Supply chain excellence awards for 2021 launched

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The fourth edition of "Bangladesh Supply Chain Excellence Awards 2021" was launched yesterday to recognise outstanding individuals and organisations for their exceptional contributions in advancing supply chain knowledge and practices across the industries.

Non-bank financial institution IPDC Finance in collaboration with Bangladesh Supply Chain Management Society (BSCMS) organised the awards.

The recognitions will also act as encouragement for professionals who play a significant role in the supply chain management ecosystem. The performance from July 2020 to June 2021 will be taken into account while recognising the individuals and organisation.

The inauguration ceremony took place thorough a press conference at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka.

Organisations and individuals can submit their nominations online at www.bsceabd.com across 11 categories.

These are supply chain collaboration and partnering, supply chain talent development, manufacturing excellence, supply chain finance management, logistics and transportation management, customer service, warehousing and distribution, supply chain planning process, supply chain sustainability, technology as supply chain enabler, young supply chain talent of the year, and supply chain professional of the year.

Nominations can be submitted till November 20. A jury panel will select the best cases as the winners. Awardees will receive crests and certificates, according to a statement.

Mominul Islam, CEO of IPDC Finance, said, "As a financial intermediary, we feel responsible to ensure our SME and corporate sector remain competitive globally, for which excellence in supply chain management is indispensable."

"IPDC strongly believes in the importance of collaboration to influence the activity, experience, and resources of an organization. Hence, IPDC collaborated with BSCMS to recognize the best practices in supply chain management through the award," he said.

Naquib Khan, president of the BSCMS, said the success of any business, amid fierce competition and global challenges, was inextricably linked to the performance of its supply chain. "We want to recognise those achievers for their contributions in SCM," he said.

ISCEA (Asia) CEO Ejazur Rahman, IPDC Finance Additional Managing Director Rizwan Dawood Shams and The Business Standard Executive Editor & Publisher Sharier Khan were also present.

Md Nazmul Hassan, chairman of the board of directors of Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd, addresses a webinar styled "Compliance of Shariah in Banking Operations" at the bank's head office recently. Mohammed Monirul Moula, managing director of the bank, Mohammad Gias Uddin Talukder, chairman of the Shariah Supervisory Committee (SSC), Muhammad Qaisar Ali, additional managing director, Mohammad Abdus Samad, member secretary of the SSC, Md Omar Faruk Khan, additional managing director, and Abu Reza Md Yeahia and JQM Habibullah, deputy managing directors, also attended the event. IBBL

Chorka expanding targeting $200m lingerie export

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Chorka Textile Ltd, a concern of Pran-RFL Group, has been expanding its capacity to export $200 million-worth lingerie and other garment items by the next two years.

This was in response to big volumes of work orders coming in with the reopening of clothing stores in Europe and the US.

In fiscal 2020-21, the company exported lingerie worth $90 million from its Narsingdi-based garment factory, Ahsan Khan Chowdhury, chairman and chief executive officer (CEO) of Pran-RFL Group, told a group of journalists at his factory on Saturday.

The factory has expanded its production capacity and launched production in double shifts to fulfil its target in the next two years. It has invested $70 million so far since Chorka was established in 2013.

Chorka's main product was lingerie but recently it diversified into bras, panties, t-shirts, sweat shirts, polo shirts, leggings, body suits and hoodies to achieve the export target, said Pran-RFL Group, which has an annual turnover of nearly $2 billion.

Currently, 120 lines produce eight million pieces of garment items in a month through 7,000 workers, 51 per cent of whom are female and 49 per cent male.

The company sources 50 per cent of raw materials from the local market and imports the rest like yarn, fancy laces, synthetic fabrics, elastic and sewing thread.

The global market size of lingerie is $42 billion and 30 to 35 local companies have been exporting $4 billion-worth worth of lingerie over the last three years, said Chowdhury.

Chorka mainly exports its goods to the US, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, the UK, Canada, Australia, Poland, South Africa, the Netherlands, Switzerland, China and India.

"The lingerie markets have been growing every year globally. We have a lot of potential to grab more lingerie markets," said Chowdhury.

HSBC offers work placement for students

STAR BUSINESS DESK

HSBC has launched a student work placement programme to provide final year university students and fresh graduates a paid opportunity at learning more about a career in banking and financial services.

The programme will provide hands-on experiences, enabling students to take on real and challenging responsibilities at the bank, says a press release.

Every year the programme will run in two cohorts respectively from January to June and July to December.

Applications for January 2022 intake are currently being accepted and students can apply on LinkedIn's HSBC Page under the "Jobs" section.

To be considered, applicants will need to be an undergraduate student from any discipline graduating by December 2021 or have completed graduation in June 2021 or later.

The applicants will also have to go through a series of assessments, including a culture-fit test and interviews before they are selected for the programme.

"We are committed to make today's youth career-ready in their future endeavours and excited to welcome the brightest talents to create real impact and shape the bank of tomorrow," said Nazika M Imam, head of human resources and employee relations, HSBC Bangladesh.

Delta Life stock price trebles

FROM PAGE B1

Besides, the company has not made any revenue disclosures since then and considering the fallouts of Covid-19, its condition could now be worse.

"But still the stock price was rising," said the merchant banker.

In addition, the Delta is facing some serious issues regarding breach of regulations. "So, the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) took some actions against it to this end but still, the stock price increased against all odds," he added.

The IDRA had appointed Sultan-ul-abedin Mollah as an administrator in the company last February on grounds of protecting policyholders' interests.

The logic behind appointing an administrator was to unearth any breaches in regulations, which eventually came to light through special and investigative audits. In the meantime, Mollah resigned and was replaced by Rafiqul Islam but after the latter eventually followed suit, the IDRA appointed Md Quddus Khan as administrator last Sunday.

"Despite all that, the company's share value has been rising since April, making it clear that manipulators are involved," the merchant banker said.

When a company's share price rises without cause, it creates a confidence crisis among all investors.

"And this company is creating such a crisis," said Sharif Anwar Hossain, president of the DSE Brokers' Association.

Hossain questioned how the company could see such a rapid rise in stock value even after the IDRA had appointed an administrator after discovering its compliance issues.

The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has greatly developed its monitoring systems and so, it is possible to find out who is buying what from whom and why.

"So if any company rises abnormally, then the market regulator should check for signs of manipulation behind the scene," he said. Hossain went on to say that if left unchecked, manipulation leaves a dent in investor confidence.

Shaikh Shamsuddin Ahmed, a commissioner of the BSEC, said they have already changed the company's board of directors. "We also asked them to assess its financials and try to fix any issues," he added.

Stocks end in the red again

FROM PAGE B1

292 declined and 26 remained unchanged.

Aramit Cement Limited topped the gainers' list, rising 9.82 per cent, followed by Beach Hatchery Limited, Beximco Ltd, Zeal Bangla Sugar Mills Limited and BSRM Ltd.

Stocks of Beximco Ltd were traded the most, worth Tk 342 crore, followed by Orion Pharma Limited, Delta Life Insurance Company Limited, NRB Commercial Bank Limited and Genex Infosys Limited.

FAS Finance and Investment Limited shed the most, dropping 10.6 per cent, followed by Bangladesh Building Systems Limited, Active Fine Chemicals Limited, Aziz Pipes limited and Deshbandhu Polymer Limited.

Due to the fall of Grameenphone Limited, Square Pharmaceuticals Limited, Robi Axiata Limited, Walton and LafargeHolcim Bangladesh Limited, the benchmark index of the DSE dropped 38 points, according to amarstock.com.

Among the major sectors, ceramics and tannery experienced a price appreciation while services and real estate, cement and textile faced correction, according to UCB Stock Brokerage Limited's daily market review. The Chattogram bourse also fell yesterday. The CASPI, the main index of the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE), dropped 122 points, or 0.59 per cent, to 20,570.

Among 288 stocks to undergo trade, 62 rose, 205 fell and 21 remained unchanged.

Two Square entities to go for Tk 646cr expansion

FROM PAGE B1

Shares of the drug maker dropped 3.25 per cent yesterday to Tk 226 from that on the previous day of trade.

Square Pharmaceutical's profits rose 23 per cent to Tk 1,594 crore in the financial year 2020-21 from Tk 1,295 crore a year earlier. Meanwhile, its earnings per share rose to Tk 17.99 from Tk 15.35.

FDI inflow rises marginally

FROM PAGE B1

"If we do not avoid the red tape, there will be no scope to attract investors," said the analyst, on condition of anonymity.

Md Sirazul Islam, executive chairman of the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida), the state agency responsible for promoting investment, describes the FDI flow in the last fiscal year as good considering the ongoing business slowdown brought on by the coronavirus pandemic.

The entity has recently taken a set of initiatives to give a boost to the FDI inflow.

"It will take three to four years to get the results from the initiatives," he said, adding that the latest inflow was the outcome of the previous steps.

The Bida will organise investment summits at home and abroad to highlight positive stories about the country and the investment opportunities in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh far behind peers

FROM PAGE B1

"In 2031, we will be a high middle-income country. Our per capita income should be $5,400 by that time. The first condition of SDG is to eradicate poverty and the second one is that there will be no hunger. And agriculture is closely involved in both these cases," he said.

Alam said the government has given huge subsidies and incentives to agriculture.

"The amount of subsidy is now Tk 9,000 crore. Agriculture has been sustained through subsidies in various sectors. But it will not be possible to go far in this way unless major structural changes are made in agriculture," he said.

Meanwhile, several speakers said inappropriate statistics on agricultural products lead to commodity price hikes and generate turmoil in the market.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said, "As the commerce minister, I became restless. There is a problem with our statistics." "We have a demand for 24 lakh tonnes of onion. Against this demand, our production was over 30 lakh tonnes. But we need to import onion. Some 90 per cent of imported onion come from India. We fall into problem when India stops onion export," he said.

So, alongside the enhancement of production, appropriate statistics is needed, he added.

Jahangir Alam, former director general of Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, said, "We have surplus production in rice which we have been hearing for two years. However, 17 lakh tonnes of rice have been imported last year."

"There is no similarity (in data) between ministries, departments and the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). We need appropriate information so that the people do not get misguided," he said.

Addressing the programme, Agriculture Minister Muhammad Abdur Razzaque said Bangladesh today was self-sufficient in food production. "Our biggest challenge now is to provide nutritious and safe food for all and to modernise agriculture," he said.

"Thailand, Vietnam earn more by exporting processed food but we are far behind in this sector. We need to enter the international market by meeting local demand. To do this, we need to modernize our agriculture production system," he said. Prof Mohammad Jahangir Alam of Bangladesh Agricultural University presented a keynote paper while Bonik Barta Editor Dewan Hanif Mahmud and BAJF President Iftekher Mahmud and among others spoke.

Potential of Blue Economy remains largely untapped

FROM PAGE B1

"Not only for fish or mineral resources, rather the ocean economy which relates to all ocean-based industries may change the whole picture of Bangladesh's economy," Alam said.

By utilising marine resources, industries in Bangladesh such as tourism, shipbuilding and breaking, deep sea fishing, medicine, and cosmetics could be developed further.

The oceanic economic zone of Bangladesh is equal to 81 per cent of its mainland.

"There are 1.5 lakh ships transporting goods through ocean ways all over the world in an industry worth around $9 billion dollars but Bangladesh only owns 70 seafaring vessels," he added.

The "Blue Economy" is a new potential sector for investment in Bangladesh, according to Salman F Rahman, private industry and investment adviser to the prime minister.

"It is possible to export billions of dollars from this sector in the next few years," he said.

Rahman advised the FBCCI and BIDA to work together to find out why progress in the once emerging industry of shipbuilding has slowed and to fix the policy strategy.

"Along with the plan to utilise the marine economy, the policy of conservation of these resources should also be adopted," said AKM Enamul Hoque Shameem, deputy minister for water resources.

An international investment conference is going to be held on November 26-29 and the Blue Economy will be discussed separately at that conference, said Sirajul Islam, executive chairman of BIDA.

The maritime economy could play an effective role in attracting foreign investment and creating employment after Bangladesh graduates from the UN's least developed grouping in 2026 as well.

"The FBCCI will submit recommendations to the government to determine sector-based strategies on issues discussed at the workshop," said Jashim Uddin, president of the FBCCI.

"There is no disagreement about the potential of this sector but still, there are no plans," said Khandaker Golam Moazzem, panel adviser of the FBCCI.

"There are also doubts about who is the guardian of this sector so instead of different ministries working separately, if BIDA takes charge, quick benefits could be obtained," Moazzem added.

The growth of the world economy in the next 10 to 20 years will be blue economy-centric, according to AK Enamul Haque, a professor at East West University.

He called for investment in tourism, shipbuilding, shipbreaking, fishing, ports and maritime equipment to harness the Blue Economy.

However, he urged to eliminate policy discrimination between foreign and local entrepreneurs.

S Korea offers $700m for development projects

FROM PAGE B1

So far, South Korea has funded 24 development projects in Bangladesh involving a total of about $1.2 billion through the fund.

The amount of concessional loans to Bangladesh from South Korea has been steadily increasing in recent years.

Besides, the amount authorised in the renewed framework arrangement is higher than that of a previous agreement for 2017-2020, which stipulated a provision of $500 million in four years.

"As a trusted development partner of Bangladesh, Korea will continue to support Bangladesh in its journey toward socio-economic development," Jang-Keun said.

"The new EDCF framework arrangement will provide additional momentum to further boost our economic and development cooperation," he added.

Agreements to implement projects under the new framework are expected to be signed within this year.

These projects include the sustainable economic recovery programme (Subprogram1) under the Finance Division and the procurement of CNG-run AC buses for Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation involving $51 million under the Road Transport and Highways Division.

Another involves the establishment of a modern international training institute for Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority for $25 million under local government divisions.

In addition, important projects like the construction of a railway and road across the Karnaphuli river at Kalurghat, Chattogram and establishing a multidisciplinary and specialised hospital at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital will be funded in the second phase.

The renewed framework arrangement will primarily concentrate on supporting several sectors in Bangladesh, such as enhancing health services and improving transportation.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
সমাজসেবা অফিসারের কার্যালয়
শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়
বরিশাল

স্মারক নং: ৪১.০১.০৬০০.০৪১.১৬.০৫৯.২১-৩৩১

তারিখ: ০৯ অগ্রহায়ন ১৪২৮ / ২৪ অক্টোবর ২০২১

পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

০১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	:	সমাজকল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়।
০২	সংগ্রাহক সত্তার নাম	:	সমাজসেবা অফিসার, শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশাল।
০৩	যে কাজের দরপত্র	:	২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ বছরে সমাজসেবা অধিদপ্তরাধীন শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশালের আওতায় দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্রের জন্য ২০টি ডেস্কটপ কম্পিউটার (ইউপিএসসহ), ১টি ল্যাপটপ ও ১টি মাল্টিমিডিয়া প্রজেক্টর ক্রয়।
০৪	দরপত্রের সূত্র নম্বর ও তারিখ	:	স্মারক নম্বরঃ ৪১.০১.০০০০.০১০.২০.০১৩.২১-১৩৫৬ তারিখঃ ২৯/০৭/২০২১
০৫	দরপত্র প্রচারের তারিখ	:	২৫/১০/২০২১খ্রিঃ
০৬	ক্রয় পদ্ধতি	:	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)
০৭	বাজেট এবং তহবিল উৎস	:	রাজস্ব বাজেট, জিওবি।
০৮	দরপত্রের প্যাকেজ নং	:	০১ (এক)টি।
০৯	দরপত্রের প্যাকেজ নাম	:	২০২১-২০২২ অর্থবছরে সমাজসেবা অধিদপ্তরাধীন শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশালের আওতায় দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্রের জন্য ডেস্কটপ কম্পিউটার (ইউপিএসসহ), ল্যাপটপ ও মাল্টিমিডিয়া প্রজেক্টর ক্রয়।
১০	দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	:	০১/১১/২০২১ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
১১	দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	০২/১১/২০২১ তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ পর্যন্ত।
১২	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	:	০২/১১/২০২১খ্রিঃ, দুপুর ১২.৩০টায় দরদাতা বা তার মনোনীত প্রতিনিধির উপস্থিতিতে খোলা হবে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন)।
১৩	কার্যালয় এর নাম ও ঠিকানা	:	শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশাল।
	ক. মূল দরপত্র দলিল বিক্রয়	:	শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশাল।
	খ. দরপত্র দলিল গ্রহণ	:	শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশাল।
	গ. দরপত্র দলিল খোলা	:	শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশাল।
১৪	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	:	(০১) বৈধ কম্পিউটার ব্যবসায়ী ও সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে হবে।
			(০২) কম্পিউটার সরবরাহের ক্ষেত্র ০৩ (তিন) বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। অভিজ্ঞতার স্বপক্ষে প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
			(০৩) অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র, হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, আয়কর সনদ, এবং ভ্যাট প্রদান (২০২০-২০২১) সনদের অধিকারী হতে হবে।
১৫	দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য	:	দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য চালান এর মাধ্যমে কোড-১-২৯৩১-০০০০-২৩৬৬ তে (অফেরতযোগ্য) জমা দিতে হবে।

লট নং	বিবরণ	সিডিউল মূল্য	টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটির পরিমাণ	মন্তব্য
১	ডেস্কটপ কম্পিউটার (ইউপিএসসহ), ল্যাপটপ ও মাল্টিমিডিয়া প্রজেক্টর ক্রয়।	৫০০/- টাকা	সিডিউল মোতাবেক	

১৬ শর্তাবলীঃ
০১. পিপিএ-২০০৬ এবং পিপিআর-২০০৮ (সংশোধিতসহ) এ প্রদত্ত ক্রয় সংক্রান্ত পদ্ধতি যথাযথভাবে অনুসরণ করা হবে।
০২. দরদাতাকে উদ্ধৃত মোট দরের ৩% হারে যে কোন তফসীলি ব্যাংক হতে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার আকারে সমাজসেবা অফিসার, শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়, বরিশাল বরাবরে দরপত্রের সাথে টেন্ডারের সিকিউরিটির অর্থ জমা দিতে হবে।
০৩. গৃহীত দরদাতার নিকট হতে উদ্ধৃত দরের ১০% পারফরমেন্স সিকিউরিটির অর্থ প্রাপ্তির সাপেক্ষে কার্যাদেশ প্রদান করা হবে।
০৪. কর্তৃপক্ষ কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যেকোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
০৫. দরপত্র ক্রয়ের তারিখ হতে দরপত্র খোলা তারিখের নির্ধারিত সময় পর্যন্ত দরপত্র দাখিল করা যাবে।
০৬. বিশেষ নির্দেশনাঃ বিস্তারিত তথ্য দরপত্র সিডিউলে বর্ণিত আছে।
০৭. দরপত্রের বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে শর্তাবলী ও দরপত্র দাখিল দরপত্রের অংশ হিসেবে গণ্য হবে।
০৮. কর্তৃপক্ষ সর্বনিম্ন দর গ্রহণে বাধ্য নহে এবং কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ কিংবা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

স্বাক্ষরিত
শেখ জহির উদ্দিন আহম্মাদ
সমাজসেবা অফিসার
শহর সমাজসেবা কার্যালয়
বরিশাল
টেলিফোনঃ ০৪৩১-২১৭৩৯৬১

জিডি-১৯০৯