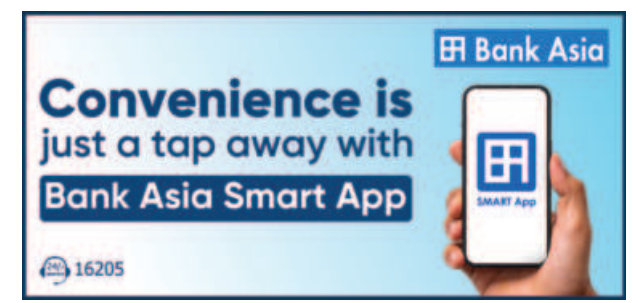


Star BUSINESS



Rural poor reliant on rice as inflation cuts protein intake

BIDS study finds

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Struggling with persistent inflation, the poorest people in rural Bangladesh are increasingly relying on rice to satiate their hunger while cutting back on protein-rich foods, according to a study by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS).

In the last two or three years, Bangladesh entered a phase of relatively high inflation, with the rise in prices consistently hovering above 9 percent.

Notably, increases in food inflation were higher than in non-food inflation in FY24.

around 349g in 2022.

In contrast, the daily average consumption of mutton and beef per person has declined to 0.28g and 4.02g respectively from 1.23g and 10.25g, it said.

"We see the impact of food inflation on the consumption of different foods by the rural people by comparing our observation from BIDS survey data with data from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2022," Rizwana Islam said while presenting the paper.

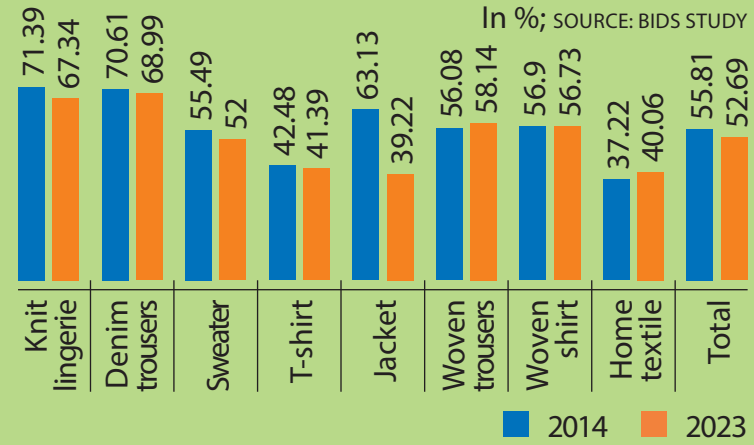
Sen, in his introductory speech, said they wanted to see two things—what the inflation rate was on the ground and what

Female workforce in garment industry slips to 53%

MAJOR FINDINGS

- Major expansion took place in the last 10 yrs
- Capabilities of firms have increased in the last 10 yrs
- Product diversification is slow
- Use of software has increased
- No of labour per machine has fallen, particularly for operators, helpers
- Industry has become more capital intensive

SHARE OF FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IN GARMENT INDUSTRY



STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The share of women working in Bangladesh's garment industry decreased over the past decade, with female participation falling to 53 percent in 2023 from 56 percent in 2014, according to a recent study.

It attributed the changes in the distribution of female workers across different segments of the country's main export earning sector to their increased presence in home textile and woven industries.

However, there was a significant decline in the female participation rate in jacket-making industries, it added.

Kazi Iqbal, research director

of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), shared these findings at an annual development conference organised by BIDS at the Lakeshore Hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

The study, titled "Technology Upgradation of the RMG Industries in Bangladesh", noted that women made up more than 80 percent of the garment sector's workforce during its initial development.

Although this trend prevailed for many years, female participation in garment industries started declining amid a growing reluctance to engage in laborious factory work.

The study also found that

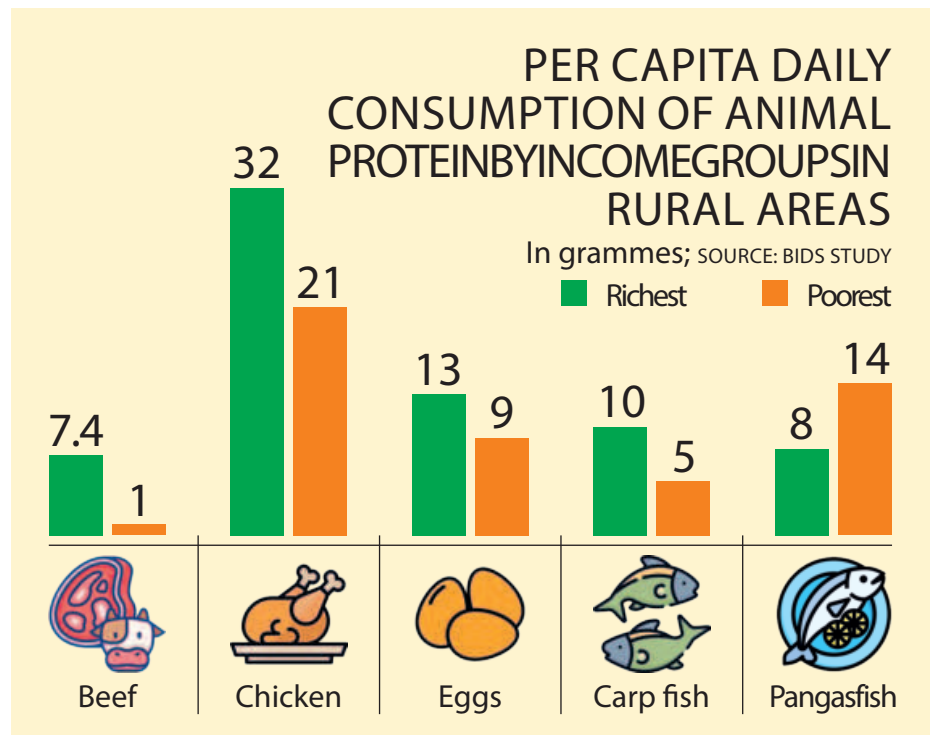
second-generation workers are less interested in joining the garments sector.

Besides, the overall number of garment workers decreased over time as professions such as machine operators and their helpers have become obsolete thanks to mechanisation.

On the other hand, the number of factory supervisors and management personnel remained mostly unchanged.

Furthermore, the study informed that an average of between 4.13 and 2.15 workers lost their jobs for each \$1 million spent on purchasing new equipment.

READ MORE ON B3



These rising food prices have pressured rural people to cut back on consumption, according to a study, titled "How Rural Food Inflation Impacts Rural Food Consumption Patterns: Evidence From 64 Districts".

BIDS Director General Binayak Sen, Research Fellow SM Zahedul Islam Chowdhury and Research Associate Rizwana Islam jointly conducted the survey across 3,887 households in 64 districts.

According to the survey's results, the daily average consumption of rice per person in rural areas has gone up to about 412 grammes (g) in 2023 compared to

was the likely impact of food inflation on the consumption behaviour of rural households.

"We found that inflation, however, is not less than 15 percent...Although rice consumption on balance did not decline, there has been a dramatic drop in consumption of some fruits and meat, especially mutton, beef, and vegetables," Sen said.

Although overall fish consumption has remained stable, there has been a decline in the consumption of larger fish varieties like Rui and Katol fish among the rural poor, he said.

"We also disaggregated the average consumption scenario, contrasting the poor with the non-poor, and we found that the decline in consumption was much more dramatic in the case of rural poor and in the middle class," Sen said.

While presenting data on inflation, Rizwana said their estimation shows that prices increased by 19.94 percent in the last year when calculated through the 12-month

READ MORE ON B3



Tarique Afzal

AB Bank MD Tarique Afzal resigns

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Tarique Afzal, the managing director of AB Bank, has resigned from his position citing health reasons.

Afzal was on leave. He submitted his resignation letter to the bank's board of directors from Canada on Friday, senior bank officials confirmed to The Daily Star yesterday.

READ MORE ON B3

Interest on Payra loan unchanged at 2%

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The interest rate on a €470.78 million loan to the Payra Port Authority from the foreign exchange reserve will remain unchanged at 2 percent despite rising interest rates across the market.

The Bangladesh Bank (BB) yesterday took the decision in its 438th board meeting chaired by Governor Ahsan H Mansur.

Central bank spokesperson Husne Ara Shikha confirmed with The Daily Star about the decision to keep the interest rate unchanged.

While the central bank's Forex Reserve and Treasury Management Department proposed revising the interest rate to align with market trends, the government's opposition to such a change led to the decision to maintain the existing rate, according to a senior central bank official requesting anonymity.

In 2021, the central bank approved a €470.78 million loan from its foreign currency reserve to state-owned Sonali Bank, which was then lent to the Payra Port Authority under a government guarantee.

The interest rate was set at 2 percent, with the Bangladesh Bank receiving 1 percent and Sonali Bank 1 percent.

The central bank provided the funds in line with the instruction of the previous Awami League government to settle a bill with Belgium-based Jundunul NV, the contractor for the capital and maintenance dredging of the Ramnabad Channel at Payra port.

In 2021, the previous government formed the Bangladesh Infrastructure Development Fund (BIDF) to finance development projects using the foreign exchange reserve.

So far, the Payra port project is the sole beneficiary of the fund.

The central bank official said that the loan has a 10-year tenure, with the port authority responsible for paying interest for the first three years and then both the interest and principal.

Currently, the BB is receiving interest payments on the loan.

Industry insiders said that funding development projects using the forex reserve was a "very bad decision" by the previous government.

- Individuals can open multiple Hajj accounts
- One time or monthly installment based Hajj deposit account
- Term: 1 to 20 years with attractive profit



Bangladesh economy might have expanded in Nov

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh's Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) increased to 62.2 in November, a 6.5 percentage point climb from October, according to an unofficial estimate, indicating accelerated economic expansion driven by agriculture, manufacturing and services sectors.

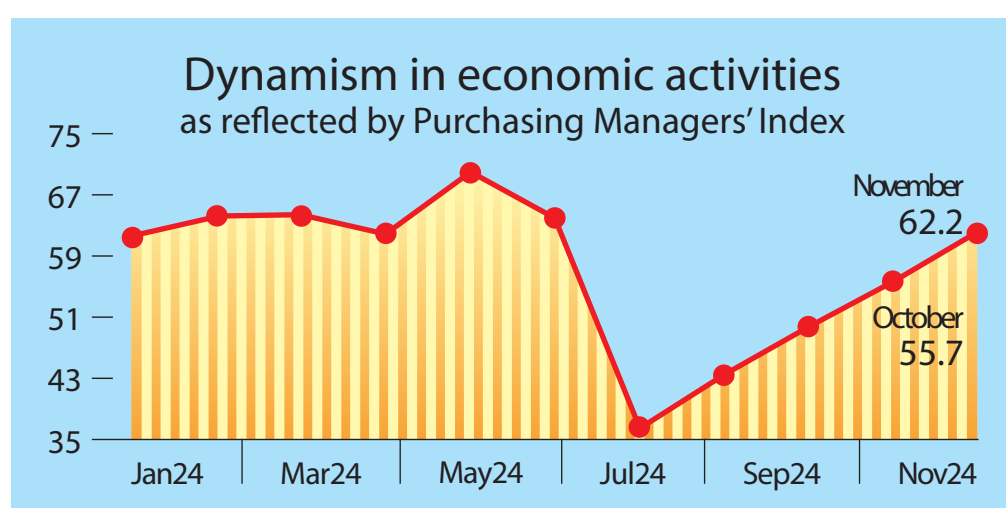
However, the construction sector saw a setback, reverting to contraction.

The PMI, released by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), is a tool designed to offer timely insights into the nation's economic health, according to the MCCI.

Developed with support from the UK Government and technical expertise from the Singapore Institute of Purchasing & Materials Management (SIPMM), it provides a critical barometer for businesses, investors and policymakers.

In the latest report published on December 7, agriculture showed robust growth, marking a second consecutive month of expansion with improved indexes for new business and activity.

Employment in the also sector contracted at a slower pace, while order backlogs contracted faster. Manufacturing extended its expansion streak to three months, with gains in new orders,



exports, factory output, and input purchases.

Notably, the sector posted first-time growth in employment, imports, and supplier deliveries. Order backlogs contracted at a reduced rate. The construction sector, which had marginally expanded in October, faced a downturn. Input costs and order backlogs contracted, though new business, activity and employment showed slight improvements.

The services sector continued its recovery, expanding for a second month with stronger

growth in new business and order backlogs. Employment in the sector returned to positive territory, while input costs rose more slowly.

The latest PMI readings indicate a gradual expansion of the Bangladesh economy for the second month after previously posting 3 months of contractions.

Despite the positive outlook, the economy continues to face challenges arising from various political process-related uncertainties and disruptions from industrial and other protests.

Marginalised need higher support to fight inequality

Say experts at Citizen's Platform for SDGs conference

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Marginalised people in Bangladesh, who are in an unequal situation, should receive additional aid and facilities, said Professor Mustafizur Rahman, a distinguished fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

He said that treating those in unequal positions the same as those in comparatively better situations would perpetuate inequality.

Rahman made these comments at a session titled "Establishing a citizen-led oversight and accountability process to improve public service deliveries" at the Citizen's Conference 2024.

The event was organised by Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh, at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday.

Rahman said marginalised and ultra-marginalised communities should get education and healthcare as rights.

"Especially the July uprising and August political changeover provide an opportunity to establish this. And this opportunity should be utilised," he added.

Faria Sultana, a senior assistant professor at the American International University-Bangladesh, said citizen-led oversight and accountability mechanisms offer a promising path forward for improving primary healthcare and

education in Bangladesh. By empowering marginalised communities to actively participate in monitoring and evaluation, the government can enhance service delivery, increase transparency and create a more equitable society, she said.



Mustafizur Rahman Distinguished fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue

Zakir Hossain, chief executive of the Nagorik Uddyog, proposed quarterly public hearings for government ministries and departments to improve accountability. This would involve assessing the services provided over the past three months.

Samir Ranjan Nath, programme head at the BRAC Institute of Educational Development and Shawkat Hossain Masum, head of online at the Prothom Alo, also spoke at the event.

Prime Bank signs payroll agreement with AkijBashir Group

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC has recently signed a payroll agreement with AkijBashir Group, a business conglomerate in Bangladesh.

Md Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of the bank, and Shamsuddin Ahmed, deputy managing director of the business group, penned the deal at the latter's corporate office in the capital's Banani, the bank said in a press release.

Under this agreement, employees of AkijBashir Group will enjoy preferential banking services, including credit card and loan facilities from Prime Bank.

They will also enjoy PrimePay, a digital portal of the bank, for seamless automated salary as well as carry out corporate payments conveniently round the clock.

Mohammad Noor-E-Alam Siddique, senior vice-president and team head of corporate and institutional banking, Hasibur Rahaman, senior assistant vice president, and Md Babul Hossain, deputy general manager for finance of the business group, along with other senior officials from both the organisations were also present.



Shamsuddin Ahmed, deputy managing director of AkijBashir Group, and Md Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of Prime Bank, pose for photographs after signing an agreement at the former's corporate office in the capital's Banani recently.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK

Ceramic makers' assoc gets new acting president

STAR BUSINESS REPORT



Moynul Islam, vice-chairman of Monno Ceramic Industries, was selected as the acting president of the Bangladesh Ceramic Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BCMEA) yesterday.

The election was held during the 51st board meeting of BCMEA at a hotel in the capital, the association said in a press release.

Islam was serving the association as senior vice-president for the period of 2023-24.

The post of president has been vacant since Md Shirajul Islam Mollah, a former Awami League lawmaker, was arrested and sent to jail following the August political changeover.

Mollah, former lawmaker from Narsingdi-3 constituency, went to the People's University of Bangladesh in Mohammadpur as its chairman for an event, where students notified the army after detaining him. Therefore, he was apprehended by the Army.

MTB releases sustainability report for 10th year



Chowdhury Liakat Ali, director of the sustainable finance department of the Bangladesh Bank, and Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director and CEO of Mutual Trust Bank, attend the launching programme of "10th Annual Sustainability Report for 2023", released by the latter at its head office in the capital's Banglamotor recently.

PHOTO: MUTUAL TRUST BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mutual Trust Bank PLC (MTB) recently released its "10th Annual Sustainability Report for 2023" styled "A Decade of Sustainable Commitment" at its head office in the capital's Banglamotor.

The report aligns with Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards and highlights the bank's efforts to address Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) priorities while delivering long-term value to stakeholders.

It underscores the bank's initiatives in green financing, environmental stewardship, governance, and social responsibility, setting

benchmarks for the financial industry, said a press release.

Chowdhury Liakat Ali, director of the Sustainable Finance Department of the Bangladesh Bank, Ahmed Zubaer Mahbub and Md Kamrul Hasan, joint directors, attended the launching ceremony.

Ali praised MTB's proactive approach to embedding sustainability in its operations.

He also emphasised the importance of capacity-building initiatives, which will enhance the ability of financial institutions to manage climate risks and opportunities effectively.

Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing

director and CEO of MTB, said: "The launch of our 10th Sustainability Report reaffirms MTB's leadership in sustainable banking. We remain committed to driving innovation, green finance, and climate resilience through collaboration and transparency."

Since 2014, MTB has consistently adhered to GRI standards, establishing itself as a pioneer in transparent and comprehensive ESG reporting in the banking sector.

Chowdhury Akhtar Asif, additional managing director and group chief risk officer of the bank, along with members of the bank's senior management committee also attended the event.

Bengal Commercial Bank organises 'Annual Risk Conference 2024'



Tarik Morshed, managing director and CEO of Bengal Commercial Bank, poses for photographs with participants of an "Annual Risk Conference 2024" at the bank's head office in the capital's Gulshan recently.

PHOTO: BENGAL COMMERCIAL BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bengal Commercial Bank PLC recently organised a "Annual Risk Conference 2024" at the bank's head office in the capital's Gulshan, with a pledge to ensure robust risk management, regulatory compliance and to raise awareness on risk management.

Tarik Morshed, managing director and CEO of the bank, inaugurated the conference, the bank said in a press release.

At the event, Morshed reiterated the bank's commitment to building a strong risk management culture at all levels.

ANM Moynul Kabir, director of the Department of Off-Site Supervision (division 2) of the Bangladesh Bank, Mohammad Arif Hasan, joint director, and Robin Chandra Paul, deputy director, attended the conference as resource persons.

Shahjalal Islami Bank opens sub-branch in Chuadanga

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC yesterday opened a sub-branch at Sorojgonj in Chuadanga to provide advanced banking services.

This is the 5th sub-branch of the bank. The sub-branch will conduct all its banking activities under the Chuadanga branch of the bank.

Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of the bank, inaugurated the sub-branch as the chief guest, said a press release.

In the speech, Ahmed said, "Customers always have good faith in this bank. We hope that the overall business and commerce of this area will be further developed through this sub-branch."

"In view of the growing demand of customers and with the aim of providing banking services to people from all walks of life, Shahjalal Islami Bank is constantly expanding its branches and sub-branches," he added.

Md Saidur Rahman, manager of Kushtia branch of the bank, presided over the programme.



Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC, cuts a ribbon to inaugurate a new sub-branch at Sorojgonj in Chuadanga yesterday.

PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK

Military Engineer Services Director of Works & Chief Engineer (Army)				
Invitation for Tenders				
Ref No. 03 of 2024-2025/E-6			Dated: 03 December 2024	
1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Defence		
2.	Agency	Military Engineer Services		
3.	Procuring entity name	DW & CE (Army) Dhaka Cantt		
4.	Tender name	Different B & R Works of Bangladesh Army for the financial year 2024-2025 (As per Ser No. 15)		
5.	Invitation for Tender No.	03 of 2024-2026/E-6 Dated 03 December 2024		
6.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)		
7.	Source of funds	GOB		
8.	Tender publication date	13 December 2024		
9.	Tender last selling date	01 January 2025 upto 1430 hours.		
10.	Tender submission date & time	02 January 2025, 1200 hours.		
11.	Tender opening date & time	02 January 2025, 1230 hours.		
12.	Name & address of the office(s)	Selling tender documents : a. Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE (A) at GE (A) Central, Dhaka Cantt b. DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt		
	Receiving tender document	Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE (A) Central, Dhaka Cantt		
	Opening tender document	Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE (A) at GE (A) Central, Dhaka Cantt		
13.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	01 January 2025, 1000-1100 hours		
14.	Eligibility of tenderer	For Serial No. 15 (a to j): Contractors enlisted in MES Class 'C' & 'D' in other govt/semi-govt/autonomous organizations in similar capacity having necessary security clearance from DGF		
15.	Description of works	Location	Price of tender document (non-refundable)	Amount of tender security (Taka) (In the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Bank Guarantee in favor of DW & CE (Army))
A	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration including ancillary works to existing Bldg No. DHAP-94, 95, 96, 99 (JCO's Qtr) of Senapolly Area through abnormal repair at Savar Cantt.	Savar Cantt	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 1,90,000.00
B	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration including ancillary works to Bldg No. D/1-10 Dhaleshwari & Bldg No. E-3/1-8 Ichamati (Officers' Qtr) through abnormal repair at Savar Cantt.	Savar Cantt	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 1,95,000.00
C	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration including ancillary works to existing SM BK Bldg No. 60, 61 (5 Bir) 33, 34 (8 Engr Bn) 46 (9 Sig Bn) & 119 (501 DOC) through abnormal repair at Savar Cantt.	Savar Cantt	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 2,10,000.00
D	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration to existing Bldg No. 65 (Garrison Mosque) through abnormal repair at Bogura (Jahangirabad) Cantt.	Jahangirabad Cantt, Bogura	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 1,80,000.00
E	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration to existing Bldg No. 48, 49 & 50 (OR's Qtr) through abnormal repair at Bogura (Jahangirabad) Cantt.	Jahangirabad Cantt, Bogura	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 1,70,000.00
F	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration including ancillary works to existing Bldg No. PT-05 1st floor (Orthopedic Ward), 2nd floor (Surgical Ward-1) & 3rd floor (Surgical Ward-2) at CMH Area through abnormal repair at Chattogram Cantt.	Chattogram Cantt	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 2,00,000.00
G	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration including ancillary works to existing Bldg No. E-28 (Kopotakho) & D-34 (Buriganga) Chayaneer Officers' Residential Area under through abnormal repair at Chattogram Cantt.	Chattogram Cantt	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 1,70,000.00
h	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration including ancillary works to Bldg No. PT-29,206 (SMBK) of 133 Field workshop & Bldg No. PT-147 (SMBK) of 43 Indo Field Company Engineers through abnormal repair at Momenshahi Cantt.	Momenshahi Cantt	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 1,55,000.00
i	Renewal/Renovation/Modification/alteration incl ancillary works to Bldg No. 116, 156 (OR's Qtr) through abnormal repair at Rajshahi Cantt.	Rajshahi Cantt	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 1,35,000.00
16.	Contact details	Phone: 9632678, Mili: 2678, Fax: (02) 9833284 Website: www.army.mil.bd		
17.	Special instructions	a. Tenderer shall submit copy of letter of valid enlistment & security clearance with application when purchasing tender. b. Detailed requirements are mentioned in Tender Data Sheet of Tender documents. c. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.		

আইএসপিআর/সেনা/৭৪৫
০৮/১২/২৪

GD- 1138

DW & CE (Army)
Dhaka Cantt

Fall in real prices of rice benefits consumers, hurts farmers

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Real prices of rice have fallen in the decade from 2010 to 2020, benefiting consumers but generating lower real incomes for producers, according to a paper presented at an event in Dhaka yesterday.

However, real prices of the staple food climbed in the years following the turn of the decade.

Real prices are those which have been adjusted for inflation and other market factors, as opposed to nominal prices, the current value of a product without accounting for such factors.

For example, real prices of the grain were 35 percent higher in 2021 compared to prices in January 2020.

The real prices had soared to 18 percent higher in 2024 compared to January 2020, Paul Dorosh, a senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), said while presenting a paper on food price policy in South Asia at a conference in Dhaka.

The Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) organised the four-day event at the Lakeshore Hotel in the capital's Gulshan.

Other than falling prices, other factors influencing the real incomes of rice farmers include low yields and higher input costs.

Echoing those sentiments, Nicholas Minot, another senior research fellow at the IFPRI, said nominal prices are rising. He said rice prices in Bangladesh tend to rise and fall over a period of one to three years, adding that elimination or reduction in the rice import tariff may reduce price instability at little cost in terms of revenue for farmers.

"Reducing the rice import tariff will reduce price instability while higher tariff increases price instability," Minot said.

The researchers made the comments at a time when the country is reeling from elevated inflation, especially food inflation.

In November, the government cut the import duty on rice to bring down the cost and encourage trade.

Dorosh also elaborated on the rice stock scenario in South Asian countries. "Although Bangladesh, India and Pakistan all hold public stocks of rice, only India consistently intervenes in its domestic rice market," he said.



The harvest of Aman season paddy has begun, with farmers hoping to take home a bumper crop by mid-December. Growth under monsoon rains, Aman accounts for the second biggest yield of rice. This year's production target is 1.78 crore tonnes. Around 1.66 crore tonnes were produced in fiscal year 2023-24, roughly 40 percent of the rice produced that year, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. The photo was taken at Mugolgaon union of Sylhet sadar upazila last week.

PHOTO: SHEKH NASIR

India maintains the largest rice stocks in South Asia while Pakistan has significant wheat stocks.

The wholesale prices of rice in Dhaka were close to import parity levels in 2018 and from 2021 to mid-2023, making private imports profitable in these periods, according to Dorosh.

For most of the 2018 to 2024 period, however, domestic prices of rice were higher than imported parity prices, making private imports unprofitable.

Private sector rice imports, including imports from India in some years, helped stabilise domestic rice prices in Bangladesh, Dorosh added.

"Since the mid-1990s, private sector imports of rice (mainly from India) have prevented large spikes in Bangladesh rice prices," he said.

At a public lecture, Prof MA Sattar Mandal said that although the total agricultural production is increasing in Bangladesh, the growth rate is decelerating very fast.

"And there has been low diversification. Rice is still the dominant crop. In terms of numbers, we have over hundreds of crops grown in Bangladesh. But that is a misleading proxy."

In reality, Bangladesh is contending with lower crop diversification and a huge yield gap, he said.

AB Bank MD Tarique Afzal resigns

FROM PAGE B1
Syed Mizanur Rahman, the bank's additional managing director, has assumed the role of managing director (current charge).

He said the board of directors accepted Afzal's resignation at a meeting yesterday.

Rahman added that the resignation will now be sent to the central bank for necessary approval.

Tarique Afzal joined AB Bank in 2018 as a deputy managing director and was appointed as the president and managing director in July 2019.

Efforts to contact Afzal for comment were unsuccessful, as he did not respond to phone calls.

Afzal previously courted controversy for his active involvement in politics. Despite serving as AB Bank's managing director, he was a member of the Awami League's international subcommittee.

Female workforce in garment industry slips

FROM PAGE B1
But although modern technology enabling automation is displacing labour, such innovations are creating new opportunities for employment, the study said.

Additionally, the study pointed out that the growing capabilities of local firms propelled automation in recent years, reducing the need for labourers to operate machinery.

There was also evidence that the reduction in female participation could have resulted from gender-biased technological transitions for occupations like machine operators.

Moderated by Sajjad Zohir, executive director of the Economic Research Group, a total of four studies were shared at the session.

Presenting a paper on "Supply Chain Dynamics for Sustainable RMG

Growth in Bangladesh", BIDS Research Director Monzur Hossain said the European Union (EU) offers tariff protection for least developed countries (LDC) following their graduation to developing country status.

This includes import subsidies of about 4 percent for fabrics, 8 percent for semi-finished garments and 12 percent for clothing sourced from "Most-Favoured Nations".

In the post-LDC era, Bangladesh may face tariffs as high as 9.6 percent on exports to the EU, he added.

The study also said Bangladesh may lose 10.8 percent of its garment exports by 2031 due to the elimination of export subsidies following LDC graduation.

This potential loss of export earnings could range from 7 percent to 14 percent in major markets.

For the 9.6 percent tariff in the EU, the production of textiles and apparel

items for the trade bloc may decline by about 6.1 percent. So, it is possible that Bangladesh's negative trade balance with the EU could widen, thereby impacting its gross domestic product (GDP).

As such, the country's real GDP could contract by about 0.38 percent if developed countries start imposing tariffs, it added. This loss of duty benefits could slash Bangladesh's total exports by about 6 percent while the apparel sector will likely witness a 14 percent decline.

A study titled "Structural Changes in Industrial Sector of Bangladesh: 2012 to 2019", presented by BIDS Research Associate Jayed Bin Satter, said female participation has also dropped in the manufacturing sector.

Similarly, the overall share of female business leaders fell, mostly driven by their exit from the garment sector, it added.

Presenting a study

on "The State of the Manufacturing Workers in Bangladesh", BIDS Research Associate Farhin Islam said significant intergenerational effects on workers' education were observed.

While there is a tendency for real wages to remain flat, collective bargaining has a significant impact on raising wages, improving other benefits and enhancing working conditions.

Trade unionisation significantly enhances women's family decision-making power through stronger collective bargaining and advocacy whereas factory-level unions lack sufficient influence on women empowerment.

The poverty rate among garment workers is significantly lower than that of workers in non-garment sectors and other domestic industries with more stringent compliance requirements.

US hiring rebounds after slump on hurricanes, strike

AFP, Washington

The US economy added more jobs than expected last month, government data showed Friday, bouncing back from a dramatic slowdown triggered by hurricanes and labor strikes.

The world's biggest economy gained 227,000 jobs in November, up from a revised 36,000 in October, said the Department of Labor.

The overall jobless rate ticked up to 4.2 percent from 4.1 percent.

The rise in hiring was likely due to a return of Boeing workers and others who had gone on strike, and came as the cumulative impact of hurricanes Helene and Milton faded.

"This has been a hard-fought recovery, but we are making progress for working families," said President Joe Biden in a statement.

Analysts warn, however, that job growth has been narrowly based across just a few sectors. Friday's figure "marks only a moderate-sized bounce back" from the strikes and disasters, said Nationwide chief economist Kathy Bostjancic.

Average job gains over the last two months remains soft, she added.

Last month "employment trended up in health care, leisure and hospitality, government, and social assistance," said the Labor Department. But the retail trade sector lost jobs, the department added in its report.

The hiring figure was above a market consensus expectation of 200,000 according to Briefing.com. Average hourly earnings rose more than expected too from a month prior, by 0.4 percent to \$35.61.

From the same period a year ago, wages were up 4.0 percent.

Strong wage growth should help boost consumer spending during the holiday season, Bostjancic said. EY senior economist Lydia Boussour said in a recent note that she expects job growth to settle "below trend" as the labor market cools gradually.

But she believes "a labor market downturn isn't on the near-term horizon" with layoffs remaining relatively low.

Companies have also been managing their workforces using other means like holding back wages and resizing instead of letting people go.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার পরিকল্পনা কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়
নিকলী, কিশোরগঞ্জ
ইমেইল: nikli@uhfpo.dghs.gov.bd

স্মারক নং-উস্বাক/নিকলী/দরপত্র/২০২৪-২৫/৪৫৪৪ তারিখঃ ০৭/১২/২০২৪ইং

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য কমপ্লেক্স, নিকলী, কিশোরগঞ্জ এর ২০২৪-২৫ইং অর্থ বছরের জন্য রোগীদের খাদ্যদ্রব্য ও পথ্যাদি সরবরাহ, ষ্টেশনারী ও অন্যান্য মনোহারি মালামাল সরবরাহ এবং লিনেন সামগ্রী (ময়লাযুক্ত কাপড়) খোলাই এর নিমিত্ত প্রকৃত টিকাদার/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত পাল্লাবদ্ধ বামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। দরপত্র দাখিলের নিয়মাবলী এবং দরপত্রের যাবতীয় বিবরণ ও অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী দরপত্র সিডিউলে সংযুক্ত আছে। দরপত্র দাখিলে আগ্রহী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব স্টেম্পেড পেতে আবেদনের মাধ্যমে প্রতিটি দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য বাবদ (অফেরতযোগ্য) সোনালী ব্যাংক, নিকলী শাখা অথবা অন্য কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক হতে উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার পরিকল্পনা কর্মকর্তা, নিকলী, কিশোরগঞ্জ এর অনুমোদিত নির্ধারিত মূল্যমানের ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার জমা দানপূর্বক দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ হইতে আগামী ২২/১২/২০২৪ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (সকাল ০৮:০০ ঘটিকা হইতে বেলা ০২:৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত) নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী কার্যালয় হতে দরপত্র সিডিউল ও শর্তাবলী সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।

ক্রমিক নং	দরপত্রের বিবরণ	সিডিউলের মূল্য
০১।	হাসপাতালে ভর্তি রোগীদের খাদ্যদ্রব্য ও পথ্যাদি সরবরাহ	= ৭৫০/-
০২।	ষ্টেশনারী ও অন্যান্য মনোহারি মালামাল সরবরাহ	= ৫০০/-
০৩।	লিনেন সামগ্রী যৌতকরণ (ময়লাযুক্ত কাপড়)	= ৫০০/-

দরপত্র আগামী ২৪/১২/২০২৪ ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী কার্যালয়ের রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাস্তবে গ্রহণ করা হবে এবং ঐ দিনই দুপুর ১.০০ ঘটিকার নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয়ে উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলা হবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ের পর কোন দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়/গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

স্বাক্ষর
৩১/১২/২৪

ডাঃ সজীব শোভ
কোড নং-১২৯৬০৩
উপজেলা স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার পরিকল্পনা কর্মকর্তা
নিকলী, কিশোরগঞ্জ

GD- 1133

Rural poor reliant on rice as inflation cuts protein

FROM PAGE 1
percent in the last year when calculated through the 12-month recall method and by 17.76 percent when calculated through the prices of one-month recall method, said.

During FY24, rice prices increased by 1.5 percent, while prices for beef, mutton, poultry, and fish rose by 6 percent, 11 percent, 15 percent and 27 percent respectively.

Pulses saw an 11.23 percent increase, eggs 24-27 percent, and fruits and vegetables experienced hikes ranging from 20-33 percent. Prices of some items, such as onions and gourd, even rose more than 100 percent.

Meanwhile, sugar prices surged 35 percent, and liquid milk prices rose 25 percent.

In an analysis of rural food consumption patterns, the study found that consumption of

protein-rich animal food items such as beef and mutton was much higher among the richest group compared to the poorest, especially in times of high inflation.

For example, per capita daily beef consumption has been assessed at 7.4g for the richest group, in contrast to only 1g for the poorest.

For relatively lower-priced items like chicken or duck, the difference is less striking—32g for the richest group as opposed to 21g for the poorest.

For eggs, the consumption figures are even closer, 13g and 9g respectively.

However, the poor consume a higher proportion of low-priced fish such as pangasius.

The average per capita daily consumption of pangasius is 14g for the poorest, 12g for the poor, and only 8g for the richest, according to the survey.

সামরিক চিকিৎসা সার্ভিস মহাপরিদপ্তর
প্রতিরক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস
জরুরি দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১। সশস্ত্র বাহিনীর জন্য দেশীয় মুদ্রায় নিম্নলিখিত চিকিৎসা সামগ্রী ক্রমাধিক প্রতিরক্ষা ক্রম মহাপরিদপ্তরের তালিকাভুক্ত ব্যবসায়ী/প্রকৃতকারী/আমদানীকারক/ইন্ডেন্ট প্রকৃতির নিকট হতে সীল মোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

২। দরপত্রের সিডিউল নিম্নে হতে উল্লেখিত তারিখ ও সময় মোতাবেক সামরিক চিকিৎসা সার্ভিস মহাপরিদপ্তর, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস থেকে নগদ মুদ্রায় (অফেরতযোগ্য) সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাবলীসহ দরপত্র সীলমোহরকৃত বামে মহাপরিদপ্তরে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার ব্যগে হতে বর্ণিত নির্ধারিত তারিখের মধ্যে প্রতিদিন ০৯:০০ ঘটিকা হতে ১২:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত জমা করা হবে এবং দরপত্র খোলার তারিখে ১০:০০ ঘটিকার দসদাসের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) উন্মুক্ত করা হবে।

ক্রমিক নং	দ্রব্যের বিবরণ	সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ		দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ	দরপত্র নম্বর
		হইতে	পর্যন্ত		
1.	Plaster Cutting Saw	09-12-24	22-12-24	22-12-24	123/2024-2025/EM
1.	General Anesthesia Machine with Sevoflurane & Isoflurane Vaporizer	09-12-24	22-12-24	22-12-24	124/2024-2025/EM
2.	Multiparameter Monitor				
3.	Blood Warmer				
4.	Portable Suction Machine				
5.	Diathermy machine				
6.	Fetal Doppler				
7.	CTG Machine & Papers				
8.	Ophthalmoscope				
1.	Vaporizer (Sevoflurane) for Anaesthesia Machine For CWM-201A Anesthesia Machine	09-12-24	22-12-24	22-12-24	125/2024-2025/EM
2.	Vaporizer (Isoflurane) for Anaesthesia Machine For CWM-201A Anesthesia Machine				
3.	Ultrasonic Washer for Surgical Instruments				
4.	Automatic Sealer Machine				

৩। নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে আর কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

৪। বর্ণিত ইলেক্ট্রো মেডিকেল ইকুইপমেন্টস এর বিজ্ঞপ্তি বিবরণ, কারিগরি বিবরণ ও চাহিদাকৃত বিভিন্ন তথ্যাদি/সদনপত্রের তালিকা দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকবে।

৪। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শনো ছাড়াই দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখিত আইটেমের পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি/কমানোর এবং দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা রাখেন।

৫। পিপিএ/২০০৮ ও পিপিআর/২০০৮ মোতাবেক দরপত্রের সকল শর্তাবলী কার্যকর হবে।

৬। দরপত্র নম্বর ১২৪ এবং ১২৫ এর ক্ষয়ক্ষতি অথবা **Ready Stock** থাকতে হবে।

তারিখ:.....ডিসেম্বর ২০২৪।

আই এস পি আর/বিবিধ/৫৬৪
০৮/১২/২৪

GD- 1134

Dhaka's 5-star hotels facing a dearth of guests

JAGARAN CHAKMA

Most of Dhaka's five-star hotels are not faring well for a dearth of guests, as political uncertainties and security concerns following the August 5 student movement are putting off most events and travel plans.

Industry insiders said the nine five-star hotels in Dhaka were facing difficulties as commuting within the capital has become troublesome owing to abrupt protests and untoward incidents.

Moreover, some countries such as the US, UK, and Japan have issued travel alerts discouraging their citizens from travelling to Bangladesh.

Hospitality service providers said the nine five-star hotels can host around 2,500 guests per night.

Business had slightly improved in October, but the momentum was lost in November as the risk of social unrest simmered, according to the management authorities of these hotels.

"Business is yet to pick up despite a slight improvement compared to the situation in July and August," said Mohammed Nafeuzzaman, public relations manager of Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka.

"Currently, our hotel occupancy rate is 30 percent, whereas it is around 65 percent under normal conditions," he said.

However, there has been a slight improvement in the occupancy rate in December, although the business



KEYFACTSABOUTBUSINESSOFFIVE-STARHOTELS

Dhaka has 9 five-star hotels	Total accommodation capacity: 2,500	Foreign guests declined since mid-November	Average occupancy rates lumped to 50% from 70% in October	Just 10% business travellers	Few events, expos being held	Political stability needed for flow of guests to recover
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Business had slightly improved in October, but the momentum was lost in November as the risk of social unrest simmered, according to the management authorities of these hotels

has not returned to levels as per expectations, Nafeuzzaman said.

The hotel, which has 278 rooms, is located in the downtown area of the city, making it a preferred choice for business clients to hold events, he added.

According to Nafeuzzaman, revenue fluctuations in the hotel industry are normal and reflect the nature of the business.

"We do not operate purely on occupancy; we run an event-based business," he said, adding that the situation may improve in the coming days.

"Business is better than in July and August, and we turned a profit in October," he said.

Mahmud Hassan, director of sales and marketing at Dhaka Regency Hotel and Resort, said a lack of guests in mid-November had put the hotel in a

precarious position. "The number of guests increased to 80 to 100 per day in October but has since dropped to just 15 to 20," he added.

At present, the business is getting by catering to airline crews, he said.

Hassan said the number of business travellers, particularly from India, has fallen significantly due to ongoing tension between the two countries.

Moreover, very few business exhibitions are being organised, for which there are hardly any event-centric guests, he said.

"Under normal conditions, especially in winter, occupancy typically reaches 100 percent. However, there is no sign of improvement in guest numbers," he said.

Hassan also said a lack of new investment, be it by locals or foreigners, has negatively affected the luxury hotel industry. Furthermore, alerts issued by countries like the US and Japan discouraging travelling to Bangladesh have also impacted the hotel and hospitality sector, he added.

"The United Kingdom announced a travel alert on Tuesday, which has added to the challenges," Hassan said.

According to him, most of their guests usually arrive from China, India,

and the US but now citizens of these countries reluctant to come on visits.

"Now the occupancy rate has dropped to 40 percent or 45 percent from around 60 percent in October," said Nazrul Islam, director of marketing and sales at Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden.

"Normally, our occupancy rate ranges from 78 percent to 80 percent," he said.

He said business travellers usually account for 70 percent to 80 percent of their room occupancy, but their numbers have declined significantly, severely affecting the hotel's business.

"Recovery possibility depends on stabilisation of the political and economic situation of the country," said Islam.

While there was a slight increase in business travellers in October, different incidents afterwards caused a decline again, he said.

"Currently, only 10 percent of the rooms are occupied by business travellers," he said, adding that while some representatives of non-governmental organisations were arriving from abroad, their numbers were minimal.

Islam also mentioned that airlines typically reserve 50 of the hotel's 200 rooms.

However, with fewer international flights departing from Dhaka, that number has also decreased, he said.

He said the overall situation has left the hotel unable to generate enough revenue to cover operational expenses.

"This applies to almost all five-star hotels, not just Radisson," said Islam.

However, Tuhinor Sultana, cluster public relations manager at The Westin Dhaka, had a more optimistic view.

"Despite the overall challenging situation for international travellers, we are receiving a good number of guests from Europe and China," she said.

She also said the hotel has recorded an increase in corporate bookings for events, seminars, and symposiums over the past two months.

"We are on the path to recovery, but our performance does not reflect that of the overall the luxury hotel industry," she added.

According to Sultana, the occupancy rate at The Westin Dhaka has now increased to 70 percent, up from just 10 percent at the height of the political unrest in July-August.

She attributed this to the hotel's strategic location at Gulshan 2, an upscale area and business hub of the city.

Navigating sustainability in the garment industry

MD MOHIUDDIN RUBEL

Sustainability has become a cornerstone of global discourse, with frameworks like Corporate Social Responsibility, Social Responsibility, and Environmental, Social, and Governance shaping corporate expectations. The garment sector in Bangladesh has risen to meet these global priorities. However, while the industry is transforming, challenges remain in aligning these best practice efforts with equitable financial outcomes.

The cost of progress
Adopting sustainability comes with significant investments. For example, implementing water treatment systems or transitioning to green factories involves upfront costs that can strain resources. These investments promise long-term benefits but present immediate challenges for manufacturers balancing rising costs with competitive pricing.

In an industry marked by fierce competition, the price manufacturers receive often does not fully reflect the additional value they deliver through sustainable practices. Factories that prioritise compliance and innovation may face higher costs per unit than those that lag in adopting such measures. This imbalance highlights the need for a pricing model that accounts for shared responsibility across the supply chain.

Price stagnation amid rising costs

Garment pricing typically hinges on two components: raw material (RM) costs and cost of making (CM), which includes wages, utilities, and profit margins. While RM prices fluctuate, CM has remained largely stagnant, even as wages, utility costs, and interest rates have steadily increased, exacerbated by the Covid pandemic and economic

up and downs. This creates pressure on manufacturers striving to meet rising production costs while maintaining competitiveness.

Recent trends in apparel import prices highlight the industry's challenges.

This sustained price stagnation amid rising costs underscores the critical need for a pricing model that accounts for shared responsibility across the supply chain.

Building a resilient industry

The garment industry's evolution over the past decade, particularly after the transformative steps taken following incidents like the Rana Plaza garment factory collapse, demonstrates a clear commitment to progress. Investments in safety and sustainability have positioned Bangladesh as a leader in green factories and worker welfare.

While some pricing adjustments have been made, long-term consistency is crucial for sustaining these efforts. This is not merely about negotiating higher prices but about fostering collaboration across the value chain to ensure shared success.

Overcoming internal challenges

Overcoming internal challenges is vital for strengthening the industry, focusing on diversification, innovation, and specialisation. New products, optimised processes, market expansion, workforce development, and efficient capital management are essential for growth and resilience against market volatility.

A collaborative path forward

As Bangladesh continues to lead in sustainability efforts, fostering a collaborative mindset across the supply chain is vital. Buyers, manufacturers, and stakeholders must work together to align expectations and ensure that the value created through responsible practices is reflected in pricing structures.

The author is a former director of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association



Rattled by China, West scrambles to rejig critical minerals supply chains

REUTERS, Beijing/Toronto/London

China's trade restrictions on strategic minerals are starting to hit Western companies where it hurts.

Blaming Beijing's curbs on antimony exports announced in August, German chemicals and consumer goods heavyweight Henkel told customers last month it had declared force majeure and suspended deliveries of four types of adhesives and lubricants widely used by automakers, according to a Nov. 8 letter to clients reviewed by Reuters.

Henkel uses the silvery metal to make its Bonderite and Teroson-branded products, core parts of the company's adhesive technologies division, which brought in 10.79 billion euros (\$11.4 billion) in revenue last year.

"We have been notified by our suppliers that the importation of these raw materials has

been delayed pending the Chinese government accepting license applications," according to the letter, which was signed by two senior executives.

"As a result, Henkel is hereby declaring force majeure in connection with its deliveries of these products," the German company also said, adding it was unable to predict the duration of the situation.

The letter from Henkel, which had not been reported previously, and conversations with more than two dozen traders, miners, processors, end-users, and industry experts in North America, Europe and China underscore the severe disruption caused by Beijing's trade restrictions and highlight how Western players' struggle to replace China-based supply chains.

Contacted by Reuters about the letter, Henkel said it was working to support its customers and find alternative supplies: "We are monitoring the global supply situation

of antimony very closely and aim to restore solutions to fulfill our customers' orders."

The price of antimony, scarce in nature but essential for military equipment such as ammunition, infrared missiles, nuclear weapons, and night vision goggles, rallied nearly 230 percent this year to about \$39,000 per metric ton in Rotterdam's busy spot market, according to market intelligence provider Argus.

China is the world's largest antimony producer and dominates the production of many strategic materials.

Last year, Beijing also limited exports of gallium and germanium - used for semiconductors, solar panels and weapons - as well as certain types of graphite - a key component in EV batteries.

Responding to a fresh US crackdown on China's chip industry, Beijing this week further ratcheted up pressure, imposing an outright ban on exports of gallium, germanium and antimony to the United States, where Henkel makes Bonderite in Michigan.

Beijing's restrictions bring added urgency for Western players to cut their reliance on minerals from China. Miner Perpetua Resources, for instance, is developing an antimony mine in Idaho with US government funding.

But new mines can take years to develop, leaving players like Henkel scrambling to find alternatives, which are often more costly.

"Please note that we are in close contact with our suppliers and using all commercially reasonable means to leverage our global supply chain to address this situation and support our customers," Henkel also wrote in the letter. Meanwhile, some Western miners and processors have started to build up capacity.

United States Antimony (USAC), the only North American processor of the metal, made plans to lift output at its Montana smelter, which was running at 50 percent of capacity after China announced curbs on antimony exports in August.

"Our decision to ramp up production was predominantly triggered by the more than tripling of worldwide Rotterdam antimony prices," the company's chairman, Gary Evans, told Reuters.

Gas price shock set to add to Europe's industrial pain

REUTERS, Paris/Oslo/London

Europe's struggling industries are bracing for a new gas price shock over the coming winter months, as colder weather depletes stocks, competition with Asia for liquefied natural gas intensifies, and the prospect of reduced Russian supplies looms.

Since the energy crisis of 2022, when gas prices peaked at nearly 350 euros per megawatt hour (MWh), dozens of firms across Europe have closed factories and cut activity and jobs as high gas prices undermined their competitiveness.

Many are maintaining reduced demand and lower manufacturing activity, with negative implications for Europe's sluggish growth.

European Union gas demand is 17

percent below the five-year average observed during pre-pandemic years.

At the same time, gas prices are at their highest level in over a year and analysts predict they will rise further.

"The concern is that we are laying our guard down because energy prices are lower now than what we saw in 2022," Svein Tore Holsether, CEO of Oslo-listed Yara, a fertiliser company, told Reuters in October.

"It's important to remind ourselves that we're still at much higher levels than other key regions like the US, the Middle East, and Russia."

Nervousness about the expiry at the end of the year of a Russian transit deal to supply gas to Europe via Ukraine has helped to drive buying.



Visitors stand in front of a battery from the Contemporary Ampere Technology Co, Limited displayed at the Beijing Auto Show, in Beijing, China. Last year, Beijing also limited exports of gallium and germanium - used for semiconductors, solar panels and weapons - as well as certain types of graphite - a key component in EV batteries.

PHOTO: AFP/FILE

আমরা শোকাহত



মোহাম্মদ আমিন উদ্দিন
(১৯৫৪ - ২০২৪)

সোশ্যাল ইসলামী ব্যাংকের উদ্যোক্তা
শেয়ারহোল্ডার ও প্রাক্তন পরিচালক
মোহাম্মদ আমিন উদ্দিন (৭০) বার্ষিকাজনিত
কারণে লন্ডনের নিউহ্যাম হাসপাতালে
চিকিৎসাধীন অবস্থায় ৭ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৪
তারিখ স্থানীয় সময় রাত ৯:০০টায় ইন্তেকাল
করেছেন (ইন্না লিল্লাহি ওয়া ইন্না ইলাইহি
রাজিউন)। মৃত্যুকালে তিনি স্ত্রী, ২ ছেলে ১
মেয়েসহ অসংখ্য শুভাকাঙ্ক্ষী রেখে যান।

তার মৃত্যুতে সোশ্যাল ইসলামী ব্যাংকের
পরিচালনা পর্ষদ, ব্যবস্থাপনা কর্তৃপক্ষ এবং
সর্বস্তরের কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারী গভীরভাবে
শোকাহত। আমরা তার বিদেহী আত্মার
মাগফেরাত কামনা করছি এবং শোকসন্তপ্ত
পরিবারের প্রতি গভীর সমবেদনা জানাচ্ছি।

SIBL সোশ্যাল ইসলামী ব্যাংক পিএলসি
উত্তম সেবিকার