BUSINESS

AIRCRAFT PURCHASE PLAN Airbus gives hope of economic viability

RASHIDUL HASAN, back from Toulouse, France

Airlines in Bangladesh, including Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd, will find use of Airbus aircraft alongside those of Boeing economically viable as new generations of the former are easier to operate and maintain

Top Airbus officials made this observation while briefing a group of Bangladeshi media representatives during a recent visited to the final assembly line of A350s at the company's headquarters in Toulouse, France, known as the aerospace capital of Europe.

Biman Bangladesh is planning to buy 10 aircraft from the top European aircraft manufacturer, which raised concerns among aviation experts who point out that the country predominantly uses

A widebody is a jet airliner having a fuselage wide enough to allow passenger seating to be divided by two aisles running from front to back.

Questions have also arisen over whether use of aircraft of different manufacturers by relatively small airlines such as Biman would be economically viable.

This is due to the fact that transitioning to operate and maintain Airbus aircraft would require a new set of equipment and related manpower, starting from pilots and cabin crew to engineers and ground staff.

Responding to this, Antonio da Costa, vice president of marketing for Airbus, said A350s, the new generation of Airbus aircraft, were easier to operate and maintain.

"When Bangladesh will buy A350s, pilots would be trained to operate those. Later, if the country buys A320s or any other aircraft of Airbus, the same pilots would be able to fly those aircraft following a 10-day training," he claimed.

'On the Airbus aircraft, you train them once, and then we call it 'Difference Training' and then you can have the pilots flying both aircraft day in and day out...And same goes for the cabin crew as well,"

"...because our designs to making them (including the A330) are very common...that actually simplifies things in the airline," said Costa.

All Airbus aircraft cockpits, be it a A320, A330 or A350, have the same man machine interface, he said.



Bangladesh's export earnings still hover around \$65 billion a year in spite of high export potential, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said.

Eliminate red tape to boost exports

Commerce minister asks public servants

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi vesterday asked government officials to eliminate red tape in order to boost exports and increase the country's competitiveness.

Vietnam earns \$250 billion from the export of products attained through the diversification of goods but Bangladesh's earnings still hover at around \$65 billion in spite of its high export potential, he said.

The tyranny of red tape should be ended and a day's work needs to be completed on the very

same day, he said. was addressing the

groundbreaking ceremony of Roptani Unnayan Bhaban (export development building) from the office of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation in

Dhaka. Any harassment in the process of rendering public service will not be tolerated, the commerce ministry quoted Munshi as saying in

a statement. He also suggested to keep an eye out for new markets and to work to achieve the export targets set by the government for 2030 and

It is a matter of great pride that Bangladesh is the top denim exporter worldwide and second in garment export after China, said the minister.

Ecnec approves Tk 268cr project for decent work

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government has taken an innovative project with funds from development partners styled "Advancing Decent Work in Bangladesh", aimed at improving the working environment in the

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecnec) yesterday approved the Tk 268 crore project, which will be funded by donations from the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and the European Union.

The project aims to improve the working environment in Bangladesh by reducing child labour, amending labour laws and regulations, and modernising labour administration institutions.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment initiated the project, which will be implemented jointly by the International Labour Organization.

The project is scheduled to be implemented

between January 2024 and December 2026. Bangladesh will graduate from a Least Developed

Country to a Developing Country in 2026.

Ensuring a decent work environment is one of the key areas of international compliance, along with establishing international standards of accountable labour administration for sustainable development and inclusive human resource development, according to the planning

Under the project, it will be possible to play a role in improving the working environment through the support of government institutions. labour parties and employer organisations, read

"If the project is implemented, it will be possible to establish an accountable labour market and modernise labour administration institutions for sustainable human resource development in Bangladesh in line with international labour standards," the planning commission said in the

Transporters

But the port saw heavy delivery pressure for vesterday as a huge number of trucks and covered vans started entering the port since morning to receive

Port officials say more than 3,000 vehicles came to the port as of 4pm and the number will cross 5,000 during the night. Some 3,000 vehicles took deliveries in the 24 hours to 8:00am on Wednesday.

The pressure has created a shortage of vehicles.

Clearing and forwarding (C&F) agents spent much of the day talking on their mobile phones, arranging vehicles to carry goods on behalf of importers.

They alleged that vehicle owners were charging Tk owner of a C&F firm, said 10.000 to Tk 12.000 more than the usual fares.

Bigosa International, a Dhaka-based commercial and Saturday to avoid risks. item importer, needed two covered vans to load over Dyeing Industry, a garment 10 tonnes of wallpapers imported from China on imported 100 tonnes of Tuesday to carry them to its warehouse in the capital's Mohakhali.

in Chattogram tried the the blockade started. whole day but failed to manage a single vehicle,"

Ministry/Division

Invitation for

Project code

Package name

document

Invitation Reference

Procurement method Budget and source of fund

Tender publication date

Tender last selling date

Tender submission date and time

Tender opening date and time

Office address of selling tender

Office address of receiving and

opening tender document

Price of tender document

Package No

SD/PARTNER/DAM- 13-14

Name and contact details of procuring

Description of Vehicle

entity

Eligibility of tenderer

Name of procuring entity

said Enamul Haque, owner of the company, said its of the firm. Later in the afternoon,

they managed two vehicles each charging Tk 24,500, higher than the normal rate of Tk 14,000 to Tk 15,000, he said. He admitted that he

wanted to ensure the release of the cargo before another blockade begins. BNP has called a 48-

hour countrywide blockade from Sunday demanding the resignation of the government, an electiontime neutral government and the release of its leaders.

Haque said the import cost has increased and it needs to be adjusted in order to reduce losses.

Sagor Kamruzzaman importers are urging them to take the delivery of imported goods on Friday

Far East Knitting & manufacturer in Dhaka, yarn from India last week. It received 70 tonnes of the cargo in several phases "My transport agent before the latest round of

> Zaman, Uz Asad assistant general manager

> > Ministry of Agriculture

224374700

Open Tendering Method (OTM)

10/12/2023 (up to 4.00pm)

11/12/2023 up to 14:00

C&F agent managed to find three covered vans yesterday to move the rest of the raw materials. The transport cost will be Tk 25,000 per vehicle.

Mohammad, Deen general secretary of the Inter-District Truck Covered Van Owners Association, said 70 percent of transport owners and workers are unwilling to ply vehicles for fear of vandalism or arson.

Don't buy

FROM PAGE B1

The rate includes the 2.5 percent incentive offered by the government and the their own coffer with a view to encouraging migrants to transfer funds through banks instead of informal agents.

A chief executive who attended the meeting said the dollar buying rate can't be higher than the price fixed by the ABB-BAFEDA.

At the meeting, the BB also asked banks to sell 10 percent of their last month's US dollar holdings, mobilised in the form of remittance, in the interbank foreign exchange market, he said.

Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM)

Agency Program Director, Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and

Agency Program Director's Office, Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience in Bangladesh (PARTNER-DAM Part), Department of Agricultural Marketing, Front Building, 4th Floor,

Agency Program Director's Office, Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience in Bangladesh (PARTNER-DAM Part), Department of Agricultural Marketing, Front Building, 4th Floor,

i) TIN Certificate, ii) VAT Registration, iii) Valid Trade License (2023-24), iv) Income Tax Certificate (2022-23). v) Proof

of VAT Submission (October, 2023), vi) Audited report for latest 03(three) years, evidence of at least 03 experience in delivering vehicle rental service in last 03 years with a total contract value of BDT 15 crore, and vii) other documents

Deputy Program Director, Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience in Bangladesh (PARTNER-DAM Part), Department of Agricultural Marketing, Front Building 4°

Tender security amount (Tk)

Deputy Program Director PARTNER-DAM Part

Phone: 02-55028448

BDT 90,00,000/- (ninety lac

as mentioned in the TOR available in www.dam.gov.bd Notice Board/EOI Service Box and tender document.

Location

Different Divisions, Districts

and Project Office

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience in Bangladesh (PARTNER-DAM Part)

Department of Agricultural Marketing

Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka

Invitation for Tenders (Vehicle Rental Service)

Memo No. 12.02.0000.549.41.001.23.126 Date: 09/11/2023

Hiring of Car Rental services (9 SUVs, 5 Double Cabin Pick Up, 1 Minibus)

Resilience in Bangladesh (PARTNER-DAM Part)

Room No: 513, Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka.

Room No: 513, Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka.

BDT 4,000.00 (four thousand only)

: 9 SUVs, 5 Double Cabin Pick Up, 1 Minibus

Dollar shoots up

shortage of the US dollar," said another official of a currency exchange based in Dhaka.

He said the cost of each greenback was less than Tk 120 earlier this month and it crossed Tk 120 last Sunday. A top official of an

international courier company, seeking anonymity, admitted paying partners trade foreign through "hundi", citing that the prolonging US dollar crisis had left little scope to open letters of credit or make telegraphic transfers.

The International Air Express Association of Bangladesh (IAEAB), the trade body of global express perks given by banks from courier companies, has set the US dollar rate at Tk 110.5 for November 8 and onwards, he said.

"But through hundi we have been paying at Tk 124 for each dollar for the last one week, which rose to Tk 127 a dollar today (Thursday)," he added.

The official also alleged that banks and big companies were stockpiling US dollars for which the exchange rate had suddenly shot up.

Bangladesh's foreign exchange market has facing volatility

for quite some time in the face of a shortage of the US dollar as external payment requirements were overshooting the overall inflow from remittances and exports.

In the July-October this year, Bangladesh's export growth decelerated to 3.5 percent year-on-year while inflow of remittance, another major source of foreign currency, declined by 4.3 percent, showed official data.

The country's foreign currency reserves have depleted by \$28 billion since reaching a record high of over \$48 billion on August 24 in 2021.

The foreign exchange reserves, as per the balance of payment manual of International Monetary Fund. stood at \$20.7 billion on November 8. Moreover, taka has lost nearly 30 percent in value to the greenback over the last two years.

Bangladesh

FROM PAGE B1

According to the report, the low export as a share of GDF means that a depreciation in the currencies of the South Asian nations would be unlikely to drive up their shipment receipts to a significant enough extent to mitigate the shock to the

Pakistan and Bangladesh have the lowest level of exports at 10.5 percent and 12.9 percent of GDP, respectively. Sri Lanka and India have exports of 21.5 percent and 22.4 percent of GDP. Referring to Unctad's Diversification Moody's said Bangladesh has the least diversified exports dominated by the readymade garment sector which accounts for about 85 percent of the country's earnings from the shipment of goods. High import tariffs

discourage the integration of the four countries into the global value chain since such tax measures protect domestic firms from competition and disincentivise exports. Bangladesh, Pakistan and

Sri Lanka have much weaker infrastructure compared to India, contributing to higher costs of trade. "Inefficient

procedures, burdensome documentary requirements, time delays and high costs of trading processes further restrict economic linkages," the report said.

South Asian countries have fewer free trade agreements, which limit their market access to other countries. And in the longer run, low trade openness will weigh on growth potential and the ability to create jobs, adding to social risks.

Jute goods makers' tax benefit

FROM PAGE B1 During the July-October period of the current FY 2023-24, jute and jute goods exports fell 11 percent year-on-year to \$289.70 million, data by the Export Promotion Bureau showed.

Bapan Chandra Das, second secretary tax legal at the NBR, said it extended

the benefit for jute goods Bangladesh Jute Diversified makers to support the industry to overcome the challenges it is facing in case of export.

"This will be helpful for the sector," said BJMA Secretary General Abdul Barik Khan. Karim

Rashedul Munna, president of the

Products Manufacturers and Exporters Association, welcomed the tax cut and urged for taxpayer-friendly attitudes from the NBR's field officials.

It will encourage new investors if the NBR provides tax exemption for the first five years, he said.

প্রধান প্রকৌশলী এর কার্যালয়

খুলনা প্রকৌশল ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় খুলনা-৯২০৩, বাংলাদেশ



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স্মারক নং-খুপ্রবি/প্রপ্রকা/০৮ তারিখ: ০৯/১১/২০২৩খ্রি

e-GP Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of

n er	SI. No.	Tender ID No. & Invitation Reference No.	Package No. & procurement	Description	Tender publication date	Tender closing date	Remarks
eePneediraatteehbotte, d556's s, hdeer, it senones asd	01.	898779, KUET/OCE/1(5)/ 2023-24 Date: 05/11/2024	RW(1)/ 2023-24 LTM	Repair of 10 Rooms in Mechanical Engineering Building	09-Nov- 2023	28-Nov- 2023	Eligible only Khulna District as per Tender
	02.	898778, KUET/OCE/2(5)/ 2023-24 Date: 05/11/2024	RW(2)/ 2023-24 LTM	Repair of Science Building.	09-Nov- 2023	28-Nov- 2023	Eligible only Khulna District as per Tender
	03.	898781, KUET/OCE/3(5)/ 2023-24 Date: 05/11/2024	RW(3)/ 2023-24 LTM	Repair of Renovation Work of Residential Quarter (No-10	09-Nov- 2023	27-Nov- 2023	Eligible only Khulna District as per Tender
	04.	898782, KUET/OCE/4(5)/ 2023-24 Date: 05/11/2024	RW(4)/ 2023-24 LTM	Outside Repair & Renovation Work of Residential Quarter No-6	09-Nov- 2023	27-Nov- 2023	Eligible only Khulna District as per Tender
	05.	898783, KUET/OCE/5(5)/ 2023-24 Date: 05/11/2024	RW(5)/ 2023-24 LTM	Construction of (5) (Five) Rooms at New Academic Building (Block-B, C & D), Thai Window Selling work at Block-A & Interior Decoration Work for Office of the Head of Department (CSE, ECE, IEM, BECM & ESE)	09-Nov- 2023	26-Nov- 2023	Eligible only Khulna District as per Tender
d er o er	06.	898784, KUET/OCE/6(5)/ 2023-24 Date: 05/11/2024	RW(6)/ 2023-24 LTM	Repair & Renovation Work of Room No-301 of EEE Building	09-Nov- 2023	26-Nov- 2023	Eligible only Khulna District as per Tender
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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 documents from the national e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

The fees for last selling/downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).



Khulna University of Engineering & Technology (KUET)

Khulna-9203

GD-1739

Floor, Room No. 513, Khamarbari, Farmgate, Dhaka. Contact No. 02-55028448 The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders Reserved right Procurer The tender will be performed according to the Public Procure E-mail: dpd.partner@dam.gov.bd GD-1738

cation of package

Hiring of Car Rental Services (9

SUVs, 5 Double Cabin Pick Up, 1