



M Fakhru Alam, managing director of One Bank, and Alexander Haeusler, general manager of Radisson Blu Water Garden Dhaka, exchange the signed documents of a deal recently. The bank's Platinum credit cardholders will get buy-one-get-three free buffet dinner on selective days.

World Bank to lower global growth forecast over virus outbreak

AFP, Washington

The World Bank will revise its global growth forecast downwards due to the new coronavirus, the president of the multilateral lender said Tuesday, amid fears the epidemic in China will harm global supply chains.

The World Bank last month forecast a rebound in global growth this year after the easing of trade tensions between the US and China that had contributed to a decline in 2019.

But World Bank President David Malpass warned the virus that has killed hundreds in China and shuttered businesses and borders posed a threat to the prediction.

"There will be a lowering of forecasts for at least the first part of 2020, in part due to the China, in part due to the supply chains," Malpass said.

"A lot of Chinese goods come out to the rest of the world in the belly of aircrafts that are carrying passengers," Malpass said.

But as airlines worldwide have suspended flights to and from China and some of its neighbors have shut their borders "you

need to adjust the supply chains in order to get the goods out to make the products that the whole world economy is operating on," he said.

The World Bank economic outlook predicted the world economy would grow to 2.5 percent this year from 2.4 percent last year.

Malpass was discussing the economic outlook with Janet Yellen, former chair of the US Federal Reserve, who agreed the virus would take a bite out of growth.

The virus "seems certain to have a significant effect at least for a quarter or two" on China and given its economic heft, and that will surely hit the global economy, Yellen said.

The World Bank on Monday called for countries worldwide to strengthen their "health surveillance and response systems," and said it was eyeing what resources and expertise it can contribute to fight the disease.

The virus has killed at least 425 people in China, exceeding the 349 death toll caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak of 2002-2003, which eventually killed nearly 800 globally.

UK economy's post-election rebound strengthens in January

REUTERS, London

The British economy's post-election bounce gained strength in January as services companies enjoyed the strongest influx of new orders since mid-2018, a closely watched survey showed on Wednesday.

The IHS Markit/CIPS UK Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 53.9 January, a full point higher than a preliminary reading for the month and up from 50.0 in December.

It was the strongest reading since September 2018 and higher than all forecasts in a Reuters poll of economists, which had pointed to a reading of 52.9.

Sterling rallied against the dollar and the euro after the survey and 10-year gilt yields rose to their highest in nearly two weeks, as markets decided

the Bank of England was unlikely to cut interest rates in the first half of the year.

Last week, the BoE said it saw signs of a post-election pick-up in growth as its policymakers voted against an immediate rate cut to help the economy, which slowed to a near-crawl in late 2019.

Data company IHS Markit, which produces the PMI, stuck to its view that the economy looks on track for quarterly growth of around 0.2 per cent at the start of this year.

The survey showed new business in services companies grew last month at the fastest rate since June 2018.

"The survey fuels our belief that the economy could conceivably achieve GDP growth of 0.4 per cent quarter-on-quarter in the first quarter of 2020," Howard Archer, economist from the EY ITEM Club consultancy,

said.

"However, a concern for the economy is that the upside for business willingness to commit to investment and major projects may be limited by still significant concerns and uncertainties over the UK-EU relationship," Archer added.

Britain, fresh out of the European Union, hopes to have a trade deal with the EU by the end of the year — a target that many analysts view with scepticism.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has pitched two models for his country's trade ties with the EU after Brexit: preferably a deal based on the EU's accord with Canada or, failing that, the basic terms that the EU has with Australia. Business groups oppose the latter approach.

For now, the signs of growth appear clear.

The services PMI's gauge of business expectations rose to its highest since May 2015.

"However, this sub-index was the only measure in the final UK Services PMI dataset to drop since the earlier 'flash' estimate, which may suggest that business expectations tailed off towards the end of the month," Williamson said.

While businesses have cheered up in recent weeks, consumer reactions have been more mixed. Official data showed retail sales fell unexpectedly in December, and on Wednesday industry data showed car sales were down 7 per cent in January from a year ago.

The composite PMI, which combines the services and manufacturing output indexes, rose in January to 53.3 from the earlier flash reading for the month of 52.4 and December's 49.3, reaching its highest since September 2018.



REUTERS/FILE
People walk through autumnal leaves in front of the financial district in London.

Indonesia economic growth slips to 5.02pc in 2019

AFP, Jakarta

Indonesia's economy grew more slowly than expected last year, official data showed Wednesday, and officials warned the country's lucrative tourism sector faced a negative impact from a drop in Chinese tourists owing to the deadly coronavirus.

Southeast Asia's biggest economy expanded 5.02 percent, down from the 5.17 percent the previous year, owing to weakness in exports and softer manufacturing output. The figures also missed forecasts for a 5.3 percent expansion.

In December, the World Bank warned that forest fires which raged across Indonesia last year hit the economy to the tune of some \$5.2 billion.

The country was also grappling with slumping prices for key commodities such as coal and palm oil, as well as the effects of a China-US trade war which has roiled economies around the world.

"Sustaining growth in a 5.0 percent range in the current environment isn't easy," statistics agency head Suhariyanto, who goes by one name, told reporters in Jakarta.

"So I think achieving 5.02 percent during a global economic slowdown is quite good." Tourism officials have warned of a drop-off this year as Indonesia throws up barriers to Chinese visitors over fears of a coronavirus outbreak in the country. Some two million Chinese tourists visit Indonesian annually.

"The number of Chinese visitors has dropped significantly since the imposition of travel restrictions," Ngurah Wijaya, an adviser to Bali Tourism Board and Bali Promotion Board, earlier told Bloomberg News.

"And we have no clarity as well on how soon they can or will return." Research house Oxford Economics also said the drop-off would take the steam off growth in the first half of 2020.

"We expect the economy to be weak in Q1 as exports take a hit due to the coronavirus outbreak and tourism slows," it said Wednesday.

Indonesia's central bank cut interest rates several times in 2019 to counter slowing growth, throwing up a challenge to President Joko Widodo who has pledged to use his second term to energise the economy by cutting red tape and an embarking on an infrastructure blitz.

Virus outbreak delays India's cotton exports to China

REUTERS, Mumbai

Shipments of around 250,000 bales of Indian cotton to China have been delayed by nearly two weeks as a virus outbreak and factory closures dampens demand from the world's biggest consumer of the fibre, industry officials told Reuters.

The delay in shipments could pressure local prices and force the state-run Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) to increase purchases from farmers to ensure domestic prices stay above government mandated levels.

"As the holiday is extended in China, shipments are getting delayed," said Chirag Patel, chief executive at Jaydeep Cotton Fibers Pvt Ltd, an exporter.

Most Chinese firms scale back operations or close for long periods around the Lunar New Year holidays, which began on Jan. 24 this year.

But China's government has extended the holidays, announced widespread transport restrictions and told many businesses to stay closed longer to limit the spread of the virus. It is not clear when millions of migrant workers will be able to return to factories or when ports will resume normal operations.

The epidemic has killed nearly 500 people in China and infected more than 24,000 so far.

Indian sellers had contracted around 650,000 bales to China for prompt shipment. Around 400,000 bales have already been shipped, but the remaining 250,000 bales have been delayed, three exporters and two dealers with global trading houses told Reuters.

"Exporters are a bit worried. So far buyers haven't cancelled contracts, but some might be if this virus outbreak remains there for few more weeks," said Vinay Kotak, a director at Kotak Commodities, a Mumbai-based brokerage. China, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Indonesia are among key buyers of India cotton.

Exporters have an option of diverting cotton meant for China to other destinations such as Bangladesh and Vietnam if shipments are delayed further, Kotak said.

India has shipped 2 million cotton bales since the 2019/20 marketing year started on Oct. 1 and another 1 million bales have been contracted for shipment in February and March, said Atul Ganatra, president of the Cotton Association of India.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Health Education & Family Welfare Division
Directorate General of Family Planning
6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

হেঁলে হোক মেয়ে হোক
দু'টি সন্তানই যথেষ্ট

INVITATION FOR TENDER

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Under HPNSDP		
2	Agency	Directorate General of Family Planning		
3	Procuring Entity	Director (Finance) & Line Director, Field Services Delivery.		
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		
5	Invitation for	Goods		
6	Invitation Ref No	FP/FSDP/05-1/2019-20/1769		
7	Date	4-02-2020		
KEY INFORMATION				
8	Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (OTM)		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
9	Budget and Source of Funds	GOB(Development)		
10	Development Partner	None		
11	Project/Program Code	2-2410-8600		
12	Project/Program Name	Field Services Delivery		
13	Tender Package No	GD-32		
14	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Printing		
15	Tender Publication Date			
16	Tender Last Selling Date	25-02-2020 (Office time)		
17	Tender Closing Date & Time	26-02-2020 at 11.00 AM.		
18	Tender Opening Date	26-02-2020 at 11.30 AM.		
19	Name & Address of the Office(s)			
	Selling Tender Document (principle)	Line Director, Field Services Delivery, Family Planning Field Services Delivery, 4th Floor Directorate General of Family Planning 6 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215		
20	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	14-02-2020 at 11.00 am. Office room of Line Director Field Services Delivery. Family Planning Field Services Delivery, 4th Floor, Directorate General of Family planning. 6 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.		
21	Receiving Tender Document	Director (Finance) & Line Director, Field Services Delivery. Directorate General of Family Planning 4 th Floor. 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. & Office of the Joint Secretary (Procurement & Purchase Building No-3, Room No-312(3 rd Floor) Medical Education and Family Welfare Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDER				
22	Eligibility of Tenderer	(a) The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 5 years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. (b) The tenderer shall have a minimum of 3 years of specific experience in the supply of similar goods. (c) The minimum production capacity, two times of the total quantity of all the items specified in the schedule of requirements. (d) The liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is Tk. 50.00 lac.		
23	Brief Description of Goods	1. Satellite Clinic Register 6,000 pcs		
24	Brief Description of Related Services	None		
25	Tender Document Price	TK 1000/- (Nonrefundable) to be paid by treasury challan of Bangladesh Bank/Sonali Bank in the treasury paid to the Code No 1-7481-0000-2366 in the Name of Directorate General of Family planning, 6-Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Treasury challan should be certified by the Treasury Officer or internet copy.		
26	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender security amount	Completion time
	Satellite Clinic Register 6,000 pcs	Central Ware House, Directorate General of Family Planning, Mohakhali, Dhaka.	Tk. 90,000/- (Ninety thousand) only	8 Weeks
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
27	Name of the Official Inviting Tender	Director (Finance) & Line Director, Field Services Delivery.		
28	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Directorate General of Family Planning, 6-Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215		
29	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Tel. 8151861		
30	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Fax-e-mail: fspdpp@gmail.com		
31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. Public Procurement Act 2006 must be followed Sample in a Covered Packet should be submitted with tender document 			

(Dr Md Sarwar Bari)
Joint Secretary
Medical Education and Family Welfare Division
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Director (Finance) & Line Director
Field Services Delivery.

GD-242