

## EU to accuse Apple of taking illicit Irish state aid

AFP, London

The European Union is to accuse US tech giant Apple of taking illegal aid from the Irish state through sweetheart tax deals over two decades, the Financial Times reported Monday.

A European Commission investigation into Apple's tax affairs in Ireland, where it has enjoyed a rate of less than 2.0 percent, found that the company benefitted from illegal state aid, the FT reported citing sources close to the matter.

Ireland's Department of Finance confirmed that the EU would be publishing a document on Monday but stressed that "the Commission has not formally decided that there is state aid" at play.

"Ireland is confident that there is no breach of state aid rules in this case and has already issued a formal response to the Commission earlier this month, addressing in detail the concerns and some misunderstandings contained in the opening decision," the department added.

The European Union launched a probe in June into sweetheart tax deals negotiated by Apple, Starbucks and Fiat with three member states.

The investigation seeks to determine whether such arrangements offered by Ireland, Netherlands and Luxembourg give the companies an unfair competitive advantage and thus amount to illegal state aid.

## Garment exports of India to rise 10pc

REUTERS, Mumbai

India's cotton and apparel exports are set to climb by around 10 percent this year as higher wages, political instability and concerns about workplace conditions in other producing markets steer international buyers toward Indian exporters, industry officials said.

The rise in textile shipments from India - currently around 4.5 percent of world trade - may eat into top exporter China's 36 percent share of the market and will be a boon for Indian textile merchants keen to exploit rising demand stemming from weak cotton prices and global economic growth.

"My orders have increased by about 20 percent so far this financial year. It's a golden period for the Indian textiles industry," said Vijay Agarwal, chairman of Mumbai-based Creative Group, a leading apparel exporter.

Buoyed by fresh export orders, Agarwal is keen to expand his business by investing 2 billion rupees (\$32.71 million) in the next year. The main markets for Indian textiles at the moment are the United States and European Union.

Agarwal and other Indian exporters are anticipating a rise of roughly 5 percent in global demand for textiles and apparel this year.

In addition, India's textile exporters feel the relatively low labour costs in their country, alongside record domestic cotton production this year, should help them gain market share from other exporters in the region.

Cambodia looks set to lose some consumer demand after the government deployed troops in the capital earlier this month as garment workers held rallies to revive a campaign for higher wages that had helped stoke a year-long political crisis.

Textile manufacturers in Vietnam, meanwhile, have been hobbled by the high cost of credit and have struggled to finance expansion drives aimed at win-

ning export market share.

And the collapse of a garment factory in Bangladesh last year continues to divert buyers to India and other markets because of enduring concerns over Bangladeshi workshop safety.

Aside from stronger global demand, larger domestic cotton supplies will also help India push textile and apparel exports up by about 10 percent in 2014/15, said Ajay Sardana, vice-president of Grasim, part of the Aditya Birla conglomerate, on the sidelines of a recent conference in Mumbai.

India will be the world's No. 1 cotton grower this year, ousting China from the top spot for the first time in over 30 years, the US government forecast on Sept. 12.

The Cotton Association of India has pegged next year's output at 39.63 million bales, but experts believe production could be as high as 41 million bales as the area under cultivation has gone up this year.

Expansion in domestic demand is also likely, with India's local textiles market expected to grow to \$65-\$68 billion in coming years from the current \$60 billion, Sardana added.

And unlike in some markets such as China and Cambodia, labour remains cheap in India, keeping costs competitive, said DK Nair, secretary general of the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry.

But while exports are expected to rise from India, China, with textiles and apparel exports worth \$270 billion, around seven times that of India's receipts, is expected to remain the dominant player.

India's relatively poor infrastructure, wobbly energy supplies and lack of a business-friendly environment for both foreign and domestic investors are expected to constrain overall export growth over the near to medium term, said Christian Schindler, director general of the International Textile Manufacturers Federation.

## Lufthansa pilots to strike on long-haul flights on Tuesday

AFP, Frankfurt

Pilots with Germany's Lufthansa will stage a strike on long-haul flights on Tuesday, their latest walk-out in the ongoing dispute with management over early retirement provisions, their union said.

Vereinigung Cockpit called on its members to strike on long-haul flights departing from Frankfurt between 8:00 am and 11:00 pm on Tuesday.

The strike would affect services on Airbus A380, A330 and A340 and Boeing 747 aircraft, the union said.

"We feel compelled to take further industrial action as Lufthansa management has failed so far to table an offer worthy of compromise," Cockpit said.

"We remain open to a deal in order to avert strikes and we regret any inconvenience caused to customers," it added. Lufthansa said up to 56 flights from Frankfurt could be affected by the strike.

"We can't say at this point exactly how many will actually be cancelled," a spokesman told AFP.

"We also have long-haul flights leaving from Duesseldorf and Munich and these won't be affected," he said.

"We're doing all we can to ensure as many flights as possible can actually take off. We're currently working on a contingency timetable, which we plan to publish in the next couple of hours," the spokesman added.

The stoppages are the fourth set of walkouts in recent weeks. The first strike at the end of August hit Lufthansa's low-cost subsidiary Germanwings. The second walkout a week later affected domestic and regional services landing at or taking off from Frankfurt and the third stoppage targeted Munich airport, Germany's second-busiest air hub.



Md Mizanur Rahman, managing director of Modern Steel Mills, and Hasan Javed Chowdhury, chief executive officer of LankaBangla, attend the signing of an agreement for issue management of the steel company's initial public offering, at a programme recently.



Mahmuda Akhter Meena, director general of the Directorate of National Savings, attends a workshop on national savings schemes, at Bangladesh Bank office in Chittagong on Thursday.

## China plans to start direct currency trading with euro

AFP, Shanghai

China will begin direct trading between its yuan currency and the euro starting on Tuesday, the national foreign exchange market's operator said, as Beijing seeks to broaden the unit's global usage.

The China Foreign Exchange Trade System already offers a platform for yuan-euro transactions but direct trading means the US dollar will not be used as an intermediary currency to calculate rates, according to a statement released Monday.

The market operator said the move aimed to promote bilateral trade and investment, facilitate the use of yuan in cross-border trade and lower conversion costs.

In June, China started direct trade between the yuan and Britain's pound, one of several currencies to be included in a streamlined regime.

China has long had direct currency trade with the United States, and in recent years has added Japan's yen, the Australian dollar, the New Zealand dollar and

Malaysian ringgit.

Beijing keeps a tight grip on the capital account -- investment and financial transactions, rather than those related to trade -- on worries that unpredictable inflows or outflows could harm the economy and reduce its control over it.

But China is seeking greater use of the yuan -- also known as the renminbi (RMB) -- in line with its status as the world's second-largest economy and to challenge the US dollar, analysts say.

"Direct trading brings together the RMB with the world's second-most actively traded currency and is a significant step in (the) RMB's globalisation," said Ryan Song, head of markets for China at British bank HSBC, which is acting as a market maker for the new pair.

"The trade and investment ties between China and the European Union, as two of the world's major economies, can be further strengthened through the greater convenience of direct trading in this pair," he said in an HSBC statement.



Md Ataur Rahman, president of Public Relations Association of Banks, attends the general meeting and re-union of the association in Dhaka recently. Md Mofazzal Hossain, vice president, was also present.

PRAB

## Project Director's Office, Military Farms Modernization Project

Army Headquarter, QMG's Br, ST Dte, Dhaka Cantonment

### Invitation for Re-Tenders

Notice No. MMF-P/Tender/2014-2015/05

Dated: 24 September 2014

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from bonafide experienced suppliers/institution/agent/importers to supply and installation undermentioned goods and related services as per terms & conditions stated below.

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Defence.
2.	Agency	AHQ, QMG's Br, ST Dte, Dhaka Cantonment.
3.	Name of procuring entity	QMG.
4.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (one stage two envelop).
5.	Source of funds	GOB.
6.	Selling of tender schedule will commence from	29 September 2014 (during office hour).
7.	Selling of tender schedule will close on	15 October 2014 up to 1400 hours.
8.	Last date & time of submission of tender	16 October 2014 at 1200 hours.
9.	Tender opening date & time	16 October 2014 at 1230 hours.
10.	Name & address of the office for selling, receiving/deposition and opening of tender documents	Tender Selling & Information Centre, Project Office, Modernisation of Military Farms, ST Dte, QMG's Br, AHQ, Dhaka Cantonment.
11.	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderer/suppliers enlisted in other govt/semi-govt/autonomous organisations those are eligible as per PPA 2006 & PPR 2008 and experienced in supply and installation of dairy plant within 10 years or covenanted with minimum 01 (one) similar type of supply and installation.
12.	Name, designation & address of official inviting tender	Project Director, Modernisation of Military Farms, ST Dte, QMG's Br, AHQ, Dhaka Cantonment.
13.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 8711111 extension 2636, Civil: 9832636, Fax: 9832636, Email: nmfpj@gmail.com, Website: www.army.mil.bd.
14.	Brief description of works	
	Description of works	Price of tender document (non-refundable)
		Tender security in the form of Bank Draft/Pay-Order/Bank Guarantee in favour of Project Director, ST Dte, QMG's Br, AHQ, Dhaka Cantonment (Taka)
		Up-to-date statement/certificate against Liquid Asset/Bank Credit Facility Certificate to be attached with tender documents (Taka)
		Completion time
	Supply and installation 1 x dairy plant (daily 10,000 liters capacity)	2,000.00
		40,00,000.00
		12,00,00,000.00
		As per work order
15.	Miscellaneous instruction for tenderer	a. Tenderer shall submit a copy of letter of valid enlistment with application on company letterhead to Project Director when purchasing tender. b. Tender must be submitted in one stage two envelopes that clearly marked as "Technical offer" and "Financial offer" in the tender box kept on project office under the ST Dte, Dhaka Cantonment. "Financial offer" will contain tender submission letter, price schedule for goods and price for other related services. All other documents including tender security (earnest money) will be in "Technical offer". c. Detail requirements are mentioned in Tender Data Sheet of tender documents. d. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. e. Due to unavoidable/special circumstances if tender cannot be opened as per scheduled date and time then tender will be opened on next working day at same time.

Project Director  
Modernisation of Military Farms Project  
ST Dte, QMG's Br  
AHQ, Dhaka Cantonment

ISPR/Army/2014/2812  
28/9/14  
GD-3720

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Dhaka South City Corporation  
Office of the Project Director, PIU  
Clean Air and Sustainable Environment (CASE) Project  
Nagar Bhaban (Level 10), Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000

Memo: 46.207.014.09.10.713.2014

Date: 25.09.2014

## Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) for Individual Signal Timing and Synchronization Consultant (International) (Package DCCS 5)

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has obtained a credit in the amount of about US\$ 65.4 million from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Clean Air and Sustainable Environment (CASE) Project are being implemented by Dhaka South & North City Corporation (DSCC/DNCC) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for the provision of consultancy services for the project by hiring an International Individual Signal Timing and Synchronization Consultant.

2. Scope of task/service:

- Data collection and verification includes turning movement counts, speed & delay; intersection delay, saturation flow rates, queue length, level of service;
  - Finalization of signal phasing and synchronization plans;
  - Recommendation of traffic simulation software;
  - Capacity development includes capacity assessment and training plan, training workshop for DSCC/DNCC and DMP;
  - Assist the client in preparing reports for the steering and working committees by developing the agenda and coordinating with the members;
  - Develop a work plan for successfully maintaining and updating the synchronization programme both for the short term as well as long term plan, which shall cover the functions, responsibilities and frequency of meetings of the working and steering committee;
  - Supervision for implementation includes the responsibility for the contractors and other consultants in the implementation and operation of optimal cycle plans as well as the synchronized signal timings;
  - Other task/services included in Terms of Reference (ToR);
  - Other duties as and when required by the Project Director;
3. Qualification and experience:
- Graduate degrees in traffic and or transportation engineering with at least 15 years of experience in traffic and or transportation engineering works, or post graduate degrees in traffic and or transportation engineering with at least 10 years of experience in traffic and or transportation engineering works;
  - At least eight years of consulting and managing experience in the traffic signal and synchronization management area;
  - Specialized knowledge in at least one areas/aspects of traffic signal and synchronization management;
  - Work experience of traffic signal and synchronization management in traffic environment similar to Dhaka;
  - Knowledge and understanding of urban traffic signal management, including on the purpose and elements of signalization, hard and software of signal systems, technical approach on synchronization;
  - Experience in providing training is essential;
  - Work experience in project financed by the World Bank and other international donors will be an advantage;
  - Strong communication skills in presenting, documenting, discussing and resolving difficult issues;
  - Ability to work efficiently and effectively in a multidisciplinary team in difficult work environment.
4. The Project Director now invites eligible applicants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Applicants are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (complete CV with expected remuneration in US\$ and BDT for local expenses).
5. Terms of Reference (TOR) will be available upon request from the address provided below either through email or in person.
6. The consultant will be selected using the Selection of Individual Consultant in accordance with the current World Bank's Consultants Guidelines: "Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers May 2004, Revised October 2006, May 2010 and January 2011 and also PPR 2008 if relevant.
7. The services will be commenced immediately after selection at Dhaka, Bangladesh. Consultant's contract duration will be of 12 man months or as agreed between the parties subject to satisfactory performance to be evaluated half-yearly.
8. Expressions of Interest shall be submitted by 29/10/2014 during office hours on weekdays either in sealed envelope or through email sent to Project Director, and be clearly marked "Request for Expressions of Interest for Individual Timing and Signal Synchronization Consultant-International."
9. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all REOIs.

Md. Shehab Ullah, PEng  
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Clean Air and Sustainable Environment (CASE) Project  
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