

Unilever introduces policies against sexual harassment, abuses

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Consumer goods giant Unilever has introduced two policies against sexual harassment and abuses as part of its effort to ensure wellbeing and equality of its employees.

The two policies—Prevention on Sexual Harassment and Support Survivors of Abuse—uphold an inclusive ecosystem to protect all employees from any form of harassment or bullying, whether individual or collective and whether motivated by gender, race, sexual orientation, disability, religion, age, or role, Unilever Bangladesh said in a statement.

According to global estimates published in June 2020 by UN Women, around 243 million women and girls have been subjected to sexual or physical violence by an intimate partner in the past 12 months.

"Unilever Bangladesh is committed to ensure a safe and secured workplace for all its employees," said Kedar Lele, chairman and managing director of Unilever Bangladesh.

"The principle of 'Respect, Dignity & Fair Treatment' is enshrined under the 'Code

of Business Principles' of the company and UBL is committed to provide an environment that promotes respect for human rights, equal opportunity and free from all kinds of harassment, including sexual harassment," he said.

He said in order to be future-fit, Unilever Bangladesh has adapted these policies as an extra step to ensure overall employee wellbeing at work.

With a higher representation of female managers than ever before, Unilever's workforce is closing the gender gap with 50 per cent women managers globally from 38 per cent in 2010.

Unilever Bangladesh is committed to support all employees who have experienced and or may experience domestic violence by assuring safe environment that prioritises the wellbeing of the employees, the statement added.

"With the policy that supports survivors of abuse, Unilever Bangladesh aims to be a haven to its employees who have been victims of physical and or emotional domestic mistreatments," said the manufacturer of brands Lux, Lifebuoy, Surf, Closeup, Sunsilk, Ponds, Vaseline, Dove, Taaza and Pureit.



Mominul Islam

Mominul re-appointed IPDC Finance MD

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Mominul Islam has been re-appointed as managing director and CEO of IPDC Finance Limited, for the fourth time.

Islam has been leading the company since January 2012. After joining IPDC in 2006, Islam worked as a deputy managing director of the non-bank financial institution. Previously, he worked at American Express Bank and Standard Chartered.

Islam is the chairman of the Bangladesh Leasing and Finance Companies Association. He completed BBA from the Institute of Business Administration under the University of Dhaka and secured master's degree in economics from North South University.

Inflation drops to 8.5yr low

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"Inflation depends largely on food prices. And there is pressure on the prices of rice and the price may increase in the coming days," said Khan Ahmed Sayeed Murshid, director-general of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

He said keeping the price of rice steady would be essential to stabilise inflation.

Inflation had continued the upward trend between July and October due to a price hike of rice and vegetables in the wake of crops damaged by floods and rains.

Food inflation started to decrease since November, bringing down the general inflation.

Non-food inflation declined to 4.69 per cent in January from 5.21 per cent in December, BBS data showed. Consumer prices dropped in both rural and urban areas during the period.

However, inflation may see some pressure in

the coming months because of a general price rise globally, said the Bangladesh Bank on Tuesday.

The central bank said it analysed the commodity and food price indexes of the World Bank and the Food and Agriculture Organisation and added that global inflation might rise in the near future.

"As a result, inflation may face a bit pressure in the near future," said the BB.

The World Bank said commodity prices continued to surge in January with energy commodities jumping 10 per cent and non-energy commodities rising 4.4 per cent.

In December, energy and non-energy commodities rose 15.2 per cent and 5.2 per cent respectively. Agriculture commodities rose 5 per cent, metals and minerals 3.2 per cent and precious metals 1.1 per cent.

The BB has set a 5.4 per cent inflation target in the current fiscal year.

1.11 lakh tonnes of rice imported from India so far

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Food stock in the state godowns slumped 59 per cent year-on-year to 6.75 lakh tonnes on February 1, down from 16.28 lakh tonnes the previous year as the food office failed to lure growers and millers to supply the grain at its announced prices in the upward market.

Until February 1, the Directorate of Food could buy 7,390 tonnes of paddy which is 4 per cent of its target to buy 2 lakh tonnes of the unhusked rice during the immediate Aman harvesting season.

Of the 6 lakh tonnes of milled rice purchase target, it could attain 9 per cent or 56,280 tonnes

since it began procuring the foodgrain from November 7 as most of the millers refused to provide supplies at the government fixed rate of Tk 36 per kilogramme on grounds that they had to buy the paddy at higher prices.

Rice prices dropped marginally over the last three weeks. Yet, prices of coarse grains remained 35 per cent higher from Tk 32-35 per kilogramme in the same period a year ago, data by the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh showed.

The food ministry said it started selling rice through four mobile trucks at subsidised rates in Dhaka city since February 1.

Bangabandhu Shilpa Nagar to go green

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According to him, although different facilities will be created under this project, the whole of the BSMSN would be benefited.

He said investors who focus on taking initiatives on their own to stay green would be rewarded with incentives.

The project will create opportunities in attracting domestic and foreign direct investment, rapid industrialisation, diversification of commodities, increase in export earnings and, above all, earning foreign exchange.

In addition, the implementation of the project will generate employment for a large number of people, including women, which will help in poverty alleviation. In this context, the Planning Commission thinks that the project is worth taking into consideration.

"The World Bank continues to support Beza's activities as the multilateral lender is

satisfied with our actions," said Chowdhury, adding that this new initiative would promote foreign investment in the country's economic zones.

Under the project, Beza will construct a 30-kilometre road inside the BSMSN alongside other necessary infrastructures such as a central effluent treatment and desalination plant, solar energy systems and so on.

Initiated on January 1, 2014, the ongoing project to create the BSMSN is expected to be complete by January 30 next year.

Some 548 acres have been developed for industries in the BSMSN-1, some 1,939 acres in the BSMSN-2 and 474 acres in the BSMSN-2B. A total of 114 industrial units have already been allocated land across the three zones under a phase-1.

As of January 2021, numerous businesses from both home and abroad have come up with investment proposals valued at \$20

billion for the industrial city, according to Beza data.

The World Bank previously provided \$500 million for the BSMSN's development on condition that no factories would be set up before the utility connections were provided.

Now 13 different companies, including Asian Paints, McDonald Steel, Modern Synthetic and TK Group, are currently setting up their manufacturing units there.

"These factories will go into commercial production by this year," Chowdhury said.

According to the Beza executive chairman, the BSMSN seems to be slowly taking shape day-by-day as investors have started developing the physical infrastructure of the 30,000-acre economic zone.

"With this, we hope that total investment in the BSMSN will reach \$30 billion by 2030, which will be equivalent to the total investment made in all other economic

zones combined," he added.

Chowdhury went on to assure that local and foreign businesses would enjoy equal benefits at the BSMSN.

Once complete, the zone will become the third largest city in Bangladesh after Dhaka and Chattogram as around 15 million people will live and work in the adjoining areas, Chowdhury said.

The Ecne approved another project styled "Digital entrepreneurial and innovative ecosystem development" involving Tk 335 crore.

Of the total cost, World Bank will finance Tk 255 crore and the remaining Tk 98 crore will be borne by the government.

Under the project, university-going students aspiring to be tech-entrepreneurs are set to get a shot in the arm as the government is planning to create innovation hubs at both public and private universities to develop digital entrepreneurship and

innovation ecosystems.

Besides, the meeting also approved a project involving Tk 428 crore to develop the skills of 256,000 unemployed and disadvantaged women to turn them into entrepreneurs and create jobs.

The project will aim to create 1,600 women self-employed by setting up 80 sales and display centres and an equal number of food corners and beauty parlours.

The Jatiyo Mohila Sangstha, a welfare organisation for women under the women and children affairs ministry, will execute the project between January 2021 and December 2025.

The premier took part in the meeting through video conference from her official Gono Bhaban residence. Ministers, state minister, secretaries and other officials concerned joined the meeting from the NEC Conference Room in the city's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area.

High tariffs at home major hurdle to FTAs

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Beyond that, Bangladesh may seek more bilateral or regional FTAs if the projected trade creation (trade growth) contributes to growth and employment creation.

Bangladesh is a significant beneficiary of the multilateral trading system and its special exemption for LDCs and developing countries.

"It would be in the best interests of Bangladesh to continue to be a strong participant under this global system of compliance of trade rules even after graduation," the report said.

Of late, the multilateral trade regime has come under severe strain from the rise in economic nationalism and protectionism. Consequently, a growing number of nations, both developed and developing, are seeking to sign FTAs on a regional or bilateral basis.

An FTA has the potential to create access to larger markets for Bangladesh's exports. But they have advantages and disadvantages.

On the plus side, an FTA can force local industries to improve competitively and rely less on government subsidies. The arrangements can open new markets, expand the gross domestic product (GDP), and invite new investments.

They also allow companies to discover new technologies and better ways of doing things. FTAs could trigger a beneficial process of competitive liberalisation, according to the study.

A deeper, broader and rapid liberalisation under an FTA produces a bigger effect. The FTA impact will be greater if the impediments to trade removed by the trading arrangement are large relative to those that remain

untouched, the report said.

The most fundamental factor is the capacity of the economy to increase the supply of products for which the FTA has boosted demand.

Any contribution of an FTA to Bangladesh's economic development is likely to be influenced heavily by the broader policy stance of the government, the flexibility of the economy and the extent to which supply can respond to any new demand.

"We could target FTAs with the countries that have already shown interest, such as Malaysia, China, India and Thailand," the report said.

Emerging market economies would also be good candidates, apart from Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member countries. "The point to note is that gains from any FTA will be minimal if the market size of the partner country is small."

In addition to export policies, a set of other complementary policies and programmes are required to promote exports after graduation from the LDC group, according to the report.

They include a stable macroeconomic environment, the effectiveness of the export promoting and supporting institutions, and smooth functioning of the financial markets.

Furthermore, the quality of governance should be improved by promoting transparency and accountability and reducing corruption.

"The government should also take effective role in technology diffusion and providing appropriate physical infrastructural facilities."

The report suggested developing

intense negotiation capacity as the next decade will be crucial for strengthening economic institutions that will help entrepreneurs seize market opportunities emerging in a fast-changing global economy.

Bangladesh must close the huge gap that exists in trade-related capacities in the key ministries and agencies responsible for formulating and carrying out trade policies, and mainstreaming them as essential components of growth and poverty reduction national policies.

Bangladesh has serious capacity constraints in preparing and developing negotiation strategies and undertaking actual negotiations, the report said.

"That makes it absolutely critical that Bangladesh prepares for bilaterally or regionally-negotiated trade deals to address some of the challenges arising from its LDC graduation."

It said Bangladesh needs to build and nurture inclusive economic institutions that are effective in enforcing property rights, create a level-playing field for small and large entrepreneurs, encourage investment in innovation, adopt new technologies and develop skills for the future to attain and sustain high economic growth.

The commerce ministry is the lead ministry in the preparation of technical inputs for trade policy-making and negotiations.

Other ministries and departments such as the Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission, the National Board of Revenue, the foreign and labour ministries and the private sector should coordinate with the commerce ministry to sign the FTAs, the report added.

Stock market newcomers lose the most

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The mutual fund sector also shed some value as a falling trend has been sweeping through the market over the last couple of days.

The DSEX, the Dhaka Stock Exchange's benchmark index, rose 17.17 points, or 0.30 per cent, to 5,581.86 yesterday.

However, if the last 15 days are taken as a whole, it results in a drop of 328 points, or 5.55 per cent.

"The market is still undergoing a profit booking session," said Mir Ariful Islam, head of research of Prime Finance Asset Management Company.

"...but our general investors sell off shares in huge amounts whenever the market undergoes a correction, prolonging the profit booking session," he said.

As the market started a run from the 4,800 level, many investors are still in profitability, he said.

But investors need to be patient with good stocks as only then will they turn out to be winners, he added.


Meanwhile, turnover, an important indicator of the stock market, rose 13 per cent to Tk 794 crore.

Mir Akhter Hossain topped the gainers' list rising 23 per cent to Tk


100 followed by Sunlife Insurance Company, Prime Insurance Company, Phoenix Finance & Investments and LafargeHolcim Bangladesh.

Beximco topped the turnover list with trade worth Tk 92 crore followed by Robi Axiata, British American Tobacco Bangladesh, Mir Akhter Hossain and Beximco Pharmaceuticals.

For the port city bourse, it was a drop. The CASPI, the general index of Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE), fell 31 points, or 0.19 per cent, to 16,166 yesterday. Among 225 stocks to witness trade, 50 rose, 125 dropped and 50 remained the same.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
পুলিশ সুপার এর কার্যালয়
ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা



উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

তারিখঃ ০৩/০২/২০২১খ্রিঃ

উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-ইভাঃপুঃ-১/ডি-ট্টোর-২১/১৪৪

এতদ্বারা "পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন-২০০৬ ও বিধিমালা-২০০৮" তদীয় সর্বশেষ সংশোধিত বিধি মোতাবেক ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থবছরে ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা এর নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজের জন্য ঠিকাদার/ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে নিজস্ব প্যাডে সীলমোহরকৃত মুখবন্ধ খামে প্রতিযোগিতামূলক দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	ঃ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ।
২.	সংস্থা	ঃ	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।
৩.	দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রধান	ঃ	পুলিশ সুপার, ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা।
৪.	কি কারণে দরপত্র আহবান	ঃ	ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা-এর প্রাচীর মেরামত।
৫.	প্রশাসনিক অনুমোদনের সূত্র ও তারিখ	ঃ	পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স স্মারক নং-৪৪.০১.০০০০.০৪৩.১০১-২০২০/মেরামত/ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-০১/৭৮৭; তাংঃ ২৯/১২/২০২০খ্রিঃ
৬.	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	ঃ	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)
৭.	বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত	ঃ	(জিওবি) পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স হতে বরাদ্দকৃত অর্থ।
৮.	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	ঃ	০৭/০২/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে।
৯.	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	ঃ	২৪/০২/২০২১খ্রিঃ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত আবেদন সাপেক্ষে।
১০.	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	২৫/০২/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১১.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	২৫/০২/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা।
১২.	দরপত্র/সিডিউল বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	ঃ	১। পুলিশ সুপার-এর কার্যালয়, ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা। ২। এ্যাডিশনাল ইন্সপেক্টর জেনারেল-এর কার্যালয়, ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, উত্তরা, ঢাকা। ৩। অধিনায়ক-এর কার্যালয়, ৭ এপিবিএন, ঢাকা।
১৩.	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান	ঃ	পুলিশ সুপার এর কার্যালয়, ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা।
১৪.	ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা ও দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিলযোগ্য কাগজপত্রের বিবরণ	ঃ	(১) হালনাগাদ নবায়নকৃত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স (২) আয়কর সনদ (৩) ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদ (৪) ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সনদ (৫) জাতীয় পরিচয় ও নাগরিকত্ব সনদ (৬) সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের অভিজ্ঞতার সনদ (৭) সদ্য তোলা ০২ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি (৮) কালো তালিকাভুক্ত নহে মর্মে নিজ প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্যাডে মুচলেকা (৯) প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব প্যাডে তিনটি নমুনা স্বাক্ষর। ইহা ছাড়া সিডিউলের বর্ণিত সকল শর্তাবলী ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক মেনে নিয়ে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।

১৫.	লট নং	প্রকল্প/কাজের নাম	সিডিউলের মূল্য (অফেরতযোগ্য)	দরপত্র জামানত (ফেরতযোগ্য)	কাজের সময়সীমা
১.		Repair of 270 Rft Boundary Wall at Industrial Police-1, Ashulia, Dhaka	১,০০০/-	৩০,০০০/-	৩০ দিন

১৬.	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	ঃ	সানা শামীনুর রহমান।
১৭.	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	ঃ	পুলিশ সুপার, ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা।
১৮.	দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	ঃ	পুলিশ সুপার এর কার্যালয়, ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা।
১৯.	বিশেষ শর্তাবলীঃ (ক) নির্দিষ্ট সময়ের পর আর কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ হবে না। (খ) কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। (গ) দরপত্রে উল্লেখিত যেকোন আইটেমের পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি অথবা কমানোর বিষয়ে কর্তৃপক্ষের ক্ষমতা রয়েছে। (ঘ) দরপত্র পিপিআর আইন ২০০৬ ও বিধিমালা ২০০৮ তদীয় সর্বশেষ সংশোধিত বিধি মোতাবেক সকল শর্তাবলী কার্যকর হবে।		

সানা শামীনুর রহমান
বিপি নং-৭২০১১২১৩৯৯
পুলিশ সুপার (এ্যাডিঃ ডিআইজি পদে পদোন্নতি প্রাপ্ত)
ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ-১, ঢাকা
☎ ০২-৯৯৬৬৮৯৮৪১, ☎ ০২-৯৯৬৬৮৮০৮২
ই-মেইল- ip1.sp@police.gov.bd

জিডি-২৩৮