



Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed opens the 114th branch of Bank Asia on Sadar Road in Bhola yesterday. Bank Asia Chairman A Rouf Chowdhury, Vice Chairmen Mohd Safwan Choudhury and AM Nurul Islam, Chairman of Board Executive Committee Rumea A Hossain, Chairman of Board Audit Committee Mashiur Rahman, Managing Director Md Arfan Ali and lawmaker from Bhola-2 Ali Azam Mukul were also present.

US wage gap puts rentals out of reach of single women: research

REUTERS, New York

Single women cannot afford to rent a small apartment in nearly all of the biggest US cities but single men could manage to lease in a third of those locations, a reflection of the gender wage gap, research shows.

The Midwestern cities of Wichita, Kansas and Tulsa, Oklahoma are the only two of the 50 largest cities where the median income of single women can pay for a studio or one-bedroom apartment, according to research by RentCafe.com, an online apartment search company.

Across the United States, women working full time are paid 80 percent of what men are paid, according to US Census Bureau statistics.

In the 50 largest US cities, a woman makes only 74 cents for every dollar earned by a man, a gender wage gap of 26 percent, according to RentCafe.com.

In those cities, single men make an average of \$32,451 a year, while single women average \$24,115, it said.

Globally, the gender wage gap is as small as 6 percent in New Zealand and as wide as 37 percent in South Korea among the 35 member nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The RentCafe.com research, published this month on its website, used the US industry standard that housing costs should not comprise more than 30 percent of one's income.

Tourism shows signs of recovery in Egypt

AFP, Cairo

Tourists are slowly returning to Egypt, easing pressure on a key sector battered by years of turmoil and the 2015 bombing of a plane carrying Russian holidaymakers.

"There is an increase in the number of tourists. This situation was much better in January than in previous years," tourism ministry spokeswoman Omaima al-Husseini said.

Visitors from China, Japan and Ukraine account for a large part of the growth.

China's top public travel agency, China International Travel Service, reported a 58 percent increase in tourists flying to Egypt compared with 2015.

"There are more bookings between October 2016 and January 2017 than last year," said Egyptian Federation of Tourism chief Karim Mohsen.

"There is an improvement, especially in cultural tourism in Cairo, Luxor and Aswan," key historical sites, he said.

The uptick is a sign of hope for a country also reeling from the shock of an economic reform programme that has triggered massive inflation.

Once a key foreign currency earner, the tourism sector crashed in 2011 after a popular uprising overthrew

veteran strongman Hosni Mubarak, ushering in years of sporadic unrest.

Recoveries in the sector since then have been set back by new crises.

In June 2015, a massacre of tourists at a Luxor temple was narrowly averted when assailants armed with assault rifles and explosives bungled the attack and were intercepted by police.

But in October that year, Islamic State group jihadists, who are waging an insurgency in the eastern Sinai Peninsula, struck again. They bombed a Russian airliner carrying holidaymakers home from the popular Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh.

All 224 people on board were killed.

Russia suspended flights to Egypt and Britain cut air links with Sharm el-Sheikh.

Visitor numbers plunged from 9.3 million in 2015 to 5.3 million the following year, Hussein said.

But industry officials have cautiously welcomed what they say is a noticeable improvement since October.

In December 2016, 551,600 tourists visited Egypt compared with 440,000 the year before, according to the government's statistics agency.

"Activity has picked up a bit in the winter of 2016-2017," said Tamer al-

Shaer, vice president of the Blue Sky travel agency.

He said that included a 30 percent increase in Ukrainian tourists and a 60 percent increase in visitors from China, with daily flights to Aswan, a southern city rich in ancient sites.

Japan's HIS travel agency said the number of tourists heading to Egypt "multiplied by four to five times" last year.

Since charter flights from Japan to Egypt resumed in April 2016, they have been on average 80 percent full, said a spokesman for the Japan Association of Travel agents.

Egypt hosted a record 14.7 million foreign tourists in 2010, a year before Mubarak's overthrow and the ensuing economic nosedive.

Restoring even two thirds of that number is a key government goal, but it hinges on Russia and Britain resuming flights, Hussein said.

"There are ongoing negotiations... we hope the issue will be resolved as soon as possible," she said.

More than 60 percent of tourists arriving in Sharm el-Sheikh by plane used to come from Britain or Russia.

"So long as the Russians do not come back, there will be paralysis," the tourism federation's Mohsen said. "Russians and Britons are the backbone of Sharm el-Sheikh."

Peugeot to keep German jobs if it buys Opel

AFP, Berlin

French automaker PSA has pledged to keep Opel plants in Germany running if a planned merger goes forward, and to refrain from layoffs until at least 2019, a newspaper report said Sunday.

PSA, the parent company of France's Peugeot, Citroen and DS, has confirmed it is interested in taking over Opel, the German arm of US giant General Motors.

But the plans have sparked fears in Germany that Peugeot will cut jobs that overlap with existing positions in France.

German newspaper Bild am Sonntag reported that Olivier Bourges, who sits on PSA's executive committee, had assured high-level German officials at a meeting at Chancellor Angela Merkel's office on Thursday that existing contracts would be respected.

They stipulate that redundancies in Germany's Opel workforce would be ruled out until the end of 2018 and that investment pledges for four German factories would be kept until at least 2020.

The Bild am Sonntag report did not cite its sources.

Mongolia agrees \$5.5b economic bailout plan with IMF, others

REUTERS, Ulaanbaatar

Mongolia has agreed with the International Monetary Fund and other partners for a \$5.5 billion economic stabilization package, according to a statement from the IMF on Sunday.

The landlocked nation saw its economy grow at a double-digit annual rate over 2011-2013 as foreign investors rushed in to take advantage of its vast untapped mineral deposits, but it has been hit hard by an economic crisis since 2016 due to government overspending and declining revenues from commodity exports.

To bailout the country - which is now scrambling to avoid missing a \$580 million sovereign-guaranteed debt repayment due in March - the Asian Development Bank, World Bank and bilateral partners, including Japan and South Korea, will provide up to \$3 billion in aid, the IMF said in its statement.

People's Bank of China will expand a swap line worth 15 billion yuan (\$2.19 billion), while the IMF will offer three-year loans worth about \$440 million, the latter added.

The bailout plan is pending formal approvals from the IMF board in March, according to the statement.

"Fiscal consolidation is a key priority, as loose fiscal policy in the past was a major driver for Mongolia's current economic difficulties and high debt," said Koshy Mathai, IMF's team leader for the package.

Paving the way for the bailout was a move by the country's lawmakers earlier this month to allow the Development Bank of Mongolia, which issued the \$580

million debt that is up for repayment, to act independently of the government.

Under the bailout plan, Mongolia has pledged to implement fiscal reforms for greater budget discipline, maintain a flexible exchange rate and build a stronger regulatory environment for banking and finance.

The president of the Bank of Mongolia, Nadmid Bayartsaikhan, said the central bank would no longer bankroll fiscal policy programmes, including a mortgage subsidy one that will now be self-sustaining rather than dependent on additional financing from the central bank.

Bayartsaikhan added that an independent study of the banking sector would be launched to identify weaknesses at institutions and the need for new regulations.

The Mongolian economy grew at 1 percent last year, its slowest pace in seven years, and may slip into recession when austerity measures imposed on the country for a debt bailout are rolled out.

However, the bailout terms will not affect Mongolia's social spending. It plans to subsidize some drug costs and a universal allowance for children will be given to those in need, Finance Minister Battogtokh Choijilsuren told reporters on Sunday.

With these structural changes in place, Mathai of the IMF said Mongolia could look forward to sustainable growth built upon its lucrative mining sector, as well as its growing industries in agriculture and tourism.

"I think we're looking at a pretty good outlook for Mongolia," said Mathai.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training
89/2, Kakrail, Dhaka

Invitation for Re-Tender

1	Ministry/division	Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment.			
2	Agency	Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training.			
3	Procuring entity name	Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training.			
4	Procuring entity code	6531			
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.			
6	Invitation for	Tender for Procurement of Vehicle (Sedan Car).			
7	Invitation Ref No.	49.01.0000.003.26.047.16-			
8	Date	19/02/2017.			
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (National).			
10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget of 2016-2017 (GOB).			
11	Project/program code(if applicable)	NA			
12	Tender package No.	Package 01.			
13	Tender package name	Procurement of Vehicle (Sedan Car).			
14	Tender last selling date	27.02.2017 up to 5.00pm.			
15	Tender closing date and time	28.02.2017, 12:00 noon.			
16	Tender opening date and time	28.02.2017, 12:30pm.			
17	Name & address of the office	Director (Admin. & Finance), BMET (5 th Floor), 89/2, Kakrail, Dhaka.			
-	Selling tender document				
-	Receiving tender document	Additional Director General (Training), BMET (4 th Floor), 89/2, Kakrail, Dhaka.			
-	Opening tender document	Additional Director General (Training), BMET (4 th Floor), 89/2, Kakrail, Dhaka.			
18	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Director (Admin. & Finance), BMET (5 th Floor), 89/2, Kakrail, Dhaka. 21.02.2017 at 11:00am.			
19	Eligibility of tenderer	As per condition of TDS.			
20	Brief description of goods/vehicle (Sedan Car) or works	Sedan Car (2017), details as per schedule.			
21	Brief description of goods/vehicle related services	As per schedule.			
22	Price of tender document (Tk.)	Tk. 1000.00 (one thousand) per package in the form of original Treasury Chalan in favour of Govt. Treasury Code 1-6531-5002-2366			
23	Package No.	Identification of package	Location	Tender security amount	Completion time in weeks/days/months
	Package-01	Procurement of Sedan Car	BMET	80,000.00	30 days
24	Special instructions (if any)	Nil			
25	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Tazul Islam.			
26	Designation of official inviting tender	Director (Admin & Finance).			
27	Address of official inviting tender	Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, 89/2, Kakrail (4 th Floor), Dhaka-1000.			
28	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 02-8300264	Fax-		
*	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.				

Sd/
Md. Tazul Islam
Joint Secretary
Director (Admin. & Finance)
Tel: 8300264

GD-396

Havells India to buy Lloyd Electric's consumer business for \$231m

REUTERS

Havells India Ltd, a leading maker of lights and fans, has agreed to buy a unit of Lloyd Electric and Engineering Ltd that sells air conditioners and televisions in a 15.5 billion-rupee deal (\$231.14 million), the companies said.

The deal, expected to close in eight weeks subject to final due diligence, will help Havells expand its reach into the \$15 billion consumer durables market in India which, according to the company, is growing in the double digits.

While consumer spending in the country has suffered a setback after India in November scrapped high-value banknotes that accounted for more than 80 percent of cash in circulation, analysts expect the growth to revive slowly in the fiscal year starting in April as the currency crunch eases.

Lloyd will use the proceeds from the sale to reduce its debt, the company said in a statement on Sunday. It will also continue its industrial air conditioner business and supply room air-conditioners to Havells as a third-party vendor, it added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
1012, CDA Avenue, Sholashahar
District: Chittagong
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. LGED/XEN/CTG/e-tender(16-17)2017/815 Dated: 19/02/2017

e-Tender Notice-51/16-17

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 of following packages from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 08/03/2017 at 16.00pm.

Sl No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender ID	Last date & time of selling documents	Last date & time of submission documents
1	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-342	Improvement of Dhum Ghat R&H-Moddoh Azamgar Road from Ch. 00-500m Upazila Mirersarai, District Chittagong	88075	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
2	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-329	a. Improvement of Charakhya Gauchia Madrasa Road from Ch 00-600m. b. Construction of 2.00mx2.00m culvert at Ch 545m on the same road. c. Construction of 03 Nos 1.00mx1.20m culvert at Ch 100 210 & 330m on the same road, Upazila Paltiya, District Chittagong. Salvage Materials Cost Tk. 303453.00	83985	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
3	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-35	a. Improvement of Boulaon Road from Ch 00-1715m. b. Construction of 04 Nos 0.750mx1.050m culvert at Ch 190 670 900 & 1145m. Upazila Anowara, District Chittagong. Salvage Materials Cost Tk. 885620.00	83942	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
4	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-326	a. Improvement of Middle Barokham Shib Mandir Road from Ch 00-800m. b. Construction of 02 Nos 0.750mx1.050m culvert at Ch 90 & 580m on the same road, Upazila Anowara, District Chittagong. Salvage Materials Cost Tk. 326310.00	83952	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
5	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-284	Improvement of Kanchanabad UP Badamtal to Bandaraban Dulu Para via Dhopachari Road from Ch 2350-3350m, Upazila Chandanaish, District Chittagong	83423	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
6	GCHDP-WD-VZR-CHT-CHAN-16/21	Development of Abadkhana to Sonarcharkul Road by HBB at Ch. 00-500m, Upazila Chandanaish, District Chittagong.	80849	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00 pm
7	GCHDP-WD-VZR-CHT-CHAN-16/06	Development of Pachim Ahabad Talukder Bari Road by BC at Ch 00-510m, Upazila Chandanaish, District Chittagong. Salvage Materials Cost Tk 894426.00	80853	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
8	GCHDP-WD-VZR-CHT-CHAN-16/19	Development of Kashaipara-Jatarkul Road Chandanaish Pourashava Road by HBB at Ch 317-975m, Upazila Chandanaish, District Chittagong	80859	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
9	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-247	Improvement of Chandanaish-Nayahat-Bailtali Khoderhat Road from Ch 3970-4900m, Upazila Chandanaish, District Chittagong (Salvage Materials Cost Tk 2338621.00)	76896	08.03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm
10	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-249	Improvement of Puttingyari Road (Badur Para Raster Matha) from Ch 1000-1500m, Upazila Chandanaish, District Chittagong	76904	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017/ 14.00 pm
11	IRIDP-2/CTG/DW-339	a. Improvement of Jafarabad Sham Talukder Bari Road from Ch 00-370m. b. Construction of 0.750mx1.050m culvert at Ch 155m on the same road, Upazila Chandanaish, District Chittagong. Salvage Materials Cost Tk. 23630.00	83379	08/03/2017 16.00pm	09/03/2017 14.00pm

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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