



SM Mainuddin Chowdhury, additional managing director of Southeast Bank, and Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager of Mastercard Bangladesh, attend the launch of the bank's online payment gateway powered by Mastercard.

Indian economy rides on consumer spending revival ahead of GST launch

REUTERS, Gurugram, India

Kaveri Shukla and her fiancé are on a shopping spree ahead of their wedding next month. In just one week, the couple has bought home appliances ranging from a rice cooker to a refrigerator and is purchasing a new car.

"Marriage is a kind of big spending commitment," said the 28-year-old financial consultant while shopping at an upscale mall in Gurugram, a satellite city and business hub near Delhi.

"It is an excuse to spend, not defer your purchases," Shukla is not alone. Millions like her are thronging shopping malls and stores in India, thanks to a busy wedding season. A heatwave is also boosting demand for air conditioners and refrigerators.

It's a welcome change for an economy where consumer spending, traditionally a driver of growth, took a blow after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's shock decision last November to scrap high-value bank

notes.

The prospect of another big reform - the launch of a multi-rate Goods and Services Tax (GST) from July 1 - could also be bringing forward spending into the current quarter as shoppers look to avoid rates of 28 percent, or higher, on some consumer durables and luxury items.

The impact of the new tax regime is not clear -- some items are expected to be cheaper -- but the prospect of a price rise is seen pushing some people to buy ahead of July. The risk is spending falls away after the tax is launched.

"GST is a big unknown," said Kumar Rajagopalan, head of the Retailers Association of India. "But it could turn out to be a big fillip in the short run."

Other headwinds loom: Layoffs in the information-technology sector are unsettling some households at a time when the economy is still not generating enough new jobs for workforce that is growing by around a million people a month.

China to launch cybersecurity law despite concerns

AFP, Beijing

China will implement a controversial cybersecurity law Thursday despite concerns from foreign firms worried about its impact on their ability to do business in the world's second largest economy.

Passed last November, the law is largely aimed at protecting China's networks and private user information at a time when the recent WannaCry ransomware attack showed any country can be vulnerable to cyber threats.

But companies have pleaded with the government to delay the legislation's implementation amid concerns about unclear provisions and how the law would affect personal information and cloud computing.

The government appears to still be scrambling to finalise the rules. Just two weeks ago, Zhao Zeliang,

they said.

The new document, obtained by AFP, removed a contentious requirement for companies to store customers' personal data in China.

But concerns remain.

"The regulator is unprepared to enforce the law" and it is "very unlikely" anything will happen on June 1, said one participant, who asked for anonymity to discuss the sensitive issue.

That impression was only strengthened a few days after the meeting, when authorities issued 21 new draft documents describing national standards on topics from cloud computing to financial data, noting they would be available for public comment until July 7.

More new drafts, including detailed guidelines on cross-border data transfers, were published Saturday.

"The Great Firewall", but even some of its universities and petrol stations were hit by the global ransomware attack in May.

The draft cybersecurity rules provided at the CAC meeting address only one part of the sweeping law.

The legislation also bans internet users from publishing a wide variety of information, including anything that damages "national honour", "disturbs economic or social order" or is aimed at "overthrowing the socialist system".

Companies are worried that the new law could lock them out of the market.

Paul Triolo, a cybersecurity expert at the Eurasia Group, wrote in a research note that regulators will likely introduce "new hurdles for foreign company compliance and operations" in industries, such as cloud computing, where China is actively seeking a competitive advantage.

As a result, "companies with politically well-connected competitors could see their profile raised for things such as cybersecurity reviews".

The European Union Chamber of Commerce, among other groups, has urged Beijing to "delay the implementation of either the law or its relevant articles".

It "will impose substantial compliance obligations on industry" and "cautious, sound, consistent and fully reasoned supporting mechanisms related to its implementation are essential," the group said in a statement last week.

The chamber called on policymakers to follow a "transparent" process that will help eliminate "discriminatory market access barriers".

While there is no indication the law itself will be pushed back, the draft rules distributed at the CAC meeting says companies will have until December 31, 2018 to implement some of its requirements.

"It's been enormously difficult for our companies to prepare for the implementation of the cybersecurity law, because there are so many aspects of the law that are still unclear," said Jake Parker, vice president of the US-China Business Council.

"There's not enough information for companies to be able to develop internal compliance practices."



AFP/FILE

Companies are pleading with the Chinese government to delay the implementation of new cybersecurity legislation.

director of the cybersecurity bureau, gathered some 200 representatives from foreign and domestic companies and industry associations at the new headquarters of the Cybersecurity Administration of China (CAC) in Beijing.

The May 19 discussion centred on a draft of the rules for transferring personal data overseas, participants told AFP.

Attendees received an updated version of the document, as well as Zhao's assurance that regulators would remove some of the language that had received strong objections,

It is "crystal clear that the regulatory regime is evolving and does not simply switch on like a light June 1", said Graham Webster, an expert on Sino-US relations at Yale Law School.

Beijing, he said, is "wrestling with legitimate challenges that every country faces, and ... much of the caution and ambiguity comes from a desire to get things right."

But the process is causing "headaches for companies, Chinese and foreign alike".

China already has some of the world's tightest controls over web content, protected by what is called

দুটি সন্তানের বেশী নয় একটি হলে ভাল হয়

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Medical Education & Family Welfare Division
Directorate General of Family Planning
Family Planning - Field Services Delivery
6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215

Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) for conducting piloting of third generation Oral Contraceptive Pill (OCP)

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
2. Agency	Directorate General of Family Planning
3. Name of Procuring Entity	Line Director, Family Planning- Field Services Delivery
4. Procurement Entity Code	N/A
5. Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6. Expression of Interest for Selection of	Consulting Firm
7. EOI Ref. No.	FP-FSD/Piloting/3rd Gen Oral Pill/2016-17/01
8. Date	29/05/2017

KEY INFORMATION

9. Procurement Method: Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)

FUNDING INFORMATION

10. Budget and source of funds: GoB (Development)

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11. Programme Name	4th Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (4th HPNSP)	
12. EOI Closing Date and Time	Closing Date	Time
	14/06/2017	12:30 PM.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT

13. Brief Description of the Assignment	The service provider will perform a pilot study to assess the effects of third generation Oral Contraceptive Pill (OCP) on reducing dropout rate and unmet need along with increased client satisfaction. Specific objectives of the study are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To investigate the contribution of third generation OCP in reducing dropout rate, unmet need and in increasing client satisfaction. To investigate the issues and advantages related to distribution of third generation OCP; To know clients feedback in terms of comfort, convenience, effectiveness and satisfaction; To know service providers feedback in terms of program output, method application and distribution; To know opinion of the local government representatives, community and clients regarding necessity and usefulness of third generation OCP; To investigate the challenges and problems faced by the service providers while distributing third generation OCP to the clients; To know cost effectiveness of third generation OCP; To know opinion of the field level family planning program managers regarding usefulness of the new contraceptives. <p>A terms of references (TOR) can be collected from the under signed office during office hour.</p>
14. Experience, Resources & Delivery Capacity Required	Directorate General of Family Planning now invites interested firm to express their interest to be short listed by demonstrating their qualifications to carry out the required service. The request should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of the firm including a maximum three brief CV of personnel who would be in charge of performing the assignment. Presentation of a concept how the required services would be performed (max. two pages). References showing the competence and experience of the bidder to perform the required services. Documentation referring the annual revenues, profits and financial good standing of the firm for the last three years, TIN No. & Income Tax clearance certificate for the year 2016-2017, VAT registration certificate and Bank solvency certificate with EOI.

15. Other Details (if applicable)	EOI shall be submitted in sealed envelope clearly marked "Request for EOI for selection of consulting firm for conducting the piloting of third generation Oral Contraceptive Pill (OCP) to the under signed within 14 June 2017, 12:30pm. The expression of interest must be submitted on hard copy and soft copy in pdf format.
16. Association with foreign firm	Encouraged
17. Contract Package No.FP-FSD/SP-1/2016-17	Phasing of Services: The piloting of third generation Oral Contraceptive Pill (OCP) for 10.5 months Location: One Upazilla in Bangladesh Indicative Start Date: 01 August 2017 Indicative Completion Date: 15 June 2018

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

18. Name of the Official Inviting EOI	Pranab Kumar Niogi
19. Designation of the Official Inviting EOI	Line Director, Family Planning- Field Services Delivery
20. Address of the Official Inviting EOI	Directorate General of Family Planning (4th floor), 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
21. Contact Details of the Official Inviting EOI	Tel. No. 88-02-58151861 E-mail: fsdftp@gmail.com
22. a) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs b) Late submitted EOI shall be returned unopened.	

বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানী নিরাপত্তা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার

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

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

Ref No. 28.20.9153.081.00.028(389).17 Date: 29/05/2017

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of the following work described below:

Sl No.	Name of Work	Tender ID	Tender/Proposal Document last selling / downloading Date and Time	Tender/Proposal closing/opening Date & Time
01.	Construction of 2-nos. Kitchen shed at Head Office of Sylhet Gas Fields Ltd., Chiknagool, Sylhet.	Tender ID: 105732	19-Jun-2017 at 15:30 Hours	20-Jun-2017 at 14:00 Hours

- This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the 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 Document from the National e-GP System Portal to be deposited through any registered bank's branch.
- Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd

29/5/2017
(Engr. Md. Abdul Quadir)
General manager (Technical Services)
e-mail: gmtsepp@sgfl.org.bd

29.05.17
(Pranab Kumar Niogi)
Line Director, Family Planning- Field Services Delivery
Directorate General of Family Planning
6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.