

Indo-Bangla trade via railway resumes after 47 days

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Export and import activities between Bangladesh and India via railway resumed yesterday after 47 days.

The suspension, which began on July 19, was imposed due to security concerns amid students-led protests in Bangladesh.

The resumption of trade comes after high-level discussions between officials from both countries. Rezaul Karim, deputy director (traffic) of Benapole Land Port, confirmed the development to The Daily Star.

The suspension also had a negative impact on passengers' travel.

The development came after normalcy was beginning to return to the country after the fall of the Awami League government on August 5 and the installation of an interim government.

Benapole Railway Station Master Saidur Rahman said BR sent a formal request to Indian Railways to resume operations on August 12.

Rail transport services were reinstated yesterday, allowing goods to be transported between the two countries, he said.

The business community welcomed the move, as traders had suffered significant losses during the trade halt.

Monir Hossain, an importer said, we urge the authorities to restart the visa process soon, as many businessmen rely on travel to India for their operations.

Alhaj Aminul Haque, vice president of the Benapole Port Import-Export Association, noted that the resumption of trade is a relief to all businessmen.

"Apart from importing stone, gypsum, and cement-making materials, various products including garments, chemicals, and motor vehicles are now being imported through this port," he said.

Rail transport from Kolkata to Benapole, which takes just 3-4 hours, is far more efficient than road transport, which can take 5-7 days, he added.

Rezaul Karim, deputy director (traffic) of Benapole Port, said that arrangements were being made to ensure the quick release of goods following the long suspension of rail trade.

Stocks tumble for the third day in a row

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Stocks in Bangladesh yesterday maintained their losing streak for the third consecutive day as skittish investors made fresh bets on lucrative blue chip and large-cap shares to pocket short-term gains amid price fluctuations.

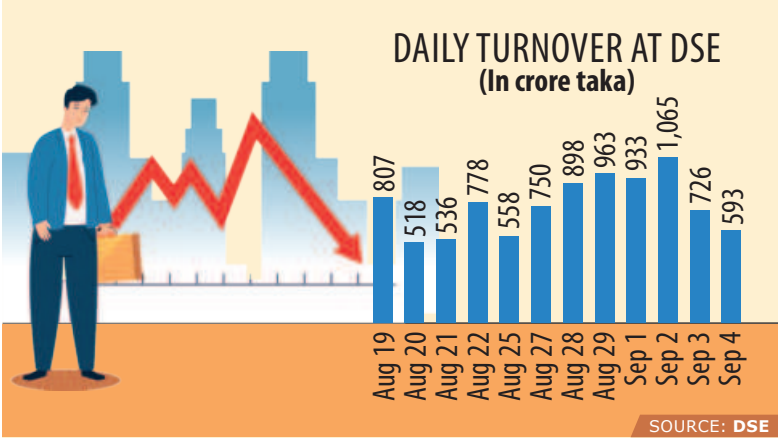
Shares of Square Pharmaceuticals, Southeast Bank, Khan Brothers PP Woven Bag Industries, Beximco Pharmaceuticals, Midland Bank, Central Insurance Company, Alif Industries, Agni Systems, Prime Islami Life Insurance and Bashundhara Paper Mills drew the most investors.

But none of these companies saw double-digit growth in share prices, with Square Pharmaceuticals logging the highest gain of 1.84 percent, according to LankaBangla Financial Portal.

On the other hand, shares of Islami Bank Bangladesh, BRAC Bank, Renata United Commercial Bank, Olympic Industries, City Bank, MJL Bangladesh, Grameenphone, BAT Bangladesh and Robi Axiata showcased lacklustre performances.

This pulled down the DSEX by 0.82 percent from what it was the previous day to 5,739.07 points, marking a three-day dip in the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

Similarly, the DSES index comprising Shariah-compliant companies declined by 0.78 percent



to 1,227.85 points while the DS30 index featuring blue chip stocks slipped by 0.93 percent to 2,113.25 points.

Daily turnover at the DSE, which is an indicator of stock liquidity in the market, decreased by 18.31 percent compared to its value the previous day to stand at Tk 593.4 crore.

Block trades, meaning high-volume securities transactions that are privately negotiated and executed outside the open market, added about 5.4 percent of the day's total turnover.

BRAC Bank Ltd was the most traded share, registering individual turnover of Tk 47.6 crore.

Of the issues traded at the country's premier bourse, the prices of 81 ended higher while those of 264 closed lower and 52 did not see any price fluctuation.

The services and real estate and

fuel and power sectors closed in positive territory, according to the daily market update of UCB Stock Brokerage.

Meanwhile, the engineering, non-bank financial institution (NBFI) and telecom sectors closed in negative territory, it said. The banking sector dominated the turnover chart, contributing 20.41 percent of the day's overall trade.

Engineering experienced the highest loss of 1.84 percent followed by NBFI, telecom, bank, food and allied, and pharmaceuticals with losses of 1.75 percent, 1.28 percent, 0.96 percent, 0.77 percent and 0.69 percent respectively.

The Chittagong Stock Exchange saw a similar trend as the CASPI, the broad index of the port city bourse, edged down by 0.38 percent from the day before to settle at 16,438.27 points.

Abdul Mazid becomes chairman of SDF

STAR BUSINESS REPORT



Muhammad Abdul Mazid, former chairman of the National Board of Revenue, has been appointed as the chairman of the Social Development Foundation (SDF).

He will take charge for the next three years, according to a circular by the finance ministry

yesterday.

Headquartered in the capital's Mohammadpur, SDF is an autonomous development organisation under the finance ministry.

STOCKS	
DSEX ▼	CASPI ▼
0.82%	0.38%
5,739.06	16,438.27

COMMODITIES	
Gold ▼	Oil ▼
\$2,475.35	\$70.28
(per ounce)	(per barrel)

ASIAN MARKETS			
MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI
▼ 0.38%	▼ 4.24%	▼ 1.12%	▼ 0.67%
82,240.58	37,047.61	3,441.38	2,784.28

Real estate still a haven

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discrimination movement in general and corruption control in particular.

Snehasish Barua, managing director of SMAC Advisory Services Ltd, said, "If the intention was to cancel the scope of legalising undisclosed assets, then it should have been completely withdrawn rather than being offered a partial withdrawal."

"There is still scope for such voluntary disclosure for land and apartments under this scheme, meaning we are welcoming undisclosed assets in real estate with absolute amnesty provision," he added.

Barua said it might have been more appropriate to fully withdraw this scheme, considering the fact that the Income Tax Act 2023 already provides for the legalisation of investments in buildings and apartments, unless it is acquired through an illegal source of income through

criminal activity.

The NBR gave the opportunity to taxpayers to legalise undisclosed assets without facing any questions about the sources of income for the two consecutive years from fiscal year 2020-21.

It also kept a provision that taxmen will consider the source of funds as explained if taxpayers pay a specific amount of tax in case of investment in flats depending on the size and location of the property.

The provision has been kept in effect for the current fiscal year.

Contacted, NBR Chairman Abdur Rahman Khan said, "I can only comment after analysing the issue. If anybody earns money unlawfully and no agency cannot ask, such provision is not supposed to be in there."

He said the scope to invest undisclosed money for the purchase of flats and land is not new. It has been

continuing over the years.

"The tax rate is high," he said. Professor Mustafizur Rahman, a distinguished fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), said there is an official rate of properties including land depending on mouza.

But in reality, properties are transferred at higher than the officially fixed rates. This discrepancy creates a huge amount of undisclosed money, he said.

The government should find a way out so that the buyers and sellers can show the transfer value of properties, he said.

Since Bangladesh gained independence, schemes to legalise undeclared money have been introduced at least 22 times. But the response has been lukewarm.

According to data from the NBR, nearly Tk 45,522 crore was whitened between 1972 and 2022, with the revenue collector getting Tk 4,641 crore in taxes in total.

BB will safeguard

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laundered money," he said, informing that money from Bangladesh had been laundered in Dubai and Singapore as well.

The governor further said that three task forces would be formed to restore good governance in the banking sector.

He informed that bringing the banking sector in line with international standards, strengthening the central bank and asset recovery of loan defaulters would be given priority.

"It will take two-three years for the banking sector

to fully recover, but it will be stable within a year," the central bank governor remarked.

After the meeting, Selim RF Hussain, chairman of the Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB) and managing director of BRAC Bank, told journalists that the central bank will form three separate task forces to improve the situation of the banking sector.

Selim also informed that the central bank is likely to increase the policy rate to 10 percent in the next couple of months in a bid to tame inflation.

Salman loses grip

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Ultimately, both of them received the same wake-up call.

In recent weeks, Alam lost the control he had forcibly gained over six Shariah-based banks after the boards were reconstituted by the central bank.

The banks had been suffering from a severe liquidity crunch after S Alam Group and its associated companies took out Tk 95,331 crore between 2017 and June this year. Around 79 percent of the sum was withdrawn from Islami Bank alone.

Now, IFIC Bank has been liberated from Salman's influence through a similar reconstitution of the board.

Salman, a major shareholder of the bank, is currently in jail in connection with several cases filed over

various irregularities during the Awami League's 15-year regime.

His son, Shayan Fazlur Rahman, lost his directorship at IFIC Bank due to loan defaults on August 13, just over a week after the fall of the Awami League government.

Allegations are rife that Salman misappropriated thousands of crores through loans and bonds from the bank after taking charge.

Salman's Beximco Group also owed Tk 25,000 crore to Janata Bank as at the end of June, which is about 950 percent of the lender's paid-up capital.

As much as 72 percent of Beximco's outstanding loans with Janata have been classified as default loans, according to Janata Bank documents.

SIBL managing

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Hoque, representative of Hamdard Laboratories (Wagf) Bangladesh, to the post of vice chairman.

On Tuesday, a case was filed against Alam and the bank's former chairman Belal Ahmed, who is S Alam's son-in-law, for allegedly attacking an employee.

Fahima Akter Majumder, the wife of alleged victim Masud Mia, filed the case with the Motijheel Police Station, accusing the two officials of assaulting her husband outside the bank's head office in Motijheel on August 8.

Alongside Belal and Zafar, 17 other officials of the bank as well as many unnamed individuals were also implicated in the case.

According to the case statement, Masud Mia was attacked by a group of individuals armed with weapons, including several officials allegedly appointed to the bank by S

Alam Group.

The attackers gathered to demonstrate in front of the bank on August 8, three days after the Awami League government was ousted by a mass uprising.

The demonstration and subsequent attack were reportedly carried out under Belal and Alam's directives.

Masud Mia, who sustained critical injuries during the attack, is currently fighting for his life at a hospital in Dhaka, the statement added.

S Alam Group took the control of Social Islami Bank in 2017 by taking the then board of directors' hostage at gunpoint.

Since then, the group and its associates, allegedly with support from the Awami League government, reportedly embezzled thousands of crores from the bank and laundered the money abroad.

LNG imports to be through public procurement

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Khan also said they have instructed all energy companies to ensure competition in awarding public works.

At present, there are two floating storage and regasification units, which regasify imported LNG, with a combined annual capacity of 7.6 million tonnes.

Bangladesh started importing LNG from 2018 under two long term contracts with Qatargas and OQ trading, two companies of Qatar and Oman respectively.

The country then started purchasing LNG from the international spot market in 2020 to meet increasing local demand.

Under the long-term contracts, around 3 to 4 million tonnes of LNG are supplied each year, while the rest 4 to 5 million tonnes come from the spot market.

Meanwhile, in a meeting of the advisory committee on public purchase, the government decided to import 10,000 tonnes of lentil from Sahara Enterprise at Tk 98.20 crore under the

Open Tendering Method. As such, the lentils will cost Tk 98.20 per kilogramme.

At the same meeting, the government decided to purchase 30,000 tonnes of urea fertiliser from Fertiglobe Distribution Limited and another 30,000 tonnes from Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited.

Also, the urea from Fertiglobe Distribution will cost about \$343.17 per tonne whereas that from Karnaphuli Fertilizer \$330.50 per tonne.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Bagerhat
www.lged.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice (OTM): 19/2024-2025

Memo No. 46.02.0100.000.07.038.24-4050
Date: 03-09-2024

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

Tender IDs	Package Description & No.	Last date & time of depositing document fees
1013029	Improvement of Perikhali G.C Bhojpatia U.P Office Road at Ch. 119m-240m and ch. 1187m-1935m and ch. 2367m-3291m. [Road Id-201733005] [Salvage cost: 59,77,276.00 Tk] [Rampal] [Bagerhat] [2nd Call] & KDRIDP/Bager/W-195/2023-24.	22.09.2024 Time: 5:00pm
1013030	Improvement of Balai Bridge-Rampal road by BC (Remaining work) at Ch. 00m-5100m [Road ID-201732010] [Rampal] [Bagerhat] [2nd Call] & KDRIDP/Bager/W-72/(a)/2023-24.	22.09.2024 Time: 5:00pm
1013031	Improvement of Chaparkul-Bakarganj Bazar via Khalispur Road at Ch. 00m-1680m [Road ID-201085288] [Salvage cost 12,69,474.00 Tk.] [Sadar] [Bagerhat] [2nd Call] & KDRIDP/Bager/W-196/2023-24.	22.09.2024 Time: 5:00pm
1013032	Re-Construction of 18.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on West Kachikata near Polerhat GC-Depuarpur Land Office Road at from Ch.1080m. [Road ID No. 2016044108] [Morrelganj] [Bagerhat] [2nd Call] & CAFDRIRP/Bagerhat/VR/Brdg/ER/W-02/2023-24.	22.09.2024 Time: 5:00pm
1013033	Re-Construction of 20.00m Long RCC Girder Bridge on A.B. Gazalia Bazar-Sonakhali Bazar Road at from Ch.5.00m. [Road ID No. 2016044049] [Morrelganj] [Bagerhat] [2nd Call] & CAFDRIRP/Bagerhat/VR/Brdg/ER/W-03/2023-24.	22.09.2024 Time: 5:00pm
1013034	Improvement of Chaparkul Bakarganj Bazar via Khalispur Road at Ch. 1850m-3586m [Road ID-201085288] [Salvage cost 57,30,985.00 Tk.] [Sadar] [Bagerhat] [2nd Call] & KDRIDP/Bager/W-197/2023-24.	22.09.2024 Time: 5:00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender shall be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies shall be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP 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.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

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GD-343

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
কমান্ড্যান্ট (ডিআইজি) এর কার্যালয়
পুলিশ ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, নোয়াখালী

উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-রেশন-০২/২০২৪-২০২৫

ন্যায়ক নং-পিটিসি/নোয়া/রেশন/১৪৩৬/১(২)
তারিখঃ ০৪/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ

নিম্নে বর্ণিত শর্তাবলী ও পারাবিক প্রক্রিয়ারে আইন ২০০৬ এবং তদানীন্তন প্রণীত পারাবিক প্রক্রিয়ারে বিধিমালা ২০০৮ (সংশোধিত ২০০৯, ২০১৬ এবং ২০১৮) এর বিধান, বাংলাদেশ চিনি ও খাদ্য শিল্প করপোরেশন এর ন্যায়ক নং-৩৬.০৪.০০০০.০৩৬.৯৯.০২৫.১৮.৩০০ তারিখঃ ১৮/০৩/২০২৪খ্রিঃ, স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয় এর ন্যায়ক নং-৪৪.০০.০০০০.০৮৭.৯৯.০০৪.২০-৯৮ তারিখঃ ২৮/০৪/২০২৪খ্রিঃ এবং পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার ন্যায়ক নং-৪৪.০১.০০০০.৪৩৬.০১.০১৪.২০-১০৬৮(১৪৪) তারিখঃ ৩০/০৪/২০২৪খ্রিঃ মূল ২০২৪-২০২৫ অর্থ বৎসরের ২য় কোয়ার্টার অর্থ (অক্টোবর, নভেম্বর ও ডিসেম্বর/২০২৪খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত) মতর ভাল, সারাবিন তৈল, চিনি ও গম পেয়াই প্রস্তুতকারীকার নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে প্রকৃত যোগানদার/সরবরাহকারীর নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত বামে প্রতিযোগিতামূলক দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রঃ	মন্ত্রণালয়	জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ, স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়
০২	সহায়তা	পুলিশ বিভাগ।
০৩	ক্রমকারী/সহকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ	কমান্ড্যান্ট (ডিআইজি), পুলিশ ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, নোয়াখালী।
০৪	ক্রমকারী/সহকারী স্তরের জেলা	নোয়াখালী জেলা।
০৫	যে কাজ/ক্রম এবং যে সময়ের জন্য দরপত্র আহ্বান	২০২৪-২০২৫ অর্থ বৎসরে ২য় কোয়ার্টার অর্থ (অক্টোবর, নভেম্বর ও ডিসেম্বর/২০২৪ পর্যন্ত) মতর ভাল, সারাবিন তৈল, চিনি ও গম পেয়াই (চাহিদা মোতাবেক) ক্রয়/বিক্রয়ের নিয়োগ। আটা ও কেজি, ৪ কেজি এবং মতর ভাল ৪ কেজি, ৫ কেজি ৫০০ গ্রাম এবং ৫ কেজি ৫০০ গ্রাম উদ্ভবমাত্রের বস্ত্র পলিথ্যাকে প্যাকেটজাত করে সরবরাহ করতে হইবে।
০৬	অর্থের উৎস	রাজস্ব খাত।
০৭	দরপত্রদাতা/যোগানদার/সরবরাহকারীর যোগ্যতা	হাসানদার/ফ্রি লাইসেন্স, আত্মকর সনদ, ডাট প্রস্ট্রেক্ট্রন সনদ, ব্যাকে সার্ভিসেস সাটিফিকেট, ন্যায়কৃত সনদ এবং রেশন সামগ্রী সরবরাহের অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি।
০৮	দরপত্র সিটিউল বিক্রয়ের প্রারম্ভ স্থান	১। কমান্ড্যান্ট (ডিআইজি) এর কার্যালয়, পুলিশ ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, নোয়াখালী। ২। পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, লক্ষীপুর জেলা।
০৯	সিটিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	তারিখঃ ২৫/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ ১৪.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। (ছুটিস দিন ব্যতীত)
১০	দরপত্র জমা দেওয়ার স্থান, শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	কমান্ড্যান্ট (ডিআইজি) এর কার্যালয়, পুলিশ ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, নোয়াখালী। তারিখঃ ২৪/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১১	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	কমান্ড্যান্ট (ডিআইজি) এর কার্যালয়, পুলিশ ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, নোয়াখালী তারিখঃ ২৪/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ তারিখঃ ১২.০০ ঘটিকায়।
১২	দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময়	তারিখঃ ২৫/০৯/২০২৪খ্রিঃ।
১৩	সিটিউল বিক্রয় মূল্য	প্রতিসেট = ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা (অফেন্ডারযোগ্য)।
১৪	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	কমান্ড্যান্ট (ডিআইজি), পুলিশ ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, নোয়াখালী।
১৫	দরপত্র নিরাপত্তা জামানত মেট	১। মতর ভাল = ৫৫,০০০/- টাকা, ২। সারাবিন তৈল = ৬৫,০০০/- টাকা, ৩। চিনি = ৪৫,০০০/- টাকা, ৪। গম পেয়াই = ৫০,০০০/- টাকা।
১৬	বিশেষ নির্দেশনা	১। পারাবিক প্রক্রিয়ারে আইন ২০০৬ এবং তদানীন্তন প্রণীত পারাবিক প্রক্রিয়ারে বিধিমালা ২০০৮ এর সনদ বিধিবিধান দরপত্রের শর্তাবলী হিসাবে গণ্য করা হইবে। ২। ক্রমকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ/ব্যতিরেক ক্রমতা সরেক্ষণ করেন এবং সর্বনিম্ন দর গ্রহণে বাধ্য নহেন। ৩। দরপত্র সিটিউল অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী বর্ণিত রহিয়াছে। ৪। দরপত্র দাখিলের সময় সঠিক সনদ কাগজপত্র সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে। (সত্যায়িত কপি) ৫। হস্তাক্ষর, অফেন্ডার অথবা অন্যান্যকোন অফেন্ডারকর্তৃক দরপত্র দাখিলের দিন বস্ত্র থাকিলে পরবর্তী কার্যালয়ে ফার্মালিমে দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও উন্মুক্ত করা হইবে।

ড. মোঃ রুহুল আদীন সরকার
পিটি-৯৩১০১৫১৪৪২
অতিরিক্ত পুলিশ সুপার (শেখা ও অর্থ)
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ফোনঃ ০৩২১-৬১০৯০, ফ্যাক্সঃ ০৩২১-৬১১৩৩০

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