

# Rough weather disrupts unloading at Ctg port

50 vessels with food grains, other products remain idle at outer anchorage

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg

Unloading of imported goods from mother vessels at the Chattogram port has been facing disruptions for three days as smaller vessels have failed to go near the outer anchorage to unload the containers amid incessant rain and a turbulent sea.

Especially since Monday, the rough weather, which has gripped the country, has virtually halted unloading activities at the outer anchorage of the country's main foreign trade gateway, according to the Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) and ship handlers.

As of yesterday, over 50 mother vessels carrying imported goods, including food grains like wheat, raw sugar, lentils, soybean oil, fertiliser, coal, limestone, as well as industrial raw materials like cement clinker, slag, steel scraps, and others, remained stuck at the outer anchorage, they said.

The Bangladesh Water Transport Coordination Cell (BWTC), a private organisation that operates a portion of lighter vessels, said they are entitled to allocate lighter vessels for unloading goods from at least 25 mother vessels that are now staying in the outer anchorage.

A BWTC official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "We allocated 145 lighter vessels in the last three days for unloading cargo from those 25 bigger vessels, but not a single lighter vessel could sail for the outer anchorage due to heavy rolling and rain in the sea."

"Amidst incessant rain, cargo unloading is also not possible since the goods may get damaged," the official added.

Four maritime ports, including Chattogram, have been asked to keep hoisted local cautionary signal numbers since Saturday.

The local Met Office at Patenga

recorded 160.2mm of rainfall in and around Chattogram city in the last 24 hours till 3:00pm yesterday.

Such disruption is increasing the stay time of mother vessels.

A vessel, MV Pac Sharon, carrying 55,000 tonnes of cement clinker, arrived at the outer anchorage on June 22.

## At least 100 lighter vessels loaded with imported goods also remain stranded in the Karnaphuli river

Around 35,000 tonnes of the imported goods still remained on board the vessel to be unloaded.

"The vessel could have left after finishing the cargo unloading in eight days if the weather had remained favourable," Jahur Ahmed, managing director of the ship's local agent Seacom Shipping Lines

Ltd, told The Daily Star.

Like Pac Sharon, cargo unloading from two more vessels—MV Etos and MV Ocean Ambition—under the same organisation has remained halted for the last few days, he added.

The prolonged stay of mother vessels also means additional costs for the importers.

"Importers will have to bear around \$15,000 per day for each additional day the freight vessels stay," Ahmed stated.

According to BWTC, at least 100 lighter vessels loaded with imported goods remained stranded in the Karnaphuli River as they failed to leave for different destinations due to foul weather.

Meanwhile, activities at the main jetties of the port, including container handling, are going on even as unloading of bulk cargoes from the vessels berthed at jetties and delivery of such goods have slowed down, CPA Secretary Md Omar Faruk said.

# Indo-Bangla Pharma set to export drugs to Afghanistan

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Indo-Bangla Pharmaceuticals, a listed drug maker, is likely to start exporting its products to Afghanistan from this year.

In a disclosure at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday, the company said its board of directors has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Afghanistan-based Salar Yousafzai Pharma Ltd for the export of pharmaceutical products.

The board meeting was held on July 8. Regarding key points of the MoU, the disclosure states that Salar Yousafzai Pharma Ltd will act as Indo-Bangla's sole agent in Afghanistan.

The tenure of the MoU will be valid for 15 years, from 2025 to 2040, and is renewable upon mutual agreement, it adds.

The minimum order value would be \$1.5 lakh per shipment with a regular export plan, while payment terms are 40 percent advance telegraphic transfer and 60 percent pre-shipment.

The company said the strategic collaboration is expected to strengthen its financial position by boosting export revenue, increasing foreign currency earnings, and supporting long-term business growth, thereby enhancing shareholder value, the company expressed its hope in the disclosure.

# Vegetable growers

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He estimated the loss to be around Tk 10,000.

Khulna farmer Abu Hanif Morol said the rain has damaged his gourds on two bighas of land. Some of his bean plants have also been affected.

"No traders have come to buy vegetables in the last two days," he said. "I harvested a few kilograms of hyacinth bean and took them to the local market, but with so few customers, I didn't get a fair price."

"If the rain goes on like this, prices will fall even further," he added.

In Jashore Sadar upazila, farmer Tarikul Islam said he used to sell bitter gourd at Tk 40 per kilogramme wholesale. Now, prices have plunged to Tk 14 to Tk 15 due to weak demand.

"The rain has caused the flowers to drop, pests are

attacking the plants, and the roots are weakening," he said. "Production is taking a hit."

Islam has cultivated bitter gourd on 25 kathas of land.

Md Jamal Uddin, additional director of monitoring and implementation at the DAE's field service wing, said heavy rainfall has affected Aus, Aman seedbeds, jute, vegetables, orchards, betel leaf and watermelon fields.

According to DAE, 92,067 hectares of Aus, 16,017 hectares of Aman seedbeds, 16,621 hectares of jute, 5,705 hectares of vegetables, 560 hectares of banana, 542 hectares of papaya and 3,242 hectares of betel leaf farms have been submerged across the country.

In Feni district alone, 1,655 hectares of Aus,

Aman, vegetables and chilli fields have gone underwater.

Other districts with widespread crop flooding include Cox's Bazar, Noakhali, Khagrachhari, Pabna, Bagerhat, Barisal, Pirojpur, Jhalakathi, Pataukhali, Barguna and Bhola.

Md Mahbubar Rahman Salim, principal scientific officer at the Vegetable Division of the Horticultural Research Centre in Gazipur, said that although vegetable cultivation has so far avoided large-scale losses, the situation could deteriorate quickly if temperatures rise while water levels fall.

"If that happens, many vegetable plants may die," he said.

[Zahangir Shah and Dipankar Roy contributed to this report.]

# Balance sheets

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the salaries of the staff who will be engaged there are commensurate with their skills," he said.

"If I today judge the performance of audit firms based on the audit reports, I can tell you there will be no auditors left qualified for the job," he said.

The way they misrepresented facts disqualifies them from serving in the profession in the future. If this is taken critically, there will be no one left to do the job, so everyone is having to make do with whatever is available, he said.

"Most of the financial reports are unqualified, very good reports, clean, in Bangladesh," said Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed.

"But when you look at the track record of what they are doing, you don't say these are unqualified. Most of them were qualified," he said.

An unqualified report, also known as a clean report or unmodified opinion, is an auditor's opinion stating that a company's financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

On the other hand, a qualified report in auditing is a report that indicates the auditor has identified some issues with the financial statements, but these issues are not pervasive enough to warrant a disclaimer or adverse opinion.

Ahmed laid emphasis on three things—rules, process, and person. People who are implementing the rules and standards have not done a good job, said Ahmed.

There is a kind of understanding between the auditors and the management of companies, with the former delivering unqualified reports in exchange for repeatedly getting hired, he said.

On the other hand, directors are sometimes kept in the dark. Many independent directors are not independent or are mostly "sleeping directors," he said.

From time to time, they just avail themselves of

comfortable transportation or air fares and hotel stays to attend board meetings and then go back to their lives again, said Ahmed.

For auditors and accountants, audit reports are definitely important. In fact, this is the third eye of the management. Unless those are really efficient and transparent, they will not be of any use to the management or board directors, he said.

It would be better if there were improved coordination among the ICAB, ICMA, and FRC, he added.

"Window dressing" is commonplace not only in financial reports but also throughout the country, said Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Chairman Mohammad Abdul Momen.

Regarding allegations of fraudulence against a prominent businessperson involving a bond, he said one person cannot perpetrate such malpractice unless he was assisted by professionals who are now "happily loitering around."

Bangladesh Bank identified a few credit scandals, which is welcome, but questions remain over its role during the past regime, when it appeared to be an accomplice to the repeated plundering of state funds, which devastated the economy, he said.

The central bank could not even protect its own money, said Momen.

The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) did a good job in identifying officers involved in a mutual fund scandal, but by then it had already led to the plundering of the whole market, he said.

The Anti-Corruption Commission has a wider scope to work with the FRC, BSEC, Bangladesh Bank, and other regulatory agencies, he added.

FRC Chairman Md Sajjad Hossain Bhuiyan, Md Khairuzzaman Mozumder, secretary to the Finance Division, ICAB President NKA Mobin, and ICMA President Mahtab Uddin Ahmed also spoke at the event.

# Drug exporters concerned

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year, which accounts for only 14 percent of the country's total annual drug exports.

"Although the figure is not very significant, it is a matter of the industry's image," he said.

Abdul Muktedir, president of the Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI), said Bangladeshi drugmakers see both opportunities and risks emerging from the US government's tariff decision.

"There's potential for Bangladeshi firms to gain

market share due to this new tariff, but we also risk losing access because we'll face strong competition from global players," he told The Daily Star.

Muktadir noted that many local manufacturers have long prepared to expand exports but may now be forced to explore alternatives such as contract manufacturing or joint ventures to establish production bases in the US.

"Indian and Chinese companies have already acquired stakes in US pharmaceutical exporters to each invest up to \$10 million in the US market.

most follow suit to stay competitive," he said.

Although Bangladesh has invested heavily in research and development, the proposed tariff could delay market entry by one to one and a half years, potentially inflicting significant financial losses, cautioned Muktadir.

"In the meantime, we're unable to export, which is a serious concern," he added.

To mitigate the impact, Muktadir proposed that the government allow pharmaceutical exporters to each invest up to \$10 million in the US market.

# Gold hits over 1-week low

REUTERS

Gold prices fell on Wednesday to their lowest point in more than a week, pressured by a stronger US dollar and rising Treasury yields, as the latest tariff threats from US President Donald Trump unsettled markets.

Spot gold was down 0.4 percent at \$3,286.96 per ounce, as of 0624 GMT, after hitting its lowest level since June 30.

US gold futures fell 0.7 percent to \$3,295.

Trump said he would impose a 50 percent tariff on imported copper and introduce long-threatened levies on semiconductors and pharmaceuticals.

Trump reiterated his threat of 10 percent tariffs on BRICS nations on Tuesday, a day after notifying 14 countries, including Japan and South Korea, of tariff increases set to take effect on August 1.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
Bangladesh Coast Guard

**Invitation for 2nd Re-Tender (International)**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender documents for the undermentioned works as per terms and conditions stated below:

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
1	Ministry/Division: Ministry of Home Affairs
2	Agency: Bangladesh Coast Guard
3	Procuring entity name: Director General, Bangladesh Coast Guard, Agargaon Administrative Area, Block # E, Plot # 12/B, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
4	Procuring entity code: 224392800
5	Procuring entity district: Dhaka
6	Invitation for: Construction and Delivery of 05x Riverine Patrol Vessel (RPV)
7	Invitation Ref No.: 44.08.2680.033.02.105.25.77
8	Date: 09 July 2025
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>	
9	Procurement method: One Stage Two Envelope Tendering Method (OSTETM) - ICT
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>	
10	Budget and source of funds: GOB (Development)
11	Development partners: Not applicable
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>	
12	Project/programme code: 224392800
13	Project/programme name: Acquisition of Replacement Vessel to Increase the Capacity of Bangladesh Coast Guard
14	Tender Package No.: WD-1
15	Tender package name: Construction and Delivery of 05x Riverine Patrol Vessel (RPV)
16	Tender publication date: 10 July 2025
17	Tender last selling date (must be the date prior to the day of Tender Closing Date): 06 August 2025
	Date: _____ Time: _____
18	Tender closing date and time: 07 August 2025 Time: 1200 Hrs
19	Tender opening date and time (within one hour of Tender Closing at primary place): 07 August 2025 Time: 1230 Hrs
20	Name & address of the office(s): Address - Selling tender document (principal): Office of the Project Director, Bangladesh Coast Guard Headquarters, Agargaon Administrative Area, Block # E, Plot # 12/B, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207 - Selling tender document (others): - Receiving tender document - Opening tender document
21	Place/date/time of Pre-tender meeting (optional): Office of the Project Director, Bangladesh Coast Guard Headquarters, Agargaon Administrative Area, Block # E, Plot # 12/B, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Time & date: 1100 on 23 July 2025
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>	
22	Eligibility of tenderer: Must have experience of at least 10 (Ten) years of shipbuilding and delivering Combat vessels/Patrol crafts. Other Qualification is to be as per tender document.
23	Brief description of works: Construction and Delivery of 05x Riverine Patrol Vessel (RPV)
24	Brief description of physical services: As per tender document
25	Price of tender document (BDT): BDT 1,00,000.00 (Taka one lac only) non-refundable
	Lot No. Identification of lot Location Tender security amount Completion time in weeks/months
26	1 WD-1 Dhaka BDT 23,00,00,000.00 (Taka twenty-three crore only) 21 months after signing the contract
<b>EMPLOYER DETAILS</b>	
27	Name of official inviting tender: Project Director, "Acquisition of Replacement Vessel to Increase the Capacity of Bangladesh Coast Guard Project, Bangladesh Coast Guard Headquarters, Agargaon Administrative Area, Block # E, Plot # 12/B, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.
28	Designation of official inviting tender: _____
29	Address of official inviting tender: _____
30	Contact details of official inviting tender: Contact No. 01769440455 E-mail: pd@pc.cg@gmail.com pd_shipping_replacement@coastguard.gov.bd
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all the Tenders.
32	<b>Special instructions:</b> a. Coast Guard Authorities reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason. b. If the date of selling, receiving and opening of tender cannot be maintained under any unavoidable circumstance, the next working day will be applicable for the same. c. If any confusion arises due to printing mistake or other reasons, the instructions of "The Public Procurement Regulations 2008" will govern in such cases. d. During Payment of the bills, the VAT and IT will be deducted as per NBR Rules/Regulations.

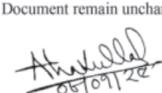
**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD  
Road Division, Sunamganj  
E-mail: cesun@rhd.gov.bd / cerhdsunamganj@gmail.com  
Memo No. 35.01.9089.472.99.016.25-2288 Date: 08/07/2025

**Amendment/Corrigendum Notice**

This is to notify all concern that, the following Amendment/Corrigendum has been made to the Invitation of Tender Ref. No. 35.01.9000.472.07.001.25-2020; Date: 04/06/2025 & Ref. No. 35.01.9000.472.07.001.25-2021; Date: 04/06/2025

Tender ID & e-GP No.	Field name	As per original notice	As per corrigendum	Remarks
1107868 03/e-Gp/PMP/ Major/Bridge/ EE/SUN/RHD /2024-2025	Tender document last selling/downloading date & time	07-Jul-2025 17:00 hours	07-Jul-2025 17:00 hour	A few item codes and descriptions have been corrected in the Pavement section of the Bill of quantities.
	Tender security submission last date & time	08-Jul-2025 11:30 hours	22-Jul-2025 11:30 hour	
	Tender closing & opening date & time	08-Jul-2025 12:00 hours	22-Jul-2025 12:00 hours	
1116784 04/e-Gp/PMP/ Major/ Bridge/ EE/SUN/RHD /2024-2025	Tender document last selling/downloading date & time	07-Jul-2025 17:00 hours	07-Jul-2025 17:00 hours	A few item codes and descriptions have been corrected in the pavement & structure section of the Bill of quantities.
	Tender security submission last date & time	08-Jul-2025 11:00 hours	27-Jul-2025 11:30 hours	
	Tender closing & opening date & time	08-Jul-2025 12:00 hours	27-Jul-2025 12:00 hour	

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). This will be a part & parcel of the Tender Document. All other terms & conditions stated in the Tender Document remain unchanged.

  
**Dr. Mohammad Ahad Ullah**  
ID No. 602136  
Executive Engineer, RHD  
Road Division, Sunamganj

GD-1552