



Khurshid Irfan Chowdhury, general manager for sales and marketing of Transcom Beverages Ltd, announces the launch of new packs for the company's soft drinks at a press conference in Dhaka yesterday.

Transcom launches new packs for soft drinks

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Transcom Beverages Ltd, the franchisee of PepsiCo International, yesterday launched easy-to-carry packs for its soft drinks in Bangladesh.
The company named the new size "Go Pack" which will be available in Pepsi, Mirinda, 7UP and Mountain Dew bottles.
"The new packs, which come in 250ml PET bottles, are designed to enhance the ease and mobility of its consumers," said Khurshid Irfan Chowdhury, general manager for Transcom Beverages' sales and marketing, at a press conference at the National Press Club in Dhaka.
"I hope the Go Pack will help us increase our market share and distribution network."
All four soft drinks in the new pack come with a price tag of Tk 15.

Stocks flicker back into life

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Dhaka stocks jumped more than 2 percent yesterday, responding positively to a hike in the margin loan ratio.
Ninety-four percent of traded securities ended up in the green zone, a day after the regulator decided to raise the margin loan ratio to 1:1.5 from 1:1 for equity securities in an effort to inject an impetus into the market.
The benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, DSE General Index, shot up 122.61 points, or 2.29 percent, before finishing at 5,460.75. The broader DSE All Share Price Index also went up 98.77 points, or 2.25 percent, to 4,476.59.
Analysts said investors, whose confidence eroded on a long bearish spell, regained rhythm after the latest stimulus by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).
"The reason was broad-based. All sectors were in the positive territory after the SEC raised the margin loan, giving investors an access to funds to invest in the stockmarket," said Argus Research, an independent research division of Race Asset Management.
The new loan ratio, which means an investor or client will get Tk 1.50 loan against securities worth Tk 1, will come into effect from tomorrow.
In its analysis, investment firm BRAC-EPL also said the market was positive after the regulator revised the margin facility.
Talking to reporters, DSE President Rakibur Rahman praised the SEC for its latest step to stabilise the market.
"The market can be revived from any situation through collective efforts. There should always be coordination among all market stakeholders, such as the stock exchanges, SEC, central bank and National Board of Revenue," he said.
He however said no-one should make comments that will have negative impacts on the market, leading retail investors into losses.
Advancers outnumbered losers 227 to 13 with one remaining unchanged. A total of 2,97,77,735 shares worth Tk 711.80 crore changed hands on the premier bourse.
Chittagong stocks also posted a sharp rise. The CSE Selective Categories Index went up 209.95 points, or 2.06 percent, to 10,364.96. The CSE All Share Price Index shot up 320.13 points, or 2.06 percent, to 15,843.14.
A total of 45,48,554 shares worth Tk 65.35 crore traded on Chittagong Stock Exchange. Of the traded issues, 146 advanced and 10 declined.

MFIs' financial sustainability stressed

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Microfinance institutions (MFIs) have to ensure vast outreach programmes, financial sustainability and positive impacts on their borrowers to become successful and effective, suggests a study.
Once an MFI goes by these prerequisites, it will be able to ensure transparency in its operations, according to the study 'The NGO-MFI in Bangladesh: The Issue of Ownership and Governance'.
The findings of the study, conducted by the Bureau of Economic Research of Dhaka University, were highlighted yesterday at the three-day international conference on microfinance, now being held at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka.
"Among these preconditions, financial sustainability of a MFI is the most important, as it will eventually determine whether a MFI gets aid or funds from local and foreign sources," said MM Akash, professor of economics at DU and leader of the research team, while speaking at the conference.
Initially, the research team selected eight NGO-MFIs to conduct a case study. It reviewed the performance of large successful and ailing NGO-MFIs, medium successful and medium ailing NGO-MFIs, and community focused NGO-MFIs.
Dr Catherine SM Duggan, assistant professor of Harvard Business School, said MFIs also need to build confidence among the borrowers, so that they can make effective use of their loans and transform their economic status.
In a separate session, Salahuddin Ahmed Khan, professor of finance at DU, who presented a paper titled 'Resource Mobilisation by the MFIs in Bangladesh', said the NGO-MFIs have to manage funds from internal sources, such as member savings and bank loans.
Gerardo A Butardo, acting deputy director of the central bank of the Philippines, shared experiences from his country and said specialised banks help the sector play a useful role in supporting the poor.
Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, chairman of Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation, and Dr Mahbub Hossain, executive director of Brac, also spoke.

RMG sector demands an end to power, gas crises

High-cost air shipment leads to low competitiveness: BGMEA

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
A frequent air shipment that costs apparel exporters more now leads to the loss of their competitive edge, the industry leaders have complained.
They say they are forced to bear the higher cost for air shipment instead of seaway shipment, a comparatively low-cost one, as they are to meet the lead-time set by international buyers because readymade garment makers have failed in timely production following frequent power outages and inadequate gas supply in different RMG units.
"In the case of air shipment, exporters have to pay \$4.30 a kg, while shipment through seaway costs only \$0.5," Abdus Salam Murshedy, president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, told journalists after separate meetings with the premier's energy adviser and the state minister yesterday.
A BGMEA delegation led by Murshedy met Towfique-Elahi Chowdhury, the energy adviser, and Enamul Haque, the state minister for energy, to place a set of demands, including immediate resolution of the present power and gas crisis to save the apparel industry.
Data from Biman Bangladesh Airlines shows 98 percent of the air shipment during December-February of the current fiscal was RMG products.
The airfreight in February was around 7,321 tonnes, while it was 7,008 tonnes in January and 4,993 tonnes in December.
During the meetings, BGMEA leaders also demanded that the government keep the RMG sector out of the purview of the extended billing system like agricultural sector. They sought the off-peak power tariff be fixed at flat rate at Tk 3.15 per unit for the RMG sector. Another demand they placed is diesel subsidy.
The demands also included withdrawal of the value added tax on consumed power in the RMG sector, allowing import of generator at lower interest rate and immediate production of power from solar and wind power to meet the growing demand for electricity.
Meanwhile, in a press statement Fazlul Hoque, president of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association, also pointed to the critical time the knitwear sector has long been passing through, as sometimes the knit makers have to stop operation because of the power failure and inadequate gas supply.
According to Hoque, the knitwear factories at Panchabati, Bscic belts, Kashipur, Idrakpur, Dapa, Enayetnagar, Kutubpur, Sastapur, Shibu Market, Ramarbagh, Godnail, Siddhirganj, Sonargaon and Rugganj under Narayanganj district have been affected badly.
Besides, the RMG factories located at Hemayetpur, Savar, Bara Ashulia, Konabari, Chandura and Zirani areas are hit hard by the crisis, he said.
"It is unlikely to achieve the \$7.297 billion target of knitwear exports in FY 2009-10, if the government does not immediately intervene in improving such power and gas crises," Hoque said.
He also pointed to the 6.85 percent negative growth in knitwear exports Bangladesh has experienced during the first seven months of this financial year. He attributed this experience to the failure in adequate production in RMG factories following different backlogs.

Businessmen allege ploy against Karnaphuli Paper Mills

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Paper merchants yesterday alleged that a group of Karnaphuli Paper Mills (KPM) employees was involved in spoiling factory operations in a deliberate attempt to create scope for private players to grab a market share.
The allegation was placed at a meeting with Industries Minister Dilip Barua. Industries Secretary Dewan Zakir Hussain and Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) Chairman KH Masud Siddiqui were also present. Officials of BCIC that owns KPM were quiet on the allegations.
"KPM is on the verge of losing its market as steps to improve the quality of paper and cut prices have not been taken on purpose. The main reason is, some KPM officials are working to serve the interests of private paper mills," said ATM Jahangir Dulal, president of Bangladesh Paper Merchants Association.
The paper merchants association, which also represent some dealers of KPM, said the high prices of paper of the state-owned factory are affecting its market.
At present, private mills are selling paper at Tk 60,000-Tk 65,000 a tonne, whereas a tonne of paper by KPM stands at Tk 79,000, according to the association.
Representatives of the paper merchant association also blamed KPM management for purchasing raw materials at higher-than-market costs, which they said pushes up its production costs. BCIC officials linked old machinery and administrative costs to the high prices of paper.
The higher administrative costs of the factory is also responsible for the high production cost, said the BCIC chief, who admitted that there is a nexus between some KPM officials and private millers.
Official data showed that KPM production has been hovering at 23,000-24,000 tonnes a year, down from a recent high of 26,000 tonnes in fiscal 2009-10, BCIC officials said.
Officials added KPM markets its paper through 2,046 dealers. But dealers said they face difficulties in marketing KPM paper due to the low quality and high prices.



M Anis Ud Dowla, president of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), hands over a copy of the MCCI's study on 'Impact of global financial crisis on Bangladesh economy' and the trade body's budget proposal for fiscal year 2010-11 to AMA Muhith, finance minister, in a meeting at the minister's office yesterday. (Story on B1)

International Exhibition on Agriculture, Horticulture, Dairy, Poultry, Live Stock and Agriculture Products & Technology Trade Show of Bangladesh. www.exponetbd.com

Visit **4-6 April 2010** Dhaka Sheraton Hotel

Organized by: **ExpoNet Exhibition (Pvt) Ltd.** 01191616803, 01191616805, 01191616806

SUNCO Solar Irrigation pump Presents **AgriTECH** Bangladesh

বাংলাদেশ ক্ষুদ্র ও কুটির শিল্প করপোরেশন
১৩৭-১৩৮ মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়
২	বাহুবায়নকারী সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ ক্ষুদ্র ও কুটির শিল্প করপোরেশন
৩	প্রকল্পের নাম	বিসিকের পুরাতন ২টি শিল্প নদীর সেৱামত, রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ ও পুনর্বাসন।
৪	অর্থের উৎস	জিআই
৫	দরপত্র নং ও তারিখ	বিসিক পুরকৌশল-৫২৪ /২০০৯-১০/০১ তারিখঃ ১৪-০৩-২০১০
৬	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	Open Tendering Method.
৭	দরপত্র দাতার যোগ্যতা	দরপত্র দিলে উল্লিখিত যোগ্যতা সম্পন্ন ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং যাদের গত ৫ বছরে অনুরূপ প্রকৃতির কাজ বাস্তবায়নের অভিজ্ঞতা রয়েছে। এছাড়া গত ৩ বছরে বার্ষিক ন্যূনতম পি-১ এর জন্য ১৮৯.৮০ লক্ষ, পি-২ এর জন্য ৮১.০০ লক্ষ এবং পি-৩ এর জন্য ১৭.৩০ লক্ষ টাকার গড় টার্নওভার রয়েছে।
৮	দরপত্র দিলে প্রাপ্ত স্থান	ক) প্রধান প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, বিসিক, মালেক ম্যানশন (৬ষ্ঠ তলা), ১২৮, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা। খ) আঞ্চলিক পরিচালকের কার্যালয়, বিসিক, ১৭, আগ্রাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম। গ) শিল্প সহায়ক কেন্দ্র, বিসিক, চট্টগ্রাম।
৯	দরপত্র দিলে জমা দেয়ার স্থান	ক) প্রাইমারী সেকশনঃ পরিচালক (অর্থ), বিসিক প্রধান কার্যালয়, বিসিক ভবন (৪র্থ তলা), ১৩৭-১৩৮ মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা। খ) সেকেন্ডারী সেকশনঃ আঞ্চলিক পরিচালক, আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয়, বিসিক, মালেক ম্যানশন (৬ষ্ঠ তলা), ১২৮, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা।
১০	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	পরিচালক (অর্থ), বিসিক প্রধান কার্যালয়, বিসিক ভবন (৪র্থ তলা), ঢাকা।
১১	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৯-০৩-২০১০ ইং তারিখ বেলা ১.০০ টা পর্যন্ত।
১২	দরপত্র জমার শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	৩০-০৩-২০১০ ইং তারিখ বেলা ১.০০ মিঃ পর্যন্ত।
১৩	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	৩০-০৩-২০১০ ইং তারিখ বেলা ৩.০০ মিঃ।
১৪	টেডার সিকিউরিটি	টেডার সিকিউরিটির টাকা চেয়ারম্যান, বিসিক বরাদ্দ যে কোন তফসিল ব্যাংক হতে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাক্ট/ব্যাংক গ্যারান্টি আকারে দাখিল করতে হবে।
১৫	কাজের প্যাকেজ ভিত্তিক তালিকা, দরপত্র দিলে পরে মুদ্রা, টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটি ও কাজ বাস্তবায়ন সময় ৪-	
	প্যাকেজ নং	কাজের নাম ও অবস্থান
	পি-১	অভ্যন্তরীণ রাস্তা উন্নয়ন ও পুনঃনির্মাণ, কালুরঘাট শিল্প নদীর (সম্প্রসার), চট্টগ্রাম।
	পি-২	অভ্যন্তরীণ স্ট্রেন উন্নয়ন ও পুনঃনির্মাণ, কালুরঘাট শিল্প নদীর (সম্প্রসার), চট্টগ্রাম।
	পি-৩	প্রশাসনিক ভবন সেৱামত ও নবায়ন করণ, কালুরঘাট শিল্প নদীর (মূল), চট্টগ্রাম।
১৬	বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী	(১) দরপত্র জমা ও খোলার দিন কোন কারণে ছুটি ঘোষিত হলে পরবর্তী কর্মদিবসে ঘণ্টা সময়ে দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও খোলা হবে। (২) দরপত্র সম্পর্কিত সকাল কার্যদি 'দি পাবলিক প্রক্রিউরমেন্ট আইন ও বিধিমালা' অনুযায়ী পরিচালিত হবে। (৩) কোন দরদাতা কর্তৃক দাবিরিক প্রাক্কলনের ৫% (পাঁচ শতাংশ) এর অধিক কম বা অধিক বেশী দর দরপত্রে উদ্ধৃত করা হলে উক্ত দরপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য করা হবে। টেন্ডার দিলে প্রাক্কলিত মূল্য উল্লেখ রয়েছে। (৩) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

বিসিক/ছঃসঃ শাঃ-১৯/২০১০০১১

GD-1291

প্রধান প্রকৌশলী
বিসিক, ঢাকা
ফোনঃ ৯৫৫৩৩০১

INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (IBA)
University of Dhaka

Executive MBA Program

IBA invites applications for admission into the **EXECUTIVE MBA PROGRAM** for the summer 2010 semester

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

i. Job Experience

- Minimum 3 (three) years' professional work experience after Bachelors Degree.

ii. Academic Qualifications

- Minimum Bachelors Degree (any discipline) or equivalent Professional Certification.
- No more than 1(one) third division (or equivalent) in any examination.
- For all certificates, equivalence will be determined by the Institute.

- ADMISSION

- The written examination will be held on Friday, April 16, 2010 at 10:00 am at IBA DU. Successful candidates will be asked to appear for an interview.
- Applicants with foreign degrees, having a score of at least 550 in GMAT (minimum 45 percentile in verbal and 50 percentile in quantitative), may be exempted from taking the written examination. However, they will be required to appear for the interview.

- APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- The application form may be downloaded from the IBA website (www.iba-du.edu) and printed out on separate pages, or collected from the IBA Executive MBA Program Office without any charge.
- The filled-in application form along with a Bank Draft / Pay Order for Tk. 1500, payable to 'Executive MBA, IBA', should be submitted to the EMBA Program Office between 03:00 pm-08:00 pm on any day (including Friday) starting from Saturday, March 13, 2010. The last date of submission is Monday, April 12, 2010.
- For more information, please contact: EMBA Program Office, Room # 405 (Third Floor) Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka, Dhaka 1000. Phone # 9661920 to 73 Ext. 8348, 8613490-91.

The Director, IBA