



Abdul Halim Chowdhury, managing director of Pubali Bank, and Tony Menzies, chief operating officer of HSBC Bangladesh, attend an agreement signing ceremony at Pubali Bank's head office in Dhaka on Tuesday. Clients of HSBC will utilise pre-selected branches of Pubali that will accept cash, instruments and fund transfer.

US, Mexico reach sugar pact without backing from US producers

REUTERS, Washington/New York

Mexico agreed to significant concessions on Tuesday to maintain its access to the lucrative US sugar market, but US sugar producers refused to endorse the deal between the governments, raising the risk that it could collapse.

The agreement in principle between US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and Mexican Economy Minister Ildefonso Guajardo aims to avoid steep duties on Mexican sugar and resolve a longstanding trade dispute between the United States and Mexico as the two countries and Canada prepare to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement this year.

Under the deal, Mexico would sharply reduce the share of refined sugar in its exports to the United States, while increasing its share of raw sugar exports and the agreement lifts the minimum prices for Mexican imports.

"We have gotten the Mexican side to agree to nearly every request made by US industry to address flaws in the current system and ensure fair treatment of American sugar growers and refiners," Ross told a news conference.

Still, Ross said the US sugar producers had told him that they could not accept the deal in its current form, but he hoped that they would

agree to some changes in a final drafting of the agreement in the next several days.

He did not elaborate on what action the Commerce Department would take if there were no final agreement with the US producers.

The negotiations were an attempt to settle an anti-dumping and anti-subsidy case brought by a coalition of cane and beet farming groups and ASR Group, the maker of Domino Sugar that is owned by the politically well-connected Fanjul family of Florida.

While the limits on refined sugar from Mexico at 30 percent were significantly below the previous 53 percent limit, these groups had initially pushed for a 15 percent limit.

Sources on both sides of the border had said on Monday that the US sugar industry had added new demands outside of the terms agreed on earlier yesterday by the two governments.

The American Sugar Alliance said it objected to the new deal because it said that Mexico would still be able to ship in refined sugar to meet additional US demand above quota, rather than the US Department of Agriculture having the final decision over the type of sugar that was shipped.

It was also unclear whether Ross would simply impose the settlement on the industry if the US producers did not sign onto it.

The agreement, if finalized, was expected to avert potential retaliation from Mexico on imports of US high-fructose corn syrup which had worried corn growers and refiners.

"Avoiding a trade war will benefit everyone, and I'm glad that this years-long trade dispute is finally reaching its end," said Republican Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa, adding that Ross balanced all interests in the negotiations.

US refiners have complained that high-quality Mexican raw sugar was going straight to sugar consumers, rather than passing through US refineries.

The deal would mark the culmination of a multi-year dispute between the countries over sugar, after US groups in 2014 asked the government for protection from subsidized exports from Mexico to the US. In 2014, the US government slapped large duties on Mexican sugar but hammered out a deal with Mexico that suspended those levies. Factions of the US industry have said that the deal has failed to eliminate harm to US producers from Mexican imports.

ASR and fellow cane refiner Imperial Sugar, owned by commodities firm Louis Dreyfus Company BV, have said they are being starved of raw supplies under the current deal. They have asked the US government to terminate the pact.

Sony's PlayStation VR headset sales top 1m units

REUTERS

Sony Corp has sold more than one million units of its virtual reality (VR) headset globally, the Asia chief of the Japanese firm's gaming unit said on Wednesday, as a relatively low price helps push the product into an early lead.

Sales of the PlayStation VR headset, released in October, have "exceeded our expectations," Atsushi Morita, president of Sony Interactive Entertainment Japan Asia, said in an interview.

"We are boosting production and a supply shortage should be solved accordingly," Morita told Reuters.

The sales momentum supports analysts' view that Sony is in a good position to build an early lead in the high-end VR headset race with its more modest price tag and by tapping the nearly 60 million users of its

flagship PlayStation 4 console.

The headset, designed to work with the PlayStation 4 rather than requiring new equipment, retails at \$399, cheaper than Facebook Inc's \$599 Oculus Rift and HTC Corp's \$799 Vive.

According to researcher IDC, about 2 million VR headsets were shipped worldwide in the first three months of 2017. Excluding cheaper smartphone-based headsets, Sony ranked top with 429,000 units.

Morita stressed it was still the beginning of Sony's long-term vision of VR eventually taking over functions offered by television sets.

"I believe that VR technology is the (greatest) innovation since the birth of television," he said. "VR allows you to travel to World Heritage sites or to space while staying at home. It's like a time machine or a door to anywhere."

China May forex reserves rise more than expected

REUTERS

China's foreign exchange reserves rose in May for a fourth consecutive month and by more than markets had expected, as stringent capital control measures and a weakening of the dollar helped staunch outflows.

Reserves rose \$24 billion in May to a seven-month high of \$3.054 trillion, compared with an increase of \$21 billion in April, central bank data showed on Wednesday.

It was the first time since June 2014 that reserves climbed for four months in a row, and the biggest gain since reserves moved back above the closely watched \$3 trillion level in February.

Economists polled by Reuters had expected reserves to rise \$10 billion.

A weaker US dollar boosted the value of other currencies and assets held by China in May, the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) said in a statement explaining the rise.

Foreign exchange supply and demand was basically balanced in the month, it added.

In May, the dollar recorded its largest monthly percentage loss against a basket of

major currencies . DXY since January.

Tighter restrictions on taking funds out of the country imposed in recent months continue to keep a lid on capital outflows, said Zhou Hao, a Singapore-based analyst at Commerzbank.

"From their perspective, they have done a very successful job."

Apart from valuation effects, Capital Economics' Julian Evans-Pritchard said China's central bank may also have been purchasing small quantities of foreign currencies again in May after having sold forex to shore up the sagging yuan for 18 straight months.

"This a major shift in policy that has been achieved thanks to an easing of capital outflows," he said.

"Given our forecast for China's May trade balance (due out on Thursday), today's figures still point to capital outflows of around \$10 billion last month. But this is down from \$30 billion in April and \$65 billion at the end of last year."

In April, net foreign exchange sales by the People's Bank of China (PBOC) fell to the lowest in nearly two years as capital outflows eased in the face of strict regulatory curbs and a pause in the dollar's rally.

edcl এসেন্সিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
৩৯৫-৩৯৭, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা- ১২০৮

সি এন্ড এফ এজেন্ট নিয়োগের পৃষ্ঠাঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

০১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	১	স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়
০২.	সংঘরক্ষী সংস্থার নাম/দণ্ডনির	১	এসেন্সিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
০৩.	প্রকল্পের নাম	১	গোপালগঞ্জে এসেন্সিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড-এর তৃতীয় শাখা কারখানা স্থাপন প্রকল্প
০৪.	স্মারক নং	১	ইতিসিএলপিডি-গোপালগঞ্জ/সিএন্ডএফ/এজেন্ট নিয়োগ/২০১৭/২৭ তারিখঃ ১০ মে, ২০১৭ইং
০৫.	কাজের ধরণ	১	আমদানীকৃত/ত্বর্য মালামাল খালাস, পরিবহন, লোডিং, আনলোডিং ও স্টকিং
০৬.	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	১	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র।
০৭.	বাজেট ও অর্থের সংস্থান	১	জিওবি।
০৮.	দরপত্র কাজের নাম	১	সি এন্ড এফ এজেন্ট নিয়োগ (টেক্ষাম সমুদ্র বন্দর, টেক্ষাম)।
০৯.	নিয়োগ কাল	১	২০১৭-২০১৯ইং ০২ (দুই) আর্থিক বৎসর।
১০.	পৃষ্ঠাঃ দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ	১	০৮ জুন, ২০১৭ইং
১১.	দরপত্রের বিবরের শেষ তারিখ	১	২০ জুন, ২০১৭ খ্রিঃ (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)
১২.	দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময়	১	২২ জুন, ২০১৭ খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৩.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১	২২ জুন, ২০১৭ খ্রিঃ দুপুর ০২.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১৪.	দরপত্র দলিল বিবরয়কারী অফিসের নাম	১	এসেন্সিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড ৩৯৫-৩৯৭, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮।
১৫.	দরপত্র জমা দেওয়া ও খোলার স্থান	১	এসেন্সিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড ৩৯৫-৩৯৭, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮।
১৬.	দরদাতাদের যোগ্যতা	১	(ক) সি এন্ড এফ এজেন্ট হিসাবে একই ধরণের কাজে দরপত্র দলিলের নির্দেশনামূল্য/শর্তানুমায় যোগ্যতা থাকতে হবে। (খ) আর্থিক সঞ্চয়ের স্বপক্ষে দলিলাদি। (গ) হালনাগাদ কার্যসূচী এজেন্টস লাইসেন্স। (ঘ) হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স। (ঙ) হালনাগাদ আয়কর পরিশোধের সনদ পত্র।
১৭.	দরপত্রের মূল্য (প্রতি সেট)	১	৪,০০০/- (চার হাজার) টাকার ব্যাংক পে-অর্ডার "গ্রকল পরিচালক, ইতিসিএল (তৃতীয় প্রকল্প), গোপালগঞ্জ" এর অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে।
১৮.	প্রাক দরপত্র সভা (স্থান, সময় ও তারিখ)	১	স্থানঃ ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের সভা কক্ষ। সময়ঃ ১১:৩০ মিনিট। তারিখঃ ১৪ জুন, ২০১৭।
১৯.	দরপত্র নিরাপত্তা জামানত	১	দরপত্র জামানত বাবদ "গ্রকল পরিচালক, ইতিসিএল (তৃতীয় প্রকল্প), গোপালগঞ্জ" এর অনুকূলে বাংলাদেশের যে কোন তফসিল ব্যাংক হতে ইস্যুকৃত ১০,০০,০০০/- (দশ লক্ষ) টাকার (ফেরতযোগ্য) পে-অর্ডার দরপত্র এর সাথে জমা দিতে হবে।
২০.	কোন কারণ দর্শনো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও বর্জনের ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।	১	
২১.	নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত যে কোন বিষয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলিয়া গণ্য হবে।	১	

অধ্যাপক (ডাঃ) এহসানুল কবির
প্রকল্প পরিচালক
ইতিসিএল (তৃতীয় প্রকল্প), গোপালগঞ্জ
ও
ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক
এসেন্সিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড

GD-1212

Interested persons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

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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 from the National e-GP portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 12:30pm on 21-06-2017.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) also from E-mail: xen.mymensingh@lged.gov.bd or call to 091-66110 or 091-66376.