



RADISSON BLU CHITTAGONG

Officials and volunteers of Radisson Blu Chittagong Bay View pose after running a cleanliness campaign on Parki Beach in the port city on May 8, as part of the corporate social responsibility initiatives of Carlson Rezidor Hotels Group, the owning entity of Radisson.

British exporters see few long-term gains from sterling windfall

REUTERS, Sheffield, England

With 85 percent of its customers outside Britain, Sheffield-based Gripple should be cheering the plunge in sterling since last year's vote to leave the European Union, which means every overseas sale brings in more pounds than before.

British exporters are enjoying a Brexit windfall as a result of the pound's fall, which has helped push up the value of the goods they export by 15 percent since a year ago. Some hope the boost to manufacturers will foster a rebalancing of the economy, which has long relied on domestic consumers.

But Gordon Macrae, a senior manager at Gripple, which makes metal parts used to connect and tension steel cables, does not expect the boost to last long enough to justify speeding up investment plans, despite strong demand for its products.

"My honest view is that the government is slightly delusional if it senses there is a great opportunity for companies with the current value of sterling," he said, speaking at a Gripple factory in the northern English city of Sheffield.

Leading Brexit advocates have said the cheaper pound will stimulate exports and investment, while pro-Brexit newspapers have seized on the improved trade figures to talk of an export boom for Britain ahead of June 8's national election.

The Bank of England predicts export growth will outpace domestic consumption this year as rising inflation -- also largely a product of the weaker currency -- eats into households' spending power. But Macrae said Gripple, whose customers prefer to be billed in their local currency, was wary of using the changing exchange rate to compete on price.

"In terms of being able to build long-term customer relationships, the worst thing you can do is to be moving your prices up or down," Macrae said.

Instead, customers that range from the builders of central London skyscrapers to farms in the Australian outback pay a premium for products that Gripple says are easier to install than its rivals' and have stronger after-sales support.

Gripple's ability to cut prices is also limited by the cost of raw materials. Zinc prices have doubled in dollar terms since the end of 2015, and sterling's fall has intensified the effect. "We have seen a double whammy," Macrae said.

Camira, a weaving company based just over 20 miles away in Huddersfield, and whose fabrics upholster seats on underground trains in London and Paris, has had a similar experience.

"The way we are looking at this overall is that it is a bit of a one-off windfall," said chief executive Grant Russell.

"There's been one or two opportunistic sales. But our industry doesn't typically work like that.

It tends to be longer-term relationships, nurtured over many years."

Camira, whose turnover rose by around 10 million pounds to more than 80 million pounds (\$103 million) last year, plans to slightly speed up hiring for its small U.S. distribution hub.

But it is worried that Brexit will push up costs, in particular if customs delays hurt its ability to import raw materials as needed, or delay shipments overseas.

"Our customers on the continent are increasingly asking us questions," Russell said. "They are becoming a little bit more fearful. Will it cost them more for a meter of fabric? Will they face more bureaucracy?"

Gripple's and Camira's experience is shared by other exporters. Official data shows the value in sterling of British goods exports has risen 15 percent since last year -- but the actual volume of goods sold overseas has barely changed.

The last time the gap between these two measures was so big was during the global financial crisis, when sterling also tumbled but export volumes failed to improve.

The weakness of the global economy was a plausible explanation then but key markets such as those in the EU are now showing growth.

It is possible that there is a time lag between the pound falling and exporters stepping up production and entering markets where they are newly competitive.

Dollar climbs further as Fed hike talk builds

AFP, Hong Kong

The dollar extended gains in Asian trade Tuesday as investors swung their attention to expectations of another US interest rate hike next month, but equities struggled under the weight of profit-taking following the previous day's rally.

Regional markets surged Monday, with Tokyo and Seoul leading the way, following centrist Emmanuel Macron's victory in France's presidential election and last week's solid US jobs report that reinforced views of a strengthening economy.

The better-than-expected reading on US payrolls preceded a record close on Wall Street and helped send Wall Street's VIX index of volatility in New York's markets to its lowest level since 1993.

It also had investors betting the Federal Reserve will stick to its plan to raise borrowing costs twice more this year -- including once next month -- having lifted rates in December and March.



SINGER BANGLADESH

Singer Bangladesh Chairman Gavin J Walker and actress Sharmin Hayat Bipasha launch Singer Gift Voucher, at a ceremony in Dhaka on May 8. The bearer of the voucher can redeem the amount of the voucher while purchasing a product from any retail outlet of Singer across Bangladesh.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার			
বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়			
বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা			
উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি			
১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়।	
২.	সহকারী সচিবের নাম	সহকারী সচিব (শাখা-৪), বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়।	
৩.	দরপত্র নং ও প্রকাশের তারিখ	লট-১ নং ৩৯.০০.০০০০.০০৪.০৭.০১৮.১৬.৩৪১ তাং ৭.৫.২০১৭। লট-২ নং ৩৯.০০.০০০০.০০৪.০৭.০০৫.১৬.৩৪২ তাং ৭.৫.২০১৭। লট-৩ নং ৩৯.০০.০০০০.০০৪.০৭.০০৪.১৬.৩৪৩ তাং ৭.৫.২০১৭।	
৪.	দরপত্র সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	পিপিআর-২০০৮ এর উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)।	
৫.	বাজেট এবং তহবিলের উৎস	রাজস্ব খাত (GOB)।	
৬.	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের নাম ও নং	লট-১ঃ আসবাবপত্র, লট-২ঃ কম্পিউটার ও যন্ত্রাংশ, লট-৩ঃ কম্পিউটার সামগ্রী।	
৭.	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	সকল লটের ক্ষেত্রে ২৫.৫.২০১৭ তারিখ বিকেল ৫.০০টা পর্যন্ত।	
৮.	দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	সকল লটের ক্ষেত্রে ২৮.৫.২০১৭ তারিখ বিকাল ২.৩০টা পর্যন্ত।	
৯.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	সকল লটের ক্ষেত্রে ২৮.৫.২০১৭ তারিখ বিকাল ৩.০০টা।	
১০.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম ও ঠিকানা	মোঃ আব্দুস সালাম, সহকারী সচিব, শাখা-৪, ভবন নং-৬, কক্ষ নং ৯১৫, বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।	
১১.	দরপত্র প্রাপ্তি, দরপত্র দাখিল এবং দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	মোঃ আব্দুস সালাম, সহকারী সচিব, শাখা-৪, ভবন নং-৬, কক্ষ নং-৯১৫, বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।	
১২.	দরপত্রের যোগ্যতা ও প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্র	ক. দরদাতাগণকে প্রকৃত বাসবাসী/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে হবে; খ. ২০১৫-২০১৬ অর্থবছরের ব্যবসা সংক্রান্ত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স এর কপি; গ. ২০১৫-২০১৬ অর্থবছর পর্যন্ত আয়কর প্রদানের সনদপত্র; ঘ. ভাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট; ঙ. আর্থিক স্বচ্ছতার সমর্থনে ব্যাংকের হিসাব নথির সনদপত্র।	
১৩.	লট-নং	বিবরণ	সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফারতথ্যে)
	লট-১, লট-২, লট-৩	আসবাবপত্র, কম্পিউটার ও যন্ত্রাংশ, কম্পিউটার সামগ্রী	৫০০/- সচিব, বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয় এর বরাবরে পে-অর্ডার
			১০,০০০/- সচিব, বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয় এর বরাবরে পে-অর্ডার
			চুক্তির ১০-১৫ কার্যদিবসের মধ্যে মাল্যমূল্য সরবরাহ করতে হবে
১৪.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম ও পদবী	মোঃ আব্দুস সালাম, সহকারী সচিব, কক্ষ নং- ৯১৫, ভবন নং-৬, বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।	
বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।			
মোঃ আব্দুস সালাম সহকারী সচিব ফোনঃ ৯৫১১০৫৩			

Philippines' new central bank chief signals continuity and reforms

REUTERS, Manila

Incoming Philippine central bank governor Nestor Espenilla vowed on Tuesday to strengthen oversight of the financial system to protect it from criminals even as he assured the market he would continue and build on his predecessor's policies and reforms.

Espenilla, who now heads banking supervision, said he would also work with other agencies to develop the debt market to support Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's multi-billion dollar infrastructure plan. "It's all about continuing what we have been doing in our constant surveillance of the monetary and financial system to make sure that it is resilient and stable," Espenilla said at his first news conference since he was named central bank chief on Monday.

Espenilla, who will take over from Amando Tetangco in July, plans to work with Congress to relax bank secrecy rules, include casinos in the anti-money laundering law and strengthen the central bank's charter to "increase the effectiveness of our oversight over the financial system."

"We are deeply committed to protecting the integrity of the financial system against criminal elements," Espenilla said. "It is the BSP's job to make sure that the banking system prevents the entry of illegal funds into the system. And also, if they enter the system, they should be detected by the system," the 36-year veteran central banker said.

The exclusion of casinos from the current scope of the anti-money laundering laws and a strict bank secrecy law have made it difficult for authorities to track the money from the Bangladesh bank heist last year and identify the perpetrators.

India plans land swaps to attract steel investors

REUTERS

India is drafting a land-for-assets policy among a raft of measures aimed at attracting foreign investment into the world's third largest steel producing market, the steel secretary said on Tuesday.

Asia's third-largest economy is notorious for making it difficult for foreign companies such as POSCO to buy land, losing out on billions of dollars of investments in key sectors such as steel and preventing the transfer of technology to local companies.

Fluctuations in the domestic price of iron ore, which is determined by local miners, has also deterred investors.

Steel Secretary Arun Sharma told Reuters her department was preparing several policies aimed at boosting investor confidence after Prime Minister Narendra Modi last week approved a plan to nearly triple domestic steel capacity and raise consumption manifold by 2030.

The government will soon issue detailed guidelines on the mandatory use of locally made steel in big government projects, and use international benchmarks to prevent companies from jacking up prices through cartels, she added.

The government will also help companies secure land in exchange for equity or setting up joint-ventures with local firms.

"These steps will attract foreign companies to India," Sharma said. "We are also working on a policy to make it easier for companies to transfer land to foreign companies so that they can set up plants without having to worry about approvals."

The steel ministry has already asked its subsidiary miner NMDC Ltd to consider reviewing iron ore prices only once in three months instead of regular revisions so that prices do not swing, Sharma said.

India's mining lobby has opposed any move to limit iron ore prices, but Sharma said the government would not put a cap on prices.



সিলেট গ্যাস ফিল্ডস লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী)
Sylhet Gas Fields Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি নিরাপত্তা
সর্বোচ্চ অধিকার

গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ। এর অপচয় রোধ
করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।

Tender No. SGFL/3WELLS/CS/FP16-17 Date: 07-05-2017

International Tender Notice

1. Ministry/division	: Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division.
2. Agency	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (A Company of Petrobangla).
3. Procuring entity name	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (SGFL).
4. Procuring entity district	: Sylhet.
5. Invitation for	: Tender for Procurement of Cementation Services with equipment for Workover of 3 Wells (KTL-1, RP-2 and RP-6) under Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Sylhet, Bangladesh.
6. Invitation Ref. No.	: SGFL/3WELLS/CS/FP16-17
7. Date	: 07-05-2017

KEY INFORMATION

8. Procurement method	: Single Stage Two Envelope System (International Competitive Bidding).
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FUNDING INFORMATION

9. Budget and source of funds	: SGFL's Own Fund.
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PARTICULAR INFORMATION

10. Project name	: Workover of 3 Wells (KTL-1, RP-2 and RP-6) under Sylhet Gas Fields Limited.
11. Tender publication date	: N/A.
12. Tender last selling date	: 04-07-2017.
13. Tender closing/receiving date & time	: 05-07-2017 and 12:00hrs (BST).
14. Tender opening date & time	: 05-07-2017 and 12:15hrs (BST).
15. Name and address of the office(s):	
- Selling tender document (principal)	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Dhaka Liaison Office, Petrocentre (13 th Floor), 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.
- Selling tender document (others)	: Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Co. Ltd. (BAPEX), BAPEX Bhaban, 4, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.
- Receiving of tender document	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Head Office, P.O.: Chiknagool, Sylhet, Bangladesh.
- Opening of tender document	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Head Office, P.O.: Chiknagool, Sylhet, Bangladesh.
17. Date & time of selling of tender document	: The tender document will be available for sale from 15-05-2017 to 04-07-2017 during office hours on all working days.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

18. Eligibility of tenderer	: A Contractor or a Subcontractor that is a national of, or registered in, the following countries are not eligible: Countries, which have no business relations with the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Materials, Equipment Plants and supplies shall not have their origin in the following countries: Countries, which have no business relations with the People's Republic of Bangladesh.		
19. Brief description of works	: Workover of Three Wells under SGFL.		
20. Brief description of physical services	: Cementation Services providing all necessary equipment and professional experts/operators.		
21. Price of tender document	: Taka 5,000.00 or USD 65.00 (non-refundable).		
22. Name of the official inviting tender	: Engr. Nizam Shariful Islam.		
23. Designation of the official living tender	: Managing Director Sylhet Gas Fields Limited.		
24. Address of the official inviting tender	: Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Dhaka Liaison Office, Petrocentre (13 th Floor), 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh Attn: Deputy General Manager (Procurement).		
25. Contact details of the official inviting tender	Tel. No. +8801755550034	Fax No. +880255013708	E-mail md@sgfl.org.bd
26. Special instruction	: a) Tender must remain valid for 120 days from the date of opening of the tender. b) Amount of tender security for BDT 11,00,000.00 or USD 14,000.00 in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any schedule bank of Bangladesh or in the form of an Irrevocable Bank Guarantee (as per format provided in the Tender Document) issued by a scheduled bank of Bangladesh or from any reputable foreign bank duly endorsed by a scheduled bank of Bangladesh with full obligation & liabilities. c) The tender security must remain valid for one hundred and forty-eight (148) days from the date of opening of the tender. d) Tender(s) submitted after the deadline for receiving of tenders will be rejected and returned unopened to the tenderer. e) The tender must not be submitted by Fax or email. f) This tender notice will also be available at Petrobangla website: www.petrobangla.org.bd and SGFL website: www.sgfl.org.bd and CPTU website: www.cptu.gov.bd.		
27. The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceedings.			

GD-969 **Deputy General Manager (Procurement)**