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Policy soon to cut interest rate on import finance

Says BB governor

Bangladesh Bank governor has said a policy would be formulated in the next one month to reduce import finance interest rates, L/C (letter of credit) commissions and other charges in a bid to help lower import costs.

Make quick decisions on big investment proposals

Foreign investors urge govt

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Foreign investors' chamber has urged the government to immediately decide on the pending big investment proposals from Tata and Asia Energy.



Waliur Rahman Bhuiyan, president of the Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Ficci), speaks at the monthly luncheon meeting of the chamber in Dhaka yesterday.

Executive Chairman Kamal Uddin Ahmed assured the Ficci of considering its representation to the Better Business Forum.

Salt farmers demand subsidy

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Salt farmers have demanded that the government form a Salt Board in Cox's Bazar and provide sufficient subsidy for them considering salt cultivation an agricultural pursuit.

United Airways to add two wide-bodied aircraft to fleet

SARWAR A CHOWDHURY



An aircraft of local United Airways. The carrier is going to strengthen its fleet to compete on domestic and international routes.

United Airways is to add two wide-bodied aircraft to its fleet to operate on international routes.

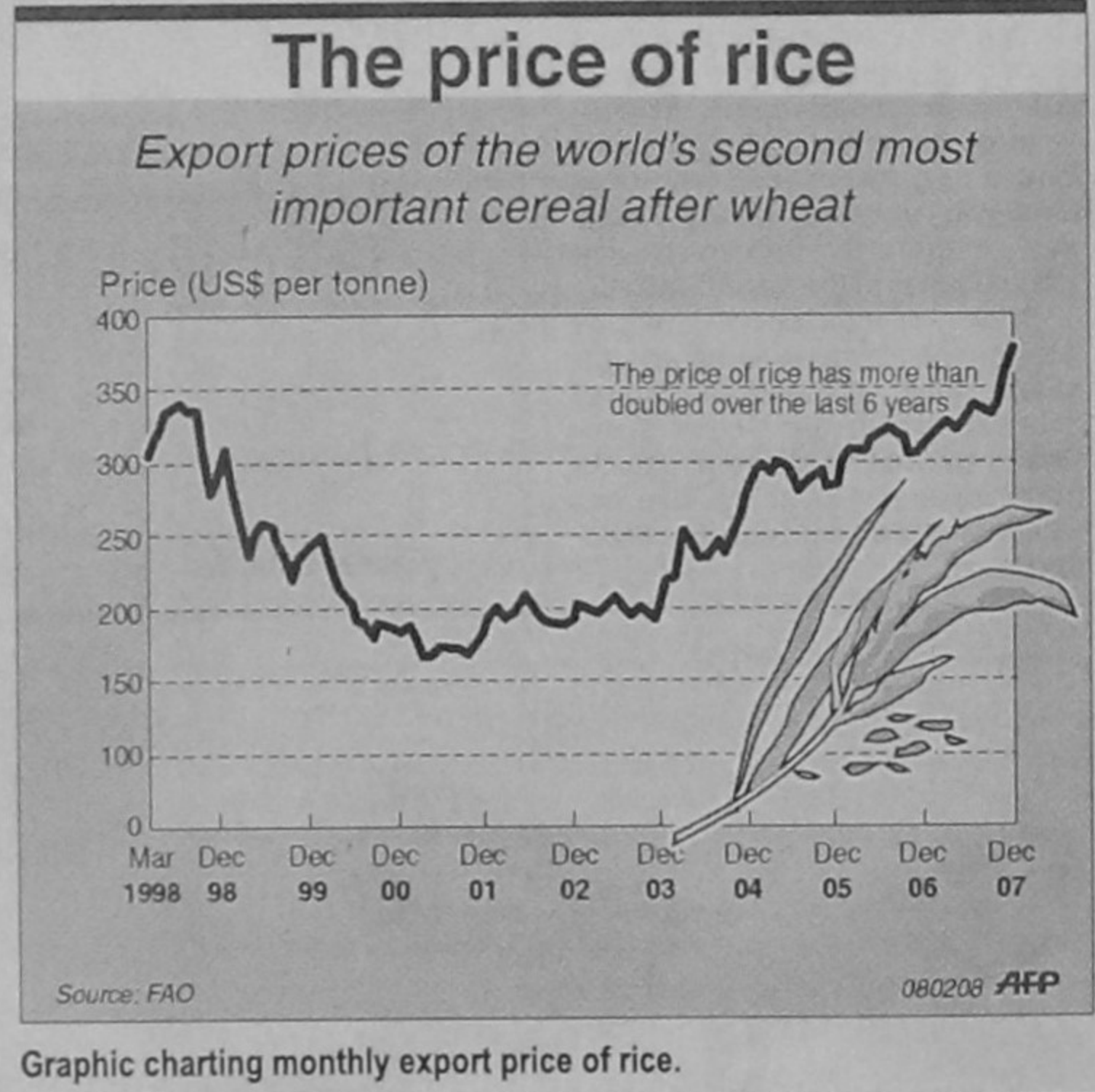
(NRBs), has purchased the new aircraft to increase the number of flights on the existing routes as well as launch new flights on other routes.

As Asia food prices bite, analysts warn of worse to come

AFP, Hong Kong

Rising food prices have hit Asia's poor so hard that many have taken to the streets in protest, but experts see few signs of respite from the growing problem.

income, especially in Asia, is driving demand for food," said von Braun, the Washington-based group's director general.



Pak jute team arrives today

BSS, Dhaka

A high profile delegation of Pakistan Jute Mills Association (PJMA) comprising leading importers of jute arrives here today on a five-day visit to Bangladesh.



Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury (2-L) speaks at 'Corporate Leaders' Meet' organised on the sidelines of 'Corporate Bazaar-2008' in Dhaka yesterday.

Low-cost Chinese toothbrushes outshine local competition

SAJJADUR RAHMAN

A flood of cheap Chinese toothbrushes is threatening to undermine the once thriving local toothbrush industry with Bangladeshi manufacturers unable to compete on price.



Street vendor Yunus is selling low-cost Chinese toothbrushes at Gulistan in Dhaka yesterday.

"It is because they produce the item with their own raw materials, such as nylon and plastic, and sell huge quantities," he said, adding that Bangladeshi manufacturers had to import their raw materials.

India may allow FDI for specific sectors

PTI, New Delhi

The Indian government may allow Foreign Direct Investment for specific sectors such as electronic and sports goods in retail if an expert study going into the issue foresees no impact on the neighbourhood mom and pop stores.

Able corporate leadership key to exploiting outsourcing potential

Corporate Bazaar seminar told

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Able corporate leadership is a must to utilise Bangladesh's potential in business process outsourcing, a discussion was told in Dhaka yesterday.

Replying to a query, the adviser said the government has already set up 27 vocational training centres across the country to train people who are seeking jobs.

Countries should consider fiscal boost: IMF chief

AFP, Tokyo

The head of the IMF on Saturday renewed his call for countries to consider fiscal measures to boost demand in the face of slowing economic growth caused by the US subprime loan crisis.

outsourcing, people of the country should be more efficient. The positive side of Bangladesh is its people, who have the potentiality to receive quick training, Anam added.