



AB Mirza Azizul Islam, former caretaker government adviser; Arif Khan, CEO of IDLC Finance, and Rajib Kumar Dey, managing director of IDLC Asset Management, a subsidiary of IDLC Finance, attend the launch of IDLC Asset Management's first open-end mutual fund—IDLC Balanced Fund—at a programme in Dhaka on May 22. Story on B1

## Japan sticks to budget balancing goal

REUTERS, Tokyo

Japan must adhere to the government's goal to achieve a balanced budget by the fiscal year ending in March 2021, Finance Minister Taro Aso said, in a resolve to push for fiscal consolidation to fix the country's tattered finances.

Aso made the pledge at a meeting of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's top economic advisory council, which on Tuesday discussed the government's annual key economic and fiscal policy guidelines due around the end of June.

The guidelines will provide the basis for compiling the budget for the fiscal year starting April 2018. The council also approved an outline for its annual growth strategy, mostly a continuation of policies Abe introduced last year to narrow the wealth gap, improve working conditions and raise productivity.

"Achieving a primary budget surplus in fiscal 2020 is the least of our responsibilities for future generations. We are not allowed to take down the flag," Aso said in a document submitted to the council.

## IDB to revamp, decentralise ops

REUTERS, Sarajevo

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the largest development organization in the Muslim world, plans to revamp its operations, including a shift away from small-scale capital interventions to more sustainable, grassroots-level support.

The non-profit group has extended \$86.1 billion in financing in the last ten years for energy, transportation, water and sanitation projects. Bangladesh, Pakistan and Egypt are among the top beneficiaries.

But its new president, Bandar Hajjar, said the bank needed to decentralise and change the way it operates.

"IDB needs to shift away from providing individual, small-scale intervention to value chain solutions," Hajjar told Reuters on the sidelines of a business conference in the Bosnian capital Sarajevo.

The IDB has traditionally provided capital and technical assistance to individual firms and government organizations, but Hajjar said the bank would engage a wider array of entities and plans to form a network of non-governmental organizations, foundations and universities.

"The shift will help the bank deal with development challenges in a more sustainable and efficient manner. We will create a network and the bank will play a role of a catalyzer."

Hajjar, Saudi Arabia's former haj minister, was elected president of the IDB last year, replacing long-serving Ahmad Mohamed Ali who steered the bank since its establishment in 1975.

"The challenge is huge, immense, complicated and IDB cannot solve these problems by itself and all this requires decentralisation," Hajjar said.

Hajjar said sukuk issuance for 2017 was set at some \$1.25 billion for public sukuk and \$300 million for private sukuk, but that another issue of \$1 billion worth of sukuk is expected before the end of this year.

Saudi Arabia is the largest shareholder of IDB with 23.5 percent of share capital subscription, followed by Libya, Iran, Nigeria and the United Arab Emirates.

# As Syngenta deal closes, ChemChina and Sinochem press \$120b deal

REUTERS, Hong Kong/Beijing

Chinese state-owned Sinochem and ChemChina are in merger talks to create the world's biggest industrial chemicals firm, to be headed by Sinochem chief Ning Gaoning, four people with knowledge of the negotiations said.

A deal could be announced by the end of the year, the people said, potentially just months after ChemChina completes its own \$43 billion purchase of Switzerland's Syngenta, China's biggest overseas deal to date.

A consolidation of Sinochem and ChemChina would be worth around \$120 billion, one of the people said, topping companies like industrial chemicals giant BASF.

Talks to create a Chinese chemicals powerhouse were first reported last year, but were dismissed by both companies as rumour.

Sinochem and China National Chemicals Corp, as ChemChina is officially known, did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Tuesday. A Syngenta spokesperson said the company was not aware of any talks.

The two companies have accelerated negotiations after regulators last month cleared ChemChina's acquisition of Syngenta, the peo-

ple said. With the approval also of over 80 percent of Syngenta shareholders bringing completion of that deal nearer, focus has shifted to creating a Chinese powerhouse.

Beijing sees a Sinochem/ChemChina deal as a blueprint for streamlining and consolidating its sprawling, debt-heavy state-owned enterprises, the people said, leaving fewer, but more powerful, national champions.

"This is the priority now for both companies. The message from the top to the managers is very clear: don't be distracted by anything else," one of the people said, adding that the focus on this deal accounted in part for Sinochem recently ditching a plan to invest in Noble Group, a loss-making commodity trader.

A deal is not yet final, and China's 19th Communist Party Congress later this year leaves room for some political uncertainty.

The expected retirement of ChemChina chief Ren Jianxin in January may speed up the process, one of the people said, to allow for a handover period.

Ren, known for bold deals including Syngenta and the purchase of Italian tyre maker Pirelli, has spent over a decade and billions of dollars expanding ChemChina, founding a

popular noodle chain along the way.

He may, though, have irked the authorities with his chutzpah in forging ahead with high-profile deals, another of those with knowledge of the discussions said. Ning, who made a name for himself as head of state-owned food processing group Cofco, is seen as politically well connected.

"The magnitude of the Syngenta deal means Beijing wants to make sure it's securely managed," said a person from the oil and gas industry. While the ambitious Syngenta takeover brought China a portfolio of top-tier chemicals and patent-protected seeds to improve agricultural output, it also leaves ChemChina with hefty debt.

ChemChina last year arranged \$32.9 billion in bridge loans with more than 20 Chinese, European and Asian lenders - giving it a level of gearing that investors and analysts think is too high.

Combining Sinochem and an enlarged ChemChina would put the group among the world leaders across the competitive chemicals, fertiliser and oil industries - a giant overseas and a major challenger domestically to Sinopec and PetroChina.



Md Mehmood Husain, managing director of NRB Bank, and Ashraf Alam, chief operating officer of Aarong, exchange the signed documents of a deal at a programme at the bank's head office in Dhaka yesterday. The bank's credit cardholders will enjoy 15 percent discount at any Aarong outlet during Ramadan.

# Huawei narrows gap with Samsung, Apple in smartphone sales

REUTERS

China's Huawei has narrowed the gap with its two biggest competitors Apple Inc. and Samsung Electronics in global smartphone sales, first-quarter data from research firm Gartner showed on Tuesday.

The Chinese network-to-consumer-electronics builder increased its market share to 9 percent during the first quarter from 8.3 percent in the year-earlier period.

"Huawei has now steadily held the third spot in the worldwide ranking of smartphone vendors," Anshul Gupta, research director at Gartner, said in a statement.

"However, pressure is mounting as its counterparts in China are catching up."

Chinese vendors Oppo and Vivo grew their shares of the market to 8.1 and 6.8 percent respectively, helped by aggressive marketing and sales promotions, posing a threat to both Huawei and Apple in China, where Oppo is the No. 1 smartphone seller.

Samsung Electronics kept its top spot but saw its market share shrink to 20.7 percent from 23.3 percent as it continued to feel the impact of its costly Galaxy Note 7 recall last year



People walk past a sign board of Huawei at Consumer Electronics Show Asia 2016 in Shanghai, China.

after several devices spontaneously caught fire.

"Although Samsung announced that pre-orders for the Galaxy S8 and S8 Plus are up 30 percent year on year, the absence of an alternative to Note 7 and the fierce competition in the basic smartphone segment are leading Samsung to continuously lose market share," Gartner's Gupta said.

Apple's market share dropped to

13.7 percent from 14.8 percent. The first quarter of the year is Apple's weakest when sales dip after the holiday-heavy fourth quarter. Customers are also holding back on buying iPhones in anticipation of new models that will be launched later in the year.

Overall, 380 million smartphones were sold during the first quarter, 9.1 percent more than in the year-earlier period.

## India could invest in Aramco IPO to strengthen ties

REUTERS, Vienna

India said its state refiners could become cornerstone investors in Saudi Aramco when it floats its shares next year. Oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan told Reuters the purchase of a stake in Aramco could be part of a plan by Indian state refiners to set up a refining venture with the Saudi giant.

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়  
বাংলাদেশ পরমাণু শক্তি নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্তৃপক্ষ  
অর্থ উপদেষ্টার দপ্তর  
নং-৩৯.০৭.০০০০.০১১.০৩.০৩৪.২০১৭.০১৫ তারিখঃ ২০ মে ২০১৭

**ই-টেন্ডার নোটিশ**

বাংলাদেশ পরমাণু শক্তি নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্তৃপক্ষের ঢাকার প্রধান কার্যালয়ের জন্য কম্পিউটার, ল্যাপটপসহ কতিপয় অফিস সরঞ্জাম ক্রয়ের একটি বিজ্ঞপ্তি জারী করা হয়েছে।

ক্রমিক নং	প্যাকেজ নম্বর/লট নম্বর	পণ্যের নাম	টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্ট ক্রয়, ডাউনলোড করার শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	ই-টেন্ডার দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	উন্মুক্তকরণের তারিখ ও সময়	ই-টেন্ডার আইডি নম্বর
১	baera/erf/goods/005/2017 Lot-1	কম্পিউটার, ল্যাপটপসহ কতিপয় অফিস সরঞ্জাম	২৮ মে ২০১৭ ১৫.০০	২৯ মে ২০১৭ ১৫.০০	২৯ মে ২০১৭ ১৫.০০	98507

উপরে বর্ণিত টেন্ডারনম্বর অনুসারে ই-টেন্ডার মাধ্যমে নিম্নলিখিত তারিখ ও সময়ে দাখিল করা যাবে। এ বিষয়ে কোন সহযোগিতার জন্য helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd অথবা pd@baera.gov.bd এর মাধ্যমে যোগাযোগ করা যাবে।

মোঃ জেহান ইসলাম  
অর্থ উপদেষ্টা এবং  
পিই, ই-জিপি, বায়েরা

জিডি-১০৮৬

Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh  
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MemoNo.44.04.0000.006.00.008.17-5557 Date: 23 May 2017

1.	Ministry / Division	Ministry of Home Affairs		
2.	Agency	Department of Narcotics Control		
3.	Procuring Entity Name	Director General, Department of Narcotics Control		
4.	Invitation for	Goods		
5.	Invitation Reference No	44.04.0000.006.00.008.17-5557		
6.	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (National)		
7.	Budget and Source of Fund	Revenue Budget (GOB)		
8.	Tender Package No.	03/Com-2016-2017		
9.	Tender Package Name	Supply and Installation of Desktop Computer (Monitor & CPU), Off line UPS, Laser Printer, Scanner and Related service.		
10.	Tender Publication date	23 May 2017		
11.	Tender Last Selling date	06 June 2017 (office hour)		
12.	Tender Closing date and time	07 June 2017 at 11.00 am		
13.	Tender Opening date and time	07 June at 11.30 am.		
14.	Selling & Receiving Tender Document	Store and Purchase Section, Head office, Department of Narcotics Control, 441, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208.		
15.	Opening Tender Document	Conference Room, Department of Narcotics Control, Head office, 441, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208		
16.	Eligibility of Tender	Reputed manufacturer/Authorized agent/ Distributor.		
17.	Brief Description	Supply and Installation of Desktop Computer (25 nos), off Line UPS (25 nos), Laser Printer (25 nos).Scanner (25) Nos & Related service.		
18.	Price of Tender Document (BDT)	Tk 1,000/- (One Thousand Taka only)		
19.	Lot No	Indenfication	Location	Tender Security Tk
	1	Destop Computer (Monitor with CPU) (25 nos), off Line UPS (25 nos), Laser Printer (25 nos), Scanner (25 Nos)	Head office	50,000/-
				Completion Time
				4Weeks
20.	Name of official inviting Tender	Md. Ahsanur Rahman, Deputy Director (Admn), Department of Narcotics Control, Head office, 441, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208.		
21.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason			

(Md. Ahsanur Rahman)  
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GD-1092