

# Hasina asks knit makers to scope out new markets

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked business leaders to explore new markets for Bangladesh knitwear goods in Middle Eastern and African countries besides Western nations.

Explaining her recent visit to Saudi Arabia, Hasina said the countries such as UAE, Bahrain, Jordan and some African countries could be the new destinations for Bangladesh knitwear, BSS reports.

Hasina expressed her views in a meeting with a 26-member delegation of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) at the Prime Minister's Office.

The prime minister said her government always encourages the development of industries, trade and commerce, as country's economic progress could not be ensured without it.

The knitwear makers yesterday demanded that the government give 10 percent financial assistance to the sector against export performance to make it more competitive in times of global recession.

The association president, Fazlul Hoque, who led the delegation to the meet-



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina receives a crest from Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BKMEA) President Fazlul Hoque as a BKMEA delegation met the premier at her office in Dhaka yesterday.

ing said Bangladesh scores third in global knitwear exports, as the sector registered a 52.02 percent rise in exports in the first three months of the current fiscal year.

"But growth declined to 4.73 percent in the October-December period and further down to 2.56 percent in February due to the recession," Hoque said.

Bangladesh earned \$3.804 billion from exports against the \$6.584 billion target for the July-January period of the current fiscal

year, registering 26.17 percent growth. The total export earnings from the knitwear sector were \$5.533 billion last fiscal year, the meeting was told.

The issuance of utilisation declaration from BKMEA shows that knitwear exports would experience a 15 percent decline in the three months from April, compared with the same period of the last fiscal year, Hoque told the meeting.

The BKMEA also demanded bank loan rescheduling and cuts in

bank interest rates for knitwear makers as some production units have already been closed and some factories are running at marginal profit due to the recession.

At the meeting, Hoque urged Hasina to approve the plots in Dhaka and Narayanganj to construct offices for BKMEA.

The knitwear makers also urged the government to help establish a 'knit village' and support infrastructure development in the BSCIC industrial plots in Narayanganj.

## Govt may go harsh on tax rebate

UNB, Dhaka

The government is likely to be harsh on the tax rebate facilities in the budget for next fiscal year.

National Board of Revenue (NBR) sources said they have got the green signal from the finance ministry in this regard and are working accordingly.

As per the existing laws, a five-year tax holiday is applicable for the industries set up in Dhaka and Chittagong divisions (excluding three hill districts of Chittagong division), while a 7-year tax holiday applicable for industries set up in Khulna, Sylhet, Barisal and Rajshahi divisions and the three hill districts in Chittagong division.

Besides, the government through more than 200 SROs had also given tax rebates to certain industries, different sectors and even in case of some individual undertakings.

Finance Minister AMA Muhiut during a visit to the NBR on April 21 was also critical about the huge number of tax rebates.

"Tax rebates is a jungle; there are so many rebates. This needs to be rationalised to help boost the government's revenue income," he said.

The NBR sources said that after getting the green signal from the finance minister they have started their work to sort out the sectors and industries from which tax rebates could be removed.

# Terry towel makers demand 15pc cash incentive

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Terry towel makers yesterday demanded the government raise cash incentive to 15 percent from the existing five percent to offset losses from global recession.

The leaders of Bangladesh Terry Towel and Linen Manufacturers and Exporters Association also sought that the government release arrear incentives from April as the industry is reeling under recession.

The demands were raised at a press conference at the National Press Club in the capital.

"We urge the government to earmark an amount of Tk100 crore in the next budget for the terry towel sector," said M Anisuzzaman, the association chairman.

He also suggested a government guideline on the release of such fund 15 days after exports.

Anisuzzaman said the tax at source for terry towel exporters should be equalised with the woven and knitwear manufacturers.

Terry towel is produced from the by-products of the spinning mills and currently the country is able to meet 95 percent of the raw materials demand for the terry towel manufacturers, he said.

He said although the government has announced some policy supports and stimulus packages for different sectors, it did not give anything for the terry towel sector despite having bright prospects.

"The government should bring down the bank interest rate to eight percent for export-oriented apparel sectors like India and Pakistan," Anisuzzaman said.

The sectoral trade body chief urged the government to ensure long-term bank loan at three percent interest for establishing effluent treatment plants (ETPs). "It is not possible for a small investor to install an ETP at a cost of Tk 2 million," he said.

The press was also informed that the country fetched US\$12.88 billion from terry towel exports last fiscal, registering a 6.5 percent growth. This fiscal's (2008-09) target is \$124 million, Anisuzzaman said.



Alamgir Kabir

## Southeast Bank's new chairman, vice chairman

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Alamgir Kabir and Ragib Ali have taken over as chairman and vice chairman of Southeast Bank Ltd recently, says a press release.

The bank's Board of Directors re-elected them at its 328th meeting on Sunday. Kabir, a chartered accountant, has a wide experience on banking, auditing, insurance from both home and abroad. He worked for the Saudi Accounting Bureau and the Securities and Exchange Commission of Bangladesh. He was the founder adviser of Export Import Bank Ltd from 1993 to 1996.

Ali is the chairman of Leading University and Jalalabad Ragib-Rabeya Medical College, a director of the daily Financial Express, the owner of the daily Sylhet Dak and the president of Mohamedan Sporting Club in Sylhet. He is a former chairman of North South University and University of Asia Pacific.

# HSBC gives young entrepreneur awards

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Ltd in Bangladesh organised yesterday a prize distribution ceremony for the winners of the 'Young Entrepreneurs Award (YEA) 2008-09'.

The award was launched for students in Hong Kong nine years ago to encourage them in entrepreneurship with a specific focus on nurturing their innovation and creativity.

Finance Minister AMA Muhiut as the chief guest inaugurated the ceremony, while Chief Executive Officer of HSBC Bangladesh Sanjay Prakash and Head of Marketing and Communications of the bank Mustafizur R Khan, among others, were present.

The programme is getting an increasing response each year with the students participating from Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Bangladesh, the bank said.

For the local competition, HSBC staff visited different universities of Bangladesh and invited students'

teams to submit their business ideas for the competition.

The gold award of HSBC YEA '09 went to Viva La Vida, a team of students from the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) at Dhaka University, for their project titled Waterwiser, a solution to the severe water crisis in the capital by containing rainwater to supply clean and drinking water for everyday use for domestic and commercial purposes.

CMPT from IBA clinched the silver award for their project to produce and market alternative oral saline and food products using cassava, a type of flour made from the thick roots of a tropical plant.

The bronze award went to The Spartans Bangladesh, a group from the Business Studies Department at Dhaka University, for their project styled Waste Converter that produces petroleum and biogas from degradable organic municipal wastes.

The finance minister said he wanted to see at least one of the projects to come to reality. If young entrepreneurs get proper support and guidelines, they

can give birth to viable business projects, he added.

"HSBC is proud to provide students with access to a regional competition that allows them to showcase their innovation and creativity," said Sanjay Prakash.

In addition, HSBC will offer the winning teams a weeklong study tour to Hong Kong, where the gold award winners will compete with the best of each region for a grand prize of HK\$100,000.

Over 215 teams from all over Bangladesh sent their ideas for the competition, where judges selected the best 34 for the second round. The HSBC arranged special workshops and trainings for these 34 groups to help them turn ideas into detailed business cases.

Seven teams were chosen for the final round. After a final grooming by HSBC experts, three were selected as the winners on the basis of the merit of the business proposals, in-depth understanding of business concepts, commercial viability, innovation and presentation skills.

## Japan's factory output up for first time in six months

AFP, Tokyo

Japan reported Thursday its first increase in factory output in six months, fuelling hopes that the worst recession since World War II may be easing as exports bottom out.

The world's second-largest economy entered a severe slump last year as consumers around the world stopped buying Japan's cars, high-tech gadgets and other goods, but analysts say there are signs that it may be through the worst.

Factories boosted production by 1.6 percent in March compared with February, after a plunge of around one third since September.

Output is expected to rebound a further 4.3 percent in April and 6.1 percent in May, according to manufacturers' forecasts.

"The dawn is breaking in the Japanese economy," said Naoki Murakami, chief economist at Monex Securities. "Production has hit bottom."

Investors welcomed the better-than-expected data, with Tokyo shares soaring almost 4.0 percent, helped by strong gains on Wall Street.

## Recession boosts German jobless figures

AFP, Berlin

German unemployment rose a seasonally adjusted 58,000 in April from March, the government said on Thursday, as the recession put more and more people out of work in Europe's biggest economy.

The surprisingly large rise came a day after the government predicted that gross domestic product (GDP) would contract by six percent in 2009, making it one of the worst performing major economies worldwide.

"April's sharper than expected increase in German unemployment confirms that the recession is now taking a very heavy toll on the previously resilient labour market," analysts at Capital Economics said.



Mir Nasir Hossain, chairman of Eastern Bank Ltd, speaks at the bank's 17th annual general meeting in Dhaka on Tuesday. The meeting declared 20 percent stock dividend for 2008.

# Ericsson profits slide 30pc

AFP, Stockholm

Ericsson, the world's leading telecommunications equipment maker, reported a 30 percent drop in profit Thursday, weighed down by its mobile phone unit, but said the impact of the global economic downturn was "limited."

In a survey by Dow Jones Newswires, analysts pre-

dicted Ericsson would report a net profit closer to 1.65 billion kronor. Meanwhile, turnover rose by 12 percent year-on-year to 49.6 billion kronor from 44.1 billion kronor.

At 0815 GMT, the price of Ericsson shares was down by 8.1 percent to 70.90 kronor in a market down by 0.3 percent.

Between January and

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Superintendent  
Central Police Hospital  
Rajarbagh, Dhaka

**Local Re-Tender Notice**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the manufacturers/suppliers/local agents in their official pad for the purchase of the following items for Central Police Hospital, Rajarbagh, Dhaka.

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs.
2	Agency	Central Police Hospital, Rajarbagh, Dhaka.
3	Procuring entity name	Superintendent, Central Police Hospital, Rajarbagh, Dhaka.
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Tender to procure Automated-Biochemistry Analyzer with PC, Software, Monitor, Printer, Glass Distillation Plant, Appropriate on-line UPS and Start-up kits.
7	Invitation Ref No.	22/PH/2008-2009
8	Date	27/04/09

**KEY INFORMATION**

9	Procurement method	Open tendering method (OTM).
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**FUNDING INFORMATION**

10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue budget (GOB).
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**PARTICULAR INFORMATION**

11	Tender publication date	29/04/09
12	Tender last selling date	13/05/09
13	Tender closing date and time	12:00 noon 14/05/09
14	Tender opening date and time	12:30pm 14/05/09
15	Name & address of the office(s)	Office of the Superintendent, Central Police Hospital, Rajarbagh, Dhaka.
16	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Office of the Superintendent, Central Police Hospital, Rajarbagh, Dhaka. 03/05/09 11:00am

**INFORMATION FOR TENDERER**

17	Eligibility of tenderer	As described in tender document.				
18	Brief description of goods or works	Shown at Sl No.				
19	Sl No	Name of medical equipment	Quantity	Price of tender document	Tender security in Taka	Completion on time in days
1	1	Automated-Biochemistry Analyzer with PC, Software, Monitor, Printer, Glass Distillation Plant, Appropriate on-line UPS and Start-up kits	1	Tk. 2000-	1,25,000/-	15 (fifteen)

**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**

20	Name of official inviting tender	Dr Khandaker ATM Farhad Hossain.
21	Designation of official inviting tender	Superintendent.
22	Address of official inviting tender	Superintendent, Central Police Hospital, Rajarbagh, Dhaka.

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject the tender.

Dr Khandaker ATM Farhad Hossain  
Superintendent  
Central Police Hospital, Rajarbagh, Dhaka  
Phone-8312075 Fax-9342297  
DMP-2681

GD-2199



Mollah Md Nurul Islam, secretary general of Bangladesh Insurance Association (BIA), and Khadija Abdullah, chief executive officer of Malaysian Insurance Institute (MII), pose after signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in Dhaka on Wednesday. Under the MoU, MII will assist BIA to develop its human resources to produce qualified officers for the country's insurance industry. Hamizan Bin Hashim, acting high commissioner of Malaysia, is also seen.

# Tk 1,000 AKTEL bonus talk-time on reactivation

STAR BUSINESS DESK

AKTEL, one of the leading mobile operators in the country, announced yesterday that its prepaid customers will get Tk1,000 bonus talk-time on reactivation of an unused connection.

In addition, customers will enjoy 88 paisa per minute for calls to all operators, said a statement.

The bonus talk-time can be used from the second month of the reactivation -- Tk100 each per month for the next 10 months.

"Our endeavour is to make mobile communication more significant by providing new offers to our customers," said Jefri Ahmad Tambi, managing director and chief executive officer of AKTEL.



Jefri Ahmad Tambi (L), managing director and chief executive officer of AKTEL, speaks to the press at the launch of a new offer by the mobile operator in Dhaka yesterday.

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**

স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর  
স্বাস্থ্যসেবা ভবন  
ই-৮/বি-১, আগারগাঁও, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১০০০

**দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

স্মারক নং-সসেঅ/শা-ওয়ান/ন-৪০২/১৮৯১ ২০০৯ তারিখঃ ২৮/৪/০৯

এস্তারা পিপিআর-২০০৮ অনুসারে দরপত্রের যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতরের জালিকাতুলসহ অন্যান্য ঠিকাদারের নিকট হতে সিগমোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

০১	মন্ত্রণালয়	স্বাস্থ্যসেবা মন্ত্রণালয়।
০২	এজেন্সী	স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর।
০৩	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার নাম	স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর, ই-৮/বি-১, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৭।
০৪	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার কোড	প্রযোজ্য নয়।
০৫	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের নাম	-এ-
০৬	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং ও তারিখ	সসেঅ/শা-৩ঃ যান/ন-৪০২/ / ২০০৮ তারিখঃ
০৭	সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার পদ্ধতি	খোলা দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
০৮	বাজেট এবং অর্থের উৎস	জিওবি।
০৯	দরপত্রের কাজের বর্ণনা	কম্পিউটার ও প্রিন্টার ক্রয়।
১০	দরপত্র প্রচারের তারিখ	২৮/০৪/২০০৯।
১১	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	১০/০৫/২০০৯।
১২	দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময়	১১/০৫/২০০৯ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকায়।
১৩	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১১/০৫/২০০৯ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকায়।
১৪	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর, ই-৮/বি-১, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা।
১৫	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম	স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর, ই-৮/বি-১, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা।
১৬	দরপত্র খোলার দপ্তর	স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর, ই-৮/বি-১, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা।
১৭	দরপত্রাদাতার যোগ্যতা	ক) এজেন্সী/আমদানিকারক/ডিজিটাইজার ডিলারশীপ সনদপত্রধারী। খ) আপটুভেট ট্রেড লাইসেন্স সনদপত্র থাকতে হবে। গ) আপটুভেট আয়কর সনদপত্র থাকতে হবে। ঘ) ব্যাংক স্বাক্ষরিত সনদপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
১৮	মালামাল সম্বন্ধে বিস্তারিত বর্ণনা	সিডিউলের সাথে সংযুক্ত স্পেসিফিকেশন মোতাবেক।
১৯	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	১০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা (প্রতি সেট) নগদ (অফেরতযোগ্য)।

ক্রমিক নং	দরপত্র সিডিউলের বর্ণনা	সংখ্যা	সিডিউলের মূল্য	দরপত্রের সময়কাল
১	কম্পিউটার	১২টি	১০০০/-	১৪,৫০০/- ৩ মাস
২	প্রিন্টার	১২টি	-	৩

২০. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম : মোঃ কামাল উদ্দিন হুইয়া।  
২১. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী : মুয়ূ-সচিব ও পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ)।  
২২. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা : স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর, ই-৮/বি-১, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা।  
২৩. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ফোন নং : ৮১১৮০৬২

২৪. ক) কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।  
খ) দরপত্রটি সীলগালায়িত বামে ঠিকাদার এবং সম্প্রদায়িক সত্তার নাম সন্নিবেত হতে হবে।  
গ) অরজিটাল দরপত্র, সিডিউল অবশ্যই পূরণ করতে হবে।  
ঘ) কার্যসম্পন্ন গ্রহণের পূর্বে চুক্তিনামা সম্পন্ন করতে হবে এবং ১০% পায়ফরমেন্স সিকিউরিটি, পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রপট/ব্যাংকের গ্রান্ট হিসেবে জমা দিতে হবে।  
ঙ) দরপত্রের সাথে অরজিটাল কার্টালাপ দাখিল করতে হবে।  
চ) অন্যান্য সকল তথ্যাদি দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

মোঃ কামাল উদ্দিন হুইয়া  
মুয়ূ-সচিব ও পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ)  
স্বাস্থ্যসেবা অধিদফতর, ঢাকা

জিডি-২২০৮