## BUSINESS





**SAVAR TANNERY ESTATE** 

## Another Eid-Ul-Azha comes, but CETP not fully ready

SUKANTA HALDER and MD ABU TALHA SARKER

Bangladesh keeps losing out on tapping its vastly unutilised cattle rawhides as the central effluent treatment plant (CETP) at the Savar Tannery Industrial Estate is not fully ready yet.

This means the estate, set up at a cost of Tk 1,015 crore over a period of 18 years, will not be able to treat all of the rawhides to be generated during Eid-ul-Azha pert week.

This is because the estate has not made significant progress in putting in place a fully functional liquid and solid waste management, a salt purification system and the common chromium recovery unit (CCRU).

As a result, the estate will keep discharging harmful chemicals into the Dhaleshwari river, polluting its water and causing severe environmental

pollution

The CETP, which cost Tk 521 crore, has a capacity to treat 25,000 cubic metres of waste per day. The demand rises to 42,000-45,000 cubic metres during Eid-ul-Azha.

This prompted the estate authorities to start



rationing to cope with the additional pressure during Eid so that effluents from 134 tanneries up and running are not released at the same time.

"We have initiated a rationing system so that the capacity of CETP can be used," said Mustak Ahmed, managing director of the estate and a deputy secretary of the industries ministry.

He said a letter has been issued to the tanners informing them about the rationing system.

UNFINISHED TASK

The capacity of the CCRU is 1,050 cubic metres a day, way lower than 5,000 cubic metres it receives. The chromium recovery is not possible owing to the untreated chromium, according to a document of Dhaka Tannery Industrial Estate Waste Treatment Plant Company (DTIEWTPC), set up to run the CETP.

A tanner is supposed to send chromium effluents READ MORE ON B3

## Relaxed loan rescheduling for rawhide traders

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh Bank has relaxed loan rescheduling rules for rawhide traders to ensure availability of sufficient funds during Eid-ul-Azha, which is celebrated through animal sacrifice.

The Eid, which is due to be observed on July 10, accounts for around half of the rawhide the country generates annually.

A good number of rawhide traders have become loan defaulters because of the economic fallout of the coronavirus pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine war, and the recent floods in the northeastern region of Bangladesh.

A BB notice on Thursday said the rescheduling can be availed through a 2 per cent down payment on outstanding loans and the facility can be availed until August 31.

Businesses, which earlier put up the required collateral with banks to manage loans, will be permitted to enjoy the facility

permitted to enjoy the facility.

Those that did not can avail the support by showing that they have a sufficient amount of rawhide at their repositories.

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	ASIAN MARKETS			FRIDAY CLOSINGS
	MUMBAI	ТОКУО	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI
	0.21% 52,907.93	1.73% 25,935.62	0.21% 3,095.59	0.32% 3,387.64



As the price of yarn is falling in local markets, garment exporters are hoping to supply goods at competitive prices, which will lead to a rise in work orders in the months to come.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## Cotton price drop may lift garment orders

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Local readymade garment exporters are expecting a strong rebound of the inflow of work orders from December onwards as prices of cotton have started to decline in the international markets.

With the price of yarn also falling in local markets, local suppliers are hoping to supply goods at competitive prices.

On June 28, cotton traded between 92 cents and \$1.09 per pound in futures markets. In contrast, it was between \$1.31 and \$1.32 last month.

The high market prices of cotton and yarn, which has an impact on the cost of production at the factory level, had earlier prompted many international retailers to put on hold a big portion of their work orders.

When local manufacturers will be able to supply garment items at competitive prices for yarn cost reductions, buyers will also place big volumes of work orders again, said Faruque Hassan, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association.

If the current downtrend in international cotton prices continues for the next few months, a major impact may be noticed on

High prices of cotton and yarn had earlier prompted many retailers to put on hold a big portion of their work orders

local yarn sales from December onwards, said A Matin Chowdhury, managing director of Malek Spinning Mills, a major spinner and cotton importer.

"Yarn prices started declining in local markets over the last two months mainly because of a lower volume of work orders being placed by international retailers and brands," said Mohammad Hatem, executive president of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association.

The lower number of work orders resulted in a decline in the demand for yarn, he said.

The widely consumed 30 carded yarn sold between \$4.45 and \$4.60 per kilogramme yesterday. In February and March, it was hovering between \$5.25 and \$5.30.

Hatem, however, said the dip in cotton prices might not prevail in international markets once China starts buying cotton in bulk quantities.

Mohammad Ali Khokon, president of Bangladesh Textile Mills Association, said the local spinners have already purchased all the cotton they would be using till October at higher prices.

So, the impact of the decrease in cotton prices can be felt in the local markets from December onwards, he said.

