

All RMG units shut

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With the suspension of production, the garment sector, already battered by continuous hartal, has been dealt yet another blow.

Industry people fear that many garment factories will face order cancellation, expensive air shipment, sale on discount and shifting of buyers to other destinations if the suspension persists for a long time.

"My regional office in India has been sending mails continuously to know whether the factories will be able to execute the orders in time amid hartals, processions, unrest, production suspension and political situation," said an official of a Spanish retailer preferring not to be named.

The official also said a buyer, who came to Dhaka from Spain on April 24, was scheduled to stay here until April 29. But the buyer left Thursday fearing further unrest.

"Thus, I lost a buyer," the official added.

Mustafa Imrul Quayes, managing director of Savar based Versatile Attire Ltd, said "If I suspend produc-

tion, I lose almost \$48,000 per day. The production capacity of my factory is 8,000 pieces of shirt in a day."

Quayes suspended production in his factory for the last two days.

"My factory is a small one in comparison to others. Think about a big one that incurs loss due to production suspension in a day," he added.

Jashim Uddin, managing director of Centex Garment at Kachukhet in the capital, said "Production suspension for a day means a loss of \$30,000. But I have no option."

The decision to keep the factories closed for two days was taken at a meeting of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), the owners' platform, yesterday.

"We will sit tomorrow (today) to decide whether the production suspension will continue or not," BGMEA President Atiqul Islam told a media briefing at the trade body's office in

Dhaka.

BGMEA is apparently saying that they have decided to keep the factories closed for two days to express solidarity with the rescue effort at Rana Plaza, industry insiders said.

Actually, they have taken the decision to stop further unrest in the sector, they added.

Speaking at the briefing, Atiqul also asked the owner of Rana Plaza and garment factories housed in the building to surrender before the court immediately.

"BGMEA never tolerates any wrong-doing" he said, adding that steps would be taken so that workers and employees of five garment factories could receive their salaries and other dues within the first week of next month.

"BGMEA will take the responsibility for paying salaries and arrears to the workers," he said.

Atiqul also said the BGMEA, if necessary, would take steps for better treatment of the injured workers.

"The families of the

victims of the building collapse will be duly compensated. Employment will be arranged for the able-bodied members of the victims' families.

"Besides, the injured workers, who will lose their ability to work, will be rehabilitated," he said.

He also said the BGMEA and engineers of universities including the Buet would check structural designs of all buildings that house garment factories in the next three months.

Yesterday, the unruly garment workers vandalised many factories and vehicles at the city's Mirpur, Pallabi, Rokeya Sarani, Shyamoli, Technical and Dar-us-Salam Road areas, demanding immediate arrest and punishment to the owner of Rana Plaza and the factories.

In July and August last year, more than 300 owners had suspended production at their factories in Savar and Ashulia for two weeks following a labour unrest.

Militants kill 4 Indian cops in Kashmir

AFP, Srinagar

Kashmiri militants killed four Indian police in an ambush on a patrol near the town of Sopore in Indian-administered Kashmir, a senior officer said yesterday.

The four had just descended from their vehicle to conduct a routine patrol in the village of Hygam when they came under attack from gunmen, Superintendent Imtiaz Hussain told AFP.

A hunt for the attackers was now under way, the officer added.

The village is around 45 kilometers northwest of Srinagar, the summer capital of the state of Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state.

It is the first deadly attack in the region since March 13 when a group of militants disguised as cricketers killed five paramilitary police in an ambush in Srinagar.

Kashmir is split between India and Pakistan along a UN-monitored line of control, but both claim it in full and have fought two wars over its control.

RMG workers

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The workers went wild in Gulshan, Rampura, Malibagh, Badda, Mohakhali, Karwan Bazar, Tejgaon industrial area, different parts of Mirpur, Shyamoli, Kalyanpur, College Gate, and Gabtoli.

During the protest, vehicular movement on most city thoroughfares was disrupted stranding a few thousand city dwellers at bus stops. Hundreds were seen walking as buses stayed off the streets for quite some time following the vandalism.

Witnesses and sources said around 9:30am hundreds of workers gathered at Rampura and Gulshan. When their procession reached Gulshan-1 intersection, a car accidentally ploughed into it leaving five people including a policeman injured, said Rafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge of Gulshan Police Station.

Within a short time a rumour spread among the demonstrators in Dhaka that two people had died in the incident and the workers went berserk in Gulshan, Rampura, Malibagh level crossing, and Khilgaon areas.

They threw brick chips at different roadside factories and vandalised at least 100 vehicles in the areas. Normalcy returned there

around 1:00pm, police said.

The aggrieved garment workers also came out at Gabtoli and Kalyanpur with sticks and attacked all kinds of vehicles. They kept the Dhaka-Aricha highway blocked for a few hours.

At Shyamoli, hundreds of stick-wielding workers vandalised at least 15 vehicles, including a double-decker, covered vans and cars around noon. At least 15 people, including 10 bus passengers, were hurt.

The garment workers also demonstrated in Mirpur and Pallabi areas and vandalised around 50 vehicles demanding capital punishment for the owner of Rana Plaza, which collapsed in Savar on Wednesday. The agitating workers vandalised a number of factories at Sheorapara, Mirpur and Pallabi.

Following the vandalism, most factories in the areas suspended production for the day fearing further unrest, police officials said.

Garment factory owners last night met the prime ministers and sought security for their factories and informed her that they would keep their factories

closed for two days fearing more unrest.

GAZIPUR

In Gazipur, the angry workers set fire to JK Steel and Passion factory around 11:00am. Even though yesterday was a weekend, the factory was running.

The agitators also prevented fire engines from reaching the spot for 30 minutes, reports our Gazipur correspondent.

In the morning, garment workers observed work abstention and barricaded Dhaka-Mymensingh and Dhaka-Tangail highways. The demonstrators vandalised some vehicles on the highways.

The workers also set fire to Roshwa Spinning Mill at Shreepur around 6:00pm. A group of workers also took away computers from the office before setting the factory ablaze, claimed FARouf, managing director of the factory.

In Narayanganj, garment workers vandalised at least five garment factories and clashed with police that left 10 people injured.

Police arrested 22 workers in connection with vandalism.

HRW for safe working

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end to government efforts to thwart the right of workers to unionise, said the rights watchdog.

Given the long record of worker deaths in factories, this tragedy was predictable, said Brad Adams, Asia director at HRW.

"The government, local factory owners, and the

international garment industry pay workers among the world's lowest wages, but didn't have the decency to ensure safe conditions for the people who put clothes on the backs of people all over the world," he added.

Bangladesh, noted HRW, has notoriously poor

workplace safety inspection mechanisms. "Successful Bangladesh government have paid lip service to worker safety but in reality it is only the factory owners who have the ear of policymakers."

Government and industry opposition to workers' rights contributed to the deaths by making it harder for the workers to refuse to work under unsafe conditions, mentioned the rights watchdog.

It said weak enforcement of labour laws in Bangladesh contributes to impunity for employers to harass and intimidate both workers and local trade unionists seeking to exercise their right to organise and collectively bargain.

The HRW called on all companies to ensure that the garments sourced in Bangladesh are manufactured in factories in full compliance with interna-

tional standards and Bangladeshi labour law, through audits performed by a credible third party, as well as site visits to source factories.

"It is time for companies to say that they will take no clothes from companies that do not meet minimum standards. Ignorance and cost can no longer be an excuse for some of the biggest companies in the world."

"How many factory tragedies will it take before the Bangladeshi government ends its cosy relationship with powerful company owners and prioritises worker safety?" questioned Brad.

He further stated that until Bangladesh regulates workplaces properly and gets serious about unsafe working conditions and those who create them, those on the factory floor will continue paying with their lives.

Advertorial

Press Release

We, the *NewWave* Group AB is a Swedish originated Bangladesh liaison office, registered from Bangladesh Board of Investment (BOI) which is located at Baridhara Dhaka-1212.

Our deep condolences are with the families of the victims who suffered from the collapse of Rana Plaza at Savar.

Would like to inform that There is no connection between New Wave Group AB & two collapsed factories named *New Wave Bottoms Ltd.* / *New Wave Style Ltd.* in Rana Plaza at Savar.

NewWave Group
Bangladesh Liaison Office

NewWave GROUP



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

EDCL invites International Tender for Supply of Pharmaceutical Raw and Packing Material on C&F© Chittagong by Sea, Dhaka By Air and Benapole By Road basis :-

S.L No.	Tender No. Date	Name of the Item	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & opening
01.	IMP/ R&PM/ SEM/ 58/ 2012-2013 dated 25/04/2013	Pharmaceutical Raw and Packing Materials: 01. Thiamine HCl BP 02. PVC Film for Blister Pack (Width: 189 mm) 03. PVC Film for Blister Pack (Width: 222 mm) 04. PVC Film for Blister Pack (Width: 260 mm) 05. PVC Film for Blister Pack (Width: 264 mm) 06. PVDC Film for Blister Pack (Width: 238 mm)	Tk. 1,500/set Equivalent to US\$ 19.00 Non-refundable	Closing : 15/05/2013 at 3.00 PM Opening : 15/05/2013 at 3.15 PM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of **Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka** on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays).
No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

N.B: This Information is also available at our Website : www.edcl.gov.bd

(Md. Ali Mukarram)
Dy. General Manager
Planning & Procurement
For : Managing Director.

West's cost squeeze

FROM PAGE 20
He said western clothing retailers' desire to undercut rivals has translated into increasing pressure on foreign suppliers to reduce costs.

"If you've got that, then it's absolutely clear that you're not going to be able to have the right kind of building regulations, health and safety, fire safety. Those things will become more and more impossible as the cost price goes down."

Hilary said the push for lower costs inevitably led to factories cutting corners. "As a result of that, we see the sort of disaster that happened yesterday," he said.

War on Want and its partner in Bangladesh, the National Garment Workers' Federation, called on major international buyers to be held to account.

"This negligence must stop. The deaths of these workers could have been avoided if multinational corporations, governments and factory owners took workers' protection seriously," NGWF president, Amirul Haque Amin, said in a statement.

Gareth Price-Jones, Bangladesh country director of British charity Oxfam, said western companies had not done enough.

"Western buyers could be doing much, much more, and they have a moral responsibility to do so," he told Reuters. "Western buyers really need to press for decent wages and safe working conditions."

Around 4,500 Bangladeshi factories produce clothes for many of the world's major brands, employing 4 million workers and generating 80 percent of Bangladesh's \$24 billion annual exports, making it the world's No 2 apparel exporter behind China.

But with wages as low as \$37 a month for some workers toiling for 10-15 hours a day, and increasing publicity about unsanitary and unsafe working conditions, some retailers were getting worried about their reputation.

AUDITS QUESTIONED
A lot have introduced corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs, where they carry out factory audits and inspections and talk to employees about worker conditions.

But War on Want says the CSR processes are often flawed.

"What happens is the workers are trained in what to say, the factories present favorable books and keep back the real books," Hilary said.

In Washington, the Asia advocate for the US NGO Human Rights Watch said weak protection of labour rights contributed to the tragedy at Rana Plaza, where none of the factories are unionised.

"Had one or more of the Rana Plaza factories been unionised, its workers would have been in a position to refuse to enter the building on Wednesday morning," said John Sifton.

"The right to organise a union in Bangladesh is not just a matter of getting fair wages, it's a matter of saving lives," he said.

The Savar disaster came five months after Bangladesh's worst factory fire, which killed 112 people, and another incident at a factory in January in which seven died.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বিসিএস কর একাডেমী
২৭/১, রাশেদ খান মেনন সড়ক, ঢাকা-১০০০
E-mail: bcstaxacademy@gmail.com
নথি নং-নাঃ-২২/ক একা/২০১২-২০১৩/১৪৩৮ তারিখঃ ২৪/০৪/২০১৩খ্রিঃ

৫০টি Note Pad (Computer)
ক্রয় সংক্রান্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১।	মন্ত্রণালয়	অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়।
২।	দপ্তর/সংস্থা	বিসিএস কর একাডেমী, ঢাকা।
৩।	ক্রয়কৃত সংস্থার নাম ও ঠিকানা	বিসিএস (কর) একাডেমী, ২৭/১, রাশেদ খান মেনন সড়ক, ঢাকা-১০০০।
৪।	টেন্ডার আহ্বানের কারণ	বিসিএস কর একাডেমী, ঢাকায় ডিজিটাল Class Room স্থাপনের কারণে ৫০টি Note Pad (Computer) ব্যবহার করা হবে।
৫।	অর্পণের উৎস	রাজস্বকৃত জিওবি।
৬।	রাজস্ব কোড নং	৩/১১৪৭/০০০১/৪৮৪৬।
৭।	ক্রয়ের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্রের মাধ্যমে।
৮।	কিসেবে মূল্য পরিশোধ করা হবে	প্রধান হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা, অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগ, ঢাকা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চেকের মাধ্যমে।
৯।	সিডিউলের মূল্য	প্রতিটি সিডিউলের মূল্য ১,০০০/= (এক হাজার টাকা) মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
১০।	সিডিউল বিক্রয় স্থান	বিসিএস কর একাডেমী, ২৭/১, রাশেদ খান মেনন সড়ক, ঢাকা-১০০০।
১১।	সিডিউল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৩/০৫/২০১৩খ্রিঃ রিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকা। দরপত্র খোলার দিন কোন সিডিউল বিক্রয় হবে না।
১২।	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান, তারিখ ও শেষ সময়	বিসিএস কর একাডেমী, ২৭/১, রাশেদ খান মেনন সড়ক, ঢাকা-১০০০। শেষ তারিখঃ আগামী ১৪/০৫/২০১৩খ্রিঃ তারিখ রোজ মঙ্গলবার বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৩।	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১৪/০৫/২০১৩খ্রিঃ তারিখ রোজ মঙ্গলবার, বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা।
১৪।	দরপত্রের সাথে যে সমস্ত কাগজপত্রাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে	১. সিডিউল ক্রয়ের রশিদ; ২. সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যবসায়ের অভিজ্ঞতা সনদপত্র; ৩. দরদাতা ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সনদ, ভাট নিবন্ধন, টিআইএন সনদ ইত্যাদি সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি।
১৫।	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজে ২ (দুই) বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা।
১৬।	দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন পদ্ধতি	দরপত্র সিডিউলে বর্ণিত শর্তাবলী এবং Public Procurement Rules, 2008 অনুযায়ী মূল্যায়ন করা হবে।
১৭।	জামানত	উপ-পরিচালক, বিসিএস কর একাডেমী, ঢাকা-এর অনুকূলে যে কোন তফসিলী ব্যাংক কর্তৃক ইস্যুকৃত ৮০,০০০/= (আশি হাজার) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার দরপত্রের সাথে জামানত হিসেবে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।
১৮।	অন্যান্য তথ্যাদি	কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।

মোহাঃ আব্দুস সালাম
উপ-পরিচালক
বিসিএস কর একাডেমী, ঢাকা

জিডি-১৬৪৮



Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh
Headquarters, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229
Notice for Further Extension of Time

01	Description of services	Consultancy Services for the Project "Construction of 2 nd Runway and others infrastructure development works at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka.
	Ref No.	CAAB/W-476/Part-4/6941, Dated: 05/03/2013
	It is to notify here that due to unavoidable circumstances the date of issuance, receiving and opening of EOI application of abovementioned work have been extended again as follows:	
a)	Closing date and time for selling EOI application form	08/05/2013 up to 12.00 hours.
b)	Closing date and time for submission of EOI application	09/05/2013 up to 12.00 hours.
c)	Date and time for opening of EOI application	09/05/2013 at 12.30 hours.
Other terms and conditions of the "Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)" notice shall remain unchanged.		
CAAB/PR-88/2013/457 Dated: 25-4-2013 GD-1671		Sudhendu Bikash Goswami Chief Engineer (C.C) Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh