



New marketing director of Glaxo Wellcome

M Azizul Huq has been appointed Marketing Director and inducted to the Board of Directors of Glaxo Wellcome Bangladesh Limited, a subsidiary of the world's leading pharmaceutical company - GlaxoSmithKline Plc, says a press release.

He joined Glaxo Wellcome in 1998 as Marketing Manager and was appointed General Manager of Marketing & Sales in 2000.

Before joining Glaxo Wellcome, Azizul Huq was Marketing Manager for Rhone Poulen Rorer and Fisons in Bangladesh (currently known as Aventis Pharma), where he worked in various capacities for about 9 years.

Azizul Huq holds a post graduation degree in Pharmacy from Dhaka University and also an MBA from the Institute of Business Administration.

PRAN tomato paste cooking demonstration held

PRAN Tomato Paste cooking demonstration was held at "Uttara Ladies Club" in the city recently, says a press release.

Nutritionist and recipe writer Aysha Siddiqui and Nasira Kabir conducted the demonstration.

Some members of the Club attended the demonstration.

Aysha Siddiqui and Nasira Kabir prepared the delicious items 'chicken curry' using PRAN Tomato paste.

In Bangladesh, PRAN is the first-ever company to produce this tomato paste from ripe and fresh Bangladeshi tomato is a hygienic way through fully automatic machine.

PRAN Tomato paste can be used as the substitute of fresh tomato all the year round.

PRAN Tomato paste is now available in the retail outlets all over the country at a reasonable price. The quality of this paste is better than that of any foreign brand.

Isuzu to cut 24pc workforce over 3 years

AP, Tokyo

Troubled Japanese automaker Isuzu Motors Ltd will eliminate about one-fourth of its work force over the next three years and shutter one of its three main domestic plants as part of a drastic overhaul plan, newspapers reported Saturday.

Isuzu's plan would cut 9,000 jobs to 29,000, mostly through voluntary early retirement packages and a hiring freeze, the Nihon Keizai newspaper said. The nationwide Yomiuri newspaper carried a similar report.

The automaker will also close its truck making plant in Kawasaki city, on the southern outskirts of Tokyo, reducing its truck making capacity by one-third, the Nikkei reported.

Isuzu spokeswoman Yoshiko Shibusawa would only say that the company currently has too much output capacity at its truck making plants and plans to cut costs by redistributing production among domestic and overseas plants.

"We do have to adjust to the current level of demand," she said. She refused to elaborate.

She would not comment on the newspaper reports. The company will discuss its cost-cutting plans when it announces earnings on Monday, she said.

The reports came after Isuzu said it would carry out a management shake-up in June, replacing its chief executive and naming a former General Motors Corp. officer as vice president. GM is Isuzu's largest shareholder, owning a 49 per cent stake.

Japan's economic downturn has hit Isuzu hard. The company's domestic truck sales have fallen by half in the last decade, and the group pretax losses it has forecast for the fiscal year ended March 31 would be the third straight year of losses.

Isuzu hopes to lower costs by working closely with GM parts suppliers, while expanding sales of diesel engines made at a factory in Poland to its US partner, the Nihon Keizai said.

The Japanese automaker hopes to reduce much of its estimated 1 trillion yen (\$8.3 billion) in debts and is considering selling its headquarters building in Tokyo.

AFP, Washington

Members of a key Congressional committee are pushing legislation to make it easier for the United States to slap sanctions on foreign competitors deemed to have violated US trade laws.

The bill, introduced on Thursday by Representative Benjamin Cardin, would strengthen existing laws that have already outraged some of Washington's key trading partners.

One of the measures allows the US Commerce Department to impose punitive duties on foreign goods determined by US officials to have been "dumped" on the US market at prices well below fair market value and cost of production.

US steel producers have been especially active in filing anti-dumping complaints, arguing that a flood of cheap imports -- notably

from Japan, Russia, Brazil and South Korea -- have imperilled the domestic industry.

The legislation, endorsed by several of Cardin's fellow members of the House Ways and Means Committee, would make it easier for US companies to prove they have been injured by a surge in imports and to secure relief from unfairly priced and subsidized imports.

A third component of the legislation would establish a notification mechanism to collect, analyse and release import data concerning the steel industry.

Washington's reliance on anti-dumping measures has drawn sharp condemnation from US trade partners, Japan in particular, but are defended by US officials in order to "level the playing field" in international commerce and to ensure domestic support for expanded trade.

"It's painfully obvious that we must strengthen our trade laws to protect American industry and workers."

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