

Tainted dairy stocks removed from market: Fonterra CEO

REUTERS, Wellington
The chief executive of New Zealand's Fonterra said his future was up to the board of the world's biggest dairy exporter after human error resulted in some of its products being contaminated and shipped around the world.

Theo Spierings, a Dutchman and dairy industry veteran, sought on Wednesday to reassure customers and worried parents who feed their infants with formula milk made from Fonterra's whey protein concentrate, saying all tainted stocks had been taken out of the market and there was now little or no risk to consumers.

New Zealand, which depends on the dairy industry for a quarter of its total exports, has been gripped by worries that a raft of recalls for infant formula in China, a major market, and other countries could snowball into a slump in demand or even bans for other dairy products.

Fonterra said at the weekend it had discovered whey protein products that

contained a bacteria that can cause botulism. It said previously its tests had found the contamination in a dirty pipe at one of its plants. No illnesses have been reported due to the contamination.

Spierings, who rushed to China at the weekend to apologize for the scare and try to win back customer confidence, said the situation there was stable. "I said at a press conference in China that I would not leave before the situation was stable from the perspective of markets, consumers, customers and global authorities," he told reporters at the company's headquarters in Auckland. "We had all those discussions yesterday, and I decided late last night that the situation is stable."

Asked if he would resign over the company's handling of the scare, Spierings, who joined Fonterra in 2011, said: "It's not up to me to answer, that's up to the board."

He said affected customers, including The Coca-Cola Co, Danone SA and China's Wahaha, had been focused on

removing potentially contaminated products from shelves, rather than on compensation.

"There has been not a single discussion with me and their top teams on money so far. But there will be these discussions later on," Spierings said.

Fonterra's plans to expand in China with more farms, an ultra heat-treated milk plant and branded baby formula remained on track, he added.

Units in Fonterra's Shareholders Fund, which offer outside investors exposure to the cooperative's farmer shareholder dividends, rose 1.15 percent to NZ\$7.03, and have erased almost all of their losses since news of the scare first broke.

Questions remained over Fonterra's promptness in disclosing the contamination issue and its dealings with the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI).

"There's definitely some time there that we're not happy with - how long it took to get to work with the MPI, to give them some information, so this is going to be part of our review," said Gary

Romano, Fonterra's managing director of New Zealand Milk Products.

The MPI, which has dispatched people to work in Fonterra offices to oversee the crisis response, said it was asking questions about the reporting timeline and Fonterra's processes.

Finance Minister Bill English told parliament earlier that the scare did not appear to have had much impact on the economy, but would need careful handling if Fonterra and New Zealand were to continue to benefit from high commodity prices.

"The indications are that, providing the issue of the potential contamination is handled effectively and transparently, the direct impact on the New Zealand economy can be contained," he said.

But Trade Minister Tim Groser said New Zealand had a lot of work to do to regain trust among global customers. "The market is being very measured in its reaction, in the same way that Chinese authorities have been very measured in their actions," he told Radio New Zealand. "Having said all those positives,

let's agree that we're not out of the woods here, this problem is not now settled in any sense of the word."

David Mahon, Managing Director of Mahon China Investment Management, a China-based New Zealand consultancy, said it could take "many weeks and months for New Zealand to repair the perception of the integrity of its clean, green image - it's claim of being '100 percent pure'."

"Perhaps we can re-brand ourselves as being '99 percent pure'," he told Reuters Television.

At Fonterra's first international auction of its dairy products since news of the contamination - which didn't include those products connected with the scare - prices slipped 2.4 percent, but stayed near their recent high levels on the back of strong demand from growing middle classes in emerging economies.

The fortnightly auction, the biggest wholesale marketplace for milk powders and dairy produce, saw a near doubling in volumes made available.

"It does not seem that the contami-

nation issue is evolving into a serious negative for the wider economy," Westpac economist Nathan Penny said in a note to clients. "The world is still paying high prices for most New Zealand products."

U.S. dairy futures fell on Tuesday, reversing recent gains, as traders unwound speculative bets that China may shun some dairy products from New Zealand, and instead buy from other countries, including the United States.

One country hoping to gain is India, the world's biggest milk producer, which sees its skimmed milk powder exports jumping more than 50 percent in 2013/14 helped by a weak rupee and Chinese restrictions on some New Zealand products.

"We don't have such problems. This is a very good opportunity for India. Definitely our exports will rise this year and in the coming years," R.S. Sodhi, managing director of the Gujarat Milk Marketing Co-operative Federation, India's leading milk product exporter, told Reuters.

West Zone Power Distribution Co. Ltd.
Biddyt Bhaban, Boyra Main Road, Khulna
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Dev. Board)
21 Districts Power Distribution Project, Biddyt Bhaban Campus, Boyra Main Road, Khulna,
Ph: 041-813794, Fax: 041813803
Memo No. 27.22.4785.700.74.13/1390 Dated: 29/07/2013

বিদ্যুৎ সশ্রয়ী বাতি ব্যবহার করুন

Invitation for Tender

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/ Power Division.
2. Agency	West Zone Power Distribution Company Limited (WZPDCL), Khulna. (An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Dev. Board).
3. Procuring entity name	Project Director, 21 Districts Power Distribution Project (WZPDCL), Khulna.
4. Procuring entity code	N/A
5. Procuring entity district	Khulna.
6. Invitation for	Supply and delivery of 11/0.4KV 3-Phase, 100 KVA 250 Nos. Distribution Transformer.
7. Invitation Ref. No.	27.22.4785.700.74.13/1390.
8. Date	29/07/2013.

KEY INFORMATION

9. Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
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FUNDING INFORMATION

10. Budget and source of funds	GOB under 21 Districts Power Distribution Project, WZPDCL, Khulna.
11. Development partners (if applicable)	N/A.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12. Project/programme code (if applicable)	N/A.
13. Project/programme name (if applicable)	N/A.
14. Tender package No.	6.1 (Lot-a), 6.1 (Lot-b), 6.1 (Lot-c) and 6.1 (Lot-d).
15. Tender package name	Supply and delivery of 11/0.4KV 3-Phase, 100 KVA 250 Nos. Distribution Transformer.
16. Tender publication date	29/07/2013.
17. Tender last selling date	26/08/2013 during office hour (9:00am-5:00pm).
18. Tender closing date and time	27/08/2013 at 12:00 noon (tender receive any day before 27/08/2013 during office hour).
19. Tender opening date and time	27/08/2013 at 2:00pm (BST).
20. Name & address of the office(s)	Project Director, 21 Districts Power Distribution Project, WZPDCL, Khulna.
-Selling tender document (principal)	Project Director, 21 Districts Power Distribution Project (WZPDCL), Khulna.
-Selling tender document (others)	I. Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Khulna. II. Office of the Police Commissioner, KMP, Khulna.
-Receiving tender document	I. Office of the Director of Purchase, BPDB, Wapda Building (9th Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. II. Office of the WZPDCL Liaison Office, Biddyt Bhaban (4th Floor), Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka.
-Opening tender document	Office of the Director of Purchase, BPDB, Wapda Building (9th Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
21. Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	N/A.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

22. Eligibility of tenderer	Renowned local manufacturer (terms & conditions on qualification criteria have been relaxed).
23. Brief description of goods or works	Supply and delivery of 11/0.4KV 3-Phase, 100 KVA 250 Nos. Distribution Transformer.
24. Brief description of related services	N/A.
25. Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk. 8000.00 (eight thousand) as non-refundable Demand Draft (for other district)/Pay Order (for Khulna district) in favour of Project Director, 21 Districts Power Distribution Project, WZPDCL, Khulna. Location of delivery, tender security and completion time is given below:

Lot	Identification of Lot	Location of delivery	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time
6.1 (Lot-a)	40 Nos. 3-Phase. 11/0.4KV, 100 KVA Distribution Transformer	21 Districts Project Store at Khulna	3,70,000.00	90 days from the date of signing of the contract.
6.1 (Lot-b)	60 Nos. 3-Phase. 11/0.4KV, 100 KVA Distribution Transformer	21 Districts Project Store at Jhenidah	5,50,000.00	90 days from the date of signing of the contract.
6.1 (Lot-c)	100 Nos. 3-Phase. 11/0.4KV, 100 KVA Distribution Transformer	21 Districts Project Store at Faridpur	9,25,000.00	90 days from the date of signing of the contract.
6.1 (Lot-d)	50 Nos. 3-Phase. 11/0.4KV, 100 KVA Distribution Transformer	21 Districts Project Store at Barisal	4,60,000.00	90 days from the date of signing of the contract.

27. Validity of tender	120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of opening of tender.
28. Validity of tender security	148 (one hundred forty-eight) days from the date of opening of tender.

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

29. Name of official inviting tender	Shaikh Idris Ali.
30. Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director (SE).
31. Address of official inviting tender	21 Districts Power Distribution Project, Biddyt Bhaban Campus, Boyra Main Road, WZPDCL, Khulna.
32. Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 041-813794, Fax: 041-731786.
33. Special instructions	Any tender received by the purchaser after deadline for submission of tenders shall be declared late, will be rejected and returned unopened to the tenderer. The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender to annul the tender process or reject any or all tenders at any time prior to contract award.
34. This tender will be performed according to	"The Public Procurement Rules-2008".

Shaikh Idris Ali
Project Director
21 Districts Power Distribution Project
WZPDCL, Khulna

Biddyt/Jana-86(4)/1/18/13
GD-2914



Akku Chowdhury, managing director of Transcom Foods Ltd, attends the launch of Bigizza, a new product at Pizza Hut, at the chain's Gulshan outlet in Dhaka yesterday.

Tourists desert Egypt as protests rage

AFP, Cairo

By Giza's Great Pyramids, souvenir vendors wait restlessly in the shade, watching for the handful of tourists who still make their way down the empty street to the once-bustling landmark.

The 2011 revolution that toppled dictator Hosni Mubarak dealt a severe blow to the country's tourist industry, once a mainstay of Egypt's economy.

And things have gone from bad to worse since June, when violent protests broke out against president Mohamed Morsi. On July 3, the army ousted the Islamist leader, leading to further deadly violence and an ongoing standoff between the two sides.

The tour buses that lined the streets around the pyramids have disappeared.

"We hope to the Lord that he will bring back those busy days, because all of us rely on tourism alone," said Gameel Hassan, who has run a shop near the pyramids selling papyrus prints for nearly 20 years.

Now, his shop is empty. Only a few tourists come each day to browse the hundreds of pictures of Egyptian gods and pharaohs that cover the walls.

Overnight rate steady on excess funds in banks

FROM PAGE B1

Mercantile, Mutual Trust and Southeast banks were the top borrowers. Mercantile borrowed Tk 625 crore at 8.25 percent followed by Mutual Trust's Tk 400 crore.

Most of the deals were settled at 8.25 percent yesterday. However, the rate for non-bank financial institutions, which depend on banks for their funds, was 9.25 percent, according to the BB.

Tata Motors profit falls 23pc

REUTERS, Mumbai

India's biggest truck and bus maker Tata Motors posted a 23 percent fall in quarterly profit, the third straight decline, as higher sales of its luxury Jaguar Land Rover vehicles failed to offset sagging sales at home.

Tata Motors, part of the \$100 billion Tata group, said consolidated net profit for the quarter ended in June was 17.26 billion rupees, compared with 22.45 billion rupees a year ago. Net sales rose 8.3 percent to 467.51 billion rupees.

Analysts on average expected a net profit of 22.34 billion rupees, according to Thomson Reuters data.

BGMEA says most factories paid workers their dues

FROM PAGE B1

The crisis management cell of the BGMEA will remain vigilant even on the Eid day to avert any untoward incident, he said.

Garment prices declined by 8.81 percent in the US market and 11.46 percent in Europe in the last quarter of 2012, Islam said.

The hardening of the taka against the dollar is another cause of concern for the garment industry, as exporters' earnings fell 8.53 percent between May and July, compared with the same period last year, he said.

Global retailers started shifting orders to Bangladesh's competitors such as India, Vietnam and Cambodia as the country is going through a troubled time for factory accidents, he said.

MTB promotes DMD

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Md Zakir Hussain has recently been promoted to deputy managing director of Mutual Trust Bank Ltd (MTB) effective from August 1, the bank said in a statement yesterday.

Prior to this promotion, he was the senior executive vice president and head of credit risk management division of the bank.

He joined MTB in 2008, before which he worked with National Bank Ltd, Janata Bank Ltd and NCC Bank Ltd.

With over 35 years of banking experience, Hussain commenced his banking career with Janata Bank in 1977.



Post-Eid shutdowns take buzz off tourism

FROM PAGE B1

Syed G Qadir, general manager of Galaxy Holidays, another inbound tour operator, said the number of prospective tourists would fall in the next six months amid political turbulence. Around 50 tourists, who booked hotels in Cox's Bazar by Galaxy Holidays, have cancelled their tours due to the post-Eid shutdowns, he said.

Hoteliers also said they had a plan to recover the previous losses through the upcoming Eid vacation, but the sudden shutdowns have dealt a fresh blow to them.

"We have 276 rooms in our hotel and nearly 90 percent of the rooms were booked for August 11-15. But after the halt was called, nearly 30 percent of the bookings were cancelled," said Mohiuddin Khan Khokon, director for sales and marketing at Hotel The Cox Today, a luxury hotel in the beach city.

His hotel earns more than Tk 10 lakh a day as room tariff if all the rooms are occupied, Khokon said.

Nearly 1.5 lakh tourists come to the beach city every day during the Eid vacation, but the number may fall to 25,000 this time, said Sultan of Cox's Bazar Hotel-Motel and Guest House Owners Association.

Cox's Bazar has around 350 hotels, motels and guest houses, and the owners have so far laid off around 5,000 staff members due to a dull business amid the ongoing political unrest, Sultan said.

Airlines that operate flights to the Dhaka-Cox's Bazar route are also suffering due to the announcement of the shutdowns as they have to refund ticket money.

"We will have to refund 30-40 percent of the money due to the halt," said Mofizur Rahman, managing director of Novoair, a new operator on the domestic route.

The airline has already shelved its plan to operate an extra flight on the Dhaka-Cox's Bazar route because of a low demand, according to Rahman.

Foreign tourist arrivals have declined significantly in recent times. Around 1.12 lakh foreign tourists visited Bangladesh during the January-May period this year, which was more than 2.25 lakh in the same period last year, according to the immigration department of police.

The travel and tourism sector raked in Tk 18,250 crore, about 2.2 percent of the gross domestic product of the country, in 2011.

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BANGLADESH ORDNANCE FACTORIES (BOF)
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Re-Tender Notice

1. Sealed tenders in prescribed form are invited from bona-fide manufacturers/local agents/importers/ suppliers for supply of the following items:

Sl. No	Nomenclature & Quantity	Last date of selling tender form	Date of dropping & opening tender	Currency	Price of tender form	Tender No. & date
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
1	Zinc Nitrate 300 kg	19 August 2013 1300 hrs	20 August 2013 Dropping-1200 hrs Opening-1205 hrs	Local	Tk.300/- (Non refundable)	23.04.0000.166.295(2).4856.12.13 dt- 28-07-2013
2	Carpenter Horizontal copy Milling Machine	19 August 2013 1300 hrs	20 August 2013 Dropping-1200 hrs Opening-1205 hrs	Local	Tk.300/- (Non refundable)	23.04.0000.166.143(2).6813.12.13 dt- 20-07-2013
3	Battery/Electrically Operator counting Scale/Balance	19 August 2013 1300 hrs	20 August 2013 Dropping-1200 hrs Opening-1205 hrs	Local	Tk.150/- (Non refundable)	4401/12/6813.12.13 dt- 21-07-2013

2. Supplier enlisted at BOF, DGDP and any other defence organization, who have security clearance will only be eligible to participate in the above tenders.

3. Tender forms with detail specifications and terms & conditions will be available in the auditorium of BOF on all working days between 9 AM to 1 PM.

4. Commandant, BOF reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without any reason thereof.

Deputy Director Material
For Commandant

GD-2947