

Inequality worst in decades in range of countries: OECD

AFP, Paris

The gap between the rich and poor in a range of countries has reached its widest in 30 years and the trend has harmed growth, the OECD said Tuesday.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) said in a new report that most of its 34 member countries had seen a growing widening in the inequality gap.

"In most OECD countries, the gap between rich and poor is at its highest level since 30 years," the report said.

"Today, the richest 10 percent of the population in the OECD area earn 9.5 times the income of the poorest 10 percent; in the 1980s this ratio stood at 7:1 and has been rising continuously ever since."

The OECD counts both developed and developing

countries as members, including nations from the European Union as well as the United States, Turkey, Mexico and Japan. China, Brazil and India are not members.

In the couple of decades leading up to the global economic crisis, average household income grew for all OECD countries by about 1.6 percent annually.

"However, in three quarters of OECD countries household incomes of the top 10 percent grew faster than those of the poorest 10 percent, resulting in widening income inequality," the report said.

During the recent post-crisis years, average household income stagnated or fell in most member countries, it said.

The gap between the rich and poor varies widely across OECD member states and is often

Inequality gap

Gap between rich and poor in a range of countries widest in 30 years, OECD says

Gini coefficient of income inequality
• 1985 • 2011/2012
0 represents total equality
1 represents absolute inequality



Source: OECD

narrower in many Continental European nations and the Nordic countries, according to the report.

But the average income ratio between the richest 10 percent and the poorest 10 percent skyrockets in other member states.

It "reaches around 10 to 1 in Italy, Japan, Korea, Portugal and the United Kingdom, between 13 and 16 to 1 in Greece, Israel, Turkey and the United States, and between 27 and 30 to 1 in Mexico and Chile."

The report argues that expanding income inequality has negatively affected the economies of member countries, estimating that it has knocked more than 10 percentage points off growth in Mexico and New Zealand.

"In the United States, the United Kingdom,

Sweden, Finland and Norway, the growth rate would have been more than one fifth higher had income disparities not widened," according to the report.

At the same time, according to the OECD's calculations, greater equality helped boost GDP per capita in Spain, France and Ireland prior to the economic crisis.

The report called for anti-poverty programmes along with increased access to high-quality education, training and healthcare.

"The paper also finds no evidence that redistributive policies, such as taxes and social benefits, harm economic growth, provided these policies are well designed, targeted and implemented," the OECD said in a statement announcing the report.



Shamsul Huda Khan, managing director (current charge) of National Bank, speaks at a stress management course organised by the bank in Dhaka recently. Syed Mohammad Bariquillah, deputy managing director, was also present.



FR Khan, managing director of BTI, and Sk Mehedi Zaman, head of merchant business, attend the signing of a deal allowing the bank's Amex cardholders to get special discounts at BTI's Home n Décor, at a programme recently.

StanChart wins Banker award

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh won the prestigious Bank of the Year award at the Banker Awards 2014, it said in a statement yesterday.

The award was handed over to Abrar A Anwar, head of corporate and institutional clients of Standard Chartered Bangladesh, at a programme held recently in London.

"We are delighted to receive the award for three consecutive years which is a testimony of our commitment to serve our clients in this market consistently over so many years," Anwar said while receiving the award.

"We are proud to be able to make positive contributions in Bangladesh."

Now in its 15th year, the Banker Awards became one of the most prestigious events within the industry, according to the statement.

The Banker is read in over 180 countries around the world, and is a key source of data and analysis for the industry.



Abrar A Anwar

Telenor CEO resigns from VimpelCom's board

REUTERS

Telenor said on Monday its chief executive Jon Fredrik Baksaas had stepped down from the supervisory board of US-listed VimpelCom.

Amsterdam-based Vimpelcom, Uzbekistan's biggest mobile operator by subscribers, said in March it was being investigated by the US Securities and Exchange Commission and Dutch authorities.

Telenor holds 33 percent of the economic interests in VimpelCom and 43 percent of the voting rights.

"By stepping down from the supervisory board of VimpelCom, Jon Fredrik Baksaas will eliminate any potential conflict of interest under the circumstances," it said.

"Corruption allegations and speculations are serious and Telenor as a minority owner will continue to take necessary actions to protect its interests," the Norwegian telecoms firm said in a statement.

Baksaas said: "I am stepping down from the VimpelCom board to solely focus on protecting Telenor's position."

"As an owner in VimpelCom we will assist the ongoing investigations."

Telenor said in November it would like to shed its VimpelCom stake, but that to sell at the current share price would "rob" Telenor's shareholders.

VimpelCom shares were trading at \$4.29 per share by 1645 GMT on Monday, 7.3 percent down from the previous session.

Telenor's shares were down less than one percent at 152.8 Norwegian krone (\$21).

Protesting Thai rubber farmers defy martial law

AFP, Bangkok

Thai rubber farmers defied a law banning political gatherings Tuesday as the industry reels from record low prices and tests the junta's resolve to end the kingdom's subsidy culture.

Dozens of farmers gathered in the southern town of Surat Thani to call on Thailand's new military rulers to do more to arrest tumbling prices that have left many facing financial ruin.

The protests are a significant test for the generals now running the world's largest rubber producer who vowed an end to the country's history of populist subsidy policies as part of their justification for seizing power in May.

Many rubber farmers live in the nation's south, a region home to the ultra-royalists who backed the May coup that brought the military to power. As their profits shrivel, the farmers now want payback.

Organisers have vowed to ramp up their demonstrations if the government refuses to buy their product at significantly above market prices.



BFTD

Left, HM Hakim Ali, chairman of Bangladesh Foundation for Tourism Development, and Thinley Lham, chairperson of Bhutan International School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, shake hands after signing a deal at a programme recently to set up an international school of hospitality and tourism management.

SOCIAL MARKETING COMPANY 25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Muhammed Ali, chairman of Social Marketing Company, attends the company's 25th annual general meeting at its head office in Dhaka recently.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

প্রকল্প পরিচালকের কার্যালয়

সম্প্রসারিত তুলা চাষ প্রকল্প (ফেজ-১)

তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, খামারবাড়ি, ফার্মগেট, ঢাকা

www.cdb.gov.bd

স্মারক নং- তুলা/হিসিসিপি(ফেজ-১)/নিয়োগ/২০১৪/২০

তারিখ: ০৯/১২/২০১৪খ্রিঃ

সংশোধনী (নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি)

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, স্মারক নং- তুলা/হিসিসিপি(ফেজ-১)/নিয়োগ/২০১৪/১১ তারিখ: ২৪/১১/২০১৪ইং মোতাবেক গত ২৫/১১/২০১৪ইং তারিখ "The Daily Star" এবং ২৬/১১/২০১৪ইং তারিখ "দৈনিক সংবাদ" পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ডের "সম্প্রসারিত তুলা চাষ প্রকল্প (ফেজ-১)" এর নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তির ৮ নং ক্রমিক বর্ণিত নিয়োগ পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ১০০/- (একশত) টাকা বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক অথবা সোনালী ব্যাংকে ১-৪৩৩৯-৫০১১-২০৩১ নং কোডে ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে জমা দেওয়ার জন্য উল্লেখ করা হয়েছিল। কিন্তু কোন কোন ব্যাংকের অনলাইন শাখায় উক্ত ১-৪৩৩৯-৫০১১-২০৩১ কোডে টাকা জমা না নেওয়ায় সে ক্ষেত্রে ১-৪৩৩৯-০০০০-২০৩১ নং কোডে টাকা জমা দেওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। এছাড়াও প্রকল্প পরিচালক, "সম্প্রসারিত তুলা চাষ প্রকল্প (ফেজ-১)", তুলা উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, খামারবাড়ি, ঢাকা বরাবরে যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক হতে পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ বর্ণিত অর্থ পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে জমা প্রদান করা যাবে।

জি এম ফরহাদ হোসেন

জিডি-৪৬২৩

প্রকল্প পরিচালক



NATIONAL TUBES LIMITED

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation)
API LICENSEE AND ISO:9001:2008 CERTIFIED COMPANY
131-142, TONGI INDUSTRIAL AREA, GAZIPUR-1710.

ন্যাশনাল টিউবস লিমিটেড "আদমজী পাইপ" নামে ব্যাত আন্তর্জাতিক মানসম্পন্ন এপিআই, জিআই ও এমএস পাইপ ব্যবহার করে জাতীয় উন্নয়নে অবদান রাখুন।

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

Sealed offers are invited by Managing Director, National Tubes Ltd. for supply of Hot Rolled Steel Strips from the manufacturer / principal supplier through their authorized local Agent in Bangladesh on CFR Chittagong / Benapole / Airport basis:

SI No.	Reference No.	Description of goods	Earnest Money	Price of Tender documents	Last Selling date of tender document	Closing / Opening Date & time	Source of Finance
1)	COM(I) / 01 (Spares) / Re:Tender-03/14 dated 08-12-2014	Internal Bead Cutter/Internal Bead Scarfing Tool Country of Origin: Japan / Germany / any European Country	US \$ 2565.00 or Tk. 2,00,000	Tk. 1000.00 (Taka One thousand) only (non-refundable)	07-01-2015 (within office hour)	Closing 08-01-2015 at 11-30 A.M Opening on the same date at 03.00 P.M.	Cash/any untied credit.
2)	COM(I) / 01 (Spares) / Re:Tender-04/14 dated 08-12-2014	A. Over Head Crane Travel Motor-04 Pcs. DEMAG / MNESMAN DEMATIC, GERMANY B. Over Head Crane Travel Motor-02 Pcs. DEMAG / MNESMAN DEMATIC, GERMANY	US \$ 205.00 or Tk. 16,000.00	Tk. 1000.00 (Taka One thousand) only (non-refundable)	07-01-2015 (within office hour)	Closing 08-01-2015 at 11-30 A.M Opening on the same date at 03.00 P.M.	

In case of unavoidable circumstances the offer will be received on the next working day and opened on the same place and time. Tender documents may be obtained during working hours (excepting on opening date) on cash payment from the following addresses:

- 1) Cash Section, Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation "BSEC BHABAN", 102 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215.
- 2) Cash Section, National Tubes Ltd., Commercial Dept., 131-142 Tongi Industrial Area, Gazipur-1710.

The Tenders / Bids will be received at the following addresses:

- 1) Purchase Division (4th Floor), Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation "BSEC BHABAN", 102 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215.
- 2) National Tubes Ltd., Commercial Dept., 131-142 Tongi Industrial Area, Gazipur-1710.

The Tenders / Bids will be opened at the following addresses:

National Tubes Ltd., Commercial Department, 131-142 Tongi Industrial Area, Gazipur-1710.

(AKM ANWAR MORSHED)
Dy. General Manager (Commercial)
Phone : 02-9802737

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
Bangladesh Power Development Board
Office of the Executive Engineer
Zonal Civil Construction Division
Bidyut Bhaban (Ground Floor)
Agrabad, Chittagong
Phone: 031-716403
E-mail: xen.civil.cons.ctg@bpdb.gov.bd
বিদ্যুৎ শাস্ত্রী বাডি ব্যবহার করুন

Memo No: ZCCD/AC's-20/e-W-(2)/2014-15/843 Dated: 03/12/2014

Invitation for e-Tenders

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works:

SI No	Tender ID	Name of works
1.	15403	Internal repairing and maintenance of Flat No. Surma-9/2 and Surma-9/4 at Jamalkhan Residential Colony.
2.	15402	Repairing and maintenance of 7-units (F-2/4, F-2/6, F-2/17, F-2/20, F-2/18, F-2/28 and F-2/31) of F-2 Bhaban at Mansurabad Residential Colony.
3.	15079	Repairing and maintenance of 2-flats of finished bhaban including repairing of CI Sheet Roof at Mansurabad Residential Colony.
4.	15404	Protective works of water seeping from doctor's bathroom at 2nd Floor to S & D-Madarbari, Executive Engineer's bathroom including repairing of two bathrooms with doctor's office room.
5.	14998	Repairing and painting of outer side including stair, repairing of waste water line and repairing of drain/apron of F-4 Bhaban at Mansurabad Residential Colony.
6.	13902	Repairing and fitting of Thai-aluminum sliding door including fitting of sliding mosquito net at front/back side verandah of Flat No. C-6/1 and C-6/2 of Manoshi Bhaban and fitting of Thai-aluminum window with related maintenance works at verandah of Anamika Bhaban (B-3) in Jamalkhan Residential Colony.
7.	15533	Repairing and maintenance of 5-units (E-4/6, E-4/5, E-10/4, E-6/8, and E-6/4 at Mansurabad Residential Colony.
8.	15543	Repairing of garage of Chief Engineer and Superintending Engineer with repairing of complain centre at Jamalkhan Residential Colony.
9.	14281	Internal repairing and maintenance including electrical repairing works of Flat No. C-10/2 and C-10/8 of Titas Bhaban at Jamalkhan Residential Colony.
10.	14497	Internal electrical repairing works including painting works and protective works of water seeping from roof of Flat No C-13/4 of Karnafuli Bhaban at Jamalkhan Residential Colony.

These are online tenders, where only e-tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-tenders, registration required in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). The fees for downloading the e-tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)/contact number (01762625528-31).

Engr. Haradan Chandra Datta
ID No: 01-01369

Executive Engineer (In-charge)
Zonal Civil Construction Division
BPDB, Chittagong

Bidyut/Jana-523(3)/7/12/14
GD-4602