

# EU hits China with new steel anti-dumping probes

AFP, Brussels  
The EU launched new probes on Friday into imports of Chinese steel, warning it would not allow "unfair competition" to threaten Europe's industry already crumbling under a flood of cheap imports.

European steelmakers are reeling from a global glut and last week Luxembourg-based world leader ArcelorMittal blamed China for a colossal \$8-billion loss in 2015 while thousands of jobs are being cut.

"We cannot allow unfair competition from artificially cheap imports to threaten our industry. I am determined to use all means possible to ensure that our trading partners play by the rules," EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom said in a statement.

The European Commission, the EU's executive arm, had opened an investigation into imports of seamless pipes, heavy plates and hot-rolled flat steel from China, the statement said.

The Commission separately imposed anti-dumping duties on cold-rolled flat steel imports from China and Russia. It recalled that it recently also imposed anti-dumping measures on Chinese steel bars used in the construction industry. Malmstrom last month urged China to cut output for everyone's sake.

"In the wake of a worrying trend, I urge you to take all appropriate measures to curb the steel overcapacity and other causes aggravating the situation," Malmstrom wrote in a letter to Chinese Commerce Minister Gao Hucheng.



Workers are seen at the ArcelorMittal steel factory in Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on February 9. Luxembourg-based ArcelorMittal blamed China for a colossal \$8-billion loss in 2015.

The letter also warned China that it faced new probes if nothing was done after its steel exports soared 50 percent in 2015, destabilising the global market and the EU in particular.

China accounts for half of global steel production but internal demand has slowed sharply along with the economy, forcing it to look overseas.

Beijing has announced plans to cut production by as much as 150 million tonnes over the next five years but this is far short of the 340 million tonnes that experts say the country is over-producing every year.

The latest measure on steel comes amid a growing stand-off between the EU and China, which are major trading partners but which have also had

many trade disputes in the past, most bitterly over solar panels which continues to rumble on.

In a separate statement Friday, the Commission said it was extending existing anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures on imports of Chinese solar modules and cells via Taiwan and Malaysia. It said an investigation showed that China was getting around duties by transshipping the goods via Taiwan and Malaysia.

Tensions with China have also grown as Beijing presses the EU to recognise it as a fully market based economy, not a communist, state controlled giant which now ranks second in the world only after the United States.

# Singapore Telecom net profit falls

AFP, Singapore  
Singapore Telecom blamed the strength of the local dollar after it announced Friday net profit fell 1.7 percent in the quarter to the end of December.

Net profit totalled Sg\$954 million (\$683 million), down from Sg\$970 million in the same period the year before.

Singtel, Southeast Asia's biggest telecom firm by revenue, said the profit decline was mainly due to the Singapore dollar gaining against the currencies of countries where it has businesses.

It also pointed to higher investment costs, to strengthen its capabilities in a range of areas, as a reason for the dip in profits. Group revenue came in at Sg\$4.5 billion, up 1.1 percent, the company said in a statement.

"We are investing significantly in our engineering talent and strengthening our core capabilities in cyber security, data analytics and cloud computing," group chief executive Chua Sock Koong said in a statement.

"This is helping the enterprise business stay relevant and resilient in the face of both technology disruption and softer business sentiment."

A large portion of Singtel's earnings come from overseas after its expansion beyond the domestic market, making it vulnerable to currency movements. Singtel has a wholly owned subsidiary in Australia called Optus. It also owns substantial stakes in leading mobile telecom firms in India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.

# German growth keeps eurozone economy steady amid global turmoil

AFP, Brussels  
Solid growth in powerhouse Germany kept the eurozone economy steady in late 2015 despite the buffeting from global market turmoil and a sharp slowdown in China, data showed Friday, but the outlook is clouded.

Analysts said the figures were "something of a relief" after recent weakening data had suggested a modest recovery in the 19-nation single currency bloc was running out of steam.

The Eurostat statistics agency said the eurozone grew 0.3 percent in the last three months of 2015, the same pace as in the previous quarter and in line with analyst forecasts.

German gross domestic product (GDP) growth, at 0.3 percent, offset weaker performances from southern countries by virtue of its sheer size.

"The economic situation in Germany was characterised by solid and continuous growth in 2015," federal statistics office Destatis said.

France slowed to 0.2 percent from 0.3 percent in the fourth quarter.

The Italian recovery stalled, with just 0.1 percent growth after 0.2 percent, complicating Italy's efforts to start reducing its 2.2 trillion euro (\$2.5 trillion) debt mountain this year.

"Italy is still struggling to emerge from the great recession of 2008-14 and despite some encouraging signs in the first part of 2015, growth lost momentum in the second half," said Lorenzo Codogno, chief economist at LC Macro Advisors.

Spain, meanwhile, led the pack with another gain of 0.8 percent.

Bailed out Greece fell back into recession as its economy contracted by 0.6 percent, however that was a distinct improvement from a 1.4 percent contraction the previous quarter.

Athens remains saddled with a huge mountain of debt and it is struggling to meet the tough terms laid down in a third debt rescue agreed with its international creditors last year.

But despite the positive fourth-quarter headline figure, the report also pointed up the risks and the European Central Bank, which has launched an unprecedented one-trillion-euro stimulus programme may have to do even more to get the economy back on track, they said.

For all 2015, it expanded 1.5 percent, coming in short of the 1.6 percent estimate given by the European Commission last week.

Outside the eurozone, Britain rose to a 0.5 percent quarterly expansion from 0.4 percent.

For the full 28-nation European Union, the economy gained 0.3 percent in the fourth quarter, down from 0.4 percent in the third, and expanded 1.8 percent for the year.

Howard Archer at IHS Global Insight said that while the 2015 growth rate of 1.5 percent was the best since 2011, the fourth-quarter performance was only "lacklustre" and the outlook was not promising.

"We have been expecting eurozone growth to improve modestly to 1.7 percent in 2016 but this is currently looking ever more questionable and may well need to be revised down," Archer said in a note.

"There are clearly mounting downside risks to the eurozone growth outlook coming from global growth problems and financial market weakness and volatility," he said.

Other analysts were equally guarded.

"The fact that eurozone growth did not slow in the fourth quarter provides little comfort in the current environment of global market turmoil and does not preclude the need for further decisive policy action from the ECB," Capital Economics said.

Capital Economics even warned that it may have to cut its already low 1.2-percent growth forecast for this year.

"We have pencilled in growth of 1.2 percent in 2016 but the recent turmoil in global financial markets and signs of renewed stress in peripheral eurozone (countries) have increased the downside risks even to our forecast," it said.

# Renault's net profit goes up

AFP, Paris  
Renault said Friday net profit for 2015 was up nearly 50 percent to 2.96 billion euros (\$3.3 billion) despite a hit from its Russian subsidiary which Renault said it may recapitalize and take over to save it from collapse.

The French carmaker said it was in talks with the holding company of its Russian unit, AvtoVAZ, after it took a 620 million euro loss in Russia as the economy slowed drastically last year.

# US retail sales edge higher in January

AFP, Washington  
US retail sales rose modestly for the third straight month in January despite falling gasoline prices, the Commerce Department reported Friday.

Shoppers spent 0.2 percent more on retail and food services, following an upwardly revised 0.2 percent increase in December. Retail sales totaled \$449.9 billion in January, up 3.4 percent from a year ago, according to the data that is not adjusted for price changes.

The January and December growth numbers were suggest "consumer spending may not be as weak as thought, especially given the lack of inflation," said Scott Hoyt of Moody's Analytics.

The January data showed a 3.1 percent drop in gasoline sales at the pump.

Auto sales rose 0.6 percent; ex-auto, retail sales were up a meager 0.1 percent.

Sales in general merchandise stores rose 0.8 percent, almost wiping out December's decline, but department stores saw sales fall 0.8 percent.

Online retailers rang up a 1.6 percent gain in January, when severe snowstorms blanketed the populous Northeast for a few weeks.

The retail sales data offer a gauge on the health of consumer spending, the main driver of the US economy, and for Ian Shepherdson of Pantheon Macroeconomics, the January report "looks like a solid start" for the first quarter of the year.

"With goods prices falling, thanks to the strong dollar, the real increase will be a bit higher still," he said in client note.

"This doesn't guarantee a strong number for total consumption, because retail sales are less than half of all spending, but it is now much more likely."

## Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Gaibandha Region, Gaibandha

### Tender Notice

1	Ministry/division	:	Ministry of Agriculture.
2	Agency	:	Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation.
3	Procuring entity name	:	Executive Engineer, BADC, Gaibandha Region, Gaibandha.
4	Procuring entity district	:	Gaibandha.
5	Invitation tender ref.	:	Ex En-01/2015-16/417 Date 28/01/2016.
6	Published date	:	28/01/2016.
7	Procurement method	:	Open tender method (OTM).
8	Tender selling last date	:	16/02/2016 (up to office time).
9	Tender receiving date & time	:	17/02/2016, 9-00 to 12.30 hrs BST.
10	Tender opening date & time	:	17/02/2016 at 2-00 hrs BST.
11	Tender selling office address	:	Executive Engineer, BADC, Gaibandha Region, Gaibandha.
12	Tender receiving office address	:	Executive Engineer, BADC, Gaibandha Region, Gaibandha.
13	Tender opening place	:	Executive Engineer, BADC, Gaibandha Region, Gaibandha. (In presence of tenderer, if anyone is present).
14	Eligibility of tenderer	:	As per tender schedule.
15	Description of tender	:	

Pkg No.	Lot No.	Description of work	Price of tender document	Tender security
GD-01	01	Boundary Wall Construction	Tk. 1,500/-	Tk. 70,000/-
16	Name of official inviting tender	:	S M Shahidul Alam.	
17	Designation of official inviting tender	:	Executive Engineer.	
18	Address & contact of official inviting tender	:	BADC, Gaibandha (MI) Region, Dhanghora, Gaibandha. Tel-0541-52231.	
19	Special instruction	:	If tender receiving & opening is not possible at define date due to some unavoidable circumstances, then it will be at next working date (Place & Time will be same).	
20	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.			
21	BADC website: www.badc.gov.bd			

Executive Engineer  
BADC, Gaibandha

**চিটাগাং ড্রাই ডক লিমিটেড**  
বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী  
পূর্ব পতেঙ্গা, চট্টগ্রাম

**বিষয়ঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, চিটাগাং ড্রাইডক লিমিটেড, বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী কর্তৃক নিম্নে বর্ণিত মালামাল ক্রয়ের জন্য প্রকৃত আমদানিকারক/ইনভেস্টর/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।

ক্রমিক নং	টেডার নং ও তারিখ	মালামালের বিবরণ	দরপত্র তফসীলের মূল্য (অফেরতযোগ্য) টাঃ	বায়নার টাকা	দরপত্র গ্রহণ/খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	ডেলিভারী শর্ত
০১।	সিডিডি/কম/এফপি/৮.০০/১৫-১৬ তারিখঃ ০৮/০২/২০১৬ইং	এমএস গ্রেট ১১০০ টন (তফসীল মোতাবেক)	টাঃ ৩০০০.০০	উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ১%	গ্রহণের তারিখঃ ১৪-১৭ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৬ (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে)। খোলার সময়ঃ ২০ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৬ বেলাঃ ১০.৩০ মিনিট। স্থানঃ ব্যবস্থাপক (বাণিজ্যিক বিভাগ)	ক্যাশ/ক্রেডিট/গ্রাউট লোন।

০১। দরপত্র দাখিল অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ক্যাশ সেকশন, চিটাগাং ড্রাইডক লিমিটেড, বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী, চট্টগ্রাম এ পাওয়া যাবে।  
বিঃ দ্রঃ অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ টেডার খোলার তারিখে যদি টেডার খোলা সম্ভব না হয়, তবে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবে একই স্থানে ও একই সময়ে টেডার খোলা হইবে।  
জিডি-৪২১

উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (প্রশাসন)

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD  
Road Division, Jhenaidah  
☎ 0451-62816

Reference No. 156

Date: 11/02/2016

**e-GP Tender Notice**

E-Tender is invited in the national e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following:

Tender ID No	Package No	Tender description	Last date & time of selling
47994	e-GP/27/EE/JHRD/2015-16	Repair with Aggregate Base Type II., Carpeting & seal Coat work at 2nd (P), 11th (P), 12th (P), 13th (P), 14th (P), 15th (P), 16th (P) & Palisading Work from Ch. 07+780m to 07+795m of Kalgionj-Khajura-Raypur-Bagharpara Road under Road Division Jhenaidah during the year 2015-2016.	29-Feb-2016 13:00
47995	e-GP/28/EE/JHRD/2015-16	Supplying of best quality Stone Chips, 1st Class/P. Jhama Bricks, Firewood, Pea-gravels and Local Sand at RHD Stackyard, Jhenaidah and Kalgionj for maintenance of different Roads under Road Division Jhenaidah during the year 2015-2016.	29-Feb-2016 13:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.  
To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.  
The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any Member of Schedule Bank for e-GP.  
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (<http://www.helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd>).

Md. Rafiqul Islam  
ID No. 601951  
Executive Engineer, (RHD)  
Road Division, Jhenaidah.

GD-422

**People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207

Memo No: LGED/SRE/PM/UNIDO/2010/1076

Date : 09/02/2016

**Opening of Solar Electrification System at "Char Madhua-Namapara Community Clinic"**

Solar Electrification System at "Char Madhua Namapara Community Clinic" under Nokla Upazila, Sherpur was inaugurated by valiant Freedom Fighter Mr. Shafiqul Islam Jinnah. The Project is implemented by LGED & financed by UNIDO.

For the first time, 5 Community Clinics situated at Gazipur, Sherpur and Jamalpur districts came under solar powered electricity, which will be run by the relevant Community Clinic Committee. Under purview of these clinics, Community people deprived of the health facilities will be immensely benefited. Numbers of deprived citizens of the said locations were given Solar Lanterns in this occasion.

Mr. Shahinur Alam, President of the Community Clinic presided over the function, Valiant Freedom Fighter Mr. Shafiqul Islam Jinnah, General Secretary of Local Awami League was the chief guest. Project Manager Mr. Partha Pradip Sarkar, Mr. Zaki Uz Zaman, Head of UNIDO Operations in Bangladesh, Project Engineer Mr. Md. Murtaza, Newly elected Mayor Mr. Hafizur Rahman Liton, Nokla Sechha Sebak League President Mr. Mokhlesur Rahman, Organizing Secretary of Nokla Awami League Mr. Rezaul Karim attended the program as special guest.

GD-427