

US job market recovery appears to be slowing

REUTERS, Washington

US private employers hired far fewer workers than expected in July as companies exhausted loans to help with wages and new COVID-19 infections flared up across the country, supporting the view that the nascent economic recovery was faltering.

While other data on Wednesday showed activity in the vast services sector gained momentum in July as new orders raced to a record high, hiring declined. The reports, together with a recent rise in applications for unemployment benefits, suggest job growth pulled back sharply in July. The Labor Department will publish July's employment report on Friday.

"The economy will remain at risk of a renewed downturn so long as a vaccine or therapeutic for the virus remains out of reach," said Oren Klachkin, lead U.S. economist at Oxford Economics in New York.

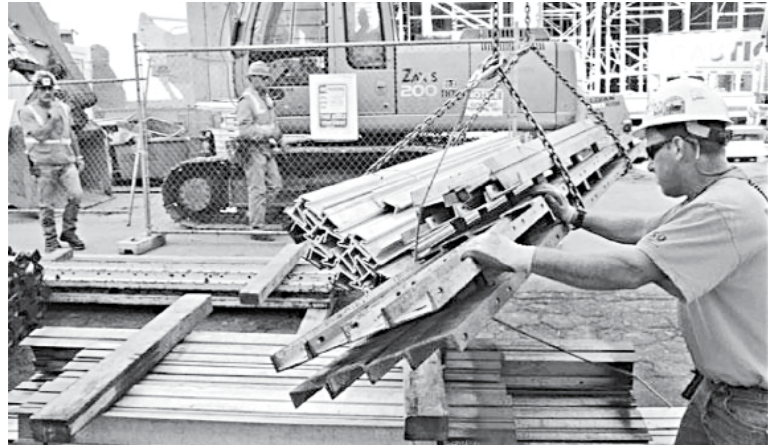
The ADP National Employment Report showed private payrolls increased by 167,000 jobs last month after jumping by 4.314 million in June. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast private payrolls would increase by 1.5 million in July.

Hiring weakened across the board last month. Payrolls for medium-sized businesses with 50 to 499 employees fell 25,000. The sharp step-down in hiring was attributed to the expiration of

the U.S. government's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the resurgence in coronavirus cases.

The PPP was part of a historic fiscal package worth nearly \$3 trillion that gave businesses loans that can be partially forgiven if used for employee pay. New cases of the respiratory illness have exploded, especially in the densely-populated South and West regions where authorities in hard-hit areas are closing businesses again and pausing reopenings.

California, Texas and Florida account for a third of the nation's employment. Labor markets in the Midwest have been strong, but that could change as the region battles a



Fourth-quarter productivity was revised up to show a 1.7 per cent rate of decline instead of the previously reported 2.2 per cent pace.

surge in new COVID-19 cases.

The economy suffered its biggest blow since the Great Depression in the second quarter, with gross domestic product shrinking at its steepest pace in at least 73 years.

In a separate report on Wednesday, the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) said its services index increased to a reading of 58.1 last month, the highest since March 2019, from 57.1 in June. A reading above 50 indicates growth in the services sector, which accounts for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity.

The ISM said businesses remained concerned about the pandemic, but "are mostly optimistic about

business conditions and the economy." The ISM, however, noted that sentiment varied across industries, as companies were impacted differently.

Businesses in the healthcare sector said surgical services were only scheduling at 50% capacity. Public administration companies said "spending is down." Retailers reported that "orders and business activity are back to pre-pandemic levels." Companies in the utilities industries said "previously stalled projects are starting back up." The ISM survey's measure of new orders for the services industry soared to a record 67.7 in July from a reading of 61.6 in June. Its index of services industry employment, however, fell to a reading of 42.1 last month from 43.1 in June, contracting for a fifth straight month. Companies reported either freezing hiring or limiting recruitment.

Stocks on Wall Street were trading higher on the services industry expansion and Disney's surprise quarterly profit. The dollar slipped against a basket of currencies. U.S. Treasury prices fell.

Though the ADP report, jointly developed with Moody's Analytics, has a poor track record forecasting the private payrolls component of the government's employment report, it added to a plethora of government and private sector reports indicating a significant deceleration in job growth in July.

Garment export orders rolling in once again

FROM PAGE B1

"My buyers have started placing work orders and gradually the volume of work orders is increasing."

Of the cancelled work orders, his buyers have already taken back 50 per cent of them and promised to take another 30 per cent.

The remaining 20 per cent should be sold at cheaper prices to other buyers, Azad added.

"I am currently utilising 65 per cent of my capacity. About 80 per cent of my work orders remained unaffected during the pandemic while 20 per cent or less have been reinstated," said KM Rezaul Hasanat, chairman and chief executive officer of Viyellatex Group, another leading garment exporter.

PPE is a small fraction of the clothing business and it cannot even cover 10 per cent of the total exports, he added.

"COVID-19 has affected the garment sector in various ways. Initially, it broke the supply chain as we are reliant mostly on China for most of our raw materials," said Sheikh Mohammad Danial, managing director of Finesse Apparels.

But exports are now bouncing back, he said, adding that the queries from brands in Europe and the US have jumped.

If the current trend in Europe continues, Bangladesh will start to see stronger export figures from the first quarter of 2021. More clothes are being bought online, with a massive 76 per cent rise in online sales in the US, he said.

"This is the new reality for which we need to be prepared," he added.

Work orders were slowly coming back but knitwear sector is doing better than woven products, said Azimul Islam, managing director of Alif Group.

"But the major threat is the second wave of the coronavirus infection in the Western market. If that happens, it will be a bigger disaster for us."

His knitwear factory is running at 70 per cent capacity and the woven one at 60 per cent. About 70 per cent of the cancelled work orders are being taken back but at a heavy discount and deferred payment terms, Islam added.

"It's too early to make a positive remark on the inflow of new orders since many factories are still struggling to survive due to financial hardships," said Arshad Jamal Dipu, vice-president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMMEA).

New orders are coming but at a slow pace.

"We would also need to see at what price levels these new orders are being placed."

It's difficult to respond since not all factories, which participated in the initial survey reporting \$3.18 billion cancellations, provided follow-up data.

"But we tracked suppliers to a few buyers around a month ago and found that 45 per cent of about \$900 million worth of orders were reinstated, and by now this figure might have gone higher."

But the payment term is not pleasant, with deferred payment as high as 180-plus days, and discounts may also be common, he added.

France to provide €150m to bounce back from downturn

FROM PAGE B4

The AFD, also known as the French Development Agency, works to fight poverty and promote sustainable development by implementing policies defined by the French government around the world.

Since 2012, the AFD has been involved in several projects in urban development and infrastructure as well as the power and green energy sectors.

Besides, the Paris-based financial institution also prioritises corporate and social responsibility.

As of 2020, the AFD had committed €761 million to Bangladesh, which includes €25 million in the form of grants.

Through the new loan and an upcoming grant of €1 million (2050 facility), the AFD will contribute to the improvement of Bangladesh's resilience to climate change adaptation by reinforcing the social protection system.

Spotlight on Indonesia's slow stimulus as economy shrinks

REUTERS, Jakarta

Indonesia's efforts to support its economy through the coronavirus crisis were being hampered by the slow disbursement of a \$50 billion stimulus plan, economists said.

The World Bank and Indonesian government have warned that millions more people risk being plunged into poverty amid the pandemic, as data showed the economy shrank for the first time since 1999 in the second quarter.

Walton is a household name in Bangladesh. Now it wants the world to take to its products.

FROM PAGE B4

To meet the ever-increasing demand for highly efficient, lightweight and cost-effective compressors, its research and development team is working to develop a new series of high COP (coefficient of performance) inverter compressor that will set a new standard of performance all over the world and will be introduced by the end of 2021.

"Once we had some limitations in developing modern technology. But now, we have complete R&D facilities comprising highly trained and skilled engineers from home and abroad. So, our quality has developed massively in the last five years."

The company has a laboratory named NASDUT-LITS that maintains global standards and certification for quality testing.

Its certification covers at least 80 per cent of

the countries for quality, safety, including of the environment, energy efficiency and many more.

"We had to spend at least 10 years building up this infrastructure, which in other places is built by the state."

Alam recommended ensuring a level playing field for every industry, saying it is necessary for businesses to flourish, create enough jobs, reduce import costs and give a boost to economic prosperity.

"Though many timely initiatives of the government geared up the development of the local industries, there are more things to improve and policies to amend."

He highlighted that the import duty on some hi-tech products and components were higher than the imported finished goods, a situation which halts the progress of the local industry and, to some extent, discourages

entrepreneurs.

Alam cited the example of Taiwan, where the government authorities highly encourage industrialisation and create a level playing field for local producers.

The country has an authority that stays tuned to the needs of entrepreneurs and analyses which sector needs what policy support, for which the nation's exports is big in context to its population.

Taiwan's exports amounted to \$329.3 billion in 2019 when their population is 2.36 crore, according to the World Bank data.

Bangladesh has huge potential as business relations among the US, China and India are deteriorating.

So, the government needs to provide suitable policy support now for industries to flourish and grab the opportunity, he added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
Maternal, Neonatal Child Health (MNCH) and Health System Improvement Project
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Room No. 18, Department of Radiology & Imaging
Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dhaka
Phone: +880-13-17271252

Invitation for Bids

Date: 7th August 2020
Loan Agreement No. BD-P83
IFB No. JICA/SDIS/485/C.W/7 D.M.C.H/P-WD1/2020/675 Dated: 05/08/2020

- Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of Maternal, Neonatal Child Health (MNCH) and Health System Improvement Project. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for Component 2: Strengthening of Diagnostic Imaging System of 7 Division Medical College Hospitals, WD1 New Construction of Imaging Diagnostic Centers in 7 Division Medical College Hospitals.
- Project Director (Procuring Entity) on behalf of the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the construction and completion of Component 2: Strengthening of Diagnostic Imaging System of 7 Division Medical College Hospitals, WD1 New Construction of Imaging Diagnostic Centers in 7 Division Medical College Hospitals ("the Works").
- Bidding will be conducted through the procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans. International Competitive Bidding is conducted in accordance with JICA's Single-Stage Two-Envelope Bidding Procedures and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the Office of Project Director (Procuring Entity) for Component 2: Strengthening of Diagnostic Imaging System of 7 Division Medical College Hospitals, Address: Room No. 18, Department of Radiology & Imaging, Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Telephone: +880 13 17 271 252, E-mail: pd.mnch.sd@icm.gov.bd
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of BDT 50,000 (Bangladesh Taka fifty thousand only) in cash at the Office of Project Director (Procuring Entity) between 9:00 and 14:00 hrs on all working days from 8th August to 23rd August 2020.
- Interested eligible Bidders who have purchased bid document are invited to attend a Pre-Bid meeting to be held at 10:00 hrs on 24th August 2020 at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Participation in this pre-bid meeting is not a mandatory requirement but encouraged for submission of Bid.
- Bids must be delivered to the address of two (2) alternatives, Central Medical Stores Depot, the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Dhaka, Bangladesh or the Office of Project Director (Procuring Entity), Address: Room No. 18, Department of Radiology & Imaging, Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dhaka, Bangladesh on or before 12:00 hrs (Bangladesh Standard Time on 21st September 2020 and must be accompanied by a security of Bangladeshi Taka 68 million (BDT 68,000,000) or Japanese Yen 97 million (JPY 97,000,000) or US Dollar 877 thousand (USD 877,000).
- Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 15:00 hrs (Bangladesh Standard Time) on 21st September 2020 at the offices of the Project Director.

Prof. Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman
Project Director
MNCH and Health System Improvement Project (Component 2: Strengthening of Diagnostic Imaging System of 8 Division Medical College Hospitals), Dhaka-1000

GD-1225

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়
মনিরকণ্ঠ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং ০২/২০২০-২০২১ (রেশন স্টোর)

"পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা/২০০৮ ও পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা/২০১১ (সংশোধিত)" অনুসারে জেলা পুলিশ, মনিরকণ্ঠ-এর ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বছরের ২য় কোয়ার্টারের (অক্টোবর/নভেম্বর/ডিসেম্বর/২০২০ মাস) এবং এনএসআই ও মুক্তিসেবা সদস্যদের ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বছরের ১ম প্রক্টিকের (জুলাই/২০ হতে ডিসেম্বর/২০) জন্য বিভিন্ন রেশন সামগ্রী ক্রয়, পম পেথাই কাগজ, তুলি ও অন্যান্য সেবা কাজ সম্পন্ন করার লক্ষ্যে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে সীলমোহরযুক্ত বামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

১. মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/পুলিশ বিভাগ।
২. সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।
৩. দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রধান	পুলিশ সুপার, মনিরকণ্ঠ।
৪. কি কারণে দরপত্র আহ্বান	জেলা পুলিশ, মনিরকণ্ঠ-এর রেশন সামগ্রী ক্রয় ও অন্যান্য সেবা কাজ।
৫. দরপত্র সূত্র নং	২০২১/৫।
৬. তারিখ	তারিখ: ০৩-০৮-২০২০ক্রি।

কাজের বিবরণ

৭. দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র (OTM)।
৮. বাজেট ও অর্থসংক্রান্ত বিবরণ	রাজস্ব বাজেট।

তথ্যাদি

৯. দরপত্রের বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	০৩-০৮-২০২০ক্রি।
১০. দরপত্র দাখিল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	২৬-০৮-২০২০ক্রি ১৪:৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১১. দরপত্র ক্রয় প্রণালীর (সিডিউল ট্রুপ) সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৭-০৮-২০২০ক্রি ১২:৩০ ঘটিকা।
১২. দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২৭-০৮-২০২০ক্রি ১২:৩০ ঘটিকা।
১৩. দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময় এবং স্থান	০২-০৯-২০২০ক্রি ১১:৩০ ঘটিকা, পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মনিরকণ্ঠ।

অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা

অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রাক্টিক স্থান
১. দরপত্র ভুক্তমত/সিডিউল বিক্রয়কারী অফিস	১। ডি.আই.জি, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, ঢাকা রেল-এর কার্যালয়, ঢাকা। ২। পুলিশ রেশন স্টোর, পুলিশ হাট, মনিরকণ্ঠ। ৩। পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মনিরকণ্ঠ।
২. দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিস	১। পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মনিরকণ্ঠ।
৩. দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	১। পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মনিরকণ্ঠ।
৪. প্রি-স্টোর সজার স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	১। পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মনিরকণ্ঠ।

দরপত্র সম্পর্কিত তথ্য

১৪. দরপত্রের বোধ্যতা	১। হাসানাবাদ ট্রেন হাউস ২। আয়কর সনদ ৩। জাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদ ৪। ব্যাংক সলভেন্সী সনদ ৫। জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র ৬। অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা বাহা টেন্ডার ভুক্তমত/দরপত্র দাখিলে উল্লেখ আছে।
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ক্রমিক নং	মালামালের বিবরণ	আইটেম	পরিমাণ (কেজি/মিটার)	দরপত্রের মূল্য (টাকা) (অফারকর্তব্যে)	নিরাপত্তা জামানত (টাকা)	কাজ সম্পন্ন করার সময়
(১)	উন্নতমানের স্যানিটর তেল ক্রয়		২৫,৫০০ লিটার	৭৫০/-	৭০,০০০/-	কর্ম সম্পাদন
(২)	উন্নতমানের ময়র চাল ক্রয়		২৭,২৫০ কেজি	৭৫০/-	৯০,০০০/-	টুকিতে
(৩)	ফুলাদি কাঠ ক্রয়		৩,০০০ কেজি (আনুমানিক)	৪০০/-	২,৫০০/-	উল্লেখিত তারিখ ও সময়
১৭.	পম পেথাই তুলি কাগজ চিনি-অনুমোদিত চিনি কল হতে এবং চাল ও পম- জেলা খাদ্য কলম হতে ট্রাকে উঠানো/রেশন স্টোরে নামানো	(৪)	৯৭,৬০০ কেজি	৪০০/-	২০,০০০/-	অনুমোদিত
		(৫)	২,১৭,৬০০ কেজি	৪০০/-	৩,৫০০/-	
(৬)	শোলাগর চাল ক্রয়		১,১৫০ কেজি	৪০০/-	৩,৫০০/-	

১৮. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	জনাব রিফাত বরহান শাহীম-পিপিএম।
১৯. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	পুলিশ সুপার, মনিরকণ্ঠ।
২০. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মনিরকণ্ঠ।
২১. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার সাথে যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম	ফোন: ০২৭৭১০৪০০, ফ্যাক্স: ০২৭৭১০৪০৬।

বিশেষ শর্তাবলী:

- নির্দিষ্ট সময়ের পর আর কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না।
- কোন কারণে দরপত্রের ব্যক্তিগতকৈ কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
- দরপত্র উল্লেখিত যে কোন আইটেমের পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি বা কমানোর ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।
- দরপত্র সিপিআর/২০০৬, সিপিআর/২০০৮ ও সিপিআর/২০১১ (সংশোধিত) মোতাবেক সকল শর্তাবলী কার্যকর হবে।
- প্রতিনিধির মাধ্যমে দরপত্র দাখিল করা ও দরপত্র দাখিলের ক্ষেত্রে প্রতিনিধিত্ব কর্তৃক যথাযথ ক্ষমতাপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
- কর্তৃপক্ষ সর্বনিম্ন দর গ্রহণ করতে বাধ্য নহেন।

রিফাত বরহান শাহীম, পিপিএম-সেবা
ফোন নং-৭৩০৪১০০৯৯৯
পুলিশ সুপার
মনিরকণ্ঠ
ফোন: ০২৭৭১০৪০০, ফ্যাক্স: ০২৭৭১০৪০৬

তারিখ: ১২/৮