**ASIAN MARKETS** 

**TOKYO** 

**0.28%** 

MUMBAI

\$64.56

**V** 0.27%



**DHAKA THURSDAY JUNE 25, 2015** 

COMMODITIES

\$1,171.20

## Move fast to attract more FDI

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

Analysts list risks as investments dip

IN MILLION \$

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

**STOCKS** 

**V** 0.72%

DSEX

CSCX

**0.60%** 

............ Business leaders and analysts yesterday called for sorting out the longstanding deficiencies that dissuade overseas investors after foreign direct investment flow to the country declined for the first time in five years.

The country received \$1.53 billion in FDI uncertainty for investors and elevated last year, down 4.57 percent year-on-year, geopolitical risk. according the World Investment Report 2015 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad).

The report was unveiled in the country by the Board of Investment (BoI) at its office in Dhaka on behalf of the United Nations agency.

"We have to look at the issues that are holding back the foreign investors," said Rupali Chowdhury, president of the Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

"Is it corruption, red tape or a lack of coordination among the ministries? If we have an image crisis at the international level, we have to work on it," she added.

Ruling party lawmaker Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir said the shortages of power, gas and industrial land have to be addressed to attract both foreign and local investment.

SA Samad, executive FDI INFLOW chairman of BoI, however, said the situation is not alarming as the dip in the FDI flow

> Worldwide, FDI inflows declined 16 percent year-onyear to \$1.2 trillion last year because of the fragility of the global economy, policy

is not a "major collapse".

"However, recovery is in sight in 2015 and beyond," said the report, adding that FDI flows now account for more than 40 percent of external development finance to

developing and transitioning economies. China replaced the US as the recipient of the most FDI in the world.

In South Asia, apart from Bangladesh, FDI flow to Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal and Iran all went down.

In contrast, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka saw their FDI inflow rise, said M Ismail Hossain, chairman of the department of economics at North South University, while making a presentation on the report.

India attracted the most FDI, receiving \$34 billion during the calendar year. Pakistan's receipt increased 31 percent to \$1.7 billion.

#### 09612123456 / 16339 **BEST RAW MATERIALS ENSURE BASHUNDHARA WORLD-CLASS QUALITY** CEMENT

**BONDING GENERATIONS** 

#### Chapainawabganj mangoes on way to the UK

RABIUL HASAN, Chapainawabganj

**0.35%** 

Mangoes from Chapainawabganj yesterday started their maiden journey for the United Kingdom, where they would be stocked on the shelves of Walmart-owned supermarket chain Asda.

Basirul Islam, owner of Barkullah Traders, has sent 2,000 kilogrammes of mangoes to Dhaka-based fresh agro product exporter Dip International, which would then ship them to the UK.

"I am hoping to get premium prices from the export markets," he said, adding that he sent 1,500 kgs of the Fazli variety mango and 500 kgs of the Langra variety.

Islam's mango consignment holds great hope for the district whose general population are heavily dependent on the summer fruit for their livelihood.

Some 24,260 hectares of land are devoted to mango orchards in Chapainawabganj, which bear 2.30 lakh tonnes of the fruit every year.

Islam got a helping hand from the scientists of Regional Horticulture Research Station (RHRS) while collecting the mangoes from the district's different orchards.

READ MORE ON B3

### Motorcycle assemblers hit by NBR move

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

**CURRENCIES** 

**BUY TK** 77.20

SHANGHAI

**2.48%** 

The government is set to raise the supplementary duty on motorcycle components to 45 percent from 30 percent, and slap a condition that the parts be imported in unpainted form in fiscal 2015-16, much to the disappointment of assemblers.

"We are facing a very serious situation here -- we might have to give up on the assembling business altogether. But, I cannot discharge my employees," Yoichi Mizutani, managing director of Bangladesh Honda Private Ltd, said at a press conference yesterday.

The event was organised by the Bangladesh Motorcycle Assemblers and Manufacturers Association (BMAMA) at



the capital's Sonargaon Hotel.

President of the association Matiur Rahman said the move to consider only unpainted motorcycle components as completely knocked down (CKD) units will be more detrimental to the assembling industry than the duty

**READ MORE ON B3** 

### Rough weather halts unloading of goods at Ctg port

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg ......

Unloading of imported goods from cargo vessels at the outer anchorage of Chittagong port has remained almost suspended for the last three days due to rain and rough sea, leaving consignees staring at huge overstaying charges.

A total of 37 cargo vessels with about seven lakh tonnes of goods including wheat, soybean oil, salt and cement clinkers are now tethered at the outer anchorage, according to ship handling operators.

For instance, MV Parth-1, a cargo vessel with 46,800 tonnes of gypsum, arrived at the outer anchorage on June 17; some 20,525 tonnes of goods could be lightered till Sunday when the rain started.

Sarwar Hossain, director of the operating firm, said no goods could be unloaded from the vessel for the last three days.

Had normal weather prevailed, the vessel would have left by this time, he said, adding that the consignee would have to bear fines of \$12,000 per day for the overstaying of the vessel.

Ataul Karim, an official of Water Transport Cell, a private organisation that allots lighter vessels, said 40 vessels were assigned on Sunday for unloading goods from 10 of the cargo ships at outer anchorage but none could be engaged in the work due to rain and rough sea.

### Abu Dhabi's Rotana Jet begins operations in Dhaka today

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Abu Dhabi-based private airline Rotana Jet will begin its operations in Bangladesh today.

Initially three weekly flights on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays will be operated to Dhaka, which will be followed by three more weekly flights to Chittagong on Mondays, Thursdays and Sundays from July 2.

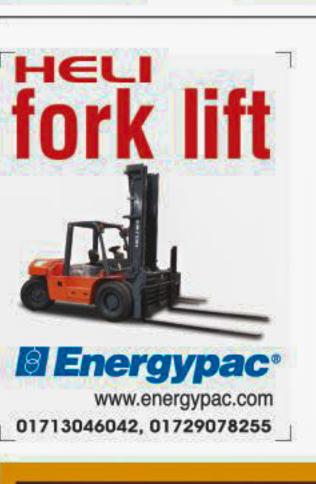


403 from Abu Dhabi will arrive at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 6:35am today and the return flight RJ 404 will depart Dhaka on the same day at 7:35am.

Flights to Dhaka will be operated by Airbus A319 with 120 seat capacity, according to a statement.

Passengers from Bangladesh will enjoy convenient connections via Abu Dhabi to destinations like Dubai, Doha, Bahrain, Muscat, Beirut, Kuwait and others in the Gulf Cooperation Council region.

Speedy Int'l Ltd, a concern of Sheltech Group, has been appointed as the general sales agent (GSA) of the airline for Bangladesh.



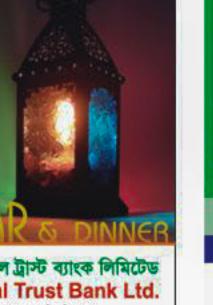




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