

Adviser concerned at high fertiliser prices in global market



Agriculture Adviser CS Karim gestures as he speaks at a roundtable on food security in Dhaka yesterday. (from left) Former agriculture minister Motia Chowdhury, BRAC Executive Director Mahabub Hossain and Chairman of Sammunny Atiur Rahman are also seen.

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Agriculture Adviser CS Karim yesterday expressed concern over the increasing price of fertiliser in the global market, saying that the price hike may result in the non-availability of the agricultural input.

"The fertiliser price is increasing on the global market, which may shrink the supply of the agricultural input in the days to come," CS Karim said.

The adviser made the remark at a roundtable on 'food security and budget from the perspective of the marginalized people', organized jointly by Sammunny and Manusher Jonno, at the National Press Club in Dhaka. Former agriculture minister Motia Chowdhury and MK Anwar, BRAC Executive Director Mahabub Hossain, Chairman of Sammunny Atiur Rahman, and Executive Director of Manusher Jonno Shaheen Anam also spoke.

"It is doubtful whether we will be able to establish new fertilizer factories under the present gas supply condition," the adviser said.

Earlier, a top government official, who is in charge of ministry of energy, said no new gas connection would be provided in Chittagong region, the country's commercial hub.

The government has been seeking cooperation from business entrepreneurs for reducing industrial use of gas amid severe shortage of gas supply.

Seven state-run fertiliser factories have the capacity to produce about 15 lakh tonnes of fertiliser against the demand for about 28 lakh tonnes.

The government must fill this gap in supply by importing fertiliser.

The adviser said the price of fertiliser is on the rise in the global market, forcing the government to provide about Tk 4,000 crore as agricultural subsidy.

The government must continue to provide subsidy for agricultural inputs in order to keep food prices within the reach of poor people, said Motia Chowdhury.

Mahabub Hossain, an expert in agriculture economics, suggested that a land use

policy should be framed to keep the agricultural lands from becoming unproductive.

He said increasing price of fertiliser would put extra pressure on the government in the next fiscal.

"Use of Leaf Color Chart (LCC) can help reduce the use of fertiliser by about 30 percent," the BRAC ED said in line with the suggestions of Sammunny Chairman Atiur Rahman.

The Sammunny chairman also suggested for duty free import of LCC and other agriculture equipment.

In his proposals, Atiur said the government public food distribution initiatives should focus on the extremely poverty ridden areas.

Southeast Bank gets independent director



Dr Zaidi Sattar has been unanimously elected independent director of Southeast Bank Limited.

He was elected at the 13th annual general meeting of the bank in Dhaka recently, says a press release.

Dr Sattar began his career as a lecturer of Economics at Dhaka University in 1968. He joined the Civil Service of Pakistan in 1969 and held various positions in different organisations.

New HR head of BAT



Syed Imtiaz Faruque has been appointed head of Human Resource (HR) of British American Tobacco (BAT) Bangladesh from May 1.

Prior to his new assignment, he was head of HR in BAT Cambodia, says a press release.

He also served as organisational development manager in BAT Korea.

After graduation from Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Imtiaz started his career in BAT Bangladesh as a management trainee in 1998.

Finland seeks removal of trade barriers with Bangladesh

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland recently sent a letter to the Bangladesh government seeking removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers for boosting bilateral trade between the two countries.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Tariff Commission (BTC) on Sunday sat with businessmen and government officials to discuss ways and means to remove trade barriers between Bangladesh and Finland.

Presided over by BTC Chairman Syed Naquib Muslim, the meeting was held at the BTC office in Dhaka.

"Bangladesh export to Finland is not encouraging at all. It was only 0.18 percent and 0.27 percent of the total export volume in 2005-06 and 2004-05

fiscal years," said a senior BTC official.

Finland imports woven garment, knitwear, footwear (leather and sports), tents, handicrafts, jute goods, bicycle, jute yarn and twine, ceramic tableware, home textile, and terry towel from Bangladesh.

Bangladesh imports vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment, machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment and optical, photographic, cinematographic, medical and surgical instruments from Finland.

The Finnish letter had a survey form attached to it, which sought information to identify trade barriers the developing countries face in exporting their products to Finland.

According to BTC sources, the survey form categorically sought opinion from the commission on what extent the exporting countries were facing problems on different issues.

The Finland government in its letter wanted to know about customs and tariff related problems, antidumping and countervailing duties, and the safeguarding measures for export and import.

Finland also enquired about customs procedures, method of taxation, tariff legislation, quantitative restrictions and licensing, technical barriers to trade, industrial property rights and copyrights, public procurement, business environment, judiciary, entrepreneurship related problem, mobility of capital and labour within the country.



Md Aminul Huq, chairman of Prime Finance and Investment Limited, presides over the twelfth annual general meeting of the company held in Dhaka recently. Members of the board of directors, managing director, company secretary and shareholders were present among others.

Weekly tea sale witnesses good demand

UNB, Chittagong

The weekly tea sale here yesterday witnessed a good demand but prices were easier for all varieties following less competition, according to a market report.

Blenders lent good support with some interest from the loose tea buyers, while export buyers were subdued.

CTC LEAF: 13,100 packages

and (164 packages of Old Season) on offer met with a good demand but at easier rates.

BROKENS: Well made good liquoring Brokens were well supported by the buyers but at lower rates, selling between Tk 110 and Tk 115. Other varieties were also easier and declined by Tk 6 to Tk 8.

FANNINGS: Good liquoring Fannings were a good market

but was easier at Tk 112 to Tk 117. The remainders were also easier by up to Tk 8.

CTC DUST: 2,647 packages and (165 packages of Old Season) on offer met with a fairly good demand but at lower rates. All RDs/PDs/Ds eased by Tk 10 to Tk 15. CDs were also lower easing by Tk 15 and more. Both Blenders and loose tea buyers lent a fairly good support.

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি	
বাংলাদেশ সংবাদ সংস্থা (বাসস) ৬৮/২, পুরানা পল্টন, ঢাকা-১০০০ এর প্রয়োজনে নিম্নোক্তকৃত কম্পিউটার ও কম্পিউটার সামগ্রী সরবরাহের জন্যে দরপত্র আহ্বান করছে।	
১. দরপত্রের নামঃ	বাংলাদেশ সংবাদ সংস্থা (বাসস) এর প্রয়োজনে জন্য ১০ (দশ) টি ব্রান্ড কম্পিউটার, ১ (এক) টি কম্পিউটার স্ক্যানার ও ২(দুই)টি অনলাইন ইউপিএস কন্ডেশনের জন্য প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী/সরবরাহকারীগণের কাছ থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।
২. ক্রয় ও সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতিঃ	উল্লিখিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে এক বামে কারিগরি ও আর্থিক বিবরণসহ।
৩. দরপত্র বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়ঃ	তারিখঃ ২১-০৫-২০০৮ইং সময়ঃ বিকাল ০৪:০০ ঘটিকা।
৪. দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়ঃ	তারিখঃ ২২-০৫-২০০৮ইং সময়ঃ দুপুর ১২:৩০ ঘটিকা। (সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র সংগ্রহ প্রদান বিধানে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাস্তবে উপলব্ধিত তারিখ বেলা ১২:০০ টা পর্যন্ত ফেলা যাবে। উপস্থিত দরতাদের সমুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) উপলব্ধিত সময়ে দরপত্র খোলা হবে।
৫. দরপত্র দাতার যোগ্যতাঃ	সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ ব্যবসায়ী বাংলাদেশের যে কোন ব্যাংক নামে প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী ও সরবরাহকারী। যাদের কম্পিউটার বিক্রয়, স্থাপন ও কারিগরি সেবা প্রদানে কমপক্ষে ৩ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা রয়েছে।
৬. পনেরো বিস্তারিত বিবরণঃ	১০ টি ব্রান্ড কম্পিউটার, ১ টি কম্পিউটার স্ক্যানার ও ২ টি অনলাইন ইউপিএস-এর বিস্তারিত বিবরণ দরপত্র দাখিলে পাঠানো যাবে।
৭. দরপত্র দাখিলের মূল্যঃ	সরবরাহ কার্যের দরপত্র দাখিল নম্বর ৫০০.০০ (পাঁচশত) টাকা মূল্যে (অফিসের/যোগ্য) সংস্থার প্রদান বিধানে প্রদান করা যাবে।
৮. দরপত্র দাখিলের মূল্যঃ	দাখিলকৃত দরপত্রের সাথে আবেদন মান (দাখিল মূল্য) বাবদ "বাংলাদেশ সংবাদ সংস্থা"-এর অনুমোদিত যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক থেকে = ৩০,০০০.০০ (ত্রিশ হাজার) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাকট/পে-অর্ডার জমা দিতে হবে।
৯. বিস্তারিত যোগাযোগের ঠিকানাঃ	ফোনঃ ৯৫৫৫০৩৬, ফ্যাক্সঃ ৮৮-০২-৯৫৫৮৯৭০, ই-মেইলঃ bssnews@bssnews.net
১০. কর্তৃপক্ষের একান্তিকারঃ	ক্রয়কারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।
ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক ও প্রধান সম্পাদক	

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Public Attitude Follow-up Survey For the Police Reform Programme (PRP)

Police Reform Programme (PRP) is being implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs with technical assistance from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Department For International Development (DFID) and European Commission (EC). seeks research proposals for Public Attitude Follow-up Survey of the 13 Thana areas in different geographic locations of Bangladesh, from national consulting /research organizations with research expertise in the fields of Police reform, access to justice and human security. The specific purpose of this Follow-up Survey is to develop a longitudinal database of the Project sites using the specified indicators and parameters, so that comparative analysis can be conducted to measure the degree of change, assess intended benefits being generated and ensure that the Project meets its goals and objectives. Previous experience in conducting follow-up surveys is essential and similar experience working with Bangladesh Police would be an added advantage.

Interested firms are requested to submit their proposals in two envelopes (technical and financial separately), to the Business Center Manager, UNDP, GPO Box 224, Dhaka-1000 or drop it in the Bid Box marked "Request for Proposal on Public Attitude Follow-up Survey for PRP" at IDB Bhaban (14th Floor), E/8-A, Begum Rokeya Sharani, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka by COB 16:00 hrs on May 19, 2008.

The detailed Scope of Work (SoW) for the Follow-up Survey is available can be collected from Business Center, UNDP, IDB Bhaban (14th Floor), E/8-A, Begum Rokeya Sharani, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.

The detailed bid documents are available on the website: http://www.undp.org.bd/proc_more.php. Hardcopy of specifications are also available at the Procurement Cluster of UNDP, Dhaka. Attn: Arifa Ahmed (arifa.ahmed@undp.org). Bids must be submitted before 16:00 hrs on 19 May 2008.

UNDP Bangladesh

DHL receives Asia Platinum Award

DHL, one of the world's leading airfreight and courier service companies, received the Asia Platinum Award at the 10th annual Trusted Brands Awards 2008, organized by Reader's Digest recently.

The company has received the award in the 'air-freight/courier service' category for the fourth consecutive year, says a press release.

Besides the Asia Platinum Award, DHL received the Platinum Award in Hong Kong and Singapore and Gold Award in Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, and Thailand, while in India, DHL and Blue Dart, a sister concern of DHL group, received a Gold Award each in the same category.

Muslim Aid-UK
Serving Humanity

Career Opportunity in Muslim Aid-UK, Bangladesh Field Office

A UK based international development organization working in Bangladesh since 1991 is looking for Admin and HR Manager to be filled immediately

Required Qualification: MBA with at least 5 years relevant experience within this sector.

Main Responsibilities: Provide strategic direction to field offices Admin & logistics and HR functions. Support to achieve organizational goals and objectives

Salary Range: Tk.35000-40000/- Per month with other fringe benefits.

The incumbent must submit a complete CV with 2 copies of PP size photographs, names and addresses of two professional referees on or before 17th May 2008 to the Human Resource Department, Muslim Aid-UK Bangladesh Field Office, House 23, Road 3, Sector 3, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.

Muslim Aid is an equal opportunity employer. Women are especially encouraged to apply.

গাইনী বিশেষজ্ঞ আবশ্যিক

ফুয়াদ আল-খতী হাসপাতাল, কল্লোবাজার প্রকল্পের জন্য একজন গাইনী বিশেষজ্ঞ আবশ্যিক। শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ডিজিও, এফসিপিএস। বেতন যোগ্যতানুযায়ী ৪০,০০০/- থেকে ৭০,০০০/- (চল্লিশ হাজার থেকে সত্তর হাজার) টাকা এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট গাইনিকোলজিস্ট কর্তৃক অর্জিত কন্সালটেশন ফি ও সার্জন বাবদ মোট আয়ের ৫০% প্রদান করা হবে।

অগ্রহী প্রার্থীদেরকে আগামী মে ২২, ২০০৮ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে আবেদনপত্র নিম্ন ঠিকানায় পাঠানোর জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

সদস্য-প্রশাসন, ফুয়াদ আল-খতী চ্যারিটি ফাউন্ডেশন
৫/৫, গজনী রোড, কলেজ গেট, মোহাম্মদপুর, ঢাকা-১২০৭, ফোনঃ ৯১২১০২৭

Advanced Chemical Industries Limited

ACI Centre, 245 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka 1208

Notice of the 35th Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 35th Annual General Meeting of Advanced Chemical Industries Limited will be held on Monday, 23 June 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at Darbar Hall, Bangladesh Rifles, Pilkhana, Dhaka to transact the following business:

AGENDA

- To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2007 together with Reports of the Auditors and the Directors.
- To declare dividend for the year ended 31 December 2007.
- To elect Directors of the Company.
- To appoint Auditors for the year 2008 and to fix their remuneration.
- To transact any other business, which may be transacted at an Annual General Meeting with the permission of the Chair.

Dhaka
30 April, 2008

By order of the Board
Sd/-
Sheema Abed Rahman
Company Secretary

Notes:

- The Record Date in lieu of Book Closure shall be on Thursday, 22 May, 2008.
- The Shareholders' names appearing in the Register of Members of the Company or in the Depository on the Record Date will be eligible to receive the dividend.
- The Directors have recommended cash dividend @ 85% i.e. Tk. 8.50 per share of Tk.10 each.
- A member entitled to attend and vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his/her behalf. The Proxy Form, duly completed, must be deposited at the Registered Office of the Company at ACI Centre, 245 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka 1208 not later than 48 hours before the time fixed for the Meeting.
- Members are requested to notify the changes of address, if any, well in time. For BO A/C holders, the same to be rectified through their respective Depository Participants.
- Admittance to the Meeting venue will be on production of the Attendance Slip that will be sent with the Notice.