

# Bangladeshis tour India the most among neighbours

PRI, New Delhi

Bangladesh continued to top the list of six neighbouring countries in terms of foreign tourist arrivals in India, Rajya Sabha was informed yesterday.

Bangladesh has held this position for the last three years.

About 1.14 million people from Afghanistan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Bangladesh visited India in 2013, Tourism Minister Shripad Naik said in a statement.

There were 463,543 visitors from Bangladesh in 2011 which increased to 487,397 in 2012 and further to 524,923 in 2013.

Visitors from Pakistan also increased from 59,846 in 2012 to 111,794 in 2013.

However, the number of tourists from Sri Lanka fell to 262,345 in 2013 from 296,983 in 2012.

Naik said the tourism ministry campaigns to increase domestic and international tourism in the country under the 'Incredible India' brand to promote various tourist destinations.

## IDLC's half-yearly profits rise 52pc

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Deposits grew by 25 percent and loans by 21 percent in the first six months of 2014, he said.

"In the first half, our structured finance department continued to grow its business and successfully raised funds from some landmark deals in the financial market of Bangladesh."

"The non-performing loan ratio of the company as on June 30, 2014 was 1.81 percent, one of the lowest in the industry, mainly because of our focus on quality growth of assets and the continued improvements in the credit and collection function across all three client segments."

"We continue to reduce reliance on costlier funds, such as conventional borrowing from commercial banks," Hussain said.

As on June 30, 2014, deposits accounted for 78 percent of IDLC's funding portfolio, he said.

IDLC has regularly been utilising Bangladesh Bank's various refinancing schemes and has also begun tapping into overseas funding through multi-lateral agencies, he said.

"We continue our traditional focus on corporate governance and improved financial performance and this has again been recognised by independent bodies."

IDLC's two capital market subsidiaries—IDLC Securities and IDLC Investments—have been negatively impacted by bearish stockmarket and low turnover in the first six months to June, he said.

"We are confident of continued quality

growth in our SME and Consumer Segment businesses in the second half of 2014 and are also expecting to reverse our current losses in the capital markets."

IDLC's earnings per shares stood at Tk 1.52 in the last six months.

Singer Bangladesh's net profits slipped 7.37 percent year-on-year to Tk 19 crore in the first half of 2014.

"Our profit fell in the six months as business in the first quarter was bad due to the country's political crisis," said a top official of the company.

In the second quarter that ended on June, the company's profit increased 11.74 percent to Tk 15 crore thanks to growing sales revenue, he said.

Television was the most selling product in the period because of the football world cup, he said.

"Our borrowing also increased in the period as we have gone for massive production of air conditioners and refrigerators for the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha."

Singer's EPS stood at Tk 3.14 in the first half of the year.

HeidelbergCement's earned Tk 82 crore in the period, which is 5.29 percent lower than in the same period a year ago.

Profit fell this period due to lower sales and earnings in the first quarter of the year, according to BRAC EPL.

The cement maker reported a profit of Tk 41 crore in the second quarter that ended on June, up 5.2 percent year-on-year.

HeidelbergCement's EPS stood at Tk 14.46 for the six months period.

Monzurur Rahman, chairman of Delta Life Insurance, attends the company's 28th annual general meeting at Delta Life Tower in Gulshan, Dhaka on Sunday. Delta Life announced 11 percent cash and 25 percent stock dividends for 2013.

## Local footwear brands on a roll

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Zeil's is another brand that has hit the local market in recent years. It has 15 stores in the country and plans to add another five this year, said an official of the company.

Bay Emporium, which entered the local market in 2006, will open its 50th store in Savar before Eid, said its chief executive Abdul Quader.

The company, which opened its 49th store in Badda in the capital yesterday, mainly caters to mid-income groups and has plans to open 15 to 20 stores every year until 2017 to meet the growing demand.

Fortuna Group is also expanding its reach to cater to the fast expanding market.

"The local consumers can see that our products are at least on par with imported products when it comes to quality. And the price, of course, is very reasonable," said Farhad Reza, deputy operations manager of the company.

The company, which has been in the retail business for about four years now, has 30 stores across the country, six of which were opened in the last one year. "The local market is no longer a small one. The response we are getting is encouraging others to open stores," he said, adding that the company plans to open stores in every district.

Shampan Group, another exporter, has opened eight stores in Dhaka and major cities since 2012, and will open another five shortly, said its marketing manager Asaduzzaman Saymon.

"We have got huge response in the last one year," he told The Daily Star.

The official said the local exporters are opening stores in large numbers because the market is huge and consumers have developed the taste for high-quality products.

The group plans to open more than 100 stores by 2020, according to Saymon.

Leatherex Group, which has been export-

ing leather products including footwear since 2000 mainly to Japan, has opened four stores in Elephant Road, Gulshan, Dhanmondi and Farmgate to provide quality products to local customers.

Group Chairman Mohammed Nazmul Hassan said their aim is to help the country cut its import dependence, adding that the company would open stores outside of Dhaka.

Meanwhile, there are a number of brands who have launched their products in a small way because of funds constrains.

One such brand is Leather Cave, which is a retail store set up by 10 promising leather entrepreneurs, all graduates from the Bangladesh College of Leather Technology.

Its stores in Banani and Hazaribagh sell all sorts of high-quality leather products, including shoes and sandals.

The industry in the past three decades has transformed itself from a low value addition tanning activity to a producer of leather footwear and leather goods along with high value-added crust and finished leather, according to experts.

Zaid Bakht, research director of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, who conducted a study on the sector with colleague Nazneen Ahmed, said the domestic market is growing due to the efforts of small entrepreneurs.

He said the number of large footwear companies in the country is not huge, but entrepreneurs involved in the sector mostly own small industries scattered in Old Dhaka as well as around the country.

"If we can provide them with finance and space they will come out big, and can contribute to the local market in a huge way while also exporting."

"There are producers whose designs are of good quality and are even selling them as products from China," he told The Daily Star.

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## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Director-Cum-Professor  
National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases  
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

No. NICVD/Administration/MSR (Rev.)/2014-2015/3067

Date: 21/07/2014

## Invitation for Tender

|   |                       |   |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| 1 | Ministry/Division     | Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.  |
| 2 | Agency                | National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases.                                  |
| 3 | Procuring entity name | National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases.                                  |
| 4 | Invitation for        | Group No-1) Medicine (Local & Imported), Group & Group No-2) Chemical Re-agent. |
| 5 | Invitation Ref. No.   | NICVD/Administration/MSR (Rev.)/2014-2015/3067                                  |
| 6 | Date                  | 21/07/2014.   |

### KEY INFORMATION

|   |                    |                        |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|
| 7 | Procurement method | Open Tendering Method. |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|

### FUNDING INFORMATION

|   |                            |                       |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 8 | Budget and source of funds | Revenue Budget (GOB). |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|

### PARTICULAR INFORMATION

|    |                                 |  |
|----|---------------------------------|--|
| 9  | Tender publication date         | After invitation of tender in newspaper. |
| 10 | Tender last selling date & time | 24/08/2014, 10.00am to 2.00pm.           |
| 11 | Tender closing date & time      | 25/08/2014, 10.00am to 12.30pm.          |
| 12 | Tender opening date & time      | 25/08/2014, 1:30pm.                      |

### NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE OFFICE

|    |                         |  |
|----|-------------------------|--|
| 13 | Selling tender document | Tender document will be available only on following website:-<br>1. NICVD Website- <a href="http://www.nicvd.gov.bd">www.nicvd.gov.bd</a><br>2. CPTU Website- <a href="http://www.cptu.gov.bd">www.cptu.gov.bd</a> |
|----|-------------------------|--|

### 14 Receiving tender document

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Office of the Director & Professor, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207. |
| 2 | Deputy Police Commissioner (Tejgaon), 22/5, Khilzi Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.                                   |

### 15 Opening tender document

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|---|
| Office of the Director & Professor, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207. |
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### INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

|    |                         |  |
|----|-------------------------|--|
| 16 | Eligibility of tenderer | Tenderer from Group 1 (Ka) Medicine (Local)-Manufacturers/Manufacturers Distributor, Group 1 (Kha) Medicine (Imported)-Importer/Bonafide Distributor & Group-2 (Chemical Re-agent)-Manufacturers/Authorised Dealer of Manufacturers/Supplier Authorised by the Authorised Dealer of the Manufacturers. |
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### 17 Brief description of goods

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|--|
| Group No-1) Medicine (Local & Imported) & Group No-2) Chemical Re-agent. |
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### 18 Price of tender document (Tk.):

|           |                          |                                     |   |
|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Group No. | Name of the group        | Price of tender documents (in cash) | Tender security amount ((in Pay-Order/Bank Draft) |
| 1         | Ka) Medicine (Local)     | Tk. 1000/- (one thousand only)      | Tk. 99,000/- (ninety-nine thousand only)          |
|           | Kha) Medicine (Imported) | Tk. 1000/- (one thousand only)      | Tk. 75,000/- (seventy-five thousand only)         |
| 2         | Chemical Re-agent        | Tk. 1000/- (one thousand only)      | Tk. 1,00,000/- (one lac only)                     |

### PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

|    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 19 | Code No. for deposition of tender challan documents | The purchase price of abovementioned tender documents (non-refundable) is to be deposited in the Bangladesh Bank by Treasury Challan in Code No.-1-2711-0000-2366 to Director and Professor, NICVD, Dhaka-1207, CTR by AGB Office. |
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### 20 Name of official inviting tender

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Prof. Abdullah Al Shafi Majumder. |
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