

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY
1.19%	0.15%	\$1,230.80	\$37.58	2,03%	2.42%	1.21%	1.46%	77.85	87.88	110.34	0.68
4,409.72	8,253.64	(per ounce)	(per barrel)	24,883.59	15,732.82	2,800.92	3,053.38	BUY TK	SELL TK	78.85	91.28
								STANDARD CHARTERED BANK			
								78.85 91.28 113.74 0.72			

# Star BUSINESS

DHAKA WEDNESDAY APRIL 6, 2016

আপনার বিআরটিএ ফি এবং সকল ইউটিলিটি বিল এসআইবিএল এর যে কোন শাখার মাধ্যমে জমা দিন



\* ফ্রি অনলাইন সেবা  
যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬৯২০০৯২২

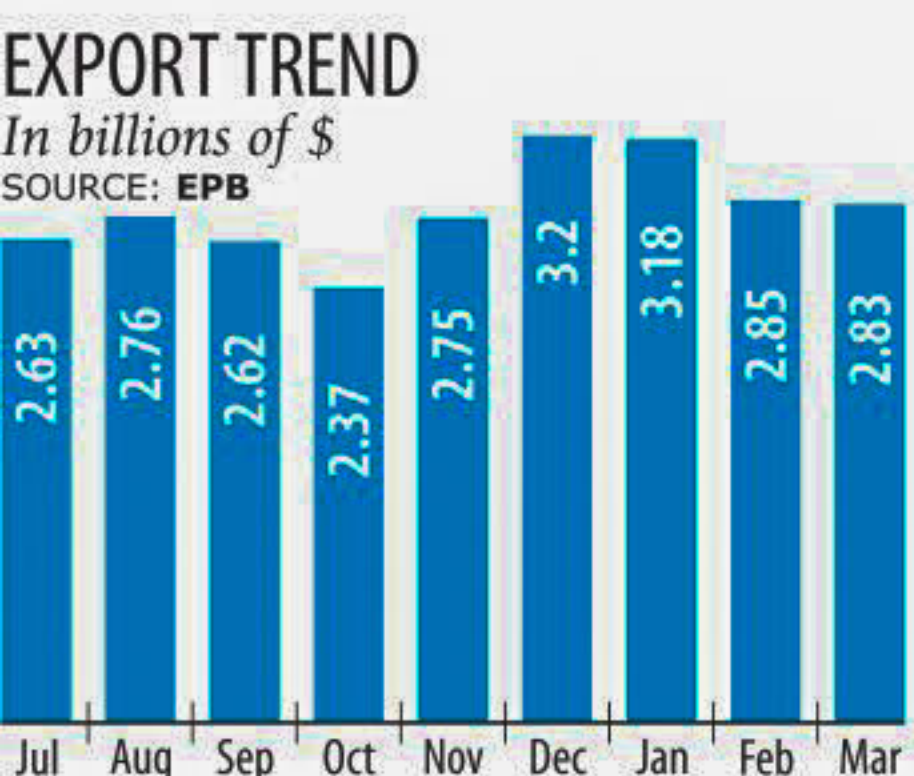
## Exports continue to bring cheers

### BGMEA chief says garment exports in future may not be bright

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Exports accelerated 9.27 percent year-on-year to \$2.83 billion in March on the back of higher shipments of garment, leather and leather goods, and jute and jute goods.

March's receipts are a drop of 0.7 percent over the previous month, when \$2.85 billion was received. But it beat the month's target by 0.3 percent, according to the Export Promotion Bureau.



Garment, which typically accounts for 80 percent of the export earnings, brought home \$2.32 billion, up 11.54 percent year-on-year but a decline of 1.69 percent from February.

"So far, we have had good growth in export, but earnings in future might not be bright due to troubles in Europe, our main

export destination," said Siddiquir Rahman, president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association.

Nearly 60 percent of the shipments are destined for the European Union. The region took delivery on \$15.9 billion of garment items last fiscal year.

Bangladesh's garment exports to the European Union have been affected by the recent wave of terror attacks, he said, adding that the ban on direct air cargo from Dhaka to the UK has also impacted shipments.

March's figures take the total export earnings in the first nine months of fiscal 2015-16 to \$24.96 billion, which is an increase of 8.95 percent from a year earlier.

During the period, jute and jute goods fetched \$641.58 million, down 1.72 percent year-on-year, data shows.

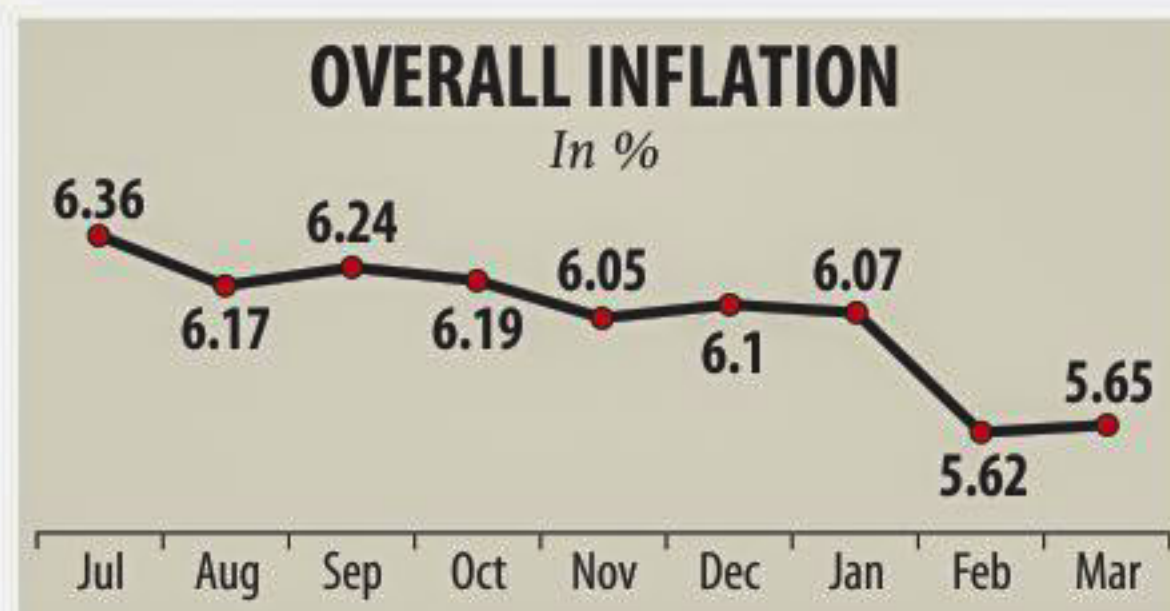
Leather and leather goods received \$851.33 million, an increase of 2.77 percent from a year earlier. Footwear brought \$165.40 million, up 21.94 percent.

Export earnings from headgear more than doubled in the first nine months of the fiscal year to \$99.15 million.

Pharmaceutical products, a promising export item for the country, brought \$61.66 million between July and March, up 13.78 percent from a year earlier.

The government has set an export target of \$33.5 billion for the fiscal year.

## Inflation edges up



STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Inflation inched up to 5.65 percent in March from the previous month thanks to a rise in food prices.

Food inflation, which dictates overall inflation in Bangladesh, rose to 3.89 percent in the third month of the year from 3.77 percent in February because of a rise in prices of meat and sugar, Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said.

Kamal spoke while releasing the data yesterday at the National Economic Council.

Although non-food inflation went down to 8.36 percent in March from 8.46 percent in February, it has remained high.

Inflation in Bangladesh has been going downward on low commodity prices in international and local markets. As the exchange rates remained stable, the prices of imported goods did not go up which contributed to the fall in inflation.

A good harvest of aman paddy and the falling international commodity prices caused the decline in food inflation, a Bangladesh Bank official said.

The government decision to lower fuel prices might help bring down inflation further. Last week the government cut furnace oil price by 30 percent.

On Monday, Nasrul Hamid, state minister for power, said the government would cut diesel, octane and petrol prices by up to Tk 10 within a week -- in the first of the three-phase reduction.

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## Customs intelligence cracks down on illegally imported cars

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Customs intelligence officials have revved up their efforts to trace about 150 vehicles that were temporarily brought in under a zero-duty import privilege extended to tourists but are yet to be shipped back.

Called the Carnet de Passage, the facility allows tourists to bring in their vehicles without payment of customs duties provided they take them back when they leave the country.

Moinul Khan, director general of the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate, said nearly 300 cars were allowed entry to Bangladesh under the privilege.

Of the 300 vehicles, about 150 cars were not been taken back, depriving the state of revenue.

"So far, we have detained three such cars that were brought without duty payment under the Carnet de Passage. We are chasing the rest of the cars for duty evasion."

Khan's comments came at a press briefing after the seizure of a BMW X-5, a luxury sports utility vehicle, on April 4 from the residence of Kazi Rezaul Mustafa at Gulshan 2 on allegations of duty evasion.

The CIID said it has received allegations that the cars that were brought under the Carnet de Passage and have been in use with fake documents.

"The latest seizure of the vehicle is based on one such allegation," Khan said.

Customs intelligence officials said the car was imported through false declaration

and its registration obtained with fake documents.

The registration of the car, Dhaka Metro Gha-14-0343, has also been renewed every year, according to the customs intelligence directorate.

"We will enquire with the BRTA how the car was given registration," Khan said, adding that his office did not find documents that matched the physical condition of the car and its model.

For example, the registration of the car was obtained by claiming its engine number was B20B-1129263. But various documents related to the vehicle show that the engine number is 27595077, according to the CIID.

It shows that the car was imported illegally without payment of duty and taxes, the CIID said, adding that the value of the car, including duty and taxes, would be Tk 3 crore.

Khan said the vehicle was imported by a person from Sylhet and was later sold on.

Contacted, Mustafa said in a text message that they purchased the car from Rukuh Miah of Sylhet, who deceived them by saying that all documents were okay.

"It was in our garage and was not used as its registration was not okay."

Previously, the CIID detained one Mercedes Benz and a BMW on allegations of illegal import.

In addition, it seized four cars imported by the local office of budget carrier Flydubai on allegations of duty evasion.

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## ADP outlay cut by 6pc

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The revised development budget for fiscal 2015-16 has been fixed at Tk 91,000 crore, which is 6.18 percent lower than the original outlay.

However, despite slow implementation in the first nine months this year, the amount is 21.3 percent higher than the revised budget last year.

The revised annual development programme (ADP) for the current fiscal year was approved at a meeting of the National Economic Council yesterday.

Foreign funds in the revised ADP have been cut by 15.48 percent to Tk 29,160 crore; local funds were reduced by 1.05 percent to Tk 61,840 crore.

Though different ministries and divisions seek higher allocations every year, eventually they fail to implement their schemes entirely.

For instance, in fiscal 2014-15, the ADP outlay was originally set at Tk 80,315 crore, which was later revised down to Tk 75,000 crore.

In the end, only Tk 68,532 crore was spent, according to statistics from the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division. As per the Finance Division, actual spending was Tk 59,570 crore.

The planning ministry yesterday proposed the revised ADP should be Tk 88,000 crore. But as the meeting progressed, an additional

Tk 3,000 crore was allocated to meet the demand of the ministries and divisions, thereby taking the figure up to Tk 91,000 crore.

Between July last year and March this year, the ministries and divisions spent only Tk 41,888 crore -- or 41 percent of the original ADP, which is the lowest in the last seven years. This year's original ADP was Tk 97,000 crore.

In the allocation of ADP funds, the transport sector's share was 22.36 percent, power 17.38 percent, and education and religion 11.25 percent, according to the planning ministry's proposal.

In the proposal, the share of physical infrastructure, water supply and housing was 10.81 percent, rural development and rural institutions 9.23 percent, health, nutrition, population and family welfare 6.14 percent and agriculture 4.87 percent.

Although the allocation was slashed in the revised ADP, the number of projects increased to 1,315 from 1,124 in the original ADP. The allocation for the autonomous institutions has been reduced to Tk 2,894 crore from an initial amount of Tk 3,996 crore.



Thomas Prinz, German ambassador in Dhaka, inaugurates the construction work of a plant of Linde Bangladesh, at a programme at Rugganj in Narayanganj yesterday. Golam Dastagir Gazi, a lawmaker from Narayanganj; Sanjiv Lamba, executive board member and chief operating officer of Linde Asia Pacific, and Ayub Quadri, chairman of Linde Bangladesh, were also present.

## Linde starts construction of new plant

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Linde Bangladesh, a pioneer in industrial gases, yesterday started construction of a new air-separation unit at Rugganj in Narayanganj, a move that will cost the German firm about Tk 120 crore.

Once the new unit is completed in 2017, the Rugganj plant will produce around 100 tonnes of liquefied gases a day, making it the largest liquid gas producing air-separation unit in Bangladesh.

It will provide a supply of liquefied gases and related solutions to the healthcare, food and beverage, fabrication, pharmaceuticals, shipbuilding and ship recycling industries, according to a press statement.

The plant will more than double Linde's existing production capacity, strengthening its position as the leading player in Bangladesh.

A high-tech cylinder filling site will also be built in Rugganj to provide a range of products to customers across all market segments.

"By investing in this country, Linde demonstrates that it has faith in Bangladesh and its market," said Thomas Prinz, the German ambassador to Bangladesh.

By providing the necessary support to Linde, the authorities in Bangladesh have shown that investing in their country does pay off and that foreign direct investments are really welcome, he said.

"I hope this venture will serve as a successful example of such investments, which, in turn, can help attract other multi-national companies," he added.

Sanjiv Lamba, executive board member and chief operating officer of Linde Asia Pacific, said: "Asia Pacific is the growth engine for Linde Group, and our Bangladesh business is an important part of our larger South Asia business."

From the economic viewpoint, Bangladesh has developed at an impressive rate, maintaining a steady growth rate in recent years amid a global downturn. "We are optimistic that the country will continue to grow."

"The demand for our gases has continued to be strong and we are making this investment as an investment for the future. We are proud to continue to partner with Bangladesh in its growth journey, just as we have been in the past 60 years," he said.

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## Stocks slip back into red after five days

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Stocks broke a five-day gaining streak yesterday to return to the red, as investors opted for profit-motivated sell-offs.

DSEX, the benchmark index of the premier bourse, declined 21.93 points or 0.49 percent, finishing the day at 4,409.72 points.

It was a dull start to the day, as large-cap stocks traded in a tight band throughout the session, LankaBangla Securities said.

"After five days of uptrend, the mar-

ket surrendered as investors were mostly in a selling mood amid mixed economic updates," the stockbroker said.

IDLC Investments, a merchant bank, said the market faced selling pressure as investors opted for profit booking in micro cap and mini cap securities.

Turnover, another important indicator of the market, also dropped 35.2 percent to Tk 317.84 crore, with 9.95 crore shares and mutual fund units changing hands on the DSE.

With 50 securities closing unchanged on the premier bourse,

78 advanced and 190 declined.

Delta Brac Housing dominated the turnover chart with 14.33 lakh shares worth Tk 16.13 crore changing hands, followed by BSRM, Summit Alliance Port, LankaBangla Finance and Ibn Sina.

Among the major sectors, engineering declined 1.74 percent in market capitalisation, followed by fuel and power that lost 1.06 percent, textiles 0.97 percent, life insurance 0.86 percent, cement 0.65 percent and banks 0.39 percent.

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## Doreen Power makes trade debut today

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Doreen Power Generations and Systems will make its share trading debut on the Dhaka and Chittagong stock exchanges today.

The company, which raised Tk 58 crore through initial public offering (IPO), will be the 20th listed firm in the fuel and power sector that accounts for around 13 percent

of Dhaka Stock Exchange's total market capitalisation.

The power generation company floated two crore ordinary shares of Tk 10 each, in addition to Tk 19 as premium.

Alliance Financial Services and ICB Capital Management jointly managed the IPO, the proceeds of which are being used for setting up power plants for its two sub-

siaries and repaying bank loans.

As of December 2015, the company's six months' net profit was Tk 3.94 crore with basic earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 0.66.

However, the company's post-IPO basic EPS was Tk 0.49 as of December last year and net asset value per share Tk 34.64.

Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission approved Doreen Power's

IPO on November 30 last year, and the Dhaka Stock Exchange gave a go-ahead to the listing of the company recently.

Doreen Power has three plants that generate and supply 66MW to Bangladesh Power Development Board and Rural Electrification Board under two agreements for a period of 15 years, according to the company's website.



একটি বাড়ি একটি স্বপ্ন সেই স্বপ্ন পূরণে আপনার পাশে আছে মিডল্যান্ড ব্যাংক



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