

Silk industry seeks budgetary support

RU CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Resham Shilpa Malik Samity (BRSMS), the association of silk industry owners, yesterday sought budgetary allocation for silk industry.

The association said the local silk industry will not survive unless the government gives special priority to it.

Speaking at a press briefing in Rajshahi, Mohammed

Merajul Alam, president of BRSMS, criticised the government decision to impose 15 percent VAT on the import of silkworm.

The silk industry owners will have to stop operations if the government imposes the 15 percent VAT on import yarn, the BRSMS leaders said.

The country produces 50 silk tonnes of yarn while the demand for the product is 300 tonnes.

To fulfill the deficit, the government formed rules and regulations and declared the industry as an agro-based industry in 2005, the leaders added.

"The government should also consider the implications that the VAT will have on the employment of the 10 lakh women who are currently involved with this industry. They may become jobless if factories shut down," said a

leader of the association.

Earlier, one kilogram of yarn cost Tk 2400. Is the VAT is imposed, the price of the same quantity will rise to Tk 3000.

The BRSMS will submit a memorandum to Finance and Planning Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam June 30 requesting him to withdraw the VAT.

BRSMS Vice President Taharul Islam and General Secretary Abu Bakker Siddik also addressed the conference.

Russian ban on European meat exporters

AFP, Brussels

Russia, which recently lifted a ban on Polish meat, is now barring chicken and pork imports from 70 European companies, EU officials said Tuesday, ahead of an EU-Russia summit.

The problems emerged in April, according to European Commission officials, when Moscow began refusing certain imports because they contained traces of antibiotics.

Now 70 companies, from seven EU nations -- Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy and Spain -- have been placed on the Russia embargo list, representing restrictions on produce worth "certainly more" than 100 million euros (156 million dollars) one official explained.

"Of course Russia has the right to its norm and to not want traces of antibiotics," another official said.

"But there must be clear rules which are not applied in an arbitrary manner," he added.

The worst-hit country is Denmark, which has seen its pork exports to Russia halved to the ban hitting its biggest exporters.

The commission suspects Russia is seeking to boost its national producers.

"There is a suspicion," one of the officials said, as the measures appeared "shortly after Russia officials called for higher levels of self-sufficiency in the farm sector."

"And all of a sudden, there are stricter import controls."

He said the matter would be brought up at the EU-Russia summit in Khanty-Mansiysk, Siberia on Friday, "even if no one wants to give it too much importance."



The newly renovated Islampur branch of National Bank Ltd was inaugurated by Managing Director Abdur Rahman Sarkar recently. Senior officials of the bank were also present on the occasion.

Labourers race to get Saudi oil oasis ready

AFP, Khurais

Deep in the Saudi desert, 28,000 Asian workers are racing to get a giant oil processing complex ready to help King Abdullah keep a vow to meet world demand for crude.

The king, and other top Saudi officials, promised at an oil summit they hosted in Jeddah on Sunday to increase current production by 200,000 barrels a day to 9.7 million barrels and to supply any further increase in global demand.

In temperatures that seldom fall under 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 Celsius) during the day, workers from Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, the Philippines and other nations wear hoods against the sun as they finish the hundreds of kilometers (miles) of pipelines, three 600,000 barrel stor-

age tanks, 15,000 horsepower pumps and a bomb proof control centre that make up the 10 billion dollar complex.

In a year's time, the Al-Khuraish field will be supplying 1.2 million barrels a day of Arab light crude to thirsty global markets, under a tight schedule set by Saudi Aramco, the national oil giant.

Khurais is city-sized but can only be reached up a seemingly endless desert road, with truck tyres and carcasses of burned out cars strewn along the sides and black camels roaming in the dunes.

Aramco took journalists this week to its latest "mega project", about 100 miles (160 kilometers) east of Riyadh, which will handle oil extracted from its Khurais, Abu Jifan and Mazali fields.

The company calls it "the largest industrial project in the

world."

Together the three fields have estimated reserves of 27 billion barrels and their joint daily production of 1.2 million barrels will be more than OPEC's three smallest members Indonesia, Qatar and Ecuador, according to Aramco.

World demand is growing by about one percent a year and Saudi Arabia has vowed to invest tens of billions of dollars to take production capacity to 12.5 million barrels by the end of next year and eventually 15 million if the demand is there.

Aramco vice president for production Amin Al-Nasser said 500,000 barrels a day will start coming out of its Khursaniyah field in August, and by the end of the year 250,000 barrels will be coming from the Shaybah field and 100,000 barrels a day from the Nuayyim field.

Trust Bank's Islamic banking service from July 2

Trust Bank is going to inaugurate Islamic banking on July 2, says a press release.

Meanwhile, the first meeting of Trust Bank Shariah Council was held on Monday in Dhaka.

Muhammad Nuruddin, chairman of Trust Bank Shariah Council and acting Khatib of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque, presided over the meeting.

Deputy Managing Director Ishtiaque Ahmed Chowdhury and head of Islamic Banking Division Shahud Ahmed were also present.

Policies, guidelines and activities on the Islamic banking services of the bank were approved in the meeting.

South Korea chipmakers forge technology alliance

AFP, Seoul

The world's two largest memory chip makers forged an alliance Wednesday to develop next-generation semiconductors so South Korea can stay ahead of foreign rivals.

Samsung Electronics and Hynix Semiconductor will jointly develop spin torque transfer magnetic random access memory (STT-MRAM) chips under a state-backed programme starting in September.

The new type of memory chip is expected to play a significant role in flash memory development, by helping researchers overcome current capacity limits.

The rare tie-up was part of a research and development agreement signed by the heads of all local semiconductor firms and research laboratories as well as Knowledge Economy Minister Lee Young-Ho.

It will help South Korea retain its global leadership in the microchip market and take the global initiative in developing next-generation chips, Lee said in a statement.

"I welcome the alliance for technology cooperation by our semiconductor firms, which are now faced with a challenge from their foreign rivals," he said.

The agreement came after Japan's Toshiba, NEC and Fujitsu joined forces and agreed to spend three billion yen (28.3 million dollars) from 2006-2010 to develop STT-MRAM devices.

The rare tip-up between Samsung and Hynix will help secure vital technologies locally and avoid future royalties, the ministry said.

Development of Ctg stressed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Infrastructure development of Chittagong airport and seaport needed for the country's overall progress, speakers told a discussion yesterday.

The participants spoke at a study circle on 'Infrastructure Development' organised by International Business Forum for Bangladesh (IBFB) in collaboration with Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI).

Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) President Nasiruddin Ahmed Chowdhury suggested the government to collect money from capital market to implement different infrastructural development instead of waiting for foreign donors.

The speakers also put emphasis on empowering local bodies like Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) to spur development and urged the journalists to focus on different problems and crises faced by the business sector with more importance and good coverage.

IBFB President Mahmudul Islam Chowdhury said business people should share their problems with journalists since the media could play a significant role in making government understand the importance of their needs.

Business editor of the Daily Prothom Alo Shawkat Hossain Masum moderated the session.

Masum urged the local journalists to do follow up reports on the prevailing issues like

easier transport and communication facility between Chittagong and other parts of the country.

Pointing to the difficulties faced by the business sector including lack of adequate supply of electricity, gas and water Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCCC) Director Ershadullah said both local and foreign entrepreneurs are shying away from investing in the region for these problems.

He emphasised on increasing the number of Inland Container Depot (ICD) to utilise Chittagong port properly.

Chittagong journalists M Nasirul Hoque, Jashim Chowdhury Sabuj, Reaz Haider and Ali Haider also participated in the discussion.

India growth prospects positive despite rate hike

AFP, New Delhi

India's government said Wednesday that the country's economic growth outlook was "positive" despite a fresh round of monetary tightening by the central bank to tackle high inflation.

Inflation in Asia's third-largest economy rose to a 13-year high of 11.05 percent in the week ended June 7, well above the RBI's declared comfort level of 5.5 percent.

"These steps are necessary in the face of rising inflation due to relentless increase in crude oil prices," the finance ministry statement said, adding the Reserve Bank of India needed to "moderate and manage aggregate demand."

On Tuesday the central bank raised its repo rate at which commercial banks borrow funds from the central bank to 8.5 percent from 8.0 percent with immediate effect.

It also announced a two-stage hike of the cash reserve ratio, or the amount of cash banks must hold in reserve, by 25 basis points to 8.50 percent effective July 5, and by another 25 basis points to 8.75 percent on July 19.

"The policy stance adopted by the RBI should boost the confidence of investors both domestic and foreign, and augur well for economic growth," the finance ministry statement added.

Price rises have overshadowed better-than-expected growth of 9.0 percent in the last fiscal year.

Economists expect growth to slow this year to around 7.8 percent on higher borrowing costs and tough global financial conditions. The prime minister has projected growth of over eight percent.

Goldman Sachs said it expected "a tightening bias in monetary policy to continue."

"We think that the RBI will

wait and watch inflationary trends over the next several weeks, particularly signs of pass through to broad based inflation and broad money growth, before raising rates again," said Tushar Poddar, vice president of Asia economic research for Goldman Sachs.

"We do not think the rate hike will have a large negative impact on growth," he added, but cautioned there were "downside risks to our GDP growth forecast of 7.8 percent" for the current year.

But India's main business lobby group, the FICCI, warned businesses were feeling the pinch.

"Indian industry has been subjected to successive rate hikes over the last one and a half years. These have substantially pushed up the interest cost for industry particularly in the face of acute international competition," it said.



Bata Shoe Company has recently opened its refurbished Banani City Store as per international standard on Kemal Ataturk Avenue in Dhaka. Jorge Carbajal, managing director of Bata Emerging Group (West), JD Hearn, managing director of Bata Shoe Company (Bangladesh) Ltd, and other senior officials were present at the opening ceremony.

"বিদ্যুতের অপচয় রোধ করুন"
অফিসের জন্য বাড়ি ভাড়া পূর্ণ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১। পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ড কর্তৃক অফিস স্থাপনের জন্য নিম্ন-২ এলাকায় বোর্ডের সদর দপ্তর বনেনের সল্লিকটে ০১ (এক) টি (কমপক্ষে ১/২ ফের বিশিষ্ট) বাড়ি/ঘর ভাড়া করা হবে।

২। ইজারা চুক্তির মেয়াদ কালঃ ০২ (দুই) বৎসর।

৩। বাড়িটি কমপক্ষে ২০০০-২৫০০ বর্গফুট বিশিষ্ট হওয়া আবশ্যিক।

৪। অগ্রহী ও প্রকৃত বাড়ির মালিকগণকে অত্র পরিদপ্তরের সাধারণ প্রশাসন বিভাগ হতে নির্ধারিত আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহ পূর্বক বাড়ির মালিকানা, অনুমোদিত নকশা ও বাড়ির প্রকৃত এরিয়া সংক্রান্ত কাগজপত্রাদিনহ প্রত্যাশিত মানিক ভাড়া উল্লেখ পূর্বক আগামী ১৪/০৭/২০০৮ইং তারিখ বেলা ১১.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে সাধারণ প্রশাসন বিভাগে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বক্সে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র দাখিল করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্র নম্বর ৩ দিন বেলা ১১.৩০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হবে।

৫। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিলের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।

পরিচালক
কর্তারী প্রশাসন পরিদপ্তর
পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ড, সদর দপ্তর
নিম্ন-২, বিলকুন্ড, ঢাকা-১২২৯।

পরি/জন (৯৮) ২০০৭-২০০৮

Japan trade surplus falls less than expected

AFP, Tokyo

Japan's trade surplus in May fell a smaller than expected 7.6 percent, as Chinese demand to rebuild from a major earthquake supported exports, data showed Wednesday.

The trade surplus came to 365.61 billion yen (3.39 billion dollars), falling from 395.55 billion yen in May 2007, the finance ministry said.

It was the third straight month that the surplus dropped year-on-year but it was much better than the average forecast of a surplus of 3.2 billion yen.

Economists said that was mainly because of demand from China as it started rebuilding from a massive 8.0-magnitude earthquake last month that killed an estimated 80,000 people.

"There was special demand from the Sichuan quake," said Keiji Kanda, senior economist at Daiwa Institute of Research.

He noted that China-bound exports of fossil fuels such as light oil, which is used for diesel vehicles and heavy machinery, more than tripled, shooting up 227.5 percent from a year earlier.

Shuji Tonouchi, economist at Mitsubishi UFJ Securities, said the smaller than expected

drop in the surplus stemmed from the Chinese government's drive to promote oil imports.

Japan's overall exports to the rest of the world were up 3.7 percent to 6.81 trillion yen in May, while imports rose 4.4 percent to 6.44 trillion yen. Both figures were record highs for the month.

Amid soaring global oil prices, the total value of Japan's crude oil imports jumped 53.4 percent year on year, far outpacing 8.0 percent growth in import volume.

Coal imports rose 47.4 percent in value, with that of liquefied natural gas climbing 21.1 percent, even though import volume fell for both.

"Imports rose in value due to higher energy prices but they are slowing in volume," Daiwa Institute's Kanda said. "Demand is slackening as prices of energy, foodstuff and many other items rise."

Japan has virtually no natural energy resources and is heavily dependent on oil and gas imports from the Middle East.

"বাংলাদেশী বাদ্য দ্রব্য এবং পত্ৰবাদ্যে এন্টিবায়োটিক, মাইকোটরিন ও পেটিসাইড রেসিডিউ এর উপস্থিতি নির্ণয়" প্রকল্প
আইএফএসএটি, বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিসিএসআইআর)
ডঃ ফুদরাত-ই-খুদা সড়ক, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫

নং- এসএএমপি/আইএফএসএটি/বিসিএসআইআর(নিয়োগ-১)/২০০৭-৮/০৫ তারিখঃ ২৩/০৬/২০০৮

গাড়ী চালক নিয়োগ পুনঃবিজ্ঞপ্তি

"বাংলাদেশী বাদ্য দ্রব্য এবং পত্ৰবাদ্যে এন্টিবায়োটিক, মাইকোটরিন ও পেটিসাইড রেসিডিউ এর উপস্থিতি নির্ণয়" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পে সম্পূর্ণ অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে প্রকল্প মেয়াদকালীন সময়ের জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত পদে নিয়োগের নিমিত্ত বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

পদের নাম ও মাসিক বেতন	পদের সংখ্যা	২৩/০৬/০৮ তারিখে বয়স	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
ড্রাইভার বেতন-জাতাঃ সাকুল্যে ৫,৫৬০/- (কেলঃ ৩,১০০-৬,৩৮০/-)	১ (এক)	অনুধ্ব ৩০	বৈধ ড্রাইভিং লাইসেন্স সহ এসএসসি পাস। কার/জীপ/ মাইক্রোবাস চালনায় কমপক্ষে ২ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা।

শর্তাবলীঃ

- পূর্ণাঙ্গ জীবন বৃত্তান্তসহ আগামী ১৫ জুলাই ২০০৭ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে প্রকল্প পরিচালক, "বাংলাদেশী বাদ্য দ্রব্য এবং পত্ৰবাদ্যে এন্টিবায়োটিক, মাইকোটরিন ও পেটিসাইড রেসিডিউ এর উপস্থিতি নির্ণয়" শীর্ষক প্রকল্প, আইএফএসএটি, বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিসিএসআইআর), ডঃ ফুদরাত-ই-খুদা সড়ক, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫ ঠিকানায় দরখাস্ত পৌছাতে হবে।
- দরখাস্তের সঙ্গে নিম্নলিখিত কাগজপত্রাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবেঃ (ক) সরকারী গ্যাজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ এবং নবরপদের ছায়াছবি, (খ) ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/ সিটি করপোরেশন/ পৌরসভার চেয়ারম্যান/ কমিশনার কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র, (গ) প্রথম শ্রেণীর সরকারী কর্মকর্তা অথবা সর্বশেষ শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রধান কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র, (ঘ) প্রথম শ্রেণীর সরকারী কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত ড্রাইভিং লাইসেন্সের ফটোকপি, (চ) ফোন/মোবাইল নম্বর(যদি থাকে), (ঙ) সম্প্রতি তোলা ২(দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত ছবি।
- চাকুরীরত প্রার্থীদের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে। বিভাগীয় প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে বয়স শিথিলযোগ্য।
- উল্লেখিত পদে নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে নিয়োগসংক্রান্ত সরকারী বিধিবিধান অনুসরণ করা হবে। বেতনভাতা অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়ের অর্থ বিভাগ কর্তৃক বেতন কেল ২০০৫ এর সাকুল্যে বেতন নির্ধারনী ছক মোতাবেক নির্ধারিত হবে।
- "প্রকল্প পরিচালক, বাংলাদেশী বাদ্য দ্রব্য এবং পত্ৰবাদ্যে এন্টিবায়োটিক, মাইকোটরিন ও পেটিসাইড রেসিডিউ এর উপস্থিতি নির্ণয় প্রকল্প, আইএফএসএটি, বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা"-এর বরাবরে ৫০.০০ (পঞ্চাশ মাত্র) টাকার অফেন্সযোয়া পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পোস্টাল অর্ডার দরখাস্তের সাথে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। নামের উপর অবশ্যই পদের নাম ও নিজ জেলার নাম উল্লেখ করতে হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ ও নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে প্রাপ্ত দরখাস্ত সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য করা হবে।

প্রকল্প পরিচালক