

সুপার ডিপিএস
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 ইসলামী শরীয়াহ'র এর সুদারাবা
 নীতির ভিত্তিতে পরিচালিত।
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Star BUSINESS

DHAKA FRIDAY AUGUST 9, 2019, SRABAN 25, 1426 BS • starbusiness@thedailystar.net

Eid economy to be 29pc bigger

SAJJADUR RAHMAN and JAGARAN CHAKMA

The economy of Eid-ul-Azha is likely to add about Tk 40,000 crore to the economy, up 29 percent year-on-year, according to the Department of Livestock Services and analysts.

The average price of a cow is estimated at Tk 52,500 and a goat Tk 8,500. Based on the estimate, about Tk 28,687 crore will come from cattle sales only, Hires Ranjan Bhowmik, director general of the department of livestock services, told The Daily Star.

"This is an estimate and it will take a couple of weeks after the Eid-ul-Azha to get the final number," Bhowmik said.

Other than the livestock sector, spice traders and other service sectors, including transport, are greatly benefitted by the festival, said Zahid

Hussain, a senior economist.

Ahsan H Mansur, executive director of the Policy Research Institute, estimates the size of the Eid-ul-Azha economy will be more than Tk 45,000 crore this year because of the stable economy.

Of the sum, about Tk 30,000 crore was generated by cattle trade and the remaining Tk 15,000 crore through sales of commodities, refrigerators, freezers, clothing, furniture, transportation and tourism.

Abdul Majid, a former chairman of the National Board of Revenue, said the Eid-ul-Azha economy this year will be bigger than the last one due to the government's banning of cattle imports.

"The money will go to the rural areas and that will have a significant impact on the rural economy," he added.

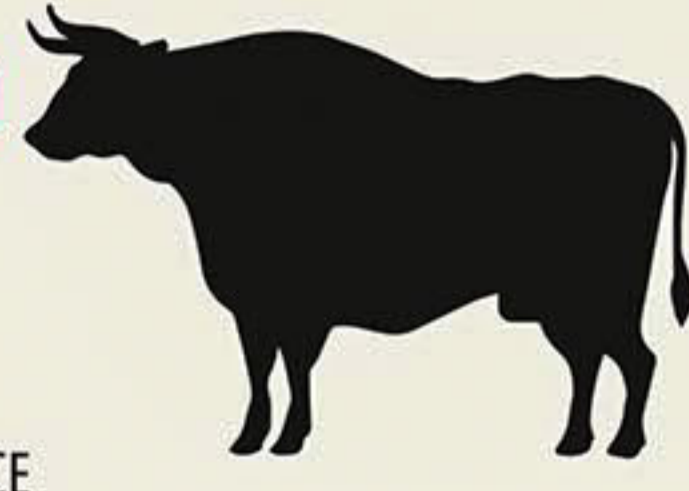

The festival also provides the poor much-needed nutrition and creates some temporary jobs for them. It also brings bonanza for bus and launch operators and commodity traders. Above all, it provides the supply of half of the annual requirement for rawhide for the leather and leather goods industry.

EID UL AZHA ECONOMY 2019

MINIMUM EXPECTED SPENDING

TK 40,000 CRORE

AROUND 1.05CR CATTLE WOULD BE SACRIFICED

<p>42.5 lakh cows and buffalos</p> <p>AVERAGE COW PRICE Tk 52,500</p> <p>TOTAL TRANSACTION Tk 22,300 crore</p>		<p>58 lakh goats, sheep and others</p> <p>AVERAGE GOAT PRICE Tk 8,500</p> <p>TOTAL TRANSACTION Tk 4,930 crore</p>	
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ZAHID HUSSAIN
FORMER LEAD ECONOMIST, WORLD BANK DHAKA OFFICE

Nearly 50 percent of the total contribution of livestock sector in GDP comes from the Eid-ul-Azha. This Eid also provides nutrition to 14 percent extreme poor as one-third of sacrificed cattle meat is distributed to the poor.

*T&C APPLY
*SELECTED ITEMS ONLY

SALE

20% OFF

PUMA

153/E, Road-11, Banani, Dhaka

 <p>Tk 500cr FROM SLAUGHTERING TOOLS</p>	 <p>Tk 1,500cr FROM SPICES</p>	 <p>Tk 450cr FROM RAW HIDES</p>	 <p>Tk 1,500cr FROM TRANSPORT</p>	 <p>Tk 2,500cr FROM REFRIGERATORS AND FREEZERS</p>	 <p>Tk 5,000cr MISCELLANEOUS</p>
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SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK SERVICES

Bangladesh second in export growth: WTO

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

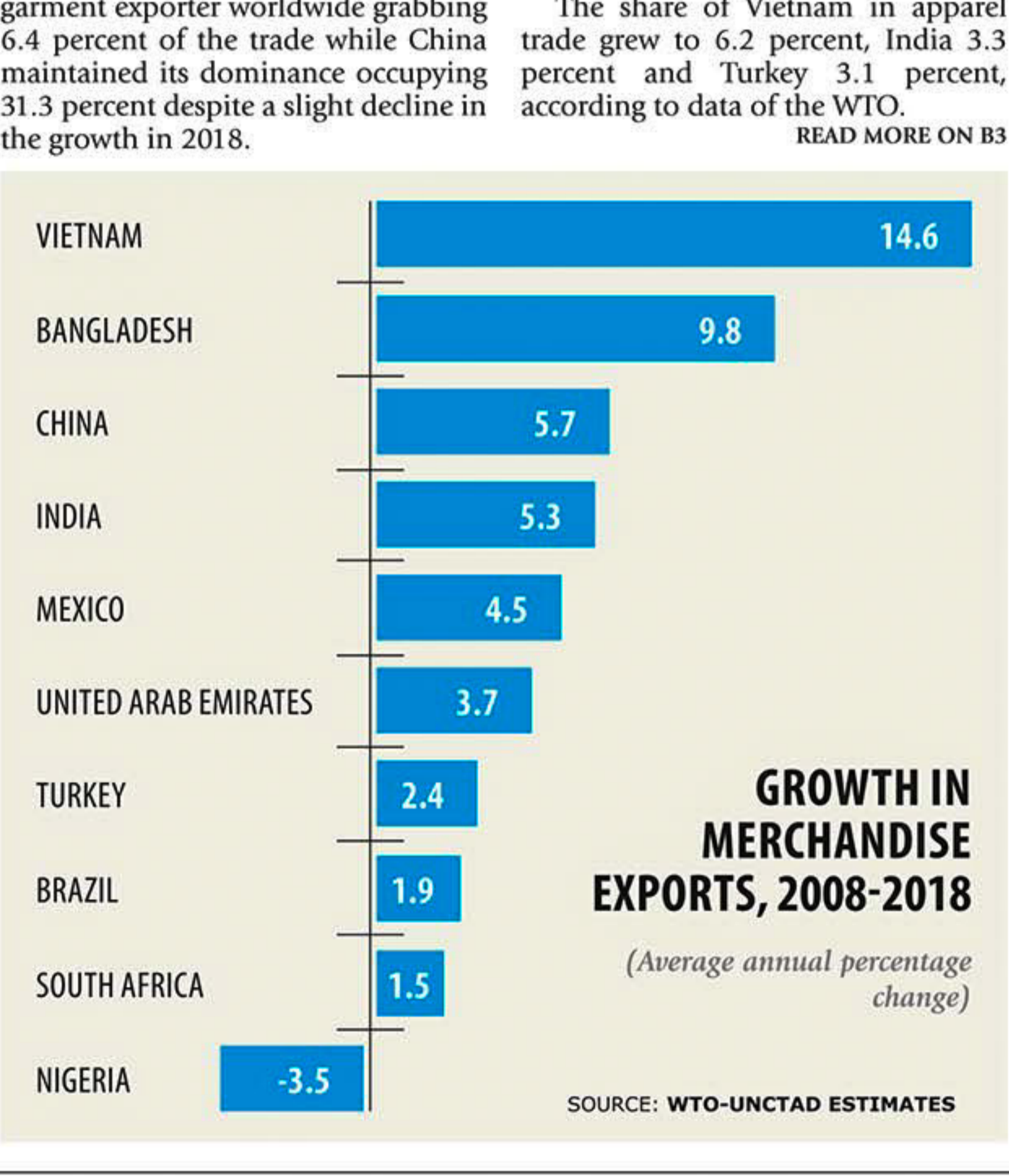
Bangladesh has achieved the second highest export growth globally over the past decade (2008-2018) and the highest among South Asian nations thanks to the spiralling apparel shipment, according to World Statistics Review 2019.

Vietnam, which is also one of the top garment exporters worldwide, topped the list with a 14.6 percent export growth while Bangladesh gained 9.8 percent, according to the flagship annual report of the World Trade Organisation.

Exports of two giant economies, China and India, grew by 5.7 percent and 5.3 percent respectively. Bangladesh exceeded the export growth of many leading economies like China, India, Brazil and Turkey and some developing nations because of the high volume of garment export.

"Bangladesh's exports of apparel and clothing more than trebled between 2008 and 2018," the WTO said. Vietnam's exports of electrical machinery increased almost 30-fold between 2008 and 2018, according to the report. Bangladesh is now the 42nd largest exporter and 30th largest importer of the world, the data said.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh maintained the title of second largest



Relaxed rescheduling open till Sept 7

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Defaulters will get till September 7 to apply for rescheduling their loans under the central bank's relaxed policy as per a Bangladesh Bank notice to banks yesterday. The relaxed policy was made available in May to allow defaulters to clear their loans.

However, the High Court issued a status quo, putting the effectiveness of the notice on hold until June 23, barring rescheduling of default loans under the policy.

However, the Supreme Court on July 8 issued a stay on the High Court order for two months. "The stay order on the High Court's status quo will end on September 7, so the BB has allowed defaulters to reschedule their classified loans until that date," said a BB official.

If required, the central bank will change its directive in accordance with court orders, he said.

Under the policy, defaulters can make a 2 percent down payment to avail a 9 percent interest rate and 10 years, including one year's grace period, to pay back their loans.

e-KYC finally from December

AKM ZAMIR UDDIN

The central bank is set to introduce electronic Know Your Customer (e-KYC) system from December -- a move that would allow account opening without filling in any paper-based documents.

Those with e-KYC will be allowed limited scale transactions, ranging from Tk 20,000 to Tk 5 lakh, in a development that will give momentum to the country's financial inclusion drive.

"A good number of underprivileged and unbanked people will be brought under the umbrella of formal financial services when the new system will be introduced," said Md Anwarul Islam, general manager at the Financial Inclusion Department of the Bangladesh Bank.

The central bank has been working for nearly three years on the programme as part of its efforts to make the financial sector more vibrant, he said.

The pilot programme for e-KYC will begin from next month with 15 commercial banks and two mobile financial service (MFS) providers.

Some 1,600 accounts will be opened in different parts of the country under the programme in order to detect probable difficulties before rolling it on a full-fledged basis from December. Customers with e-KYC can settle transactions through the MFS platform and agent banking. They can also invest in savings certificates and other government securities.

Banks can also disburse a small range of SME loans to an e-KYC account holder.

The service will be completely automated and the e-KYC data will be furnished in real-time, without any manual intervention.

Digitally signed e-KYC data will be machine readable, meaning the service provider can directly store it as customer record in their database for purpose of service and audit and so on.

The regular KYC required filling up forms with 12-28 pages along with signature, photo and supporting documents.

Under e-KYC, a customer can open an account by filling up a one-page-long digital form. The photograph will be taken on the spot and the customer's identification data will be authenticated instantly. The thumb print would serve as the digital signature.

Clients now have to spend 3-7 days to open a bank account, but with e-KYC only 5-10 minutes will be required.

An inter-agency working group -- consisting of the central bank, Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Group, Election Commission, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission, Access to Finance (A2i), ICT ministry and some other financial institutions -- is working on formulating the final guidelines for the e-KYC.

The central bank had earlier planned to introduce e-KYC from June but it failed to get the approval from the EC for the use of NID database on time.

The EC though gave its approval to the 15 commercial banks and the two MFS providers in May, it was too late for the June launch.

Vessel congestion to worsen during Eid vacation

Ctg port users fear

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg

Businesses fear vessel congestion in Chattogram port will get worse in the days to come as the delivery of cargoes would slow down during Eid vacation starting Sunday.

The country's premier sea port managed to get rid of years-long container and vessel congestion in November last year by installing some equipment and taking some supervisory steps. The situation prevailed till April this year.

Container vessels had to wait only a day or two for getting berth during those five months. However, the congestion returned in May-June due to nonoperation of the port for a few days amid cyclone Fani and Eid-ul-Fitr vacation.

The port's operational activities were a bit slow during incessant rain and foul weather in early July again, intensifying the congestion.

The number of container vessels waiting at the outer anchorage and their waiting time before getting berths have been gradually increasing for the last couple of months.

Currently it is taking on average 6 to 8 days for a container vessel to get permission of berthing in a port jetty after arriving at the outer anchorage.

It takes at least 4 to 5 days more for unloading the imports from the vessel and completing other formalities to get the cargoes delivered from the port.

Thus, an importer has to wait 10 to 13 days for receiving their goods from the port.

Till yesterday afternoon a total of 20 container vessels remained waiting at the outer anchorage. Three vessels -- Kota Azam, Thorswind and MCC Cebu -- arrived at the port on August 1 and those were scheduled to berth in 3 port jetties by yesterday evening, according to sources.

Garment is the most affected sector of such congestion as delays in receiving imports like garment accessories have been hampering production in many factories.

"It seems the problem is never-ending," said Nasir Uddin Chowdhury, chairman of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association's standing committee on port and shipping.

Eid bonus, wages to be cleared by Saturday

BGMEA, Industrial Police say

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Over 60 percent of garment factories have paid wages for July and over 75 percent paid festival bonus till yesterday, Abdus Salam, director general of Industrial Police, said yesterday.

"We are hoping that the rest of the factories will complete the payment of both wage and bonus within the next two days (Friday and Saturday)," Salam told The Daily Star over the phone.

"Although primarily some 325 factories were on our vulnerable list, most of those units have already paid the monthly salary and bonus," he said.

"We do not foresee any untoward incident in the garment sector before Eid as almost all the factories will finally pay their workers."

Meanwhile, Rubana Huq, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), said, "To the best of our knowledge, more than 98 percent factories have cleared bonus."

"Till day before yesterday, we had only 5 factories out of 130 on our watch list and they have also cleared bonus."

Till now, nearly 80 percent of the factories have cleared wages, rest 10 percent will do it by tomorrow and last 10 percent by Saturday, she said.

"Please note that as per government's request we have declared holidays in a split fashion. So, workers are leaving zone-wise," Huq said.



Garment makers plan to clear Eid bonus, salaries before the Eid vacation.