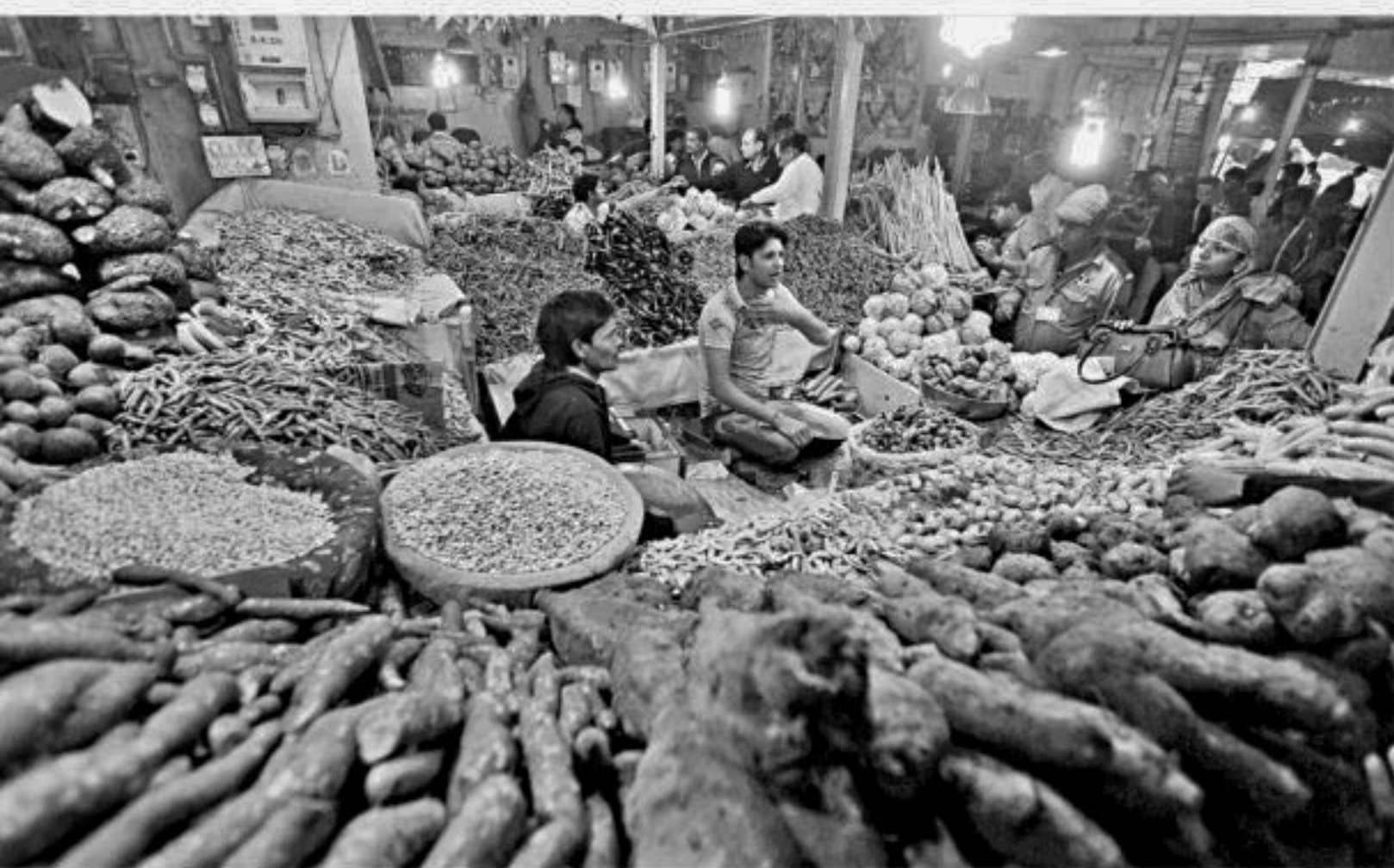


India inflation seen cooling in February



Customers buy vegetables from a stall at a market in Ahmedabad, India. REUTERS, Bengaluru

Indian inflation was expected to cool in February as food prices rose more slowly, a Reuters poll found, which could strengthen calls for more monetary policy easing.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not changed its key interest rate since cutting by a surprise 50 basis points in September. Governor Raghuram Rajan has emphasised the need for fiscal reform and stable inflation before he takes any further action.

India unveiled a fire-fighting budget last week that seeks to win back support among rural voters for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government and sustain growth against a

grim global backdrop, putting the onus for support back on Rajan.

Junior Finance Minister Jayant Sinha said the tight fiscal policy could allow for further monetary easing. Also giving Rajan room to act, the poll of 23 economists predicted retail prices rose 5.60 percent in February, a touch slower than January's 5.69 percent.

"Food inflation eased in February...most likely due to the fact that temperatures have finally returned to normal, after unusually high temperatures earlier in winter led to delays in the sowing of rabi (summer) crops such as wheat and barley," said Shilan Shah, India economist at Capital Economics.

"The chances of there being per-

haps one more rate cut in the near term have risen, but this is because the FY16/17 budget adopted a tighter fiscal stance than expected rather than any change in the outlook for inflation," he added.

Although inflation has been climbing since July, it has remained below the RBI's January 2016 target of 6 percent for nearly a year-and-a-half.

The RBI is expected to cut rates by 25 basis points at its April 5 meeting and follow up with a second cut in the last three months of 2016, a separate Reuters poll conducted last week found, as it tries to boost flagging growth.

Indian industrial production was expected to contract for a third straight month in January, the latest poll also found.

Economists predicted Friday's data will show a fall of 0.5 percent in factory output, following a 1.3 percent and 3.4 percent decline in December and November respectively.

"Although auto sales are doing well and the manufacturing PMI recovered very recently, other indicators such as rail freight and production in 'core' industries remain weak," said Devika Mehndiratta, ANZ Research's chief Asia economist.

The slight rebound is likely due to a similar bounce back in infrastructure output, which rose 2.9 percent in January, up from December's 0.9 percent. Infrastructure output accounts for over one-third of the wider industrial measure.

New Zealand cuts rates to a record low

BBC NEWS

In a surprise move, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) has cut its lending rates for the fifth time since June last year to a record low of 2.25 percent.

The bank said the 25 basis point cut was due to global growth worries and weaker demand from China - an important trade partner.

New Zealand is the world's largest dairy exporter but the sector has been facing some challenges. The central bank signalled it could cut rates further to help boost growth.

The New Zealand dollar fell on the news by more than 1 percent.

The RBNZ last cut rates in December from 2.75 percent to 2.5 percent, saying the country's economy had softened in 2015.

At the time, central bank governor Graeme Wheeler said he was positive about the outlook for inflation and economic growth for 2016. However, as he announced the bank's latest cut, Wheeler said the outlook for global growth had worsened since the December cut.



Kutubuddin Ahmed, chairman of Sheltech; Toufiq M Seraj, managing director, and Saamiya Seraj, a director, attend a press conference at Sheltech Bithika on Mazar Road in Mirpur, Dhaka yesterday. Sheltech will organise a housing fair at Sheltech Bithika over March 12 to 31 to mark the company's 28th anniversary.



Atiur Rahman, governor of Bangladesh Bank, and Muhammad Shafiq Bin Abdullah, managing director of ICB Islamic Bank, hand over a cheque for Tk 1.2 crore under the Women Entrepreneurs financing facility to Mehuba Aftab Shathee, owner of Mystic Tiles, at the Women Entrepreneurs Conference and Product Exhibition Fair at Bangladesh Bank Training Academy in Dhaka yesterday.

Procurement & Logistics Support Directorate
Ref: DACPL/OTM-020/2015-16 Date: 10/03/2016

OTM-020/2015-16

Tender in sealed envelope individually for each group are hereby invited from interested Manufacturer/Distributor/Supplier for Group-A, B, C & D for supplying the following items to Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd.

01. GROUP-A (FSD)
Disposable Plastic Tea/Coffee Cup QTY: 2,50,000 each
Specification: Upper Dia: 75mm, Lower Dia:60mm, Height:45mm, Color: White, Weight: 08gm, Material: Food Graded Plastic with Biman logo/Insignia.

02. GROUP-B (FSD)
2/3 Rotable Tray Green QTY: 20,000 each
Size: (274x254 x 14)mm, Weight: 225gm (+05gm), Material: ABS, Color: Green.

03. GROUP-C (FSD)
Paper Napkin White, 2ply QTY: 75,00,000 each
Size: (25 x 25)cm to (28x28)cm Packet of 50Ea/Pcs with Biman logo & Insignia.

04. GROUP-D (FSD)
Rotable Main Dish QTY: 24,000 each
Size: (16x11x2)cm, Weight: 36gm, Material: SAN, Color: Milky White with red boarder seal.

Tender schedule with details specification of the above item, terms and conditions will be available from the Asstt. Manager Accounts (Cash & Banking), Head Office, Balaka, Kurmitola, Dhaka during office hour of every working day up to 03/04/2016 on cash payment of each group Tk. 750.00 (seven hundred fifty) (non-refundable) by applying in bidder's own letterhead pad mentioning tender reference No. and date. Tender related information will also available at Biman website www.biman-airlines.com for ready reference.

Sealed tenders shall be dropped in the tender box kept in (i) Local Purchase Section, Procurement & Logistics Support Directorate, Admin Building, Biman, Hazrat Shahjalal Int'l Airport, Dhaka and (ii) Biman Balaka Bhaban, Security Counter (Ground Floor), Dhaka latest by 1100 hrs (BST) on 04/04/2016 and shall be opened on the same day at 1400 hrs at the Tender Room of Procurement & Logistics Support Directorate, Admin Building, Biman, Hazrat Shahjalal Int'l Airport, Dhaka in presence of tenderer (if any). Biman authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tender without assigning any reason thereof.

GD-626 Deputy General Manager (Procurement) Acting

Addendum-1
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
Clean Air and Sustainable Environment (CASE) Project-DoE Component
Department of Environment
E-16, Paribesh Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
Memo No.: Paribesh/Case/AQI Display Software & Accessories/198/2016/91 Date: 08-03-2016
Sub: Amendments to the tender documents along with Invitation for Tender (IFT) Published in the Daily Ittefaq and The Daily Star on February 23, 2016 against Contract Package No. DoE-G-24.

Amendment

The tender documents and IFT No.: Paribesh/Case/AQI Display Software & Accessories/198/2016/78 dated 16-02-2016 against contract package No. DoE-G-24 are hereby amended as follows:

In Section 7. Technical Specifications:

i) Please replace the existing sentence "(xix) The scripting language of the apps will be PHP and database will be MySQL or any better option." by the sentence "(xix) The language of the Software may be PHP or better and database will be SQL or any better option." in para 4 (Detail Technical Specifications) of the Technical Specifications under Section 7 (page No. 80) and elsewhere in the tender document.

Invitation for Tender (IFT) -- Goods (Single lot): Published in the Daily Ittefaq and The Daily Star on February 23, 2016:

ii) Please replace the existing sentence "(i) Tenderer should have five years of experience in the field of software application design, development, supply, installation, implementation, support and maintenance of similar type of systems for department/office under GoB." by the sentence "(i) Tenderer should have five years of overall experience under ICT Business in the field of software application design, development, supply, installation, implementation, support and maintenance of similar type of systems for departments/offices under any organization (Govt./Semi-Govt./Autonomous/International organisations/ multinational organisations/NGOs having national activities/etc.)." in para 22 (Eligibility of tenderer) of the Invitation for Tender (IFT) and elsewhere in the tender document.

iii) Please replace the existing sentence "(i) After sales services facility including accessories for 1 (one) year." by the sentence "(i) After sales services facility including accessories for 2 (two) years." in para 24 (Brief description of related services) of the Invitation for Tender (IFT) and elsewhere in the tender document.

All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

Project Director
CASE Project, DoE

GD-623

Global volatility shaking up worldwide living costs

AFP, Singapore

Yo-yoing currencies, spiralling inflation and plunging commodity costs are shaking up the rankings of the world's most expensive cities, an annual survey said Thursday, with Tokyo sliding and Shanghai shooting up.

Political uncertainty and global economic volatility have up-ended the list of pricey places, according to a cost of living index compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit.

"Only eight cities of the 133 surveyed have seen their ranking position remain unchanged in the last 12 months," the EIU said.

Perennially-expensive Japan -- whose capital was the planet's costliest city for much of the last two decades -- has dropped against global peers, thanks to a much weaker yen.

Tokyo -- in 11th place globally -- is now only as expensive as Shanghai, where rising prices are hitting consumers in the pocket.

The collapse of the Brazilian Real has sent the relative cost of living in Rio De Janeiro down 52 places to 113th -- making it half as costly as New York.

"In nearly 17 years of working on this survey I can't recall a year as volatile as 2015," said Jon Copestake, an EIU survey editor.

"Falling commodity prices have created deflationary pressures in some countries, but in others, currency weakness caused by these falls has led to spiralling inflation," he added.

Singapore retains the top spot in the list -- thanks chiefly to the eye-watering cost of owning a car in the city state -- with Zurich and Hong Kong tied in second place. Hong Kong's currency peg to the US dollar was propelling the former British colony up the rankings, the EIU said, with the value of the greenback pushing New York into the top 10 and to its highest place since 2002.

Asian cities tended to be the priciest locations for general grocery shopping, with Seoul the most expensive for everyday food, while recreation and entertainment was a big drain for European locations.

Opera becomes first big browser maker with built-in ad-blocker

REUTERS, Frankfurt

Norwegian company Opera is introducing a new version of its desktop computer browser that promises to load web pages faster by incorporating ad-blocking, a move that makes reining in advertising a basic feature instead of an afterthought.

Faster loading, increased privacy and security and a desire for fewer distractions are behind the growing demand for ad-blockers.

However, their popularity is cutting into the growth of online marketing for site publishers and corporate brands, who rely on reaching web and mobile users to pay for their content rather than restricting access to paid subscribers.

Opera has a history of introducing innovations that later become common in major browsers such as tabbed browsing and pop-up blocking, which helped users control an earlier generation of in-your-face ads and malware disguised as advertising.

"Ad-blocking technology is an opportunity and a wake-up call to the advertising industry to pay attention to what consumers are actually saying," an Opera spokeswoman said.

Opera said it can cut page-loading times by as much as 90 percent by eliminating the complex dance that occurs behind the scenes in a user's browser as various third-party ad networks deliver promotional messages to users.

Bangladesh Film Development Corporation
Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208
Ref. No: 15.060.014.17.02.065.2015(Part-1) Dated: 07/03/2016

Corrigendum Notice

International Tender No. 15.060.014.17.02.065.2015(Part-1) dated: 27/01/2016 [Procurement of Different Types of Camera Lens (Zoom Lens, Lot-3)] under the Modernization & Extension Project of BFDC (Revised) is hereby amended to the following schedule:

Sl No. in tender notice	Description	Original particulars	Amended particulars
17.	Tender last selling date	10th March, 2016	30th March, 2016
18.	Tender closing date and time	13th March, 2016 12:30pm (BST)	31st March, 2016 12:30pm (BST)
19.	Tender opening date and time	13th March, 2016 2:30pm (BST)	31st March, 2016 2:30pm (BST)

All other condition of this tender document will remain unchanged. This corrigendum shall be treated as integral part of the original IFT and TDS accordingly.

Laxman Ch. Debnath
Project Director
"Modernization & Extension Project of BFDC (Revised)"

GD-607

BANGLADESH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
National Museum of Science & Technology Bhavan, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207
Phone: 911 0425, E-mail: office@bas.org.bd, Website: www.bas.org.bd

Academy Awards in Science and Technology

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) announces the following awards in Science and Technology as below:

1. BAS Gold Medal Award 2015
Two awards, one for Physical Sciences including Engineering & Technology and another for Biological Sciences including Agriculture & Medicine, will be awarded in each of the following two groups:

a) Senior Group for Scientists aged 40 or above on 30 April 2016.
b) Junior Group for Scientists below 40 years on 30 April 2016.

2. BAS-Dr. M.O Ghani Memorial Gold Medal Award-2015
For distinguished scientist in the field of Physical, Biological, Engineering and Agricultural Sciences. There is no age bar.

3. BAS-National Professor Dr. M. Innas Ali Memorial Gold Medal Award-2015
For a distinguished scientist with outstanding achievement in any branch of Science and Technology. There is no age bar.

4. BAS-TWAS Prizes for the Young Scientists of the Developing world 2016
The Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) and the World Academy of Sciences considering the necessity to foster scientific and technological cooperation among developing countries, have agreed to work together within the framework of the **TWAS PRIZES FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS SCHEME**. The candidates working in the different fields of Natural Sciences have to fulfill the following requirements.

i. The candidate must be below 40 years of age on 30 April 2016.
ii. The candidate must hold a university degree (minimum qualification is a Master's degree).
iii. The candidate has to work and live in Bangladesh.
iv. The candidate should have a good record of research publications in the internationally recognized journals with high impact factor.

Bangladeshi scientists and technologists who have distinguished themselves by their outstanding scientific and technological work may apply for the above awards. Heads of research institutions/ respective Deans of Universities/ Fellows of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences may nominate candidates for the awards or Candidates themselves may apply through their Heads of institutions directly. Each nominee/ candidate is required to submit 10 copies of their bio-data, list of publications and patents and a reprint of each of the important publications.

Note: Those who were awarded Gold Medal in any of the above categories earlier are not eligible for nomination for any of the categories. However, gold medal awardees in category 1 under junior group may be nominated for a ward in the senior group, if eligible.

Application/nomination for the above awards must reach the Secretary of the Academy by **24 April 2016** at the latest.

Prof. Dr. K M Sultanul Aziz
Secretary