cont)	Cont	Mong	QCSL	6/5
Da Fa (Cont)	Cont	Sing	RSL	6/5
Philia	C.Clink	Tanj	Seacom	6/5

Vessels awaiting instruction

Banglar Urm	Repair		BSC	R/A (18/4)
Al Bauraq	Ballast	Mong	RML	5/5

Vessels not entering

Vessels not entering				
Paulina	C.Clink	Sing	SETL	13/4
Leopard-1	C.Clink	Koshi	ASLL	26/4
Kapitan Ivan Chuk	C.Clink	Koch	Seacom	29/4
Sea World	-	Aliza	CCNL	R/A (28/3)
Asean Winter	Scraping	Sing	Simmi	1/5
Green Harbour	Scraping	Cal	ARL	1/5
Fratelli Dalesio	Scraping	Sing	OTL	2/5
Golden Scraping	Scraping	B Amin	OTL	3/5
Florida	Scraping	-	OTBL	3/5
Captain Yannis	Scraping	Visa	Simmi	5/5
SB-408	-	Visa	Simmi	5/5
Ocean Pride	-	Yang	PSAL	R/A(1/5)
Accord	Cement	Sing	Viking	5/4
Revenge	-	-	Sunshine	R/A(9/10)
Xing Ye	Rice(G)	-	MHCSL	R/A(20/6)
Karya Sentosa	Rice(G)	-	USTC	R/A(18/9)