

Fashion app sells off unwanted stock to aid Bangladeshi workers

REUTERS

A British shopping app is raising money to help hard-pressed garment workers in Bangladesh by selling off clothes ditched by global fashion brands as the coronavirus crisis decimated their sales.

Under Mallzee's Lost Stock initiative, boxes of clothes - with brand labels removed - are sold for 35 pounds (\$44), with 37 per cent of the retail price donated to a charity supplying food and other goods to clothing workers hit by layoffs and unpaid wages.

"We had the industry contacts to be in the perfect position to connect consumers with the cancelled stock supporting garment workers and helping avoid the clothes ending up in landfill," Melanie Gray, a spokeswoman for Edinburgh-based Mallzee, said.

Labour advocates in Bangladesh welcomed Mallzee's efforts but expressed concern that such initiatives could let big brands off the hook over mass cancelled orders that are putting the livelihoods of thousands of workers at risk.

"I appreciate this. But why do our workers have to live on charity?" Kalpona Akter, founder of the Bangladesh Centre for Worker Solidarity, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"It will be highly appreciated if they (Mallzee) can pressurise brands and ensure that they pay up," Millions of Bangladeshi households depend on the garment sector, which has been hit hard by the pandemic. Exports fell by 84 per cent in the first half of April as \$3 billion-worth of orders were cancelled or suspended, according to factory owners.

As the industry reels from the blow, Rubana Huq, president of the Bangladesh garment manufacturers and exporters association, said schemes like Lost Stock were "imperative." Last week, Bangladeshi manufacturers said they would blacklist Western

fashion brands that "exploit" them by failing to pay their bills due to the coronavirus crisis, days after threatening to sue a major British retailer over its debts.

Several manufacturers have struggled to clear workers' dues in the last two months due to the cancellations, and hundreds of unpaid garment workers protested on the streets last month.



Since launching the programme two weeks ago, Mallzee has sold 80,000 boxes of clothes, far exceeding its goal to sell 10,000, Gray said.

She said the company had collected enough funds to supply parcels of food and sanitary products to help 80,000 garment workers and their families.

Mallzee is working in partnership with Sajida Foundation, a Bangladeshi NGO, which plans to begin the distribution of the aid packages next month.

"We're in the process of making a list of garment workers who need the relief. It can support them for two months," said Muhymín Chowdhury, spokesman for Sajida Foundation.

Researchers say charitable efforts will not be enough to support workers in the longer term, urging the government to work with factory owners to create a social safety net for garment industry employees.

Dollar loses safe-haven shine

REUTERS, London

The euro reached an 11-week high on Tuesday as the dollar lost ground, with investors maintaining their hopes for a global economic recovery.

The optimism persisted within markets despite growing concern over U.S.-China tensions and mass protests across the United States over the death of a black man in police custody.

Traders remain hopeful that central banks will continue to buy government bonds and other financial assets to protect their economies from the coronavirus pandemic.

The European Central Bank, for instance, is expected to increase its 750 billion-euro Pandemic Emergency Purchase Programme, or PEPP, on Thursday, probably by around 500 billion euros.

The Bank of Japan, ECB and the Federal Reserve have increased their balance sheets by 10 per cent, 20 per cent and 70 per cent respectively since the start of this year, said Kit Juckes, macro strategist at Societe Generale.

The euro last fetched \$1.1178, up 0.4 per cent on the day, after rallying to \$1.1185, its highest since March 17.

The U.S. dollar fell to a three-month low of 1.3503 against the Canadian dollar and was last trading down 0.4 per cent. It also fell against the Australian dollar, which rose to \$0.6852, its highest since Jan. 24.

China buys US soybeans after halt to US purchases ordered

REUTERS, Chicago

State-owned Chinese firms bought at least three cargoes of U.S. soybeans on Monday, even as sources in China said the government had told them to halt purchases after Washington said it would eliminate special treatment for Hong Kong to punish Beijing.

The purchases, totaling at least 180,000 tonnes of the oilseed, were for shipment in October or November, the peak U.S. soy export season when American soybeans are usually the cheapest in the world, three U.S. traders with knowledge of the deals said.

It was not immediately clear why buying continued after Beijing's message to state-owned firms, but U.S. traders said Chinese importers still have not covered a large share of October and November soybean needs.

"It's murky, really hard to say," said one U.S. export trader. "Maybe they wanted to knock a few cents off the price, or maybe there's some other agenda. The do need the beans." Earlier, two sources familiar with the matter said China told state-owned firms to halt large-scale U.S. soybean and pork purchases. One of them said state purchases of U.S. corn and cotton have also been put on hold.

The soybean sales on Monday were small compared to recent purchases by state-owned firms totaling 1 million tonnes or more at a time.

China is ready to suspend imports of more American agriculture products if Washington takes further action on Hong Kong, the sources said.

Any sustained halt in buying would further threaten progress in meeting goals set in the Phase 1 trade deal signed in January. China pledged to significantly boost purchases

of U.S. agricultural products, after slashing imports during the bruising trade war.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Trade Representative's office did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told reporters during a daily briefing Tuesday that he was unaware of the situation.

On Friday, U.S. President Donald Trump said he was directing his administration to begin the process of eliminating special treatment for Hong Kong in response to China's plans to impose new security legislation. China said on Monday it will counter U.S. attempts to harm Beijing's interests.

Chinese importers canceled 10,000 to 20,000 tonnes of American pork shipments, equivalent to roughly one week's orders in recent months following Trump's comments on Friday, the source said.

In a worst-case scenario, if Trump continues to target China, Beijing will scrap the Phase 1 deal, a second source familiar with the government plan said.

"There's no way Beijing can buy goods from the U.S. when receiving constant attacks from Trump," the person said.

U.S. corn, wheat and lean hog futures weakened on Monday due to concerns about rising trade tensions. Soybeans were flat.

Under the initial trade deal, China pledged to buy an additional \$32 billion worth of U.S. agriculture products over two years above a baseline based on 2017 figures.

The USDA reported that China bought \$1.028 billion worth of soybeans and \$691 million of pork in the first quarter of 2020. China also bought corn, wheat and soyoil this year.

Asian markets extend gains on hopes virus crisis is easing

AFP, Hong Kong

The easing of lockdowns around the world and signs that economies are slowly recovering provided further impetus for Asian stocks Tuesday, though traders remain on edge over China-US tensions and growing unrest across several large American cities.

Donald Trump's decision not to impose strict sanctions on Beijing over its Hong Kong security law allowed investors to get June off to a healthy start, while a slowdown in virus infections and deaths globally continues to keep the mood positive.

Europe pressed ahead with a further loosening of measures, with schools, pools, pubs and tourist sites reopening -- despite fears of a second

wave of infections -- providing hope that shattered economies can begin to rebuild.

Data showing improvements in factory activity in some countries, particularly badly hit Italy, also gave traders hope.

"May's data suggested the worst of the contraction may be behind us, but we see a bumpy restart in coming months," BlackRock Investment Institute strategists said in a report.

Tokyo rose 0.8 per cent, while Hong Kong climbed 0.5 per cent after a more than three percent surge Monday.

Shanghai added 0.1 per cent and Seoul was up 0.5 per cent after data showed South Korea's economy shrank less than first thought in the first quarter.

Singapore rose more than one percent as the city began easing its own shutdown measures and Manila also climbed more than one percent. There were healthy gains in Jakarta, Wellington and Taipei, though Sydney was slightly lower.

Investors appeared to brush off news that China had ordered its state-run agricultural firms to temporarily halt buying some US farm goods, which raised questions about the impact on the countries' trade pact signed in January.

That came after Trump on Friday unveiled a series of moves against China over Hong Kong but stopped short of imposing specific strict measures, suggesting the US prefers to avoid a confrontation at this point.

Office of the Project Director
Further Development of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (2nd Phase)
Patuakhali Science and Technology University
Dumki, Patuakhali-8602, Bangladesh

Invitation for Expression of Interest (Eoi)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education/Secondary and Higher Education Division.
2	Agency	University Grants Commission (UGC).
3	Procuring entity name	Patuakhali Science and Technology University, Dumki, Patuakhali-8602.
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district	Patuakhali.
6	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Consulting Firm (National).
7	EOI Ref. No.	PSTU/PD/FDP (2nd Phase)/01/2019-2020/01
8	Date	01.06.2020
KEY INFORMATION		
9	Procurement method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
FUNDING INFORMATION		
10	Budget and source of funds	GOB (Development Budget).
11	Development partners	N/A.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12	Project code	224302600
13	Project name	"Further Development of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (2nd Phase)".
14	EOI Package No.	SD-01.
15	EOI package name	Selection of Consulting Firm (National) for "Further Development of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (2nd Phase)".
16	EOI publication date	01.06.2020
17	EOI closing date and time	25.06.2020 at 2:00pm.
18	EOI opening date and time	25.06.2020 at 3:00pm.
INFORMATION FOR CONSULTANT		
19	Brief description of assignment	The Project Further Development of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (2nd Phase) is being implemented in PSTU, Dumki, Patuakhali for the period of 1st September 2019 to 30 June 2022. Under this project, several multistoried building will be constructed. Total Building No. 16 out of which 3 Buildings 2-storied, 2 Buildings 4-storied, 6 Buildings 5-storied, 1 Building 6-storied and 4 Buildings will be of 10-storied foundation which needs preparation of Architectural, Structural, Electro-mechanical Design-Drawings, Preparation of Cost Estimate, BOQ and Tender Documents with Full Time Supervision etc. The detailed scope of consultancy services will be obtained by PSTU website www.pstu.ac.bd The consulting firm will function with PSTU Engineering Division jointly and requires to report Project Director (PD) of FDP of PSTU (2nd phase). The Consultant will administer the civil works and related all types of engineering works with the PSTU Engineering Division jointly by order of Project Director and ensure that the project works are conducted in accordance with the provision of the contracts. The consultant will be required to maintain a team of engineers who will be full-time resident in the project area.
20	Expected qualification of consulting firm	Minimum eligibility of consultancy firm: Detailed mentioned in PSTU website www.pstu.ac.bd Duration of the Assignment: Duration of the contract would be until project completion + defects liability period (according to govt. rule); up to June 2022, may be extended later on. The consulting firm would be selected according to the technical quality and cost based selection (QCBS) criteria under the CPTU Guidelines for selection of consulting firm.
21	Experience, resources and capacity required	Detailed mentioned in PSTU website www.pstu.ac.bd
22	Association with foreign firm	N/A.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
23	Name of official inviting expression of interest	Md. Obaidul Islam.
24	Designation of official inviting expression of interest	Project Director.
25	Address of official inviting expression of interest	Office of the Project Director, Further Development of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (2nd Phase) at Patuakhali Science and Technology University, Dumki, Patuakhali-8602, Bangladesh.
26	Contact details of official inviting expression of interest	Phone/Mobile No. 04427-56018, 01711593394 E-mail: pd_fdp@pstu.ac.bd •Details of EOI & TOR can be obtained by website: www.pstu.ac.bd
27	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the EOI.	

Engr. Md. Obaidul Islam
Project Director

GD-926

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
Institutional Development Capacity Building (Phase-2) Project
River Research Institute, 72, Green Road, Dhaka
Phone: +880-2-58155538 Fax: 0631-63065 Website: www.rr.gov.bd
Memo No. PRI/Pra. Unnoyon/1312/2018/745 Date: 02/06/2020

Corrigendum Notice

E-Tender Notice No.: Memo No. RRI/Pra. Unnoyon/1312/2018/693 Date: 31/05/2020 published in the national and local newspapers have been amended in the last selling date as below:

Tender ID No.	Old Value	New Value
452102	Last Selling Date: 31/05/2020	Last Selling Date: 15/06/2020
451977	Last Selling Date: 31/05/2020	Last Selling Date: 15/06/2020
451390	Last Selling Date: 31/05/2020	Last Selling Date: 22/06/2020
437367	Last Selling Date 31/05/2020	Last Selling Date: 15/06/2020
437084	Last Selling Date 31/05/2020	Last Selling Date: 15/06/2020

This corrigendum will be the part of the tender document. All other terms and conditions and requirements will remain unchanged.

Dr. Moniruzzaman Khan Eusufzai
Senior Scientific Officer & Project Director
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GD-928

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
ঔষধ প্রশাসন অধিদপ্তর
ঔষধ ভবন, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২।
(www.dgda.gov.bd)

স্মারক নং- ডিজিডিএ/আউটসোর্সিং-১২৪/১৩/ ১৯৫ তারিখঃ/...../২০২০খ্রিঃ

আউট সোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল সরবরাহের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১।	স্বত্বাধার/বিভাগ নাম	যাহু সেবা বিভাগ, যাহু ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়।												
২।	সেবা প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা	ঔষধ প্রশাসন অধিদপ্তর, ঔষধ ভবন, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২।												
৩।	দরপত্রের সূত্র নং ও তারিখ	স্মারক নং: ডিজিডিএ/আউটসোর্সিং-১২৪/১৩/ , তারিখঃ...../...../২০২০।												
৪।	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (Open Tendering Method)												
৫।	বাজেট ও অর্থের উৎস	জিওবি (অনুদান), ২০২০-২১ অর্থ বছর।												
৬।	দরপত্র সিডিউল সম্বন্ধে তারিখ ও সময়	০৩/০৬/২০২০ খ্রিঃ হতে ১৬/০৬/২০২০ খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন।												
৭।	দরপত্র সিডিউল গ্রাণ্ডির স্থান	হিসাব শাখা, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঔষধ প্রশাসন অধিদপ্তর, ঔষধ ভবন, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২।												
৮।	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঔষধ প্রশাসন অধিদপ্তর, ঔষধ ভবন, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২-এ রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাজেট ১৬/০৬/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখ ১.০০টা পর্যন্ত।												
৯।	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঔষধ প্রশাসন অধিদপ্তর, ঔষধ ভবন, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২; তারিখঃ ১৭/০৬/২০২০; সময়ঃ ২.৩০টা।												
১০।	দরপত্র কন্ট্রোল বিকল্প	আউটসোর্সিং এর মাধ্যমে জনবল সরবরাহ।												
১১।	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	প্রতি সেট ২০০০/- (দুই হাজার টাকা) (অফেরতযোগ্য)।												
১৩।	সরকার কর্তৃক স্বীকৃত জনবল সেবা প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাবে।													
১৪।	দরপত্র দাতার যোগ্যতা	সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়ত্বশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠান/স্বকল্পের জনবল সরবরাহের ক্ষেত্রে বাধ্য অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠান যার হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, আটকেল অব মেমোরেন্ডাম ও সার্টিফিকেট অব ইনকর্পোরেশন, কর সনাক্তকরণ নথি ও অর্থিক পরিশোধের সনদ, জাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদ, ব্যাংক স্বাক্ষরতার সনদপত্র ও অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র সম্পন্ন প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী (সরকার অনুমোদিত) প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে হবে (বিস্তারিত টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টে উল্লেখ রয়েছে)।												
১৫।	দরপত্র জামানতের পরিমাণ	যে কোন অবসিলভল ব্যাংক হতে "ডি ডি ও, ঔষধ প্রশাসন অধিদপ্তর" অনুকূলে ৪,৫০,০০০/- (চার লক্ষ পঞ্চাশ হাজার) টাকার পে-অর্ডার।												
১৬।	পদ ও জনবলের যোগ্যতার বিবরণী	অর্থ বিভাগ কর্তৃক জারীকৃত "আউটসোর্সিং (Outsourcing) প্রক্রিয়ায় সেবা গ্রহণ নীতিমালা ২০১৮" অনুযায়ী। <table><tr><td>ক্রম নং</td><td>পদের নাম</td><td>পদ সংখ্যা</td><td>বয়স সীমা</td><td>শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা</td><td>অভিজ্ঞতা ও অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা</td></tr><tr><td>ক.</td><td>বিভিন্ন ক্যাটাগরির ৭৫ জন জনবল</td><td>৭৫ (পঁচাত্তর)</td><td>১৮-৬০</td><td>অষ্টম শ্রেণী পাসসহ (Outsourcing) প্রক্রিয়ায় সেবা গ্রহণ নীতিমালা ২০১৮" - এ বর্ণিত অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা।</td><td>টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টে অনুযায়ী।</td></tr></table>	ক্রম নং	পদের নাম	পদ সংখ্যা	বয়স সীমা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা	অভিজ্ঞতা ও অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা	ক.	বিভিন্ন ক্যাটাগরির ৭৫ জন জনবল	৭৫ (পঁচাত্তর)	১৮-৬০	অষ্টম শ্রেণী পাসসহ (Outsourcing) প্রক্রিয়ায় সেবা গ্রহণ নীতিমালা ২০১৮" - এ বর্ণিত অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা।	টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টে অনুযায়ী।
ক্রম নং	পদের নাম	পদ সংখ্যা	বয়স সীমা	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা	অভিজ্ঞতা ও অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা									
ক.	বিভিন্ন ক্যাটাগরির ৭৫ জন জনবল	৭৫ (পঁচাত্তর)	১৮-৬০	অষ্টম শ্রেণী পাসসহ (Outsourcing) প্রক্রিয়ায় সেবা গ্রহণ নীতিমালা ২০১৮" - এ বর্ণিত অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা।	টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্টে অনুযায়ী।									
১৭।	দরপত্র গ্রহণ, উন্মুক্তকরণ, মূল্যায়ন সংক্রান্ত কার্যাদি	শিপিং-২০০৬ এবং শিপিং-২০০৮ এর সংশ্লিষ্ট বিধি দ্বারা পরিচালিত হবে।												
১৮।	দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত যে কোন তথ্য অফিস চলাকালীন সময় জানা যাবে।													
১৯।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম	মোঃ আহম্মদ হোসেন												
২০।	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর পদবী ও ঠিকানা	উপ-পরিচালক, ঔষধ প্রশাসন অধিদপ্তর, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২।												
২১।	সংরক্ষিত ক্ষমতা	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করাসহ উক্ত দরপত্রের যাবতীয় সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।												

মোঃ আহম্মদ হোসেন
উপ-পরিচালক

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