

Exporters urge govt to lift procedural duty on capital machinery

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Exporters of different sectors yesterday urged the government to withdraw the procedural duty on imports of capital machinery and spare parts to bolster the country's industrial growth.

They also pushed the government for ensuring smooth supply of gas and electricity to the industrial plants as they have been facing gas crisis in different industrial belts for the last few months.

In their mixed reactions to the proposed budget for fiscal year 2008-09, the exporters recommended that the government allocate fund in the budget for setting up Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) at industrial units.

They said the government should give loan at 5 percent interest for setting up ETPs.

The exporters were expressing their views at a meeting in Dhaka about the next fiscal year's proposed budget, which was announced on Monday by

Finance Adviser Dr AB Mirza Azizul Islam.

President of Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) Anwar-Ul-Alam Chowdhury Parvez said the government should continue tax holiday for 5 years without any conditions.

He demanded 10 percent cash incentive for garment sector instead of the existing 5 percent.

The BGMEA president said import of capital machinery

and spare parts should be fully duty-free to strengthen the industrial base of the country.

President of Bangladesh Plastic Goods Manufacturers and Exporters Association Jashim Uddin urged the government to give exporters cash incentive and eliminate the bank guarantee system for export purposes.

President of Bangladesh Textile Mills Association Abdul Hai Sarker demanded reduction in duty on imports of chemicals.

Govt set to make policies for shrimp industry



STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government is set to frame a policy for one of the country's main export earners, the shrimp industry, aiming to ensure a disciplined and environment-friendly growth of the sector, a top government functionary said yesterday.

Stakeholders said the move to frame the policy is expected to boost export earnings, as it will address various issues needed to compete in the global market.

"We are framing the policy to ensure environment-friendly and planned growth of the sector. We have already framed a draft. Hopefully, it will be finalized within the next three months," said Manik Lal Samaddar, special adviser to the Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed, at a workshop.

The workshop was organized by Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute to discuss issues relating to the environment-friendly cultivation of shrimp. Chief Adviser's Special Assistant for Environment and Forest, Raja Debashish Roy, also attended the seminar.

The policy, after being effective, is also expected to stop unregulated growth of the

shrimp cultivation farms in the southwestern coastal belt of the country. In light of the policy, the government will also enforce the registration of the shrimp cultivation farms.

Officials involved in the framing of the policies said it would address various issues from cultivation to processing for ensuring quality production. The policy will also focus on the virus-free production of shrimp fry in the hatcheries, environment-friendly and disciplined shrimp farming.

It will also address the need for quality shrimp feed and processing, officials said.

"We will try to incorporate all the issues beginning from shrimp fry production to the end in order to get better products," said Dr Rafiqul Islam, director general of the Department of Fisheries.

The policy is going to be framed at a time when the sector is encountering various issues such as quality control, and traceability from the buyers, especially from the European Union.

According to the official data, the shrimp cultivation area doubled from 1.08 lakh hectares in the fiscal year 1988-89 to 2.19 lakh hectares in the

fiscal year 2006-07. While export earnings also increased from over Tk 400 crore in the fiscal year 1989-90 to about Tk 3500 crore in the fiscal year 2006-07.

The sector now employs directly or indirectly about 10 lakh people and tens of thousands of shrimp farms are engaged in shrimp production.

The increase in farming however created concerns among various actors especially the environmentalists who said unregulated growth of the shrimp cultivation farms have affected bio-diversity and agricultural lands used for rice cultivation in the coastal belt.

Manik Lal said the government is bringing these shrimp farms under registration. To date, some 2.54 lakh shrimp farms are registered, he said.

"We have to pay more importance to save the environment," said Chief Adviser's Special Assistant for Environment and Forest, Raja Debashish Roy.

He referred to various issues such as salinity, rice and shrimp farming and added, "We may need to go for zoning to make sustainable use of land."

Malaysia Airlines offers low fares in Bangladesh

Malaysia Airlines yesterday announced the availability of more compelling deals for travellers in Bangladesh with an offer of a one-way fare from Dhaka to Kuala Lumpur starting from US\$29, says a press release.

However, this offer does not include airport taxes and applicable surcharges that are payable when making purchases online.

With up to two million economy-class seats available, the third wave of Everyday Low Fares (ELF) campaign of the airline will provide a wider range of offers covering its flights between Malaysia and selected cities in South Asia, China and Australia, and between Asian cities.

Customers who take advantage of the latest ELF travel deals will continue to enjoy 5-star services such as refreshment onboard, convenient schedule, on time departure, 20kg free baggage allowance, assigned seats and other benefits.

The third wave of ELF will cover two routes between Australia and Malaysia, 5 routes between China and Malaysia, 2 routes between South Asia and Malaysia, 22 Asian routes and 21 Malaysian domestic routes on the carrier's network.

The new travel deals will be available exclusively at www.malaysiaairlines.com from June 9 to June 22, 2008, for travel between July 15 and December 14, 2008, except for the Australian routes where the travel period is from November 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.

The airline's Managing Director Sri Idris lala said, "The additional payment option and the increase in available seats for the third wave of ELF is an affirmation of the pledge that we have made."

SEC asks bourses for strict monitoring

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Concerns over the current stock market situation were expressed at a meeting in Dhaka yesterday.

The officials from the market regulator and the bourses in Dhaka and Chittagong observed the situation is 'unusual'.

Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) directed the two stock exchanges to strictly monitor if any illegal short selling of shares takes place, which is seen as a reason

behind the overpriced market.

The short selling is the sale of a security that the seller does not own, or any sale that is completed by the delivery of a security borrowed by the seller.

Presided over by SEC Chairman Faruq Ahmad Siddiqi, the meeting was attended by presidents, vice presidents and chief executive officers of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE).

The capital market regulator will sit with merchant bankers

tomorrow to discuss about overall liquidity.

After the meeting yesterday, SEC Executive Director Farhad Ahmed said the commission also wants the bourses to take legal actions against any unauthorised short selling.

Recently, a huge number of branches of brokerage/dealer houses were opened across the country through which a large number of fresh retail investors entered into the stock market.

The institutional investors' participation was 56 percent in

the total trade, the meeting was told.

Of the 56 percent, the institutional investors' participation for their own portfolio was only six to eight percent, which is a serious concern for the market.

The exchange authorities also informed the SEC that the average price-earning (PE) ratio of the stock market reaches over 25, i.e., an investor will have to wait 25 years to get any financial benefit after buying a security with the existing prices.

Measures taken to ease remittance transfer

Says BB governor

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Salehuddin Ahmed on Monday said the government has taken steps including creation of automated clearinghouses so that the expatriate Bangladeshi workers can send their money within short time.

The central bank governor was speaking at the launching ceremony of a media campaign on remittance transfer and utilisation at BRAC centre Inn in Dhaka.

Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), a research and advocacy organisation of Dhaka University, is implementing the campaign as part of the remittance and payments project (RPP) of Bangladesh Bank, supported by the Department for International Development (DFID)-UK.

Ahmed said, "I believe that future migrants, migrants and their family members, who are left behind in Bangladesh, all need information on the changes that Bangladesh Bank has initiated to ease remittance transfer and encourage their productive utilisation. This can only be done through mass media campaign."

The Bangladesh Bank governor said cost of remittance services is another area of concern. High cost involved in money transferring through the formal system is one of the reasons that compel the migrant workers to use illegal informal channels like hundi.

"The government has accorded high priority to the improvement of remittance services. It took initiatives towards bringing remittance

services closure to host countries and closure to recipients in Bangladesh, lowering remittance service costs, ensuring competitive exchange rates and providing convenient savings and investment options, both in foreign and local currencies," said the central bank governor.

Chris Austin, country representative, DFID, said the RPP project would make a real difference to the lives of migrant workers.

Jamil Osman, secretary to the Ministry of Information, said remittance is like a goldmine for Bangladesh. "It plays a key role for stability in the balance of payment and mitigating unemployment problem of our country," he said.

Dr Tasneem Siddiqui of RMMRU said remittance is the highest net foreign exchange earning sector of Bangladesh, adding that Bangladesh secured the seventh position among the 70 developing countries that received sizeable portions of remittance in 2003, while in 2007 Bangladesh became the second largest remittance receiving country in South Asia.

In 2007, about 8 lakh people migrated from Bangladesh to take up overseas employment.

It has been found that 46 percent of the total remittance is channelled through banks, exchange houses and other formal money transferring systems. Around 40 percent come through hundi, 8 percent is hand carried by the migrants, 4.6 percent moves through friends and relatives and the rest 1.4 percent comes through other methods.

China asks US to help stabilise dollar

AFP, Geneva

The Chinese ambassador to the World Trade Organization on Monday asked the US to take action to stabilise the dollar, which has fallen sharply in the past year.

During the biennial trade policy review of the world's largest economy by the World Trade Organisation, China also raised its concerns over "rising sentiment of protectionism" in the United States, saying that it could threaten global trade.

"As a major currency for international reserve, the dramatic depreciation of the dollar has led to shrinking national reserve of many countries and reduced social welfare," China's ambassador to the WTO, Sun Zhenyu, said.

Bangladesh Film Development Corporation			
Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208			
Tender No. FDC/PD-Import/2005-2006/5/97		Date: 05/06/2008	
International Tender for Import of 35mm Professional Cine Movie Camera with Accessories			
01	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Information, Government of Bangladesh.	
02	Agency	Bangladesh Film Development Corporation, Dhaka.	
03	Procuring entity name	Managing Director, BFDC.	
04	Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.	
05	Invitation for	Import of 35mm Professional Cine Movie Camera with Accessories.	
06	Invitation Ref No	FDC/PD-Import/2005-2006/5/97.	
07	Dated	05/06/2008.	
08	Procurement method	Open tendering method (OTM).	
09	Budget and source of fund	Revenue.	
10	Tender package No	1 No.	
11	Tender package name	Import of 35mm Professional Cine Movie Camera with Accessories.	
12	Tender publication date	07/06/2008.	
13	Tender last selling date & time	20/07/2008 up to 5:00pm.	
14	Tender closing date & time	21/07/2008 up to 2:00pm.	
15	Tender opening date & time	21/07/2008 at 2:30pm.	
16	Name & address of office(s)		
i) Selling tender documents	i) Cash Counter of Accounts Section, BFDC, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208.		
ii) Receiving tender document	ii) Deputy Director (Procurement) BFDC, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208.		
iii) Opening tender document	iii) Deputy Director (Procurement) BFDC, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208.		
17	Eligibility of tenderer	The tenderer/local agent should have:	
	(a) Professional capability, technical qualification & personnel, reputation, experience, equipment, financial resources.		
	(b) Agency certificate from the manufacturer to participate in the bid (original).		
	(c) Registration from CCI & E and Bangladesh Bank.		
	(d) Up-to-date trade license issued by Municipal Corporation/Authentic Authority of Bangladesh.		
	(e) Up-to-date income tax GIR/TIN certificate & VAT registration (arrested).		
18	Brief description of goods	Import of 35mm Professional Cine Movie Camera with Accessories.	
19	Price of tender document	Tk 3000/- (three thousand) only.	
	Lot No	Identification of lot	Location
	1 no	Import of 35mm Professional Cine Movie Camera with Accessories	BFDC, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208
			Tender security amount (Tk)
			Tk 2,50,000/- (two lac fifty thousand) only by Pay-Order/Bank Draft/BG (except Uttara Bank Ltd)
21	Name of official inviting tender	SM Kaiser Hossain Mallick.	
22	Designation of official inviting tender	Deputy Director (Procurement).	
23	Address of official inviting tender	Bangladesh Film Development Corporation, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208.	
24	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 8120204, Fax: 88029137280.	
25	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.		

GD-2723

SM Kaiser Hossain Mallick
Deputy Director (Procurement)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Police Super, Dhaka Re-Tender Notice

Individual re-tenders in own pad/prescribed schedule under sealed cover are invited from experienced contractors/suppliers as per rules of "The Public Procurement Regulations-2003" for purchase of prescribed ration items for the members of Dhaka District Police Force during 1st Quarter of 2008-2009 financial year.

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| 01. | Ministry/Department | Ministry of Home Affairs, Bangladesh Police. |
| 02. | Name of procurement entity | Police Super, Dhaka. |
| 03. | Procurement process | Open tender process. |
| 04. | Source of fund | Subject to availability of fund from Police Headquarters. |
| 05. | Number of tendered items | 03 (three). |
| 06. | Date of inviting re-tender | 1st quarter of 2008-2009 financial year. |
| 07. | Eligibility of tenderers | Tenderer should be holder of current financial year's up-to-date trade licence, bank solvency certificate, Income Tax certificate, VAT registration certificate, citizenship certificate & experience certificate. |

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| 08. | Name & address of tender selling office | Police Ration Store, Mill-barrack Police Line, Sutrapur, Dhaka during office hours except on holiday (tenderer participating in tender can purchase the tender schedule on application in own pad) respective experience certificate should be submitted in case of each work. |
| 09. | Name & address of tender receiving office | Office of the Police Super, Dhaka. |
| 10. | Name & address of tender opening office | Office of the Police Super, Dhaka. |
| 11. | Last date & time of selling tender | 26/06/2008 from morning 09:00 hrs to afternoon 17:00 hrs. |
| 12. | Last date & time for submitting tender | 29/06/2008 up to 12:00 hrs. |
| 13. | Date & time for opening tender | Tender box shall be opened on 29/6/2008 at 12:30 hrs in presence (if any) of the tenderers/suppliers. |
| 14. | Detailed description of items of the invited tender | |

Item No.	Description of item	Quantity	Schedule to be had at	Price per schedule (non-refundable)	Amount of tender earnest money	Remarks
01.	Superior quality lentil	Approximately 25,000 Kg	OC, Ration Store, Mill-barrack Police Lines, Sutrapur, Dhaka	Tk 750/- (seven hundred fifty) only	44,000/- (forty-four thousand) only	
02.	Soybean oil 4 & 2 liter can	Approximately 14,000 Liter	OC, Ration Store, Mill-barrack Police Lines, Sutrapur, Dhaka	Tk 750/- (seven hundred fifty) only	36,000/- (thirty-six thousand) only	
03.	Dalda 16 kg carton	Approximately 2,200 Kg	OC, Ration Store, Mill-barrack Police Lines, Sutrapur, Dhaka	Tk 400/- (four hundred) only	5,000/- (five thousand) only	

15. Special instructions:
- The above-mentioned contractors & suppliers can be purchased tender schedule through application in own pad.
 - The above-mentioned re-tender earnest money should be submitted in Bank Draft/Pay-Order in favour of the undersigned fulfilling all terms & conditions.
 - With re-tender schedule shall be enclosed of current financial year's up-to-date trade licence, bank solvency certificate, Income Tax certificate, VAT registration certificate, citizenship certificate & experience certificates, photocopies of the all certificate mentioned in the notice duly attested by 1st class gazetted officer. Failing to abide by the related papers and rules & regulations, the tender shall be treated as cancelled at the time of selection. Respective experience certificate should be submitted in case of each work.
 - None can submit tender without the tender schedule.
 - The authority is not bound to accept the lowest tender, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Mahbubur Rahman, PPM
Police Super, Dhaka
Phone: 7112774

GD-2752