

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	USD	EUR	GBP	CNY
▲ 0.01%	▲ 0.23%	\$1,780.40	\$74.02	▼ 0.34%	▼ 0.93%	▼ 0.04%	▲ 0.21%	BUY TK 83.95	99.65	116.60	12.82
6,052.75	10,576.20	(per ounce)	(per barrel)	52,323.33	29,018.33	3,138.31	3,525.60	SELL TK 84.95	103.45	120.40	13.48



# Star BUSINESS

DHAKA FRIDAY JUNE 18, 2021, ASHAR 4, 1428 BS • starbusiness@thedailystar.net

## Business as usual for health ministry

*Its development spending crawls despite pandemic*



The health ministry's development spending has been low despite the government's emphasis on the sector for the second year running amid the coronavirus pandemic.

REJAUUL KARIM BYRON

The health ministry's development spending was stuck at a disappointing level even after 11 months of the outgoing fiscal year for its failure to accelerate expenditures when the public needed the most.

The health division used Tk 3,759 crore out of Tk 11,971 crore in the 11 months to May, which is only 32 per cent of the allocation made from the annual development programme, data from the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the planning ministry showed.

Despite the government's emphasis on the sector for the second year running amid the protracted pandemic, the expenses have been low.

"The health ministry has low capacity in utilising project aid. It is, however, okay when it comes to using the government fund," said Pradip Ranjan Chakraborty, secretary of the IMED.

The health services division used up 48 per cent of the fund disbursed from the state coffers during the July-May period. It was 17 per cent when it comes to project assistance.


When the IMED asked the ministry about the low ADP implementation, it replied it was working, and good progress would be visible at the end of the fiscal year, Chakraborty said.

Khondaker Golam Moazzem, research director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, said the low implementation rate of the division proved that the officials responsible for executing projects were not efficient and did not emphasise implementing the initiatives related to the health sector.

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## GLOBAL COTTON TRADE

# Bangladesh among 3 countries leading recovery: USDA



### MAJOR TAKEAWAYS

- Global recovery in cotton trade is led by China, Bangladesh and Turkey, USDA says
- Demand for yarn and cotton rose in the domestic market
- In the first 11 months of FY2021, Bangladesh earned \$28.57b from garment export
- Apparel export rose 11.1% year-on-year in the last 11 months

REFAWAT ULLAH MIRDHA

Bangladesh has joined two other countries to lead the global cotton trade recovery as the demand for the commodity has risen sharply thanks to buoyant apparel shipments, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

"Record global trade is boosted, led by robust demand in China, Bangladesh, and Turkey," the USDA said in its June report.

Cotton exports are up for the three largest exporters -- India, Brazil, and the United States. The US forecast has higher exports while stocks are projected at their lowest in four years.

The US season-average farm price has lowered by one cent to 67 cents per pound, the USDA said in its report on cotton for 2020-21.

For 2021-22, the June forecast shows higher trade and consumption with lower production and stocks.

A lower consumption outlook for India is more than offset by the higher-than-expected demand in China, Bangladesh, and Turkey, driving higher imports for these countries, said the USDA.

The recent import growth of cotton in Bangladesh resulted from the skyrocketing demand among local millers, spinners, traders and importers.

For instance, the export of yarn in the local markets is deemed to have grown by 163 per cent year-on-year between April and June this year, data from the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) showed.

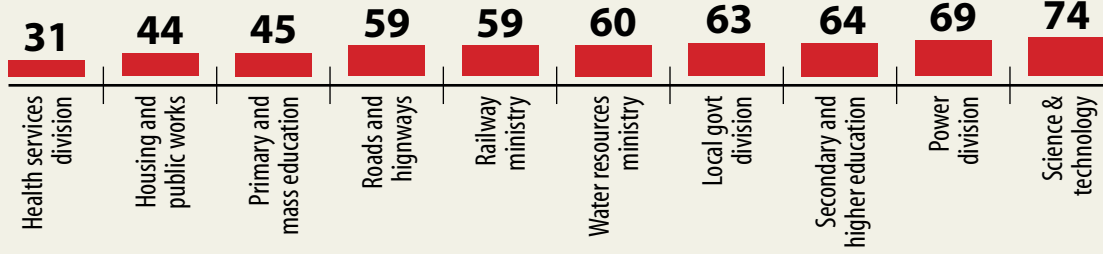
This is a result of higher demand from garment exporters, and for resumption of the full use of capacities of mills by spinners and weavers, it said.

In the first 11 months of fiscal 2020-21, the country earned \$28.57 billion from garment exports, registering 11.1 per cent year-on-year growth, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau.

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## ADP IMPLEMENTATION

In % of allocation (July-May of FY'21); SOURCE: IMED



## Look before you book a flat

MD ABU TALHA SARKER

Sheikh Mehedi Hassan and his wife recently moved into their flat from a rented one in Mirpur-6.

For them, it was a dream come true - ever since their marriage, the couple had been planning to own a flat in the capital city.

In fact, Hassan, a banker, had lived in rented flats since his graduation.

He had some apprehensions before buying the flat, as it was going to be the most expensive purchase of his life.

So, he did his homework and learnt about the entire process from the flat selection to verification of essential documents, which are crucial to this end, before placing the booking order.

He did not hesitate to seek help.

A number of his colleagues from the bank's legal department lent a helping hand to understand the legal procedures and scrutinise and verify documents of the developer and the land records.



*"One shouldn't rush to sign a purchase agreement. Since you want to build a permanent address with your hard-earned savings, it is best to do thorough research on the seller and show the land deeds and contracts to a lawyer and then book the flat."*

"As a result, I faced little troubles during our transition to our own flat from a rented house," the banker said.

There are several things that need to be looked at before buying a flat, plot or piece of land. Otherwise, there is a risk of getting into trouble, he said.

"One shouldn't rush to sign a purchase agreement. Since you want to build a permanent address with your hard-earned savings, it is best to do thorough research on the seller and show the land deeds and contracts to a lawyer and then book the flat."

Buyers must find out whether the Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk) has approved the design.

He said all of the conditions should be well-understood and be clearly laid out in the agreement.

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## Shatranji earns GI recognition

SUKANTA HALDER and AKANDA MUHAMMAD JAHD

Shatranji, a traditional fabric of Rangpur, has been recognised as a Geographical Indication (GI) product of Bangladesh.

This move will benefit weavers and traders of the industry in branding the regional cloth in a better way at home and abroad.

Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun handed over the recognition certificate to Mushtaq Hasan, chairman of the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC), at a programme yesterday.

The ministry's Department of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (DPDT) registered Shatranji as the country's GI product following a BSCIC application on July 11, 2019. This is yet another product that has earned recognition as GI product after Jamdani and Hilsha fish.

According to World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin. This recognition came at a time when



STAR/FILE

The recognition will benefit weavers and traders of the industry in branding the regional cloth in a better way at home and abroad.

the traditional industry in Rangpur was struggling to survive as demand from home and abroad has diminished amidst the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

According to local traders, the increasing price of raw materials has made it difficult for producers to continue running operations.

Around 50,000 people of Rangpur are involved in the industry, some 95 per cent of whom are women.

However, traders said the recognition of Shatranji, which comes in the form of rugs, placemats and carpets, would play a helpful role in the growth of the industry at both home and abroad.

Zakia Sultana, secretary to the industries ministry, said through the recognition, the unique identity of the fabric can be presented before the world and this move would strengthen the Shatranji-based economy.

"We have many more products in different districts. The patents of those products have not been collected so far for various reasons. We are working harder on these issues now," she added.

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## BSEC removes floor price for all listed firms

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) yesterday lifted the floor price for all listed companies as it moved to halt its efforts to intervene in share price mechanisms.

Last April, it lifted the floor from 66 companies primarily.

Analysts, merchant bankers and asset managers welcomed the decision.

The capital market is all about price discovery where price floors have absolutely no place in the capital market, said Shahidul Islam, chief executive officer of VIPB Asset Management Company.

"The recovery of our market since mid-2020 would be much faster if the



price floor did not exist," he said.

"By imposing the floor prices, we have literally scared away many foreign institutional investors from our market," Islam added.

On March 19 of 2020, the stock market regulator imposed the floor price on all stocks by calculating their average prices from the preceding five

days to stop the index from falling amid the pandemic.

The decision was criticised by most analysts and foreign investors.

However, the regulator continued with the floor price for one year as many general investors feared the market would fall if the floor price was lifted.

## Ifad Autos gets land to build industrial complex

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Ifad Autos has been allotted 30 acres of land at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar by the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (Beza) to set up an industrial complex.

The company has a plan to establish a manufacturing and assembly plant for motorcycles, a factory for automotive components, and a blending plant for machine lubricants in the complex.

"We have a target to utilise the full land within three to four years and the construction will start just after the current rainy season," said Managing Director Taskeen Ahmed.

"We may establish two other projects here because we are seeing potential of the automotive sector in Bangladesh," he said. There are more than 10 lakh commercial and 16 lakh passenger vehicles in the country which need spare parts, according to Ahmed.

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Electro Mart has launched a new GREE air conditioner at its Gulshan corporate office recently. Md Nurun Newaz Selim, chairman of Electro Mart, Md Nurul Amin Faruk, managing director, and Md Nuruchchapa Majumdar Babu and Md Nurul Afsar, deputy managing directors, were present.



Motorcycle brand Yamaha handed over a Yamaha XSR 155 motorcycle to its brand ambassador for Bangladesh, cricketer Shakib Al Hasan, in a programme at ACI Centre in Tejgaon, Dhaka recently. Subrata Ranjan Das, executive director of ACI Motors, was present.

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ  
প্রিন্সিপ্যালের কার্যালয়  
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ একাডেমী, সারদা, রাজশাহী

তারিখঃ ১৭/০৬/২০২১ খ্রিঃ

**নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

স্মারক নং-বিপিএ/প্রশাসন/৪১৪৯

১৭/০৬/২০২১ খ্রিঃ

১. নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরমে আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদন ফরম টি বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ একাডেমীর [www.bpa.gov.bd](http://www.bpa.gov.bd) ওয়েব সাইট এ এবং বিপিএ প্রশাসন খাণ্ডায় পাওয়া যাবে। আবেদন রফতানি নির্দেশনা এবং চাহিদা অনুযায়ী প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য প্রদান করতে হবে।

২. প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক ও স্থায়ী বাসিন্দা হতে হবে।

৩. বি/হি মহিলা প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে স্বামী/স্বামী টি কন্যা উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

৪. প্রিন্সিপ্যাল, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ একাডেমী, সারদা, রাজশাহী বরাবর আবেদন করতে হবে।

৫. খামের উপর মোটা অক্ষরে পদের নাম, বিশেষ কোটা (যদি থাকে) এবং বাম পাশে আবেদনকারীর পূর্ণ নাম ও ঠিকানা স্পষ্ট অক্ষরে লিখতে হবে।

৬. বিভাগীয় (চাকুরির) পত্রের ক্ষেত্রে প্রয়োজ্য প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্রের কোন অগ্রিম কপি গ্রহণযোগ্য বলে বিবেচিত হবে না।

৭. আবেদন পত্রের সাথে নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্রাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

(ক) প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত তোলা ০৩ (তিন) কপি ৫x৫ সে.মি. আকারের রসিন ছবি আবেদন পত্রের নির্ধারিত স্থানে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

(খ) জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্রের ফটোকপি (সত্যায়িত)। জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্র না থাকলে জন্ম নিবন্ধন সনদের ফটোকপি (সত্যায়িত)।

(গ) প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সকল সার্টিফিকেটের ফটোকপি (সত্যায়িত)।

(ঘ) প্রার্থীকে ১/২২১১/০০০০/২০৩১ নং কোডে ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা জমা দিয়ে চালানের মূলকপি আবেদনের সঙ্গে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে এবং আবেদন ফরমের নির্ধারিত স্থানে চালান নম্বর, তারিখ এবং ব্যাংক ও শাখার নাম লিপিবদ্ধ করতে হবে।

(ঙ) নির্ভুল ঠিকানায় প্রবেশ পত্র ইস্যুর স্বার্থে আবেদনপত্রের সঙ্গে নিম্নের নাম ও ঠিকানা সংবলিত ১৫ (পনের) টাকার ডাকটিকেট লাগানো ৯.৫" x ৪" সাইজের দুইটি ফেরত খাম সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

(চ) মহিলা কোটা ব্যতীত অন্যান্য কোটা দাবির সমন্বয়ে প্রার্থীকে যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ/প্রদান পত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়াছবি আবেদনের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে।

৮. বীর মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/বীর মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের সন্তান/পোষাদের মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কোটায় নিয়োগ প্রাপ্তির ক্ষেত্রে মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের ১৮/১০/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখের ৪৮.০০.০০০০.০০৩.২৫.০১৯.২০.৮৭৫ নং পরিপত্রের নির্দেশনা অনুযায়ী মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে ([www.molwa.gov.bd](http://www.molwa.gov.bd)) সরেক্ষিত/প্রকাশিত নিম্নবর্ণিত যেকোন একটি প্রদানকৃত দাখিল করতে হবে। উক্ত প্রদানকৃত সর্শ্রেষ্ঠ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাম থাকতে হবে।

(ক) ভারতীয় তালিকা:  
(i) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা; (ii) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (পদ্ম); (iii) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (মেঘনা); (iv) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (সেপ্টার); (v) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (সেনা, নৌ ও বিমান বাহিনী); অথবা  
(খ) লাল মুক্তিবাহিনী:  
(i) লাল মুক্তিবাহিনী (চূড়ান্ত লাল বই); (ii) লাল মুক্তিবাহিনী স্বরনীর যারা বরণীয় যারা; অথবা  
(গ) গেজেট:  
(i) জাতীয় মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কাউন্সিল এর সিদ্ধান্ত মোতাবেক বেসামরিক গেজেট; (ii) প্রবাসে বিশ্ব জনমত গেজেট; (iii) বিসিএস ধারণাগত জ্যেষ্ঠতান্ত্রিক কর্মকর্তা গেজেট (iv) বিসিএস গেজেট; (v) স্বাধীন বাংলা বেতার শব্দ সৈনিক গেজেট; (vi) স্বাধীন বাংলা ফুটবল দল গেজেট; (vii) ন্যাটপ কমিউনিটি পার্টি ছাত্র ইউনিয়ন বিশেষ গেরিলা বাহিনী গেজেট; (ix) বিশ্রামপঞ্জ হাঙ্গামালায় নিয়োজিত বা দায়িত্ব পালনকারী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা গেজেট; (x) মুজিবনগর গেজেট; অথবা  
(ঘ) বাহিনী গেজেট:  
(i) সেনাবাহিনী গেজেট; (ii) নৌবাহিনী গেজেট; (iii) বিমানবাহিনী গেজেট; (iv) বিজিবি গেজেট; (v) পুলিশ বাহিনী গেজেট; (vi) আনসার বাহিনী গেজেট; (vii) নৌ কমান্ডো গেজেট; অথবা  
(ঙ) শহীদ গেজেট:  
(i) শহীদ বেসামরিক গেজেট; (ii) সশস্ত্র বাহিনী শহীদ গেজেট; (iii) শহীদ বিজিবি গেজেট; (iv) শহীদ পুলিশ গেজেট;  
(চ) খেতাবপ্রাপ্ত:  
(i) খেতাবপ্রাপ্ত গেজেট; অথবা  
(ছ) যুদ্ধাহত:  
(i) যুদ্ধাহত গেজেট; (ii) যুদ্ধাহত পত্ন (বর্ডারগার্ড বাংলাদেশ) গেজেট; (iii) যুদ্ধাহত (বর্ডারগার্ড বাংলাদেশ) গেজেট; (iv) যুদ্ধাহত সেনা গেজেট

ক্রঃ	পদের নাম	পদ সংখ্যা	বেতন স্কেল (জাতীয় বেতন স্কেল ২০১৫ মোতাবেক)	শিক্ষাগত ও অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা
১.	পেইন্টার	০১ (এক) টি	গ্রেড-১৭: ৯,০০০-২১,৮০০/-	অষ্টম শ্রেণি পাশ এবং পেইন্টিং এর কাজে কমপক্ষে ৪ (চার) বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হইবে।
২.	অফিস সহায়ক	০১ (এক) টি	গ্রেড-২০: ৮,২৫০-২০,০১০/-	অষ্টম শ্রেণি পাশ।

**শর্তাবলী**

১. নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরমে আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদন ফরম টি বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ একাডেমীর [www.bpa.gov.bd](http://www.bpa.gov.bd) ওয়েব সাইট এ এবং বিপিএ প্রশাসন খাণ্ডায় পাওয়া যাবে। আবেদন রফতানি নির্দেশনা এবং চাহিদা অনুযায়ী প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য প্রদান করতে হবে।

২. প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক ও স্থায়ী বাসিন্দা হতে হবে।

৩. বি/হি মহিলা প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে স্বামী/স্বামী টি কন্যা উল্লেখ করতে হবে।

৪. প্রিন্সিপ্যাল, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ একাডেমী, সারদা, রাজশাহী বরাবর আবেদন করতে হবে।

৫. খামের উপর মোটা অক্ষরে পদের নাম, বিশেষ কোটা (যদি থাকে) এবং বাম পাশে আবেদনকারীর পূর্ণ নাম ও ঠিকানা স্পষ্ট অক্ষরে লিখতে হবে।

৬. বিভাগীয় (চাকুরির) পত্রের ক্ষেত্রে প্রয়োজ্য প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদনপত্রের কোন অগ্রিম কপি গ্রহণযোগ্য বলে বিবেচিত হবে না।

৭. আবেদন পত্রের সাথে নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্রাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

(ক) প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত তোলা ০৩ (তিন) কপি ৫x৫ সে.মি. আকারের রসিন ছবি আবেদন পত্রের নির্ধারিত স্থানে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

(খ) জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্রের ফটোকপি (সত্যায়িত)। জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্র না থাকলে জন্ম নিবন্ধন সনদের ফটোকপি (সত্যায়িত)।

(গ) প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সকল সার্টিফিকেটের ফটোকপি (সত্যায়িত)।

(ঘ) প্রার্থীকে ১/২২১১/০০০০/২০৩১ নং কোডে ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা জমা দিয়ে চালানের মূলকপি আবেদনের সঙ্গে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে এবং আবেদন ফরমের নির্ধারিত স্থানে চালান নম্বর, তারিখ এবং ব্যাংক ও শাখার নাম লিপিবদ্ধ করতে হবে।

(ঙ) নির্ভুল ঠিকানায় প্রবেশ পত্র ইস্যুর স্বার্থে আবেদনপত্রের সঙ্গে নিম্নের নাম ও ঠিকানা সংবলিত ১৫ (পনের) টাকার ডাকটিকেট লাগানো ৯.৫" x ৪" সাইজের দুইটি ফেরত খাম সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

(চ) মহিলা কোটা ব্যতীত অন্যান্য কোটা দাবির সমন্বয়ে প্রার্থীকে যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত সনদ/প্রদান পত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়াছবি আবেদনের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে।

৮. বীর মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/বীর মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের সন্তান/পোষাদের মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কোটায় নিয়োগ প্রাপ্তির ক্ষেত্রে মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের ১৮/১০/২০২০ খ্রিঃ তারিখের ৪৮.০০.০০০০.০০৩.২৫.০১৯.২০.৮৭৫ নং পরিপত্রের নির্দেশনা অনুযায়ী মুক্তিযুদ্ধ বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে ([www.molwa.gov.bd](http://www.molwa.gov.bd)) সরেক্ষিত/প্রকাশিত নিম্নবর্ণিত যেকোন একটি প্রদানকৃত দাখিল করতে হবে। উক্ত প্রদানকৃত সর্শ্রেষ্ঠ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাম থাকতে হবে।

(ক) ভারতীয় তালিকা:  
(i) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা; (ii) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (পদ্ম); (iii) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (মেঘনা); (iv) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (সেপ্টার); (v) মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের ভারতীয় তালিকা (সেনা, নৌ ও বিমান বাহিনী); অথবা  
(খ) লাল মুক্তিবাহিনী:  
(i) লাল মুক্তিবাহিনী (চূড়ান্ত লাল বই); (ii) লাল মুক্তিবাহিনী স্বরনীর যারা বরণীয় যারা; অথবা  
(গ) গেজেট:  
(i) জাতীয় মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কাউন্সিল এর সিদ্ধান্ত মোতাবেক বেসামরিক গেজেট; (ii) প্রবাসে বিশ্ব জনমত গেজেট; (iii) বিসিএস ধারণাগত জ্যেষ্ঠতান্ত্রিক কর্মকর্তা গেজেট (iv) বিসিএস গেজেট; (v) স্বাধীন বাংলা বেতার শব্দ সৈনিক গেজেট; (vi) স্বাধীন বাংলা ফুটবল দল গেজেট; (vii) ন্যাটপ কমিউনিটি পার্টি ছাত্র ইউনিয়ন বিশেষ গেরিলা বাহিনী গেজেট; (ix) বিশ্রামপঞ্জ হাঙ্গামালায় নিয়োজিত বা দায়িত্ব পালনকারী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা গেজেট; (x) মুজিবনগর গেজেট; অথবা  
(ঘ) বাহিনী গেজেট:  
(i) সেনাবাহিনী গেজেট; (ii) নৌবাহিনী গেজেট; (iii) বিমানবাহিনী গেজেট; (iv) বিজিবি গেজেট; (v) পুলিশ বাহিনী গেজেট; (vi) আনসার বাহিনী গেজেট; (vii) নৌ কমান্ডো গেজেট; অথবা  
(ঙ) শহীদ গেজেট:  
(i) শহীদ বেসামরিক গেজেট; (ii) সশস্ত্র বাহিনী শহীদ গেজেট; (iii) শহীদ বিজিবি গেজেট; (iv) শহীদ পুলিশ গেজেট;  
(চ) খেতাবপ্রাপ্ত:  
(i) খেতাবপ্রাপ্ত গেজেট; অথবা  
(ছ) যুদ্ধাহত:  
(i) যুদ্ধাহত গেজেট; (ii) যুদ্ধাহত পত্ন (বর্ডারগার্ড বাংলাদেশ) গেজেট; (iii) যুদ্ধাহত (বর্ডারগার্ড বাংলাদেশ) গেজেট; (iv) যুদ্ধাহত সেনা গেজেট

প্রার্থীর নাম, পিতার নাম ও ঠিকানা	মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাম, পিতার নাম ও ঠিকানা	যে তালিকা বা গেজেটে মুক্তিযোদ্ধার নাম রয়েছে তার বিবরণ:	প্রার্থীর সাথে মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সম্পর্ক (উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ প্রদত্ত ওয়ারিশ সনদে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা পুত্র/কন্যা ও নাতী/নাতনীর ক্ষেত্রে ছেলে/মেয়ে পক্ষ উল্লেখসহ ওয়ারিশন সনদ সংযুক্ত করতে হবে)	মুক্তিযোদ্ধার জন্ম তারিখ	মন্তব্য
				১। জন্ম নিবন্ধন অনুযায়ী জন্ম তারিখ; ২। জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্র অনুযায়ী জন্ম তারিখ; ৩। এসএসসি সনদ অনুযায়ী জন্ম তারিখ; ৪। জন্ম নিবন্ধন আইন অনুযায়ী সিটি কর্পোরেশন/পৌরসভা/ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের প্রত্যয়ন পত্র অনুযায়ী জন্ম তারিখ;	

৯. লিখিত পরীক্ষার নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় নিম্নোক্ত কাগজপত্রাদির মূল কপি উপস্থাপন/দাখিল করতে হবে;

(i) ৮ নং ক্রমিকের ছকে বর্ণিত কাগজ পত্রের মূল কপি উপস্থাপন করতে হবে।

(ii) সর্শ্রেষ্ঠ ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর/পৌরসভার মেয়র/ইউপি চেয়ারম্যান কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।

(iv) জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্রের মূল কপি অবশ্যই মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় উপস্থাপন করতে হবে। তবে যাদের জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র এখনও হয়নি তাদের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর/পৌরসভার মেয়র/ইউপি চেয়ারম্যান কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত জন্ম নিবন্ধন সনদ মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় উপস্থাপন করতে হবে।

(v) শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার প্রমাণস্বরূপ সকল সনদপত্র/সাময়িক সনদপত্র।

(vi) প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র।

(vii) মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কোটায় চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীকে অস্থায়ী নিয়োগ প্রদান করা যেতে পারে। তবে এ ক্ষেত্রে জাতীয় মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কাউন্সিল কর্তৃক চূড়ান্ত বাচাই-বাছাই শেষে মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সঠিকতা সম্পর্কে বিরূপ কোন তথ্য পাওয়া গেলে। অস্থায়ী নিয়োগ বাতিল হবে এবং গৃহীত সমুদয় সুবিধাদী প্রত্যর্পণ করতে বাধ্য থাকিবেন মর্মে সর্শ্রেষ্ঠ প্রার্থী যোগদানের সময় ৩০০/- (তিনশত) টাকার নন-জুডিশিয়াল স্ট্যাম্প নেটওয়ারী পাবলিকের মাধ্যমে অসীকার নামা দাখিল করিবেন।

(viii) মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কোটায় চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীকে দেশের প্রচলিত আইন অনুসারে ওয়ারিশ পত্র দাখিল করতে হবে। মুক্তিযোদ্ধা জীবিত থাকলে ওয়ারিশ পত্র তার প্রতিবন্ধক থাকবে এবং মুক্তিযোদ্ধা জীবিত না থাকলে ওয়ারিশ পত্র কমপক্ষে ০১ (এক) জন ওয়ারিশের প্রতিবন্ধক করতে হবে। কোন মুক্তিযোদ্ধার ওয়ারিশ অসত্য তথ্য প্রদান করে ওয়ারিশ পত্র গ্রহণ করলে তা বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে এবং তার বিরুদ্ধে প্রচলিত আইনে ব্যবস্থা নেওয়া হবে।

(ix) লিখিত পরীক্ষার নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীকে মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে ও আবেদনপত্রে উল্লিখিত সকল সনদ ও রেকর্ডপত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়াছবি ০১ সেট মৌখিক পরীক্ষা গ্রহণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের নিকট জমা দিতে হবে। সত্যায়নের ক্ষেত্রে অবশ্যই সত্যায়নকারী কর্মকর্তার সু-স্পষ্ট নাম, পদবী ও সীল থাকতে হবে।

১০. প্রার্থী ১৯/০৭/২০২১ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ০৫.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে আবেদন পত্র ডাকযোগে প্রিন্সিপ্যাল বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ একাডেমী, সারদা, রাজশাহীর কার্যালয়ে পৌঁছাতে হবে। সরাসরি ও কার্যালয়ে কোন আবেদন পত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না। মিথ্যা, ভুল, অস্পষ্ট, ত্রুটিপূর্ণ ও বিলম্বপ্রাপ্ত দরখাস্তসমূহ বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

১১. প্রার্থীর বয়সসীমা ১৯/০৭/২০২১ খ্রিঃ তারিখে ১৮- ৩০ বছরের মধ্যে হতে হবে। তবে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের পুত্র/কন্যা এবং শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়সসীমা ৩২ বছর পর্যন্ত শিথিলযোগ্য। বয়সের ক্ষেত্রে কোন এভিডেন্সি গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়।

১২. নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে সরকারী সকল বিধি-বিধান এবং কোটা সম্পর্কিত প্রচলিত নীতিমালা অনুসরণ করতে হবে। নির্দিষ্ট কোটায় নিয়োগের দাবিদার প্রার্থীকে তার দাবির স্বপক্ষে সরকার নির্ধারিত সনদপত্র মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় দেখাতে হবে। অন্যথায় তার দাবি অগ্রাহ্য বলে গণ্য হবে। কোটার দাবিদার প্রার্থীদের সনদ/প্রমাণপত্র বিবেচনা/গ্রহণের স্বাধীনতার বোর্ড/বিভাগীয় নির্বাচনী বোর্ডে সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে।

১৩. নিচাচনী পরীক্ষার অংশ গ্রহণের জন্য প্রার্থীদের কোন প্রকার টি.এ.ডি.এ দেওয়া হবে না।

১৪. কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ এ বিজ্ঞপ্তির শর্তাবলী পরিবর্তন, সংযোজন, বিয়োজন বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

১৫. নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই এ বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাতিল করার এবং বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে পদের সংখ্যা কম বা বেশি করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

১৬. আবেদন পত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল ও নিয়োগের বিষয়ে নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে গণ্য হবে। এ বিষয়ে কোন আপত্তি উত্থাপন করা যাবে না।

**চাকরির আবেদন ফরম**

৫৫৫ সে.মি. সত্যায়িত ছবি স্ট্যাম্প করতে হবে

১. পদের নাম		তারিখ	দিন	মাস	বৎসর
২. বিজ্ঞপ্তির নম্বর:					
৩. প্রার্থীর নাম:	বাংলায়:				
	ইংরেজীতে (বড় অক্ষরে):				
৪. জাতীয় পরিচয় নম্বর					(যে কোন একটি)
৫. জন্ম তারিখ:	দিন	মাস	বৎসর	৬. জন্মস্থান (জেলা):	
৭. বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত তারিখে প্রার্থীর বয়স	বছর			মাস	দিন
৮. মাতার নাম:					
৯. পিতার নাম:					
১০. ঠিকানা:	বর্তমান স্থায়ী				
	বাসা ও সড়ক (নাম/নম্বর):				
	গ্রাম/পাড়া/মহল্লা:				
	ইউনিয়ন/ওয়ার্ড:				
	ডাকঘর:				
	পোস্টাকোড নম্বর:				
	উপজেলা:				
	জেলা:				
১১. যোগাযোগ:	মোবাইল নম্বর	ই-মেইল (যদি থাকে)			
১২. জাতীয়তা:		১৩. জেলতার:			
১৪. ধর্ম:		১৫. পেশা:			
শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা:					
পরীক্ষার নাম	বিষয়	শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান	পাসের সন	বোর্ড/বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়	শ্রেণি/শ্রেণী/বিভাগ
১৭. অতিরিক্ত যোগ্যতা (যদি থাকে):					
১৮. অভিজ্ঞতার বিবরণ (প্রয়োজ্য ক্ষেত্রে):					
১৯. কোটা (টিক দিন)	মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের পুত্র-কন্যা/পুত্র-কন্যার পুত্র-কন্যা	এতিম/শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী			
	ফুট্র-নৃ-গোষ্ঠী	আনসার ও গ্রাম প্রতিরক্ষা সদস্য	অন্যান্য (উল্লেখ করুন)		
২০. ট্রেজারী চালান নং:		তারিখ:			
২১. ব্যাংক ও শাখার নাম:					
২২. বিভাগীয় প্রার্থী কিনা (টিক দিন):	হ্যাঁ	না	প্রয়োজ্য নয়		
আমি এই মর্মে অসীকার করছি যে, ওপরে বর্ণিত তথ্যগুলি সম্পূর্ণ সত্য। মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময় উল্লিখিত তথ্য প্রমাণের জন্য সকল মূল সার্টিফিকেট ও রেকর্ডপত্র উপস্থাপন করব। কোন তথ্য অসত্য প্রমাণিত হলে আইনানুগ শাস্তি ভোগ করতে বাধ্য থাকব।					
তারিখ:	প্রার্থীর স্বাক্ষর				

GD-1234

# As Fed taper inches closer, investors prepare for volatility ahead

REUTERS, New York

As the Federal Reserve takes initial steps toward removing its massively accommodative policy, investors are preparing for the main show ahead.

Fed officials on Wednesday penciled in two potential rate hikes in 2023, sooner than policymakers had previously projected, and Chair Jerome Powell edged closer to unveiling plans to taper the Fed's \$120 billion a month of bond purchases.

Powell went so far as to describe the two-day gathering as the "talking-about talking-about meeting," a glib reference to his protestations earlier this year that he and his colleagues were not even "talking about talking about" tighter policy.

"The Fed is making it clear that they will wait and wade through a noisy summer of data to see a trend before they make a decision about liftoff," said Jason England, global bonds portfolio manager at Janus Henderson.

England expects to see greater bond market volatility leading up to the central bankers' confab in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, in late August and remains focused on shorter-duration bonds in anticipation of a sustained economic recovery.

The question of when exactly the

Fed will pull back has hung over financial markets. Stocks edged lower and the dollar spiked on Wednesday while benchmark yields rose.

"The logical response to today's information is that interest rates are going to go higher, and they will probably be going higher faster than people may have thought," said Marcus Moore, assistant portfolio manager at Zeo Capital Advisors.

A more extreme reaction could lay ahead if signs appear of stronger-than-expected inflation and other factors that could push the Fed to taper faster than anticipated, some

market participants said. Powell said policymakers are not facing a situation where they are "behind the curve."

"We have become more defensive because we don't think the bond market should have so much apathy to inflation," said Thanos Bardas, co-head of global investment grade and senior portfolio manager at Neuberger Berman.

Consumer prices jumped 5 per cent in May, the largest annual jump in 13 years, while supply bottlenecks recently pushed lumber prices to all-time highs before tumbling 40 per cent from their records.

The Fed's projections show inflation exceeding the Fed's 2 per cent target by a wide margin of 3.5 per cent this year.

Todd Thompson, managing director at Reams Asset Management, said wage pressures from a record number of 9.3 million job openings will force the Fed to move more quickly than many in the market anticipate given that real interest rates remain negative.

"With the economy running at a galloping pace, negative real interest rates are a disconnect to reality and that has to be reconciled" through rate hikes, Thompson said.

Ten-year Treasuries, which reflect gains after inflation, trade at a real rate of negative 0.75 per cent.

Douglas Duncan, chief economist at Fannie Mae, said he "would have thought there would have been more commentary" on the Fed's monthly purchases of \$40 billion in mortgage-backed securities.

A recent Reuters poll showed economists expect the Fed could taper those purchases faster than its Treasuries purchases given the red-hot housing market.

Tiffany Wilding, North American economist at PIMCO, said the message from Wednesday's meeting was that the Fed is "shifting away from managing downside risk to the economy to upside risk to inflation expectations."



Federal Reserve Board building is pictured in Washington, US. REUTERS/FILE

# Britain, US reach truce in Airbus-Boeing trade dispute

REUTERS, London

Britain and United States agreed on Thursday to resolve a long-running trade dispute over Airbus and Boeing and turn their attention to tackling Chinese subsidies, echoing a five-year tariff truce announced by Washington and Brussels.

Together, the deals draw a line under 17 years of battles at the World Trade Organization over aid for the world's largest planemakers and establish a common front against "non-market" funding, in a reference to China's rising aerospace sector.

The dispute had triggered a months-long transatlantic tariff war hitting industries such as Scotch whisky until the punitive measures were suspended earlier this year to ease negotiations.

Tariffs will now be set aside for a further five years while governments pledge to provide any funding on market terms, but the almost identically worded UK-US and EU-US agreements effectively remove for the time being a key source of transatlantic

trade tensions. "This will support jobs across the United Kingdom and is great news for Scotch whisky and other exports including aerospace who will no longer face punitive tariffs," British trade minister Liz Truss said on Twitter.

The European Union reached a truce two days ago with Washington in their conflict over aircraft subsidies, suspending for five years one set of Trump-era tariffs that had soured relations. The two sides had been battling since 2004 in parallel cases at the World Trade Organization over subsidies for US planemaker Boeing and European rival Airbus, which each claimed to have been damaged by unfair competition.

Britain has since left the European Union and Thursday's almost identically worded agreement achieves many of the same results as the EU-US deal. In December, Britain and the United States came close to a standalone aerospace deal that could have forced the hand of Brussels in its own talks with Washington, but drew back amid concerns over UK jobs, Reuters reported.



An Airbus A350 jetliner lands after a flying display during the 51st Paris Air Show at Le Bourget airport near Paris. REUTERS/FILE

# Look before you book a flat

FROM PAGE B1

"Make it clear in the contract the flat that you are buying. It has to be stated in the deal that the buyer is not obliged to pay any extra beyond the original amount agreed upon."

If any addition is required, it must be done with the mutual consent of both parties, Hassan said.

Potential buyers need to be certain whether the realtor or the seller actually owns the flat.

"You have to go to the land office and collect the information about the owner and occupants of the land. It is necessary to check whether the name of the seller is mentioned in the latest land record."

Finding out whether the developer is new or old, has any experience, and is a member of the Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh (REHAB) will help pick the right seller.

"You should try to find out if the company had tricked anyone in the past," Hassan said.

He said in many cases, landowners who have problems with possession give the land to the developer.

The buyers should check the developer's power of attorney and the agreement that has been inked with the landowner. Sometimes, contracts between landowners and developers are not registered.

The developer often deviates from the original design plan approved by Rajuk and adds additional floors.

"It is better not to book a flat with such a developer. You must keep an original copy of the agreement," Hassan said.

The buyers must be sure whether there is an electricity connection, and it is a commercial or residential connection.

"It has to be seen whether the gas connection has been obtained legally."

It has to be ascertained whether the flat has been built on a government, a vested or abandoned property.

"We have to find out whether the land has ever been auctioned due to the non-payment of rent, and the flat

is mortgaged to a bank for a loan," said Hassan.

If the seller has got power of attorney, its validity needs to be checked. It is better to buy the flat by contacting the realtor directly without buying from an intermediary.

If it is purchased in instalments, the contract should clearly outline how many instalments would be made and when the transfer will take place.

The agreement will also specify how the issue will be sorted out if buyers cannot purchase it, Hassan said.

All charges, registration fees and liabilities should be clearly known so that there are no complications in the future.

Mohammad Shishir Monir, a legal expert, said a checklist could help a buyer find whether the property is solid.

"You have to check property documents with the bank and sub-registry office."

Nasimul Baten, managing director of Delta Brac Housing Finance Corporation, said it is comparatively easier to buy if it is a leasehold property.

In the case of such property, only the lease deed, mutation, and tax records have to be examined.

If it is private land, one should check the record of rights, attorney power, and the plan approved by Rajuk, he said.

Ataur Rahman Chowdhury, head of the consumer division of IDLC Finance, said the price of a flat depends on whether the property is ready or under construction.

In the case of an under-construction flat, many things can deviate.

"So, one has to verify the track record of the developer to avert future hassles because the extent of deviation would be less in case of good developers."

He bats for securing a home loan before buying a flat though the amount could be low.

"When you take a loan from a bank or non-banking financial institution, it will verify the legal status of the property, the developer and all the documents."

# Shatranji earns GI recognition

FROM PAGE B1

BSCIC Chairman Md Mostaque Hassan said, "It's good news for us. This product will now represent us in the world. No one from another country can claim it as their product anymore. This will further build up the image of the entrepreneurs and the country. This is a milestone for us."

Shatranji is woven by hand on the ground with the aid of bamboo and rope. The beauty and durability of Shatranji are worth mentioning.

It is believed by locals that Shatranji has long been crafted in the region since the Mughal era.

Before 1830, Shatranji was weaved in a village named Pirpur in Rangpur sadar upazila, according to historians. Carpets and tapestries were used as home decor by wealthy families at that time.

Later, Pirpur village was renamed Nisbetganj in 1880 to commemorate the contribution of Nisbet, the then district collector of Rangpur who patronised the local Shatranji weavers, according to the Bengal District Gazetteer published in 1912.

Shatranji fabric became popular and flourished during the British era and its trade expanded to India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and other areas abroad.

But the industry fell into crisis after the Partition of India, thanks to the advent of modern machine-made products which forced many artisans to switch to other professions. The industry finally ended up surviving on a very small scale in Rangpur.

# Business as usual for health ministry

FROM PAGE B1

On June 9, Abdur Rouf Talukder, senior secretary of the finance division, said the money was never a problem in combatting the public health crisis. Still, the health ministry could not utilise the funds.

"I watched with surprise that the health ministry could not spend a major portion of the funds we gave them amid the pandemic," he said at a seminar organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies.

Earlier, at the post-budget briefing, Talukder said the full amount could not be spent because of the problems in the procurement process and the inexperience of the project directors.

The overall ADP spending stood at Tk 122,231 crore in the July to May period, which was 58 per cent of the allocation. The outlay was Tk 115,421 crore during the same period a year ago.

"Overall, the implementation rate is one percentage point higher than last year," Chakraborty said.

"The implementation will accelerate as the year comes to an end."

According to Chakraborty, the current

figure presented the financial progress.

"The physical progress has been 10 per cent higher than the financial progress on average," the IMED secretary said.

The financial progress has been low as many bills remain pending and the ministries release funds after verifying the expenses, he said.

"The financial progress will go up once the bills are adjusted."

Among the top 15 ministries that received the highest allocation, the local government division implemented 63 per cent of its development budget.

The roads, transport and highways division spent 59 per cent of the allocation, the power division 69, the railways ministry 59 per cent, the science and technology ministry 74 per cent, and the secondary and higher education division 54 per cent.

Other top achievers are the housing and public works ministry that used 44 per cent of the fund, the water resources ministry 60 per cent, the shipping ministry 49 per cent, the bridges division 72 per cent, the industries ministry 51 per cent, and the Prime Minister's Office 51 per cent.

# Low prices dampen spirits of mango farmers

FROM PAGE B4

Salauddin sold Tk 2 lakh worth of mangoes from his garden this year, down from Tk 3.5 lakh in 2020. Many farmers who have no direct link with traders in the country's major cities or access to online markets are being compelled to sell their stocks at lower prices fearing losses as the mangoes might remain unsold or rot.

Some farmers say they took mangoes to Dhaka after failing to sell them at local markets at a fair price. However, they still could not make an adequate profit despite paying transportation costs and market fees.

Yusuf Ali, a farmer and wholesaler in Chapainawabganj, said it is tough to send mangoes to Dhaka via the Mango Train, which carries the fruit just once a day, due to its tight schedule and booking procedure.

Kowsar Ali, a mango farmer and trader in Rajshahi, said the Mango Train service is cheaper than other services, but it is very difficult to get a booking due to its inadequate capacity.

"It costs only about Tk 80 to send one maund of mango on the special train, while it costs Tk 640 to send it by couriers," he added.

Ali Hossain, who suffered a loss in his

restaurant business in Binodpur Bazar of Rajshahi amid the pandemic, said he bought mangoes from an orchard for Tk 80,000 but could not make a profit due to lower prices. Alamgir Mia, a farmer in Chapainawabganj, said his six-member family is dependent on selling mangoes.

"It will be difficult to manage my expenses this year as the price of mango is around 40 per cent lower than last year," he added.

Citing similar difficulties, many other farmers in the region express concerns over the lower prices despite the good yield.

Md Sorof Uddin, a senior scientific officer at the Horticulture Research Centre of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) in Gazipur, said the biggest problem is that buyers from Dhaka, Chattogram and other parts of the country were not able to travel to the region to buy mangoes because of the restrictions.

"So, mango growers are not getting fair prices," he said.

Another problem is that many mango-carrying vehicles face harassment, such as having their tyres punctured when returning after

unloading a shipment.

"So, local administrations should take some steps to encourage the buyers and give them a clear message that no vehicle would be harassed if they come to buy mangoes," Uddin added.

Md Asadullah, director-general of the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), said as there were no major natural calamities like last year, mango yield has been good this year. The DAE expects that 24 lakh tonnes of mangoes will be produced across the country this year. Last season, 24.68 lakh tonnes of mangoes were produced on 1.9 lakh hectares of land.

Around 8.52 lakh tonnes of mangoes are expected to be produced on 83,673 hectares of land in Natore, Naogaon, Rajshahi, and Chapainawabganj, according to DAE data. The region's mango production stood at 7.76 lakh tonnes last year.

Of the roughly 100 varieties of mangoes grown in the country, the top varieties include Gopalbhog, Laxmanbhog, Ranipasad, Himsagar, Langra, Fazli and Amrupali. Besides, the supply of Ashwina and BARI Mango-4 will begin from July 10.

# Ifad Autos gets land to build industrial complex

FROM PAGE B1

The listed automotive company informed the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday that Beza has allotted the land to develop and operate industries, run commercial activities and construct infrastructures.

"Furthermore, the land is being allotted on lease for 50 years on a rental basis," it said.

The company will disclose all the information immediately after formulating the deed with Beza, the disclosure added.

The motorcycle manufacturing unit will be set up in partnership with a European brand to churn out high-end two-wheelers.

Ahmed sees a good market for high-end motorcycles in Bangladesh in the coming days. There is a demand for around 5 lakh motorcycles in the country per year and it would double within the next five years, he said.

Ifad Group and Gulf Oil International

UK will engage in a joint venture, Gulf Oil Bangladesh, which would be blending the lubricants.

Ifad is keen on investing over Tk 430 crore to set up the complex, according to its plan that was placed before Beza last year.

The project would be financed by the company's retained earnings and from loans availed from banks.

The market size of automotive components in Bangladesh was about Tk 1,400 crore to Tk 1,500 crore last year while the annual growth rate was around 10 per cent to 12 per cent over the previous decade, according to an estimate by automotive part importers.

Ifad Autos has sold more than 60,000 commercial vehicles in the last two decades with a combined sales value of \$750 million.

When news of the land allotment became public, stocks of the company dropped 2.23 per cent to Tk 52.60 yesterday.

# Bangladesh among 3 countries leading recovery: USDA

FROM PAGE B1

Knitwear shipments fetched \$15.36 billion, and woven garments brought home \$13.19 billion, clocking 20.55 per cent and 1.80 per cent year-on-year growth, respectively.

The export data shows that the Bangladeshi garment sector is recovering fast with the rise in demand in the western world.

A significant development was the return of woven shipments to the positive territory last month after declining for a year.

The demand for woven items had fallen in the western world as formal events were suspended because of the lockdowns and fears over contracting Covid-19.

Knitwear items maintained 12 per cent growth over the last year because of an increase in demand for more extended stays of people at home.

"The recovery trend is good, and it will not be short-term this time," said Faruque Hassan, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

However, it will take long to recoup the industry's losses last year because of the fallout of the Covid-19, he said.

"We have been receiving a handful of work orders. There has been the reinstatement of previous orders. But many factories are running at losses," Hassan said.

Last year, international clothing retailers and brands either suspended or cancelled work orders worth \$3.18 billion, of which 90 per cent have been reinstated so far.

Hassan said the retailers and brands had been paying up, but there were many who had gone bankrupt and were still delaying payment.

The volume of merchandise trade was down 15.5 per cent year-on-year in the second quarter of 2020 when lockdowns in many countries were in full effect. But by the fourth quarter, trade had surpassed the level of the same period in 2019, said the World Trade Organisation on May 28.

On the global cotton trade, the USDA said China's 2020-21 imports were forecast at a seven-year high, driven by the highest projected consumption in three years, robust state reserve

imports, and attractive prices for imported cotton relative to domestic supplies.

Imports are expected to support China's record year-over-year rise in consumption.

China's 2020-21 consumption is expected to recover from the lowest level in 16 years to surpass the previous year by 7 million bales, accounting for half of the gain in global use.

Currently, spinners' spot margins are roughly 30 per cent higher compared with that of the previous year due to the robust demand for cotton yarn and significantly lower yarn stocks, said the USDA.

Since Bangladesh is not a major cotton-producing nation, 99 per cent of the requirement for the raw material is met through imports.

Traders, importers and millers may import 8.5 million bales of cotton this year, spending \$3 billion this year, said the BTMA.

Last year, cotton imports fell to 7.5 million bales as production came to a halt in many mills after the government had imposed nationwide restrictions to tame the coronavirus pandemic. (One bale equals 480 pounds.)

# Feeble banking sector weighs on stocks

Rising bad loans, provision shortfall are the reasons, experts say



AHSAN HABIB

The gloomy picture of the banking sector led to a fall in the stock market over the past week amid rising coronavirus cases and deaths.

The DSEX, the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), dropped 13.89 points to 6,066 compared to the week before.

Among major sectors, banks dropped the most, shedding 2.33 per cent in the week, according to the weekly analysis of LankaBangla Securities.

The main reason for the fall of banking stocks is that the sector's health deteriorated after its payment holiday ended last December, stock market analysts said.

Non-performing loans (NPLs) stood at Tk 95,085 crore in March, up 7.1 per cent from three months earlier and 2.8 per cent year-on-year, data from Bangladesh Bank shows. The payment holiday was introduced in late March last year to help businesses ride out the unprecedented Covid-19 crisis.

Defaulted loans accounted for 8.07 per cent of the outstanding loans of Tk 1,177,658 crore in the banking industry for that month. The ratio was 7.66 per cent in December.

Due to the higher rate of bad loans, the provision base of banks in Bangladesh deteriorated heavily in the first quarter of 2021. The shortfall ballooned more than 42 times to Tk 5,228 crore in March compared to Tk 123 crore three months before that, as per Bangladesh Bank data.

As the banking sector is a large paid-up capital-based sector, its impact on the index was higher.

"This is not a surprise for stock investors who saw the deterioration of the banking sector after the loan moratorium ended but it still disheartened them," said Shahidul Islam, CEO of VIPB Asset Management.

About the recent market movement, Islam said the sudden rise in insurance stocks or junk stocks are only because of speculation. "Investors need to be cautious about such companies that move fast," he added.

Investors are following a wait-and-see policy to invest now as the index has soared over 550 points already within two months despite the worsening pandemic situation, according to another analyst.

Sixty-three people have died from Covid-19 in 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, according to the Directorate General of Health Services.

At least 3,840 new infections were recorded in the meantime and the current positivity rate is 15.44 per cent while the total positivity rate stands at 13.42 per cent.

# Low prices dampen spirits of mango farmers



The ongoing restrictions on public movement could cause about Tk 3,000 crore losses, traders and farmers said.

ARANDA MUHAMMAD JAHID

Mango farmers across the country, particularly in Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj, have been left disappointed by the lower prices for the 'King of Fruits' despite having secured very good yields this season.

Depending on varieties, mango prices are currently around Tk 1,100 to Tk 1,700 per maund (40 kilograms), down by Tk 600 to Tk 800 compared to the same period last year, according to traders and farmers. The ongoing restrictions on public movement could cost the industry about Tk 3,000 crore, they said.

Although vehicles carrying mangoes have been kept out of the purview of the restrictions, traders are reportedly being harassed while trying to transport the fruit, making them afraid

of visiting the hubs.

In a bid to facilitate mango transportation, the government launched a special train dubbed the Mango Train from Chapainawabganj via Rajshahi to Dhaka. But the service is not enough to meet the huge demand, traders and farmers said.

The livelihoods of 300,000 farmers in the Rajshahi region alone and thousands of others involved in mango trading will be at stake if fair prices cannot be ensured.

As of Thursday, farmers are selling the Himsagar variety for Tk 1,400 to Tk 1,700 per maund.

Langra mangoes are priced at Tk 1,100 to Tk 1,400 per maund, Laxmanbhog at Tk 600, and Gufi at Tk 400 to Tk 500 at the local wholesale markets, including Kansat Bazar of

Chapainawabganj and Baneshwar Bazar in Rajshahi.

Local traders sell these mangoes to buyers from other districts at Tk 1,500 to Tk 1,800 per maund. However, these varieties are then sold at the wholesale markets in Dhaka, such as Karwan Bazar, for Tk 1,500 to Tk 2,200 per maund.

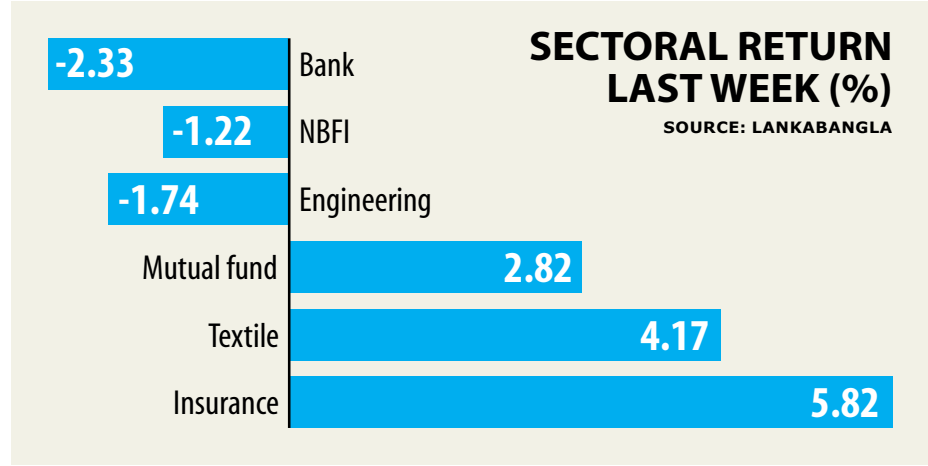
The price is Tk 50 to Tk 70 per kg at the retail level.

Md Salauddin, a farmer in Bagha upazila of Rajshahi, said after seeing a good yield of mango this season, he had dreamed of making a good profit, but the dream has broken because of the lower prices.

"Farmers are not getting fair prices in this peak season due to the absence of buyers in the local markets," he added.

STAR

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## GLOBAL BUSINESS

# India puts on hold proposal to cut import duty on edible oils

REUTERS, New Delhi/Mumbai

India has put on hold a proposal to reduce import duties on edible oils as cooking oil prices started to fall in the world market after hitting record highs, two government and one industry officials told Reuters.

The world's biggest vegetable oil importer was considering reducing duties after domestic soybean and palm oil prices more than doubled in the past year, hitting consumers already stung by record fuel prices and reduced incomes amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We are not cutting import duties now, a more longer term solution has to be found. Cutting duties is not a sustainable solution," said a government official with knowledge of the matter who asked not to be identified.

A second official, who also requested anonymity, said the



A man loads empty containers of edible oil onto a tricycle at a roadside shop in Kolkata, India.

REUTERS/FILE

decision to leave the import duty structure unchanged was taken as prices were now cooling in the overseas market, pulling the

domestic prices lower too.

"The idea is to keep a close watch on international prices and global supplies, and if the situation

warrants it, we'll revive the proposal for a reduction in the duty to protect the interests of both consumers and farmers," this official said.

Yet even after the recent correction of more than 20%, Indian edible oil prices are still around double their levels a year ago.

Household consumption is expected to decline the longer prices remain elevated.

Demand from bulk buyers like hotels, restaurants and bakeries had already dropped after authorities imposed local lockdowns in response to a devastating second wave of coronavirus infections over recent months, dealers said.

While India deliberated lowering import duties on vegetable oil, benchmark palm oil prices in Malaysia fell nearly a quarter in the last one month, giving some respite to importing countries.

# Apple warns EU law 'risks destroying iPhone security'

AFP, Paris

The EU's proposed new rules to rein in tech giants risk undermining the security of the iPhone, Apple chief Tim Cook warned Wednesday.

The European Union last year unveiled tough draft rules targeting tech giants like Apple, Google, Amazon and Facebook that could shake up the way Big Tech does business.

Cook, speaking at the VivaTech convention for startups in Paris, took aim at some of the rules that target online "gatekeepers" such as Apple which controls which apps can be installed on its phones and tablets.

He said current proposals "would force side loading on the iPhone, and so this will be an alternative way of getting apps onto the iPhone."

"Side loading would allow iPhone users to install apps directly from publishers, something they cannot currently do."

The restriction that iPhone owners may only buy apps from Apple's App Store, where commissions run up to 30 per cent, is at the heart of a lawsuit between the tech



Apple CEO Tim Cook

giant and Epic Games, the publisher of the popular Fortnite video game.

The EU also pushed forward with charges against Apple over the App Store, saying the company used it to squeeze out rivals. Apple has countered that restrictions on downloading apps are essentially to protect consumers from dangerous software.

Cook warned Wednesday that the proposed EU rules "would destroy the security of the iPhone, and a lot of privacy initiatives that we've built into the App Store."

# Macron bemoans 'nonsense' innovation Takes aim at Chinese and US tech bonanza

REUTERS, Paris

French President Emmanuel Macron called out on Wednesday what he described as excesses of liquidity in the US and Chinese financial markets, some of which he said could instead foster the growth of tech companies in Europe.

"We can attract a lot of Chinese and American investors because when I look at what they are financing sometimes, some bullshit innovation they finance because you have too much liquidity in the market," Macron told a panel of executives from startups at France's tech show Viva Tech.

Macron did not elaborate on the kind of innovation or specific companies he had in mind. "This place (Paris) now is more and more perceived as first business-friendly and then innovative," he said.

"So the more ... we elaborate and increase the strength of this place the more you will attract investors coming from the United States and China."

Macron is pushing for Europe to create 10 technology giants worth 100 billion euros (\$120 billion) each in valuation by 2030, in a bid to rival US companies that dominate the sector.



French President Emmanuel Macron

But while a growing number of digital companies are lining up to go public via an initial public offering (IPO) or a buyout from a special-purpose acquisition company (SPAC), investments in tech lag those seen in the United States and China.

Macron has since his election in 2017 championed investment in the digital economy as a key to lower unemployment and stimulating economic growth and vowed to turn the country into a "startup nation."

# Egypt souvenir market pins hopes on tourism revival

AFP, Cairo

Pyramids, Tutankhamun masks, Nefertiti busts -- Egypt's souvenir-makers are pinning their hopes on a new lease of economic life, after tourism was battered by the coronavirus pandemic.

In the shadow of the magnificent Giza Pyramids, Eid Yousri manufactures polyester Pharaonic figurines from a humble workshop erected on the roof of his family home.

"We've lost nearly 70 per cent of our business," he told AFP, lamenting the plunge in visitors to one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.

Before the pandemic, "we had about 15 workers -- compared to five today," he said, noting that even the remaining staff were not full-time.

He sells his products from as little as 20 Egyptian pounds (about \$1.30, or one euro) to 200 pounds.

Hundreds of small business owners and artisans have been forced to mothball much of their activity, choked by cancelled flights and movement restrictions around the world.

Yousri hopes that foreign tourists are lured back to Egypt in the latter part of the year, "especially Americans", with some groups from the US expected in September. In 2019, the last full year before the pandemic struck, tourism made up about 12 per cent of Egypt's GDP.



Tourists walk past shops selling copper and stained-glass lamps at the Khan el-Khalili bazaar area in Egypt's capital Cairo.

After a long period of political instability dented earnings, revenues from the sector reached \$13 billion that year.

But in 2020, a year when Egypt had initially eyed a further rebound to \$16 billion, takings collapsed to \$4 billion.

In a recent interview with AFP, Tourism Minister Khaled El-Enani welcomed a partial recovery in visitor numbers.

Around 500,000 have flown in monthly since April this year, more than double the number in January and up from an average of just 200,000 tourists per month in 2020.

On the other side of town, in the narrow and labyrinthine alleys of Khan el-Khalili in Islamic Cairo, tourist Caroline Bucher is on the hunt for "locally made" products to bring back home to her native Dominican Republic.

"We're looking for hand made and quality souvenirs, that are about local culture," she told AFP. "It has to be a memory of the trip."

"In a souvenir market that was for many years flooded by cheap Chinese imports, the government is seeking to meet demand for quality products sought out by tourists like Bucher.

On the eastern outskirts of Cairo, a new antique reproduction factory has since March been preparing to capitalise on the much hoped for post-pandemic era.