

Growth in China, India to help halve world poverty by 2015

UNDP's Human Development Report says

AFP, United Nations

The goal of halving world poverty by 2015 is likely to be met, as a result of economic growth in China and India, but the poorest nations still need more aid and better trade opportunities, this year's Human Development Report says.

The report, by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), said the proportion of people living on less than one dollar a day in China fell from 33 per cent in 1990 -- the base year for the UN's Millennium goals -- to 16 per cent in 2000.

In India, which began to introduce market-based reforms more than a decade later than China, it fell from 42 per cent in 1993 to 35 per cent last year, the report said.

China and India together represent one-third of the world's population of six billion.

The report noted more modest progress in both countries towards other goals, such as halving by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and those without access to safe drinking water, and reducing the under-five mortality rate by two-thirds.

"Significant progress" has also been made in Arab states, in Latin America and in the Caribbean, the report said.

In other regions, meeting the goals "remains a huge challenge," and at current rates of progress it would take sub-Saharan Africa well over a century to do so, it said.

While much of the world benefited from sustained economic growth in the past decade, 54 developing countries saw average incomes fall, the report said.

And 21 states experienced declines on the human develop-

ment index (HDI), a composite measure including life expectancy, educational enrollment, adult literacy and income per person. They include Russia and six other former Soviet republics, as well as 14 African nations, among them South Africa, the country worst hit by HIV/AIDS.

"Reversals in HDI are highly unusual, as these indicators generally tend to edge up slowly over time," UNDP Administrator Mark Malloch Brown said. Only four countries declined on the index in the previous decade.



PHOTO: STAR
Saiful Islam Helali, senior marketing manager of Shah Cement Industries Ltd, speaks at a press conference to launch a promotional campaign in Dhaka yesterday.



PHOTO: RAHIMAFROOZ
A child picks up winning coupons of Green Marketing Special Cross Promotion raffle draw at Agora's Dhanmondi outlet in Dhaka recently. Niaz Rahim, managing director of Rahimafrooz Superstores Ltd, and Kowser H Chowdhury, managing director of Green Marketing Ltd, were present at the ceremony. The promotional campaign ran from June 5 to 14.



PHOTO: UZBEKISTAN AIRWAYS
Air Commodore (retd) M Erfan Uddin, managing director of Mars Aviation Ltd, and Alexwnder Mazlin, country manager of Uzbekistan Airways in Bangladesh, sign an agreement on behalf of their organisations in Dhaka on Saturday. Under the deal, Mars Aviation becomes general sales agent (GSA) of Uzbekistan Airways.



PHOTO: DCCI
Participants of a training course on "Marketing and Sales Promotion" organised by Business Institute of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry pose for a photograph in the inaugural ceremony in Dhaka on Saturday.

Shah Cement launches social awareness campaign

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Shah Cement Industries Ltd (SCIL) has launched a campaign to create awareness among its customers about various social issues like women education.

The company yesterday formally announced the 50-day campaign -- "Shah Cement-50.50.50" -- at a press conference in Dhaka. The programme will end on August 24.

"The main objective of this programme is to contribute to the fund for acid victims, create public opinion for women education and boost the customers' confidence in our product," Saiful Islam Helali, senior marketing manager of SCIL, told the press conference.

Under this programme, each of the customers buying 50 bags Shah Cement within August 24 will get a coupon with four questions on social issues as well as company products.

The company will select 50 of those who will send the filled up coupons with answers and give them prizes including car, motorcycle, air-conditioner, fridge, television and mobile phonesets.

CURRENCY

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

Selling	Currency		Buying		
	TT Clean	OD Sight	Doc	OD	Transfer
58.8000	58.8500	USD	57.8700	57.7000	57.6310
68.5314	68.5897	EUR	65.5956	65.4030	65.3247
98.9016	98.9857	GBP	95.6012	95.3204	95.2063
40.7366	40.7713	AUD	38.5877	38.4744	38.4283
0.5020	0.5024	JPY	0.4849	0.4835	0.4829
43.9462	43.9836	CHF	42.5515	42.4265	42.3757
7.3252	7.3314	SEK	6.8468	6.8267	6.8185
44.2105	44.2481	CAD	42.8033	42.6775	42.6264
7.5498	7.5562	HKD	7.4115	7.3898	7.3809

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringit
58.8000	100.0000	100.0000	30.0000	6.0000	1.0000	1.0000

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SHIPPING

Chittagong port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 6/7/2003

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J/1	Induruwa Valley	Rice	Tuti	Able	28/5	6/7	--
J/3	Midas	Clink	Ind	SSA	21/6	8/7	3065
J/4	Amanat Shah	Rice	Mumb	CLA	28/5	6/7	233
J/5	Tien Mu	W/Lentils	Sing	Mutual	22/6	12/7	1634
J/6	Yayasan Tujuh	Gi	Sing	Seacom	30/6	9/7	1031
J/7	Helin	Gi	P Kel	TMMU	17/6	7/7	1689
J/8	Ankang Jiang	Gi	Yoko	Bdship	4/7	9/7	1189
J/9	Gujijiang	Tsp(Bag)	Qinz	Unique	29/6	9/7	2002
J/10	CSBC Nyon Ho	Sug/W/P	Kaki	SSTL	8/6	8/7	491
J/11	Qclark	Cont	Pkel	QCSL	2/7	9/7	290/625
J/12	Ota Berjaya	Cont	Sing	Pi(BD)	2/7	7/7	285/34
J/13	Banga Birol	Cont	Sing	Bdship	1/7	6/7	258/474
CCT/1	Asimont	Cont	Pkel	Nol	2/7	7/7	337/479
CCT/2	Orient Grace	Cont	Pkel	PSSL	2/7	6/7	410/670
CCT/3	Banga Barta	Cont	Hald	Baridhi	4/7	6/7	144/158

Vessels due at outer anchorage Date

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Banga Borak	6/7	Pkel	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Hilda	6/7	Tuba	Litmond	Clink (Shah)	Col
Gikm	9/7	Sing	OTBL	For Demolition	Col
Xpress Resolve	7/7	Col	Everbest	Cont	Col
Banga Bonik	7/7	Hald	Baridhi	Cont	Sing
Banga Biraj	7/7	Pkel	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Orient Excellence	6/7	PSSL	Cont	Sing	Sing
Sea Cross	7/7	-	SSST	Slag(P)	-
QC Dignity	7/7	Pkel	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Sea Elegance	7/7	Sing	Pi(BD)	Cont	Sing
Tatiana-L	7/7	Sing	Prog	Gi	-
Banga Borti	8/7	Pki	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Orient Freedom	8/7	-	PSSL	Cont	Sing
Vespataurini	8/7	GOA	PSA	Gi	-
Jaami	6/7	PKL	RSL	Cont	Sing
Xuan Cheng	10/7	Inch	Bdship	Gi	-
Yong Jiang (Liner)	10/7	--	Bdship	Gi	--

Tanker due

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L Port call	Local agent	Cargo
Filma	7/7	Yang	Seacom	ABD (RM/3)
Victoria	8/7	Chenn	Pol	CDSO (RM/4)
Al Sabiyah	8/7	Kuwa	STPL	Hsd/Up-1(RW)
Ocean Gumard	11/7	Sing	MSTPL	Hsd/MS (RM)
Eagle	11/7	Rast	OWSL	Crude oil
Vernal Grace	8/7	-	SMBH & CO	CPO (RM/3)

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Dea Captain	--	--	Arafeen	R/A(28/6)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready

Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Ocean pride	Gi(Log)	Yang	PSAL	2/7
Xpress Manaslu	Cont	Pkel	RSL	2/7
Happan	Pi(BD)	yang	Total	4/7
Budi Teghu	Cont	sing	Pi(BD)	4/7
Qc Teal	cont	Pkel	QCSL	5/7

Vessels awaiting employment/instruction:

Banglar Shourabh	-	-	BSC	R/A(23/6)
Banglar Jyoti	-	-	BSC	R/A(4/7)
Banga Lanka	Ballast	Col	Baridhi	30/6

Movement of vessels for 6/7/2003

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J/12 K Berjaya	CCT/1 B. Robi	J/7 Helin
CCT/1 Asimont	J/12 B. Borak	J/5 Tien Mu
CCJ: George	J/5 Tatanak-L	
DOJ: Jaladoot		

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

STOCK