



Syed Margub Murshed, chairperson of Environment and Social Development Organisation, and Mozahar Hossain, director for operations and head of management committee at Elite Paint, pose with the "Lead Safe Paint" certificate of Elite Paint, developed by IPEN, a global non-government organisation and international leader on chemical safety, at a programme at Begum Sufia Kamal Public Library in Dhaka on Tuesday.

ELITE PAINT

India seen posting stronger economic growth as shock from cash clampdown fades

REUTERS, New Delhi

India's economy likely showed further signs of recovery in the latest quarter from a shock cash squeeze late last year, but the rebound is not expected to be strong enough to help it reclaim the crown of the world's fastest-growing major economy.

Gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to have expanded 6.6 percent in the April-June quarter from a year earlier, according to economists polled by Reuters.

That would mark a solid acceleration from 6.1 percent growth in January-March, but still lag China's 6.9 percent print in the latest quarter.

Forecasts ranged from 5.7 to 7.2 percent. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi's shock decision last November to scrap high-value old banknotes wiped out about 86 percent of currency in circulation virtually overnight, pounding consumer demand.

Since then, high frequency indicators such as sales of two-wheel vehicles, oil consumption, cargo traffic and rail freight have shown the impact of the cash clampdown is gradually fading.

"The economy likely dusted off the post-demonetisation lull," said Radhika Rao, an economist at DBS Bank in Singapore.

Yet, Asia's third-largest economy is far away from firing on all cylinders - capital spending remains weak and debt-laden banks are still circumspect in lending.

Confusion over a new goods and services tax and high debt levels in rural areas could also dampen activity in coming months.

The launch of a national Goods and Services Tax (GST) on July 1 has caused chaos

on the ground as ambiguous rules have left firms confused over how to price their products. Business surveys showed both services and manufacturing activity contracted at their fastest rate in years in July.

In rural areas, huge inventories of grain from last year's record harvest have led to large declines in prices, leaving millions of farmers in debt.

With restive farmers demanding loan relief, four Indian states have agreed to waive billions of dollars in farm loans. A few more states are contemplating similar write-offs. The debt waivers come at a time when state finances are under pressure, compelling some of them to slash capital spending to keep their budget deficits in check.

Further clouding the economic outlook is growing stress on corporate balance sheets, frustrating Modi's efforts to revive private investments. In the telecoms sector, the entry of Reliance Jio has dramatically reduced prices, hitting corporate profits. Similarly, a marked decline in the price of renewable energy has put thermal power companies in a spot.

There is little surprise then that a number of economists including those in the government have begun sounding warnings.

Still, there is a good chance of Thursday's data throwing an upside surprise, thanks to a favourable GDP "deflator". The federal statistics office uses the deflator to strip out price changes to make quarters comparable.

The GDP deflator is expected to decline by as much as 200 basis points from the March quarter due to a sharp cooling in inflation, imparting an upside bias to real growth figures.

Rice prices drop in major exporters on weak demand

REUTERS, Bangkok

Rice prices dropped this week in Thailand, Vietnam and India due to weak demand for the staple, traders said on Thursday.

Thai benchmark 5-percent broken rice was quoted at \$370-\$375 a tonne, free-on-board (FOB) Bangkok, down from \$375-\$377 a tonne last week. The fall in prices can be attributed to the release of new crops.

"Export market demand is currently at a low level, perhaps due to buyers waiting to see whether a further slump in prices will occur or not," said a Bangkok-based trader.

Prices in Thailand are expected

to fall next week and remain relatively stable until the end of October, according to rice traders.

Vietnam benchmark 5-percent broken rice RI-VNBKN5-P1 tightened slightly to \$385-\$390 a tonne this week, FOB Saigon, from \$385-\$395 last week.

This drop has occurred as fresh demand was scarce after harvesting ended for the summer-autumn crops.

"The market has been quiet on low demand. Prices have declined in Thailand, so Vietnam's prices also went down," a trader in Ho Chi Minh City said. Thailand and Vietnam are the world's second and third biggest rice exporters.

In India, the world's biggest rice exporter, 5-percent broken parboiled rice prices fell by \$3 per tonne to \$400 to \$403 per tonne.

Weak demand is the result of a strong rupee which dents export margins. "We are out priced. Buyers are asking for less than \$400 per tonne, which is not possible due to strong rupee," said an exporter based in Kakinada in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh.

India's non-basmati rice exports are likely to slow over the next few months as its shipments of the grain have become too expensive due to a rally in the rupee and an increase in local paddy prices. Meanwhile,

Bangladesh is set to buy 250,000 tonnes of white rice at \$453 a tonne from Cambodia in a government-to-government deal, officials said.

It had earlier imported 200,000 tonnes of white rice at \$430 a tonne and 50,000 tonnes of parboiled rice at \$470 a tonne from Vietnam in a state-to-state deal at rates much higher than in tenders.

Demand from Bangladesh has been crucial to rice prices in the global market this year as the country's government is battling to build buffer stocks to combat high domestic prices after flash floods in April wiped away around 1 million tonnes of rice output.

Mamun Rashid, managing partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Bangladesh, hands over a laptop to Sarwar Ali, a trustee of the Liberation War Museum, at a programme. PwC Bangladesh donated 12 laptops to the museum.



PWC BANGLADESH

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Chief Controller of Stores
Bangladesh Railway
Pahartali, Chittagong-4202
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বিনা টিকেটে রেল ভ্রমণ না করে উন্নয়নে সহায়তা করুন

Notice No. P2/GB4/04/2017/R

Dated: 28/08/2017

Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Railways.	
2	Agency	Bangladesh Railway.	
3	Procuring entity name	Chief Controller of Stores, Pahartali, Chittagong.	
4	Procuring entity code	Nil.	
5	Procuring entity district	Chittagong.	
6	Invitation for	Tender Goods.	
KEY INFORMATION			
7	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method NCT (ICT)	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
9	Budget and source of funds	GOB (Cap-970/CSP)	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
10	Tender package name	P2/GB4/04/2017/R.	
	Date:	Time	
11	Tender publication date	28/08/2017	11:30am/pm
12	Tender last selling date	30/10/2017	2:00am/pm
13	Tender submission date and time	31/10/2017	12:01pm
14	Tender opening date and time	31/10/2017	12:30pm
15	Name & address of the office(s)	Selling Tender Document	
	Selling tender document	(1) Chief Controller of Stores, Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chittagong.	
		(2) Controller of Stores (East), Central Railway Building, Chittagong.	
		(3) Controller of Stores (West), Rajshahi.	
		(4) Assistant Controller of Stores, Kamalapur, Dhaka.	
		Chief Controller of Stores, Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chittagong.	
		Chief Controller of Stores, Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali Chittagong.	
		Pre-tender meeting will not be held.	

16	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
17	Eligibility of tenderer	All potential tenderers who satisfy the qualification criteria mentioned in the tender documents except those who have been barred from participating in public document under the procuring entity are eligible.
18	Brief description of goods	

Sl No.	Tender No. & date	Description of stores & quantity	Tender type	Tender re-tender	Tender document price	Tender security	Delivery point
1	P2/GB4/04/2017/R	Malleable Cast Iron (MCI)/SGCI-Insert (With Antivandal Arrangement) As per Drawing No. CE/E-6077 and as per Indian Standard Specification No. T/46-1996. 120000 Nos.	ICT	Tender	Tk 850/-	Tk 2,00,000.00 or equivalent amount in US\$ or euro	90 days
17.	Designation of official inviting tender		: Chief Controller of Stores.				
18.	Address of official inviting tender		: Office of Chief Controller of Stores, Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chittagong-4202.				
19.	Contact details of official inviting tender		: Phone: 031-2566012				
20.	Tender documents may be obtained from the office of the undersigned as well as from Controller of Stores (East), Central Railway Building, Chittagong, Controller of Stores (West), Rail Bhaban, Rajshahi from 9.00am to 4.30pm (Sunday to Wednesday), and from Assistant Controller of Stores, Kamalapur, Dhaka from 9.00am to 4.30pm (Saturday to Wednesday) & from 9.00am to 11.00am (Thursday).						
21.	Tender security must be submitted in favour of the Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer (East), Bangladesh Railway, Chittagong in the shape of Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee issued by any scheduled bank in Bangladesh. In case of foreign tenderer's, tender security may be submitted from foreign bank but that must be endorsed by a scheduled bank in Bangladesh.						
22.	Tenderer/representative (if any) may be present at the time of opening the tender.						
23.	If the tenderer fails to understand any condition of the tender document clearly, they may contract with undersigned during office hours.						
24.	If the office remains closed or any other unavoidable circumstances arise on the last date of selling of the tender documents or on the last date of submission/opening of the tender, the following working day shall be deemed as the last date of selling & next working day shall be the last date of submission/opening of the tender.						
25.	Tenders may be submitted by hand, by post or by courier, before last time/date of the submission. Otherwise, tender shall be directly rejected.						
26.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.						

Md. Golam Ambia
Chief Controller of Stores
Bangladesh Railway
Pahartali, Chittagong

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বাংলাদেশ সড়ক পরিবহন কর্পোরেশন		
২১, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০		
অযোগ্য ঘোষিত ১৫৮টি গাড়ি নিলামে বিক্রয়ের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি		
১।	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	সড়ক পরিবহন ও সেতু মন্ত্রণালয়, সড়ক পরিবহন ও মহাসড়ক বিভাগ।
২।	বিক্রয় সত্তার নাম	চেয়ারম্যান, বিআরটিসি।
৩।	বিক্রয় পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
৪।	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং	বিআরটিসি/০৫/২০১৭।
৫।	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের স্থান	(ক) বিআরটিসি, ক্রয় বিভাগ, ৯ম তলা, পরিবহন ভবন, ২১, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০, (খ) মতিঝিল বাস ডিপো, (গ) কল্যাণপুর বাস ডিপো, (ঘ) জোয়ারসাহারা বাস ডিপো, (ঙ) মিরপুর দ্বিতীয় বাস ডিপো, (চ) চট্টগ্রাম বাস ডিপো, (ছ) বগুড়া বাস ডিপো, (জ) পাবনা বাস ডিপো, (ঝ) বরিশাল বাস ডিপো ও (ঞ) রংপুর বাস ডিপো।
৬।	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ ও সময়	১৪/৯/২০১৭ হতে ০৯/১০/২০১৭ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে।
৭।	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	দরপত্রের প্রতিটি সিডিউলের মূল্যাবাদ ৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকা (অক্রেতারহযোগ্য) কর্পোরেশনের প্রধান কার্যালয়ের হিসাব বিভাগের কাছে এবং বর্ণিত ডিপোর কাছে জমা দিয়ে মনি রশীদ গ্রহণ করতে হবে। উক্ত মনি রশীদ ক্রয় বিভাগে এবং উক্ত ডিপোতে প্রদর্শনপূর্বক দরপত্র খোলার পূর্বদিন পর্যন্ত সিডিউল সজ্জা করা যাবে।
৮।	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	১০/১০/২০১৭ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত ক্রয় বিভাগ (৯ম তলা), বিআরটিসি, পরিবহন ভবন, ২১, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০, মতিঝিল বাস ডিপো (৫৭, কমলাপুর, ঢাকা-১২১৭) এবং কল্যাণপুর বাস ডিপো (কল্যাণপুর, ঢাকা-১২০৭) এ স্বহস্তে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে অথবা প্রধান কার্যালয়ে, ক্রয় বিভাগে ডাকযোগে/কুরিয়ারযোগে দরপত্র দাখিল করা যাবে (ডাকযোগে/কুরিয়ারযোগে প্রেরিত দরপত্র প্রধান কার্যালয়ে, ক্রয় বিভাগে ১০/১০/২০১৭ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা মধ্যে না পাঁছালে দরপত্র গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না)।
৯।	দরপত্র বাজ্ঞ খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	১০/১০/২০১৭ইং বিকাল ০৪.০০ ঘটিকা বিআরটিসি, ক্রয় বিভাগ (৯ম তলা), পরিবহন ভবন, ২১, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০ (দরদাতাগণ অথবা তাদের একজন প্রতিনিধি দরপত্র খোলার সময় উপস্থিত থাকতে পারবেন)।
১০।	দরপত্রের সাথে জামানত (আর্নেস্টমনি)	মোট উক্ত মূল্যের ন্যূনতম ১০% জামানত (আর্নেস্টমনি) "চেয়ারম্যান, বিআরটিসি"র অনুমোদিত যে কোন রায়স্বাক্ষরিত/সিডিউল ব্যাংক হতে প্রদত্ত পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে দরপত্রের সাথে জমা করতে হবে।
১১।	সিডিউলের সাথে যে সমস্ত ডকুমেন্টস সংযুক্ত করতে হবে	(ক) সিডিউল ক্রয়ের মূল রশীদ, (খ) ক্রয়/বিক্রয়/সরবরাহকারী সম্পর্কিত হালনাগাদ নবায়িত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, (গ) আয়কর প্রত্যয়নপত্র, (ঘ) ভাটি রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদপত্র, (ঙ) ব্যাংক স্বাক্ষরিত সনদপত্র, (চ) জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের ফটোকপি, (ছ) ০২ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের রশীদ ছবি। দরপত্র সিডিউলে বর্ণিত কাগজপত্র হালনাগাদ নবায়িত এবং প্রথম শ্রেণীর কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত করে দাখিল করতে হবে।
১২।	বিক্রয়তত্ত্ব মালামালের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বিবরণ	কর্পোরেশনের অযোগ্য ঘোষিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি সিডিউলে/ইউনিটে রক্ষিত ১৫৮টি গাড়ি নিলামে বিক্রয়।
১৩।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম	মোঃ রফিকুল ইসলাম তালুকদার।
১৪।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর পদবী	ডেপুটি জেনারেল ম্যানেজার (ক্রয় এর অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব)।
১৫।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর অফিসের ঠিকানা	বিআরটিসি, ক্রয় বিভাগ, ৯ম তলা, পরিবহন ভবন, ২১, রাজউক এডিনিউ, ঢাকা-১০০০।
১৬।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর অফিস টেলিফোন নং	৯৫৫৯৭১৩, ৯৫৫০১৪৮।
১৭।	কর্তৃপক্ষের ক্ষমতা	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ কিংবা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন এবং কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।
১৮।	নির্দেশনা	অসম্পূর্ণ, ক্রটিমুক্ত ও জামানত বিহীন (আর্নেস্টমনি) দরপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

মোঃ রফিকুল ইসলাম তালুকদার
ডিপুটি জেনারেল ম্যানেজার
(অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব)
বিআরটিসি

জিডি-১৭৯৭

Diverging paths: As China's big banks improve, smaller lenders lag

REUTERS, Shanghai/Beijing

After a tough two years, China's largest banks are reporting green shoots, with the top four turning in consensus-beating profits and promising an upbeat second half.

But smaller, national and regional lenders - which control about a third of China's banking assets - are still feeling the strain, hit by a regulatory crackdown on risky activity that has made it difficult to sell some products and access the capital on which they have often relied. Many have reported shrinking balance sheets after years of expansion.

The result, analysts say, is likely to be a funding squeeze for China's struggling firms, which have depended on these banks for life-or-death credit and could now be pushed to costlier borrowing or grey market offers.

"Small- and medium-sized companies would suffer along with smaller banks," said Du Yang, acting head of the asset management team at China Securities International.

Lending may slow in any case into the second half, as some banks have exhausted most of their annual credit quota amid the push to bring shadow financing activities to the main loan book, raising the spectre of corporate defaults as financing costs climb in the world's No.2 economy.

And the pain, as ever, is likely to be concentrated in China's rust-belt regions.

Sophie Jiang, analyst at Nomura, however, believes smaller balance sheets at mid-tier and regional lenders will lead to better capital allocation, as inefficient firms are squeezed out. "We think this is good for the real economy."

For now, it is a tale of diverging paths. "This year, there has been some differentiation among banks. Large banks have experienced relatively better stability in their operations," Fang Heying, the vice president of China CFIIC Bank, told reporters last week.

By contrast joint stock banks - smaller lenders that are not fully state-owned - have "generally seen a decline in revenue". Fang's own bank saw operating income slip and assets shrink.

At Shengjing Bank Co, a regional bank based in the northern province of Liaoning, first-half operating income fell almost 17 percent.