

Bank Asia to ensure resilience of low-income customers

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bank Asia and MSC Global Consulting Pte Ltd recently signed a memorandum of understanding to ensure resilience and financial health for Post e-Center agents and low and moderate income group customers with support from MetLife Foundation.

Md Arfan Ali, managing director of Bank Asia, and Graham Wright, group managing director of the MSC, signed the agreement in a virtual event, according to a press release.

Ala Uddin Ahmad, CEO of MetLife Bangladesh, Krishna Thacker, Asia region director of MetLife Foundation, and Sarder Akhter Hamed, deputy managing director of Bank Asia, attended the event.



Senior officials of Bank Asia and MSC Global Consulting Pte Ltd virtually hold a discussion on ensuring resilience and financial health for Post e-Center agents and low and moderate income group customers with support from MetLife Foundation before signing a memorandum of understanding recently.

Bitcoin, ether nurse losses, lurk near critical levels

REUTERS, Hong Kong

Bitcoin and ether, the world's two largest cryptocurrencies, stayed weak on Wednesday and near critical levels that analysts believe could spell further weakness if breached.

Bitcoin last traded around \$59,000, down 1 per cent on the day, and off about 12 per cent from the record high of \$69,000 set on November 10, while ether was at \$4,163, more than 14 per cent lower than its peak \$4,868.

While profit-taking after the massive run-up in prices was emerging as the biggest factor, analysts pointed to bitcoin's blockchain upgrade on the weekend, higher US inflation and China's latest directive to its state-owned firms not to engage in cryptocurrency mining as being other reasons behind the more cautious sentiment.

Bitcoin has doubled in value since January. Its correction could get severe if it fell through \$58,000, Craig Erlam, senior market analyst at online broker Oanda, said in a note.

"This is roughly where it found strong support at the end of October and given how much it's struggled to make major strides higher since, it could be the catalyst for a deeper correction," Erlam wrote.

News that Twitter would not be investing in cryptocurrencies and the US Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) rejection of what would have been the first US spot bitcoin exchange-traded fund by VanEck were also dampeners.

"This has the feel that we could see some messy two-way action, and it wouldn't surprise to see 68,000 capping the upside, 57,000 the downside." Chris Weston, head of research at brokerage Pepperstone in Melbourne, wrote in a client note.

US retail sales surge as Americans kick off holiday shopping

REUTERS, Washington

US retail sales surged in October as Americans eagerly started their holiday shopping early to avoid empty shelves amid shortages of some goods because of the ongoing pandemic, giving the economy a lift at the start of the fourth quarter.

The solid report from the Commerce Department on Tuesday suggested high inflation was not yet dampening spending, even as worries about the rising cost of living sent consumer sentiment tumbling to a 10-year low in early November.

Rising household wealth, thanks to a strong stock market and house prices, as well as massive savings and wage gains appear to be cushioning consumers against the highest annual inflation in three decades.

"It's more important to look at what consumers do than what they say," said Gus Faucher, chief economist at PNC

Financial in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. "They are concerned about higher inflation, but they are still in good shape and are continuing to spend."

Retail sales jumped 1.7 per cent last month, the largest gain since March, after rising 0.8 per cent in September.

It was the third straight monthly advance and topped economists' expectations for a 1.4 per cent increase.

Sales soared 16.3 per cent year-on-year in October and are 21.4 per cent above their pre-pandemic level.

Several of the top US retailers this week have noted an earlier start to holiday shopping.

While this could lead to declines in November and December, economists and retailers expect holiday sales this year will be the best in a while.

"Today's numbers show that consumers are getting a jump on their holiday shopping," said Matthew Shay, president of the National Retail Federation in Washington.

"We continue to urge consumers to shop early and shop safely, and we fully expect this holiday season to be one for the record books."

Retail sales are mostly made up of goods, with services, including healthcare, education and hotel accommodation, making up the remaining portion of consumer spending.

The nearly two-year long Covid-19 pandemic has caused an acute shortage of labor, delaying deliveries of raw materials to factories as well as shipments of finished goods to markets.

October's broad increase in sales partly reflected higher prices as monthly consumer inflation surged 0.9% in October, which boosted the annual rate to 6.2 per cent.

Stocks on Wall Street were trading higher on the data and also as Walmart forecast a strong holiday quarter. The dollar rose against a basket of currencies. US Treasury prices fell.



Abdul Wahed, chairman of DBL Group, MA Jabbar, managing director, MA Rahim, vice-chairman, and MA Quader, deputy managing director and group CEO, inaugurate Puma's new outlet at Bashundhara City shopping complex in Dhaka yesterday.

DBL GROUP

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Department of Public Health Engineering
Panchagarh District, Panchagarh
Phone: 0568-61261.
Memo No.: 46.03.7700.061.34.005.19-731/2
Date: 16/11/2021.

Invitation for e-Tender Notice
Tender No-06/2021-2022

01	Ministry/Division	Local Government Division
02	Implementing Agency	Department of Public Health Engineering
03	Project/Program name	Safe Water Supply Through Out The Country Project.
04	e-Tender IDs	Tender I no.-628555 & 628553.
05		1. Construction of Community Based Water Supply scheme by installing 100mm dia tubewell with 1.5 hp Submersible Pump under PSWSC project during the FY-2021-2022. 2. Construction of Community Based Water Supply scheme by installing 100mm dia tubewell with 1.5 hp Submersible Pump under PSWSC project during the FY-2021-2022.
06	Name, Designation & Address of Official Inviting Tender.	A. N. Md. Nimul Eashan, Executive Engineer, DPHE, Panchagarh. Tel. No. 0568-61261.
07		This is online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP portal & no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Interested persons/Firms can see details in the website: www.eprocure.gov.bd

(A. N. Md. Nimul Eashan)
Executive Engineer
DPHE, Panchagarh.

GD-2095

Asian markets down as US data strengthens call for Fed action

AFP, Hong Kong

Asian markets turned lower Wednesday as a recent rally ran out of steam and investors struggled to match a strong lead from Wall Street as inflation concerns continue to drag on sentiment, though the dollar extended a rally against the yen.

New York's three main indexes rose again after data showed a forecast-busting rise in retail sales as well as solid earnings from shopping giants Walmart and Home Depot.

The news reinforced optimism about the recovery in the world's top economy and showed consumers were brushing off the effects of surging inflation, for now.

However, it also provided more support to calls for the Federal Reserve to act sooner to prevent overheating and make sure prices do not run out of control.

Top Fed official James Bullard said the bank should take a "more hawkish" shift and that the tapering of its vast bond-buying programme -- which has helped support an extended global equity rally -- "could move faster".

But San Francisco Fed chief Mary Daly remained on the more dovish side, believing -- like Fed boss Jerome Powell -- that price pressures were temporary and suggesting acting too soon could hurt the economic rebound.

Expectations for tighter US monetary policy have pushed the dollar to touch a four-year high of 114.97 yen, with the Japanese unit also weighed by a pledge by the country's central bank to maintain its ultra-loose measures for some time.

Pressure built on the Bank of England to act and the pound jumped against the dollar and euro after data Wednesday showed United Kingdom inflation hit a 10-year high last month. Hong Kong retreated for the first time after a six-day run-up, while Tokyo, Sydney, Seoul, Singapore, Mumbai, Manila and Wellington were also in negative territory.

Walmart raises sales forecast as demand picks up

REUTERS

Walmart Inc on Tuesday raised its annual sales and profit forecast in anticipation of a surge in demand for toys and apparel during the crucial holiday season, even as global supply chain disruptions hit its margins in the third quarter.

Major retailers including Amazon.com have been struggling to bring products into the United States ahead of the peak shopping season due to shipping logjams, shuttered factories in parts of Asia and a scarcity of raw materials in recent months.

However, Walmart kept prices low to draw shoppers to its stores, and limited disruption from supply chain shortages by chartering its own vessels to ship goods, ordering products into the United States well ahead of time and re-routing deliveries to less crowded ports.

This helped Walmart increase US inventory by 11.5 per cent ahead of the busy festive season, with executives saying the measures taken to tackle port delays have positioned Walmart well for the holidays.

"We have the people, the products, and the prices to deliver a great holiday season for our customers and members," Chief Executive Officer Doug McMillon said. Walmart said that it had hired over 200,000 new store and supply chain workers to tackle the holiday rush.

PADMA OIL COMPANY LIMITED
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram

International Tender for Procurement of 3 Nos x Aircraft Refuellers for POCL Aviation Refuelling Facilities of Shah-Amanat International Airport, Chattogram, Bangladesh

1	Ministry/Division	Energy and Mineral Resources Division
2	Agency	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC)
3	Procuring entity name	Padma Oil Company Limited
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Tender
7	Invitation ref no	28.22.0000.856.14.002.21854
8	Date	17/11/2021

Key Information

9	Procurement method	ICT	Single stage
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Funding Information

10	Budget and source of funds	The Fund of Padma Oil Company Limited	
11	Development partner (if applicable)	None	

Particular Information

12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	N/A		
13	Project name	N/A		
14	Tender package no.	N/A		
15	Tender package name	Procurement of 3 nos x Aircraft Refuellers for POCL Aviation Refuelling Facilities sat Shah-Amanat International Airport, Chattogram, Bangladesh. PD/Capex/F-14/P-111/21-22		
16	Invitation for tender ref no	17/11/2021		
17	Tender publication date	02/01/2022 upto 12.00 hrs.		
18	Tender last selling date	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Time	
19	Tender closing date and time	03/01/2022	02:00PM	
20	Tender opening date and time	03/01/2022	03:00PM	
21	Name & address of the office(s)	Address(es) -Selling tender document (Principal) a) Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram. b) GM, Dhaka's office, BTMC Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka -Selling tender document (Others) N/A -Receiving tender document Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram. -Opening tender document Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram.		
22	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (Optional)	Place	Date	Time
		Head Office of the Company	20-12-21	11:00AM

Information for Tenderer

23	Eligibility of tenderer	(a) The maximum 01(one) number of arbitration against the tenderer over a period 05 (five) years. (b) The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 10(ten) years of overall experience in manufacture, assemble and supply of aircraft refuellers and related services. (c) The satisfactory completion of supply of at least 03(three) units of Aircraft Refuellers of minimum Bangladesh Taka 90.00 (Ninety) Millions or US Dollars 1.03 (One point zero three) Million or equivalent under a single contract in the last 05 (five) years. i.e. years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper. (d) The minimum production capacity of Refueller is 6(six) nos. per year. (e) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is Tk. Bangladesh Taka 150.00 (One Hundred fifty) Millions or US Dollars 1.72 (One point seven two) Million or equivalent.
24	Brief description of goods	Supply, Installation, testing and Commissioning of Aircraft Refueller at Shah-Amanat International Airport, Chattogram, Bangladesh.
25	Brief description of related services	N/A
26	Tender document price	US\$ 100 or BDT 8,000 per tender schedule (Non refundable)
27	Location estimated date of completion of works:	Shah-Amanat International Airport, Chattogram, Bangladesh & August, 2022
28	Type of payment of tender price	On cash payment
29	Type of payment for security amount	As per tender schedule

Lot Information

Lot No	Identification of lot	Location	Tender Security Amount in Taka	Completion time in weeks/ months
30	1	N/A	US\$ 27,000.00 (twenty seven Thousand) or Bangladesh Taka 23,50,000.00 (Twenty three lac fifty thousand) only.	6(six) months

Procuring entity details

31	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Aminun Haque
32	Designation of official inviting tender	General Manager (Projects)
33	Address of official inviting tender	Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chattogram, Bangladesh.
34	Contact details of official inviting tender	Telephone: +88 031621399, Fax: 88031618312, e-mail: haminu38@yahoo.com
35	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.	

সবাই বিলে পড়বে দেশ, দুর্নীতিমুক্ত বাংলাদেশ
(১০"×১০)
GD-2098

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Local Government Engineering Department
Upazila: Daudkandi, District: Cumilla
www.lged.gov.bd
Memo No: 46.02.1936.0000.728
Date: 16.11.2021

e-Tender Notice No: 03/2021-22 (OTM) (Re-Tender)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of works details in table:

Tender ID No.	Description of work	Package No.	Tender publication date & time	Tender documents selling last date & time	Tender closing & opening date & time	Tender security submission last date & time
621610	Supplying of College Bus at Borkola School & College, Juranpur Adarsh University College under Daudkandi, Cumilla.	e-Tender /UGDP-2036-01	18-Nov-2021 09:00	05-Dec-2021 17:00	06-Dec-2021 13:30	06-Dec-2021 13:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches up to Specified date & time mentioned in the e-GP System. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

Md. Zahangir Alam
Upazila Engineer
Daudkandi, Cumilla
Phone: 08023-55442
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GD-2092