

SEC extends time for margin rule execution

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The regulator has extended time for execution of the rules on stockbrokers' margin on additional trade exposure. "On receipt of appeals from Dhaka Stock Exchange, we've agreed to give more time to stockbrokers to go by such margin rules. The new deadline is January 2," said an official of Securities and Exchange Commission yesterday. Meantime, the time extension led to a surge in Dhaka stock prices. The benchmark index of the prime bourse, DSE General Index (DGEN), jumped up 120 points, or 1.4 percent to 8,723. The DGEN also reached its highest-ever level, surpassing the previous record of 8,721 points on November 25. Banking stocks led the rally, as the sector went up by 2.91 percent with contributing 42 percent to the total turnover

in terms of value--Tk2,479 crore. "Stockbrokers and dealers as well as investors take the time extension positively, which led the market to go up," according to a market insider. The SEC on November 25 asked the stockbrokers to double their deposit against any additional trade exposure to the capital market in an effort to tighten the liquidity flow. As per the new rule, a stockbroker or a stock exchange member is supposed to deposit 40 percent of its additional trade exposure, instead of 20 percent, if trade value crosses by Tk 1 crore after the free limit for Tk 5 crore. For up to Tk 8 crore, the SEC increased the ratio to 60 percent from 30 percent; while the ratio is 80 percent for up to Tk 9 crore. For any amount above Tk 9 crore, the ratio is unchanged at 100 percent.

The revised rule will not allow any member to cover more than 50 percent of the required margin deposit through bank or corporate guarantee. In line with the previous rule, a stockbroker could cover 10 percent of member's margin by cash, pay order, fixed deposit receipt or other acceptable instruments and the rest through bank guarantee. Earlier in a meeting with SEC, DSE members also welcomed the proposal on such revision of margin rule by enhancing the ratio. But now they backtracked on their stand saying that covering 50 percent margin in cash or other acceptable securities might lead many stockbrokers to stop trading after a certain period of time, as they would not be able to cover the margin as required by the regulator.



Industries Minister Dilip Barua hands the draft Industrial policy to President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban in Dhaka Yesterday.



SME Foundation Managing Director Syed Rezwanul Kabir and Squire Hospital Director KM Saiful Islam exchange documents after signing an agreement in Dhaka yesterday. Under the deal, the private hospital will provide health check-up, medical consultation, diagnostic services and in-patient services to the employees of the foundation.

CC opens brokerage office

A CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Capital (CC) Ltd launched a new extension brokerage office in the city's Khatunganj area yesterday. Tareq Kamal, vice president of the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE), was the chief guest, and Mohammed Jahangir, managing director of CC Ltd, chaired the inaugural session. "CSE investors will be able to operate from home when provided with more advanced technology from early next year," said Kamal. "This is the time to join in the economic progress of the country by investing money in the capital market," he added.

Minister stresses regional connectivity

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government has taken 17 projects to uplift the country's ailing railway network, said Communication Minister Syed Abul Hossain yesterday. The projects -- when implemented -- will not only help handle domestic traffic better, but also boost regional connectivity, he added. Hossain said this at a regional meeting on transport connectivity in the northeastern region of South Asia, involving Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Northeastern India. Asian Development Bank (ADB) organised the meeting at Sonargaon Hotel. "All-round rail, road and waterway connectivity is a must for the development of the entire region," said the minister. The lack of connectivity has

for long been acting as a major deterrent preventing economic integration of South Asia, he added. Of the 17 projects, the minister mentioned doubling the railway track between Tongi and Bhairab, which he said will enhance the capacity of the Tongi-Akhaura-Agartala section. Hossain said construction of a second railway bridge spanning both Bhairab and Titas rivers will soon begin. Improvement of 32.4km Sarail-Brahmanbaria-Sultanpur-Akhaura-Senarabadi railway link has been undertaken to facilitate regional and international traffic. The tourist city of Cox's Bazar will be connected with Dhaka via Chittagong while new tracks will be constructed between Dohazari and Cox's Bazar via Ramu. This rail track will reach as far as Ghungdum near Myanmar border to

connect with China via Myanmar. A feasibility study for several other projects including a second rail bridge over the Jamuna and a rail bridge across the Padma rivers are underway, said the communications minister. Hossain said the regional meeting involving stakeholder countries would help devise ways to boost regional connectivity. Thevakumar Kandiah, country director of ADB, said South Asian countries should capitalise on their strategic location between Europe and Far East Asia. The meeting will focus on three broad issues: actions to expedite the regional transport connectivity, steps needed from project preparation to initiation for each priority transport link and the expected ADB contribution to these initiatives.

Citi forecasts 6.2pc GDP growth for FY11

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh may achieve a 6.2 percent GDP growth this current fiscal year because of a steady rise in investment, particularly in power sector, a recent Citi report has forecast. The FY 2010-11 GDP growth target has been set at 6.7 percent. Such growth was 6 percent a year earlier. The report, Asia Macro and Strategy Outlook, said their forecasts are more conservative than Bangladesh government. The reasons they showed are the challenges in meeting the 1500-megawatt power shortage, possible labour unrest, sluggish export demand in two major export destinations, such as United States and European Union,

and natural calamity. Citi, however, linked the achievement in its estimated growth in gross domestic product to the rising growth trend of industrial and services sectors, backed by the government's investment in infrastructure development. The report also pointed to the recent approval of a bill to expedite energy sector contracts and power purchase agreement with the private sector, which reflects efforts to resolve the crisis. "Private consumption will increase due to wage revisions for the textile sectors and stable remittance inflow." The report expects the export growth to remain positive over the import due to growth in textile sector but warns against poor market diversification.

The trade deficit of the country, according to Citi, may increase to 42,900 crore in the current fiscal year due to the increasing negative balance of trade. In case of budget deficit, the report expects the deficit by 2012 to narrow to 4.8 percent as government has a proved track of compressing the deficit target. "Like other fiscal years, Bangladesh is expected to meet the budget targets as it has lower spending than the target on annual development programme." The consumer price index will remain at 7.2 percent this year and in the next year it may come down to 6.7 percent, said the report. Citi assumed that the central bank will also tighten the monetary policy to neutralise the inflationary pressure.



Participants of a regional meeting on transport connectivity in the northeastern South Asia pose at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka yesterday. Asian Development Bank organised the programme.

Record T-aman output in Rangpur expected

BSS, Rangpur

A record bumper production of T-Aman paddy in recent years is expected this season, as farmers are getting excellent yield rates everywhere in Rangpur Agriculture Zone. Officials in the Department of Agriculture Extension told the news agency yesterday that 80 percent harvest of Aman paddy has so far been completed and the rest next week. The growers and experts expressed their full satisfactions on the yield rates and added that they had never observed such a bumper production of T-Aman

paddy in the recent past. The local markets have been flooded with the newly harvested Aman rice and the newly harvested coarse variety Aman rice, now selling at Tk 30 a kg. According to Mohsin Ali, DAE's additional director for Rangpur zone, farmers have cultivated T-Aman on 10,84,863 hectares of land, 10,860 hectares more than the fixed target of bringing 10,74,003 hectares under the crop farming in the zone this season. "We're expecting even to exceed the fixed production target of 27,01,694 tonnes T-Aman rice in all the eight districts under the zone this season

after the harvest completes," he said. Horticulturist Mezbahul Islam said there was no report of pest attacks that further helped the farmers in achieving excellent yields. The farmers are also happy over the present market prices of the newly harvested paddy, which range from Tk 780 to Tk 900 per maund (every 40 kgs). Meanwhile, they have already started farming potato, wheat, mustard, vegetables and other crops on the same land after harvesting Aman paddy and preparing Boro seedbeds for its enhanced cultivation this season.

IFIC Bank's new MD

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mohammad Abdullah took over as managing director of IFIC Bank yesterday, says a statement. Prior to the assignment, he was the deputy managing director of the bank.

Shahjalal Islami Bank gets new MD

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Md Abdur Rahman Sarker has joined Shahjalal Islami Bank as managing director, says a statement. Prior to the appointment, he was the managing director of National Bank. Sarker started his career with Janata Bank as probationary officer in 1973 and later joined National Bank in 1985.

ট্রেনিং ইনস্টিটিউট ফর কেমিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ
TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES
 (Central Training Institute of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation)

টিআইসিআই এর একেজো গাড়ী বিক্রয়ের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিবাহী পরিচালক, ট্রেনিং ইনস্টিটিউট ফর কেমিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ (টিআইসিআই), পলাশ, নরসিংদী, কর্তৃক নিম্নে বর্ণিত একেজো ঘোষিত গাড়ীটি (যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে ভিত্তিতে) বিক্রয় করার নিমিত্তে আত্মহী ক্রেতাদের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রমিক নং	দরপত্র নং ও তারিখ	একেজো গাড়ীর বিবরণ	আর্নেটম্যানি	দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য (অফরযোগ্য)	দরপত্র সমূহ দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়
০১	টিআইসিআই/কার (৩০৫৪)/বিক্রয়/ ১০-১১, তারিখ: ২৮/১১/২০১০ইং	মিতসুবিশি ল্যান্ডার (বিশদ বর্ণনা ও শর্তাবলী দরপত্র দাখিলের বর্ণনামুযায়ী)	টাকা ৫,০০০/-	টাকা ৫০০/- প্রতি সেট (অফরযোগ্য)	২০/১২/২০১০ ইং সকাল ১১-৩০ মিঃ

দরপত্র সমূহ (ক) টিআইসিআই, পলাশ, নরসিংদী এর প্রশাসন অফিসে ২য় তলায় রক্ষিত টেবিলের বাসে এবং (খ) ক্রয় বিভাগ, বিসিআইসি প্রধান কার্যালয়, ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা এর দপ্তরে রক্ষিত টেবিলের বাসে উপস্থিতিতে তারিখ ও সময়ে গ্রহণ করা হবে এবং পরের দিন অর্থাৎ ২১/১২/২০১০ ইং তারিখ সকাল ১১-৩০ ঘটিকার সময় টিআইসিআই পলাশ, নরসিংদী এর নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে দরদাতা অথবা তাদের প্রতিনিধিদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হবে। দরপত্র দলিল সকল কার্যদিবসে (১) হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বিসিআইসি, ৩০-৩১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, ঢাকা, (২) বিসিআইসি শাখা অফিস, ৬, আত্মবাদ, বা/এ, চট্টগ্রাম এবং (৩) টিআইসিআই, পলাশ, নরসিংদী, এর হিসাব বিভাগ হতে ক্রয় করা যাবে। দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখে কোন দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয় করা হবে না। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন/সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। কোন কারণ বশতঃ যদি নির্ধারিত তারিখে এবং সময়ে টেবিল খোলা সম্ভব না হয় তবে তা পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে যথাসময়ে গ্রহণ এবং খোলা হবে। গাড়ীটির সর্বনিম্ন প্রাক্কালিক মূল্য টাকা ২,০০,০০০/- (দুই লক্ষ) মাত্র।

মোঃ আরজিস আলী
 অতিরিক্ত প্রধান একেজো (যান্ত্রিক)
 নির্বাহী পরিচালকের পক্ষে।

সূত্র নং- টিআইসিআই/ক্রয়/বিজ্ঞপ্তি/১০-১১/১৯২০



Ekramul Hoque, managing director of Al-Arafah Islami Bank, opens the bank's 72nd branch at Khilkhet Super Market in Dhaka on Monday.