

Star BUSINESS

DHAKA FRIDAY JUNE 7, 2002

Uzbekistan Airways resumes Dhaka flights June 25

Uzbekistan Airways, the national carrier of Uzbekistan, will resume twice a week flights between Dhaka and Tashkent from June 25, 2002, says a press release.

Uzbekistan Airways flights to Dhaka was suspended following the September 11 incident and subsequently the Afghan war, as overflights over Afghanistan airspace was restricted.

The resumption of the flights was decided following the opening of Afghan airspace and fruitful discussions between Uzbekistan Airways management and its GSA in Bangladesh, Airspan Ltd in Tashkent last week.

Flight HY 462 will depart Dhaka every Tuesday at 1045 hours and arrive in Tashkent at 1430 hours, while Flight HY 464 will depart Dhaka every Wednesday at 2330 hours arriving in Tashkent at 0315 hours the next day offering convenient connections to New York, London, Birmingham, Moscow, Paris, Rome, Frankfurt, Athens, Istanbul and almost all the cities of Russia and Central Asian Republics.

The resumption of Uzbekistan Airways will not only help connect Dhaka with Russian and CIS cities but also help increase trade and commerce between Bangladesh and the Central Asian countries.

IMF to announce details of mission to Argentina next week

AFP, Washington

The International Monetary Fund will announce next week that it will send a new mission to Argentina, an IMF source said Wednesday.

The IMF expects to be in a position to announce next week that a preparatory mission will travel to Argentina to prepare the groundwork for negotiations on a new aid program, the source said.

India keen to train local software developers

Aptech launches Maya software

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka ML Tripathi yesterday said India is willing to help train Bangladeshi software developers for the country's IT sector development.

Highlighting immense prospects of IT growth, the envoy said although the two neighbours blessed with world class programmers, co-operation between the two countries in the sector is very scanty.

Mentioning India's success in the software industry, Tripathi said Bangladesh can follow Indian example to secure a healthy share in global software market which now amounts to \$ 30 billion a year and likely to leap to \$ 70 billion by 2005.

The high commissioner was

addressing a seminar titled Maya -- the Magic Tool of 3D Animation, organised by Arena Multimedia in the city.

Arena Multimedia, the multimedia training division of Aptech Worldwide Bangladesh Ltd, has launched a course on the powerful and productive 3D animation software.

"Built on the next generation advanced architecture and available on IRIX® and Windows® platforms, Maya delivers unmatched speed, flexibility and the most intense set of animation and visual effects tools," Suthir Mathur, head of the operation of Arena Multimedia, said.

Amitava Ghosh, managing director of Aptech Worldwide Bangladesh Ltd, said Maya's

embedded scripting language allows animators to animate, script or extend virtually anything. Its interface is totally user friendly and open to customisation, he added.

Afzal Hossain, managing director of Maitra, an advertising agency, said with the launching of 3D animation software--Maya, local advertising firms now need not go to abroad for advanced animation and visual effects.

Wali Bhuyian, president of Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Farhad Mahmud, managing director of ETV, Nashid Kamal of Independent University, and Md Behroz Jalil, country manager of Aptech Worldwide-Pakistan, were also present on the occasion.

FDI into US drops 60pc

AFP, Washington

Foreign investment in the United States suffered a precipitous 60-per cent drop in 2001, as the US market lost some of its luster due to an economic recession and terrorist attacks, according to the latest government figures.

Foreigners plunked down 132.9 billion dollars last year to acquire or establish businesses in the United States, down from a record 335.6 billion dollars invested here in 2000, said the Commerce Department's

Bureau of Economic Analysis.

"The decrease reflected weakness in the US and world economies and a sharp drop in overall merger and acquisition activity worldwide," the bureau said in a report made public Wednesday.

The figure marks the steepest drop in foreign investment in a decade and, according to some analysts, could make financing the fledgling US economic recovery more difficult because US domestic savings are traditionally low.

"Why does the parliament vote on demands for grants and not on income estimates?"
"MPs fully understand the characteristics of money: Hard to get and easy to spend."
"Isn't it hard on the Finance Minister?"
"No. It is simply a division of labour: You get it and we spend it."

"MMI"

CURRENCY

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

TT/OD	Currency		Buy		
	BC		TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
58.5500	58.5800	USD	57.4000	57.2314	57.1629
55.4410	55.4694	EUR	53.4050	53.2481	53.1844
85.7816	85.8256	GBP	83.1496	83.9054	82.8062
34.2049	34.2224	AUD	32.5860	32.4903	32.4514
0.4738	0.4741	JPY	0.4588	0.4574	0.4569
37.5995	37.6188	CHF	36.5047	36.3975	36.3539
6.0747	6.0778	SEK	5.8644	5.8472	5.8402
38.4439	38.4636	CAD	37.2606	37.1512	37.1067
7.5141	7.5180	HKD	7.3519	7.3303	7.3215
32.7736	32.7904	SGD	31.8623	31.7687	31.7307
16.0724	16.0806	AED	15.5026	15.4571	15.4386
15.7371	15.7452	SAR	15.1848	15.1402	15.1221

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian Rupee	Pak Rupee	Lankan Rupee	Thai Baht	Nor Kroner	NZ Dollar	AUD
49.03	60.15	96.2	42.445	7.8669	0.4914	0.57595

The local interbank foreign exchange market was active on Thursday. Demand for dollar was steady. Demand for BDT for overnight borrowing at call was steady and the call rate ranged between 16 and 16.5 per cent for the day.

Dollar gained a little against yen as it was speculated that dollar entered into a corrective phase. But traders are still skeptical about the future of the dollar. Dollar also gained against the euro. Euro gained a little against the yen.

At 1430 hours on Thursday, euro traded at 0.9359/61 against dollar, pound sterling at 1.4552/57 and yen traded at 124.86/89 against US dollar.

SHIPPING

Chittagong port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 6-6-2002.

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disc
J/1	Shun Winner	C Clink	Bela	Unique	20/5	9/6	1570
J/2	Ocean Pride	GI (Log)	Yang	PSAL	31/5	9/6	339
J/4	New Auspicious	WT/DP/RS	Sing	Litmond	28/5	15/6	1436
J/5	Rainbow Spring	GI (Log)	Yang	CCNL	2/6	8/6	1957
J/6	Fortune Australia	GI (DP)	Sing	Litmond	26/5	10/6	1246
J/8	Summer	C Clink	Krabi	NWSL	1/6	10/6	1650
J/9	Triumph Chittagong	GI (R Log)	Yang	RML	5/6	9/6	-
J/10	Ra Nam	Sugar	Sing	CCNL	2/6	9/6	2400
J/11	QC Lark	Cont	P Kel	QCSL	30/5	7/6	-
J/12	Kota Berjaya	Cont	Sing	Pil (BD)	1/6	8/6	293/X
J/13	Banga Lanka	Cont	Col	Baridhi	2/6	9/6	167/16
CCT/1	Banglar Shikha	Cont	Sing	BSC	4/6	8/6	292/17
CCT/2	Asimont	Cont	P Kel	Seabome	2/6	8/6	331/13
CCT/3	Mardios	Cont	P Kel	RSL	31/5	6/6	-
RM/15	Banglar Robi	Idle	Sing	BSC	18/5	7/6	-
CCJ	Maritime Peace	C Clink	Tarj	BSL	28/5	7/6	-
RM/3	Vanessa	CPO	Butt	USL	5/6	7/6	-
DD	Banglar Mamata	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	10/6	-
RM/8	Banglar Gourab	C Clink	Krabi	OWSL	22/5	10/6	-
RM/9	Banglar Maya	-	-	BSC	R/A	11/6	-
RM/10	Banglar Shourabh	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	7/6	-

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Bangla Barta (Cont)16/5	6/6	Sing	BDShip	Cont	CBO
Jaya Mars (Cont) 28/5	6/6	Para	Everbest	Cont	Col
Weddell Sea	6/6	Tarj	UML	C Clink	-
Hermes (Liner) 30/5	6/6	Yang	H&SL	GI (Hr. Coll)	-
Asian Wind (Liner)	6/6	Yang	H&SL	GI (St. Prop)	-
Qc Honour (Cont) 23/05	6/6	P Kel	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Orient Freedom (Cont) 28/5	9/6	-	PSSL	Cont	Sing
Kota Singa (Cont) 23/05	8/6	Sing	Pil(BD)	Cont	Sing
Banga Bijoy (Cont) 30/5	8/6	Hal	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Banga Bonik (Cont) 30/5	9/6	P Kel	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Banga Bitrol (Cont)27/5	9/6	P Kel	Bdship	Cont	Sing

Tanker due

Jaladoot	6/6	Mina	ECSL	HSD
Danat Qatar	7/6	Rast	USS	C Oil

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessel	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Dea Captain	-	-	Arafeen	R/A (28/1)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Ready on	Name of vessel	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Orient Patriot (Cont)	Cont	P Kel	PSSL		2/6
Kota Naga (Cont)	Cont	Sing	Pil (BD)		5/6
Jurong Bauhinia (Cont)	Cont	Sing	Nol		5/6
Xpress Resolve (Cont)	Cont	Sing	RSL		5/6

Vessels awaiting instruction

Banqlar Jyoti	-	-	BSC	R/A (6/6)
---------------	---	---	-----	-----------

Vessels not entering

Pearl of baharain	C Clink	Sing	Uniship	21/5
Ally-II	C Clink	Sing	OLM	27/5
Star Sea Bird	C Clink	Juba	ASLL	29/5
Iguana	C Clink	Indo	BSLL	29/5

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

STOCK