

# Thai crackdown on rogue fishing as fears grow over EU ban



Migrant workers sort out fish in a port in Bangkok.

AFP, Mahachai, Thailand

A belated Thai clampdown on illegal fishing is forcing unlicensed vessels ashore, threatening to paralyse a key industry as the kingdom desperately tries to avoid a European Union ban on exports worth \$1 billion a year.

Barrels of fish packed in ice are usually rolled off boats at a bustling port in Samut Sakhon, a coastal province near Bangkok, by Myanmar and Cambodia migrant workers who prop up the world's third largest seafood producer.

But many will sit idle from Wednesday, say their Thai employers, who have failed to obtain necessary fishing permits under a raft of new government rules aimed at cleaning up the shadowy industry.

Next to buckets of red snapper destined to become fish balls for the local market and fishmeal to rear shrimp marked for Europe, a Thai vessel owner says there are "too many rules and too little time".

"We will have to keep paying bills with no income," said the worried 59-year-old, who withheld his name, as he

prepares to cease operations until he can meet the conditions for a new permit.

The Wednesday deadline to register boats with authorities and acquire permits under revised standards, including installing equipment such as tracking devices, comes after the European Union threatened to ban fish imports from the kingdom unless it combat illegal fishing.

In April Brussels issued Thailand with a "yellow card" for inadequate fisheries monitoring, controls and punishment, warning that a "red card" and eventual import ban would follow if it failed to improve within six months.

The spectre of losing \$1 billion in European sales is a shortfall the ruling military can ill-afford in an already sluggish economy.

Thailand saw only 0.3 percent growth in the first quarter and exports have been slowing in part, says the World Bank, due to an erosion in competitiveness.

Aphisit Techananitawad, president of The Thai Overseas Fisheries Association, estimates around 3,000 fishing vessels nationwide will forsake

the seas from Wednesday.

"About 80 percent of all the fishermen, they're coming back to shore" to seek permits, he told AFP at his fisheries factory in Samut Sakhon.

A recent shortage in fresh fish has already seen his workers stop processing crab sticks for French export, instead focusing on canning sardines and mackerel from frozen supplies for the Myanmar and Cambodian markets.

A labour ministry spokeswoman said around 80,000 migrants were working in Thai fisheries since the deadline for compulsory migrant registrations closed Tuesday.

Aphisit thinks the government could have imposed a more lenient timeframe for changes.

But premier Prayut Chan-O-Cha has remained adamant the industry has been left unchecked for too long.

"Don't put any more pressure on government," he said when asked about rising anger within the fishing industry. "If we don't pass these measures a 200 billion baht (\$6 billion) industry could be wiped out so everybody should cooperate," he said.

Thailand's image has been battered in recent years by a series of fishing abuse allegations from prominent rights groups of ships using slave and child labour as well as trafficking victims.

And last year the US downgraded the kingdom to its lowest ranking on human trafficking, a designation that can trigger sanctions.

Bangkok is desperate to improve its standing, while sanctions have not yet been imposed, laying out new measures including a ban on fishing workers under 18 in the months since. The latest Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report is due for imminent publication.

Observers say that while the latest threat of an EU ban has triggered a renewed sense of urgency in authorities, rushed actions will fail to combat illegal fishing in the long-term.

Debapriya Bhattacharya, distinguished fellow of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, attends a session of the High Level Political Forum of the United Nations held in New York on Tuesday.



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## Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)

TCB Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215

### IMPORT SECTION

#### Invitation for Tender (International) Whole Husked (without husk) Red Lentil

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Commerce.
2	Agency	Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)
3	Procuring Entity Name	Chairman, TCB, Dhaka.
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not applicable.
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.
6	Invitation for	Whole Husked (without husk) Red lentil
7	Invitation Ref. No.	26.05.26.90.016.09.026.2015/4618
8	Date	30-06-2015

#### KEY INFORMATION

9	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM) (International)
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#### FUNDING INFORMATION

1	Budget and Source of Funds	TCB's Own Fund.
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#### PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11	Package No.	TCB/Imp-85/Red Lentil/2014
12	Package Name	Whole husked (without husk) Red lentil
13	Tender Publication Date	01-07-2015 to 03-07-2015
14	Date	16-08-2015
15	Time	17:00 P.M
16	Tender Closing Date and Time	17-08-2015
17	Tender Opening Date and Time	17-08-2015
	Address	(1) Sonali Bank Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch, TCB Bhaban, Dhaka. (2) Rupali Bank Ltd, TCB Bhaban Branch, TCB Bhaban Kawran Bazar (3) Trust Bank Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch, and Accounts & Finance Division, TCB's Principal Office at Dhaka.

#### - Selling Tender Document of each item can be purchased from the banks & offices as mentioned in right column.

- Receiving Tender Document

- Opening Tender Document

#### INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

18	Eligibility of Tender	Bona fide Suppliers/Manufacturers. Details conditions will be mentioned in the Tender documents.
19	Brief Description of goods	Import of 2,000 (+5%) (Two Thousand plus minus five percent) M.Tons Whole Husked (without husk) Red Lentils.
20	Price of Tender Document	Tk.2,000 (Two Thousand) only Per Set.

21	1.	Whole Husked (without husk) Red lentil	Offers are to be made on CFR (C) Chittagong by Sea.	Tender is to be submitted along with earnest money amounting to USD 29,190 (US Dollar Twenty Nine Thousand One Hundred Ninety) or BDT 22,90,000 (BDT Twenty Two Lac Ninety Thousand) only in the form of Pay-Order /Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee/Demand Draft. The Successful Bidder is to submit 5% (Five Percent) Performance Security in the form of Pay-Order /Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee.	Entire quantity of Goods is to be shipped within 40 (Forty) days including L/C correction & grace period from the date of opening L/C.
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#### PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

22	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Akther Hossain
23	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Chief Officer (Commercial), TCB Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.
24	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Principal Office, Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.
25	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone No.02-8180074   Fax No.880-2-8180057   E-mail: tcb@tcb.gov.bd

#### 26 Special Instructions:

- i) Incomplete, conditional Tender and alternative offer shall not be considered.
- ii) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject any/all Tenders partly or wholly without assigning any reason.
- iii) Tenderer whose bid/bond was awarded the Notification of Awarded (NOA) earlier but could not submit Performance Security (PS) in due time, will not be eligible for the Tender.
- iv) Tenderer whose Performance Security (PS) was partially or totally forfeited earlier will not be eligible to participate in the Tender.

Chief Officer (Commercial)  
Trading Corporation of Bangladesh



Asif Md Touhid, chief procurement officer of Grameenphone, and Jamal Shah, chief operating officer of Payza Bangladesh, attend the signing of a deal at GP's corporate office in Dhaka yesterday. GP users can buy different value added services, complete online recharge or pay bills on the GP website through Payza e-wallet.



NCC Bank Managing Director Golam Hafiz Ahmed attends a workshop on green finance and financial inclusion at the bank's training institute in Dhaka recently. Deputy managing directors Akhtar Hamid Khan and AZM Saleh were also present.

## WB warns China over state financial control

AFP, Beijing

The World Bank on Wednesday urged China to accelerate reform of its state-dominated financial sector, warning that failure to address the issue could end "three decades of stellar performance" for the world's second-largest economy.

The ruling Communist Party has pledged a wide range of economic reforms and the Washington-based institution said reducing the "unique and distorted role of the state" in banking and the wider financial sector was crucial.

"Wasteful investment, over indebtedness, and a weakly regulated shadow-banking system," had to be addressed for the broader agenda to succeed, it said.

The comments in the China Economic Update were unusually forthright for the World Bank.

"Unlike other countries, in China the state still maintains pervasive ownership and control of banks and other financial institutions," it said, including with powerful internal Communist Party committees and authorities appointing and dismissing top executives.

"The state has formal ownership of 65 percent of commercial bank assets and de facto control of 95 percent of these assets, making it an outlier by international standards."

In some cases, it added, authorities were simultaneously owners, regulators and customers of banks.

China's financial system was still "unbalanced, repressed, costly to maintain, and potentially unstable", the bank said, repeating its description from a 2012 report.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Inspector General Bangladesh Police Police Headquarters, Dhaka

### Invitation for Tender

Date: 01 July 2015

Memo No. K/28-2015/2244

For Financial year 2015-2016, sealed tenders are hereby invited from the Manufacturers/suppliers in their official pad for the purchase of the Uniform items for Bangladesh Police.

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs
2	Agency	Bangladesh Police
3	Procuring Entity Name	Assistant Inspector General (Supply), Bangladesh Police, Police Headquarters, Dhaka.
4	Invitation for	Police Uniform Item
5	Invitation Ref. No.	K/28-2015/2244
6	Date	01 July 2015

#### Key Information

7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
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#### Funding Information

8	Budget and source of fund	Revenue Budget (GOB)
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#### Particular Information

9	Tender Publication date	1 July 2015
10	Tender last selling date	1 August 2015
11	Tender closing date and time	2 August 2015 at 12:00 Noon
12	Tender opening date and time	2 August 2015 at 12:30 PM

#### Name & address of the office

13	Name & address of the office	Police Headquarters, Phoenix Road, Fulbaria, Dh