

PHILIPS
21" 21PT 2012

Only Tk. 15,990/-



Transcom Electronics Limited
Tel: Dhaka: 8110163, Ctg: 653758, Khulna: 723695, Bogra: 66215

Star BUSINESS

DHAKA FRIDAY APRIL 8, 2005 E-mail: business@thedailystar.net

PAKISTANI LADIES SUITS & SAREES
MOST ATTRACTIVE UNCOMMON 3/4 PIECES PAKISTANI
Bareez'e LADIES SUITS & SAREES AVAILABLE AT:
The Bareez'e Fashions: 3rd Floor, Park West Building,
37-Main Subrwardy Avenue, Baridhara, Beside K.C.
Memorial Clinic, Dhaka. Cell: 0173-018590 & 0173-018591
Joya Fashions: (Uttara Branch)
House # 15, Road # 16, Sector # 3, Uttara Model Town,
Dhaka. Cell: 0173-018590, 0173-018591 Phone: 02-8961669

Non-tariff barriers put lid on export potential

Exporters say

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The country has failed to tap its full export potential, thanks to non-tariff barriers imposed by different countries, exporters said.

Local exporters have been facing the barriers in the form of sanitary-phyto-sanitary measures, consular formulation, quantitative restrictions, labeling requirement, rules of origin and visa requirement.

Some of the business bodies earlier informed Bangladesh Tariff Commission (BTC) and the Ministry

of Commerce about the non-tariff barriers in export of jute and jute goods, cosmetics and beauty care products, pharmaceuticals, agro products, frozen foods, melamine and ceramic products.

The exporters said imposition of such non-tariff barriers (NTBs) causes additional costs and formalities and creates hassles, finally leading to discontinuation of export.

"We have lost huge export opportunities due to various NTBs imposed by India, Pakistan, Sri

Lanka, some Central Asian and European countries," a business leader at the FBCCI said yesterday.

The government has little expertise and ability to deal with international trade dispute issues. The government's dispute settlement mechanism is also being choked by bureaucratic tangle, he said.

The government has initiated a move to identify the NTBs and settle those bilaterally or multilaterally.

A meeting was held with representatives from nearly 50 trade bodies Wednesday at the BTC audi-

torium in Dhaka where the businessmen reiterated the necessity of government initiative to settle the problems.

Bangladesh has failed to submit a revised report to the WTO by October 31, 2004 about the NTBs facing local exporters following an agreement at WTO in July 2004.

The BTC wrote to chambers and associations last month making queries about the types of barriers but only five trade bodies have replied.

Square Textiles okays 30pc cash dividend, bonus share

Square Textiles Ltd has declared 30 percent cash dividend and bonus share at the rate of one share for every ten share for its shareholders for the year that ended December 31, 2004.

The dividend announcement came at the tenth annual general meeting of the company held in Dhaka yesterday.

The AGM was presided over by the Chairman of the company Samson H Chowdhury, Tapan Chowdhury, managing director; Samuel S Chowdhury, director; Anjan Chowdhury, director; Charles CR Patra, director and M Sekander Ali, advisor; Mostaque Ahmed Siddique, executive director; and Md Kabir Reza, company secretary, also attended the meeting.

SEDF, Bdjobs sign SME market development deal

Multi-donor funded South Asia Enterprise Development Facility (SEDF) and Bdjobs.com, a job site in the country, have recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the development of SME (small and medium enterprise) market in the country.

Under the arrangements, SEDF will offer technical assistance to Bdjobs for market research while Bdjobs will undertake a range of marketing activities over next nine months to increase its SME client base.

Fahim Mashroor, chief executive officer of Bdjobs.com, and Deepak Adhikary, acting general manager of SEDF, signed the MoU, says a press release.

WorldTel to launch land phones in Dhaka by Nov

Signs hardware procurement deal with Chinese co

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

WorldTel Bangladesh yesterday finalised a hardware procurement deal with a Chinese company as the telecoms operator plans to launch land phone operations in Dhaka city by November this year.

According to the agreement, the Chinese telecommunications equipment company ZTE Corporation will provide WorldTel with network and other hardware. WorldTel will install two lakh land phone connections in Dhaka in the first phase.

The turnkey agreement, signed on the sidelines of Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao's ongoing visit to Bangladesh, has arrangement to provide WorldTel with equipment to complete its second phase installation of one lakh more fixed line connections.

Chairman of ZTE Hou Weigui, a member of the Prime Minister's

business entourage, and Director of WorldTel Bangladesh Nayeem M Chowdhury signed the agreement at a hotel in Dhaka.

WorldTel got licence in 2001 to install three lakh fixed phones in Dhaka metropolitan area. It is the only private company that got permission to install land phones in Dhaka.

The equipment of ZTE, the world's third largest CDMA equipment maker, will help WorldTel offer wireless local loop (WLL) service to fixed line customers. The WorldTel director said the WLL technology will do away with cable connection to subscribers' location.

"There will be no digging of roads to lay cables. Microwave will connect subscribers to the service providers. Service quality in CDMA technology will be better than the existing one," he said.

CDMA technology will enable operators to provide quality service

at competitive costs. Land phone operators in 40 countries including Norway, Pakistan, India, Nepal and Algeria use CDMA technology, he said.

ZTE, GEP Telecom sign deal. Meanwhile, ZTE Corporation also signed an agreement with GEP Telecom Limited, which plans to launch fixed land phone and wireless land phone operations in the country by July this year.

According to the agreement, ZTE will provide GEP Telecom with network and other hardware supporting WLL technology to install 120,000 land phone connections in the first phase.

ZTE Chairman Hou Weigui and GEP Telecom Managing Director Quazi Saleemul Huq MP signed the agreement on behalf of their companies at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

GEP Telecom Chairman Azam J Chowdhury was also present at the function.

India may sign Energy Charter Treaty

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

In a significant move that may have implications for the proposed Myanmar-Bangladesh-India natural gas pipeline, New Delhi is considering signing the Energy Charter Treaty. The treaty is likely to obviate the need for separate multilateral agreements to import the commodity through pipelines.

"We are thinking of becoming an observer in the Energy Charter Treaty to start with," Indian Petroleum Secretary S C Tripathi told a workshop here on Wednesday.

WB sees slower growth for developing Asia in 2005-06

AFP, Washington

Economic growth in developing Asia is expected to slow down through 2006 after the fastest expansion in a decade in 2004, the World Bank said Wednesday with a warning that tightening global conditions could test the region's resilience.

East Asian economies are poised to expand by 7.4 and 6.9 percent in 2005 and 2006 respectively after a blistering 8.3 percent last year while

South Asian nations could grow 6.2 and 6.4 percent over the next two years after chalking up 6.6 percent in 2004, according to the bank's annual Global Development Finance 2005 report.

The slower growth is in line with global trends.

According to the Washington-based bank, rising interest rates and high oil prices, combined with the waning of the fiscal stimulus that has supported expansion in the

recent past, should continue to dampen world growth.

As a result, global economic activity is projected to slow fairly sharply in 2005 before stabilizing in 2006 and picking up somewhat in 2007, it said.

Global economic growth hit 3.8 percent in 2004, with developing countries recording their fastest growth in more than a decade, the report said.



A worldwide education in the heart of London

- One of the largest Universities in the UK
- Located in central London
- Over 150 Years providing education
- Over 150 subject areas
- From Foundation to MBA
- Top Government rating for business and management teaching
- English language support and programmes
- September and February start dates
- Guaranteed accommodation
- Postgraduate scholarships available
- Well-equipped IT, language and library facilities
- The most popular British University in Bangladesh

K. M. Mazharul Islam Maruf, Operations Manager, Bangladesh Liaison Office, London Metropolitan University will be visiting Chittagong, Sylhet and Bogra on the following dates:

- Chittagong: Seminar on 13th April, 11:00 AM
Venue: British Council Auditorium, Chittagong
Interviews: 13th, 14th April
- Sylhet: Seminar on 20th April, 11:00 AM
Venue: Rainbow Guest House, Fazil Cist, Ambarkhana Sylhet
Interviews: 20th April
- Bogra: Seminar on 28th April, 4:00 PM
Venue: Parjatan Motel Auditorium, Bogra

For Further Information:
Bangladesh Liaison Office, London Metropolitan University
L 361, Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka 1215.
Direct: 9122404, Facsimile: 9121028, email: bangladesh@londonmet.ac.uk
Student hours: Sunday to Thursday: 11am to 1pm, 3pm to 5pm.

Find your place in London

EDUCATION the best you can be
www.londonmet.ac.uk

LONDON metropolitan university

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

BRAC needs a

Communications Officer

BRAC seeks the service of an enterprising person to work in its Public Affairs and Communications Department to

- handle exposure requests coming from all over the world
- keep an eye on emerging issues/trends/ideas of interest to BRAC in the media/civil society and inform the senior management
- coordinate media activities (site visits, press briefing/releases/conferences) to showcase programme results and inspiring stories with national and international media
- work to build an organisational memory through upkeep of audio/visual records of important events
- contribute towards the development of a Communications Strategy, Identity Toolkit, Visitor's Kit, Press Interview Guidelines and when done - serve as the focal point for rolling out the strategy and guidelines throughout the organisation
- proactively assist the other team members and the organisation at any point of need

Requirements:

- a strong command of spoken and written English is an essential prerequisite for all applicants
- a good university degree in Business/ Communications/ Economics/ English/ International Relations/ Journalism/ Law/ Marketing/ Public Affairs/ Social Welfare or any related field
- ability to handle pressure
- initiative and resourcefulness
- good inter-personal skills
- familiarity with new information and communication technologies

A competitive pay-package and very sound work environment awaits the successful candidate.

Please apply with detailed curriculum vitae, two passport size photographs and a write up justifying your eligibility for the position to BRAC-HRD, BRAC Centre, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka 1212 on or before 12 April 2005. Please mention the position on top of the envelope. Due to the large number of applications that we usually receive we only call the short-listed candidates.

BRAC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Start your Own Industry

(Small & Medium) through the following books

- Preservation & Canning of fruits and Vegetables
- Fruits & Vegetables Processing Hand Book
- Food Processing & Agro Based Industries
- Hand Book of Modern Bakery Products
- Meat processing & Meat Products Hand Book
- Technology of Coatings, Resins, Pigment and Inks Industries
- Hand Book of Medicinal and Aromatic plants: Cultivation, Utilization & Extraction Processes
- Technology of Gums, Adhesives and Sealants with Formulations
- Business Process Outsourcing (BPO)
- Profitable Small Scale manufacture of Cosmetics
- Hand Book of Biotechnology
- Hand Book of Dairy Formulations Processes & Milk Processing
- Start Your Own Cold storage Unit
- Molder packaging technology, For Processed Food, Bakery, Snack
- Food, Spices & Allied Food products
- Hand Book of Ice cream: Technology & formulae
- Floriculture Hand Book
- Hand Book of Dairy Farming
- Technology of Modern Rice Milling
- Hand Book of Tech. offset, Screen, Flexo, Gravure, Inkjet & digital
- Hand Book of Offset Printing Technology
- Modern Technology Of Essential Oils

omni books

(GULSHAN)

House- 4/G, Road- 104, Gulshan- 2, Dhaka (opposite Manarat School)

Tel: 9887346, 9896052, 8825918, 9863033 Fax: (8802) 9890888

E-mail: info@omnibooks.biz

(DHANMONDI)

Genetic Plaza (2nd Floor), Road No. 27, Dhanmondi, Dhaka Tel: 8126433, 8121472

www.omnibooks.biz



Nayeem M Chowdhury, director of WorldTel Bangladesh, and Hou Weigui, chairman of Chinese ZTE Corporation, shake hands after signing a hardware procurement deal in Dhaka yesterday. Under the agreement, ZTE will provide WorldTel with network and other hardware equipment to install two lakh land phone connections in Dhaka.

Sharp oil price rises threaten global growth

IMF chief says

REUTERS, Washington

Further sharp increases in oil prices could present a serious threat to global growth, the head of the International Monetary Fund said Wednesday, two days after crude prices soared to a record \$58.28 per barrel.

Until now, the IMF which oversees the health of the globe's economy and financial markets, has expressed little concern that oil prices will hurt the global economy, partly because the rise was due to strong global demand.

But with fears that rapid growth in energy demand in Asia's emerging economies, in particular China, could outpace growth in oil supply, the IMF is now warning that further oil price rises pose a growing risk to global growth.

"So far, the effects of higher oil prices on global growth and inflation have been manageable, partly because higher oil prices owe much to strong global demand, and partly because of the improved anti-inflationary credibility of central banks," IMF Managing Director

Rodrigo Rato said in a speech at Georgetown University in Washington.

"But, further sharp increases may have more serious effects," he warned.

His remarks came as the IMF prepares to release a report on the oil market on Thursday at 1900 GMT, part of its bi-annual World Economic Outlook.

Rato said the oil market remained vulnerable to price shocks, with prospects for building spare capacity limited.

On Wednesday, oil prices jumped back towards \$57 a barrel as a fall in US gasoline inventories outweighed the impact of an eighth straight weekly rise in crude oil stocks.

US light crude CLCL rose 76 cents to \$56.80 a barrel, around \$1.50 below Monday's record high.

Rato strongly urged producing and consuming countries to work together to ensure market stability through better energy conservation, reduced obstacles to investment and improved transparency of oil data.

Qatar Airways interested to widen operation to Ctg, Sylhet

Qatar Airways is interested to expand its operations to Chittagong and Sylhet in Bangladesh, says a press release.

Ali Al Rais, senior manager (Commercial operation) for South Asia and Iran of the airline, said announced the business plan at a press briefing in Dhaka yesterday.

Al Rais said the airline will welcome Bangladesh if it adopts open sky policy like India.

Apollo Hospitals, StanChart sign deal on credit cards

Apollo Hospitals Dhaka signed a merchant agreement with Standard Chartered Bank on acceptance of credit cards of Visa and MasterCard brands as a mode of payment for medical services at the hospital.

Richard Larison, chief executive officer of Apollo Hospitals Dhaka, and M Sajidur Rahman, head of Consumer Banking of Standard Chartered Bank, signed the deal on behalf of their organisations on Wednesday in Dhaka, says a press release.



Surrender, to the New ZEN

Tejgaon Showroom open on fridays
3.00 PM to 7.30 PM





- ▶ Engine Capacity 1000cc
- ▶ Euro II MPFI Engine
- ▶ Clear head & tail lamps
- ▶ Electronic power steering
- ▶ CFC-free Air-conditioner
- ▶ Body coloured bumpers
- ▶ Gear knob with metal finish





UTTARA MOTORS LIMITED
(An Enterprise of Uttara Group of Companies)

Dhaka Showroom: 191/B Tejgaon-Gulshan Link Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka, Phone: 8851252, 8851253, 0171-881043
Chittagong Office: F/2 Sk. Mujib Road, Pathantoly, Phone: 031-724402, 724957, 715342