

# 20 items generated 37% of Ctg customs revenue in FY25

MOHAMMAD SUMAN, *Chattogram*

Chattogram Custom House's revenue collection jumped nearly 13 percent year-on-year to Tk 77,685 crore in the just concluded fiscal year, and interestingly, over one-third of the total was generated by only 20 out of the 4,800 imported products.

Around 37 percent, or Tk 28,767 crore, of the total came mostly from diesel, furnace oil, cement clinker, palm oil, crude oil, apples, hot-rolled steel, oranges, broken stone, sugar, milk powder, polypropylene, motorcycle parts, scrap, betel nuts, dates, polyvinyl chloride, and liquefied natural gas.

Some 9.39 crore tonnes of goods worth Tk 5,01,572 crore were

imported through Chattogram port in FY25, up from 9.12 crore tonnes worth Tk 4,62,136 crore in the previous year, according to newly released customs data.

Customs officials gave credit to the recovery of outstanding dues from government organisations, fast clearance of pending consignments from the port, faster completion of auction procedures, stricter monitoring, and an overall increase in import volume.

"Every year, nearly one-third of our revenue comes from 20 to 25 major import items, and this year was no exception," Mohammad Saidul Islam, deputy commissioner of Chattogram Customs, told The Daily Star.

"We intensified intelligence surveillance across all types of products, which helped curb irregularities and enhance revenue collection," he said.

Among individual items, diesel generated the highest revenue of Tk 5,766 crore, followed by furnace oil at Tk 3,111 crore, cement clinker at Tk 3,089 crore, palm oil at Tk 1,849 crore, and crude oil at Tk 1,760 crore.

As per the data, about Tk 1,272 crore was collected from apples, Tk 1,110 crore from hot-rolled steel, Tk 1,070 crore from oranges, Tk 1,024 crore from crude oil, Tk 987 crore from crushed stone, Tk 808 crore from motorcycle parts, Tk 783 crore from scrap, Tk 728 crore from betel nuts, and Tk 545 crore from dates.

## US, Bangladesh

FROM PAGE B1

In the draft tariff agreement, Bangladesh has agreed to many of the USA's proposals to ensure smooth trade.

The private sector's initiative to hire a lobbying firm in the US did not progress much due to time constraints, said one of the persons involved in the initiative, requesting anonymity.

On July 23, Zaidi Sattar, chairman of the Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh (PRI), said he would support every effort taken by the private sector of Bangladesh to hire a lobbying firm.

If the Bangladeshi initiators succeed in hiring the lobbying firm, the PRI will share information related to Bangladesh's economy and trade issues, he said.

A frustrated initiator, also requesting anonymity, said there are doubts over whether it will be possible

to hire a lobbying firm now.

Even if one is hired in the US, it may not bring any positive outcome, the person added.

Still, a group of Bangladeshi businesspeople is trying to appoint a lobbyist in the US, the single largest export destination for Bangladesh, where local garment makers shipped apparel worth \$8.2 billion last year.

The garment sector may face challenges if the 35 percent tariff rate comes into effect for Bangladesh, businesses said.

According to data from the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), 1,322 garment factories in Bangladesh are directly involved in exporting garments to the US.

These production units may fail to secure work orders as before due to

the high tariff, the data suggest.

Bangladesh has not hired any lobbying firm as they have little role in the negotiation process, the commerce adviser told journalists at his office in Dhaka yesterday.

"We need major structural changes, where lobbyists cannot contribute," he added.

The commerce ministry has already convened an inter-ministerial meeting to decide on the necessary reforms to facilitate the tariff talks.

Some exporters, particularly in the garment sector, had earlier pushed for hiring lobbyists in the US.

An inter ministerial meeting held on July 20 at the commerce ministry decided to significantly reduce the import duty on American goods so that the Trump administration offers Bangladesh reduced tariff rates.

## Private education sector's contribution

FROM PAGE B1

the increasing societal acceptance and encouragement of women pursuing careers in healthcare, said the report.

This could also be due to the fact that women are better equipped to handle the emotional demands of medical service, it said.

The BBS had undertaken a comprehensive nationwide survey on private educational institutions in 2007 with financial and technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank to address data deficiencies regarding the sector.

It has been over 15 years since the last survey was conducted on private educational institutions. In the meantime, the education landscape has evolved. So, the government decided to run the survey.

There were 98,980 private educational institutions in the country as of 2023, while the number of coaching centres was 6,587.

A total of 23,637 private educational institutions were being operated under individual ownership, while 10,862 were being run under partnerships.

Meanwhile, the majority, or 49,618 private educational institutions,

### STAR BUSINESS REPORT

BRAC Bank has disclosed 100 percent of its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, covering the full spectrum from internal operations to emissions generated through its financing activities.

The bank released its Sustainability and Impact Report 2024, where it reported emitting a total of 1,477,468 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) across direct, energy-related, and value chain activities in 2024, according to a statement.

Under Scope 1—which includes direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by the bank, such as diesel generators, refrigerants, and fleet fuel—the bank reported 1,630 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

For Scope 2, covering indirect

emissions from purchased electricity, the figure stood at 16,671 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

Scope 3 emissions, which encompass indirect impacts across the value chain, amounted to 1,459,167 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

Of this, 1,423,479 tCO<sub>2</sub>e came from Category 15 financed activities—emissions generated by the businesses and sectors the bank supports. These alone represent over 96 percent of BRAC Bank's total reported carbon footprint.

The remaining Scope 3 emissions, totaling 35,687 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, were linked to business travel, waste, procurement, and employee commuting.

In the report, the bank said it had completed a full-scale carbon accounting exercise.

It considers the release of the report a significant step toward

environmental transparency in the financial sector.

"This positions BRAC Bank as a national frontrunner in South Asia among financial institutions voluntarily reporting Category 15 emissions under Scope 3, as defined by the GHG Protocol," the bank said in the statement.

The GHG Protocol is considered the most complex and material aspect of a bank's climate impact, with quantification based on the globally recognized Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF) standard.

Additionally, 18,112 tonnes of emissions were avoided through the bank's clean energy investments and solar infrastructure, leading to a net climate impact of 1,459,356 tCO<sub>2</sub>e for 2024.

## Vietnam's 2025 GDP growth forecast raised to 7%

ANN/VIETNAM NEWS

The ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) has revised upward its 2025 growth forecast for Vietnam's economy to 7 percent from the 6.5 percent projected in April, according to its latest quarterly update released on Wednesday.

This makes Vietnam the fastest-growing economy among the ASEAN+3 group, which includes the ten ASEAN countries along with China, Japan and South Korea.

Speaking at a press briefing the same day, AMRO Chief Economist Dong He explained that the revision reflects Vietnam's much stronger-than-expected performance in the first half of 2025.

The education sector in the country contributed around 3 percent of the nation's GDP in 2023.

The BBS data showed the share of labour in the gross value added was 38.9 percent in 2022 and it decreased to 37.8 percent in 2023.

The decreasing trend in the share of labour contributing to the GDP indicates that the portion of economic benefits being allocated for workers has reduced.

Instead, a larger share of these gains is flowing towards the owners of the institutions.

This shift suggests an imbalance in the distribution of wealth, where the benefits of economic growth are increasingly favouring those who own the resources over those contributing with their efforts.

As a result, income inequality may increase, potentially leading to decreased consumer spending and a slowdown in economic growth, it said.

There were 98,980 private educational institutions in the country as of 2023, while the number of coaching centres was 6,587.

A total of 23,637 private educational institutions were being operated under individual ownership, while 10,862 were being run under partnerships.

Meanwhile, the majority, or 49,618 private educational institutions,

goods, Vietnam has a more diversified export portfolio. Still, shipments to the US account for around 30 percent of Vietnam's total exports.

Given this high exposure, Dong He said Vietnam could face spillover effects, where weaker external demand may affect domestic consumption and investment. Nonetheless, he highlighted that Vietnam retains policy space to cushion any potential economic shocks.

"Looking beyond the short term, I believe it's even more crucial for Vietnam to deepen its integration with regional economies. This includes attracting more foreign direct investment (FDI) and upgrading its product structure," he said.

He also pointed to the Government's ongoing reform efforts – particularly those aimed at improving the investment climate and upgrading infrastructure – as key steps towards enhancing the country's long-term growth potential.

For 2026, AMRO also revised Vietnam's growth forecast upward to 6.5 percent, from 6.2 percent previously. Inflation is projected to moderate to 3.4 percent in 2025 and 3 percent in 2026.

The ASEAN+3 region's GDP growth forecast for 2025 and 2026. — Data from AMRO

In contrast to Vietnam's upward trajectory, the broader ASEAN+3 region is expected to grow at a slower pace – 3.8 percent in 2025 and 3.6 percent in 2026 – due to rising external uncertainties and the continued impact of US protectionist measures. These figures are both down from AMRO's April forecasts.

### গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ এবং কার্যালয়

সড়ক বিভাগ, বালকাঠি।

E-mail: eejha@rhd.gov.bd

মার্ক ৮-৩০১.৪২৪০.৪৩২.০৮.০২.২০২১-১৭১০

তারিখ ২৩/০৭/২০২৫ইঠ।

### "সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতিতে (LTM) টিকাদার তালিকাভুক্ত/লাইসেন্স নথায়ন বিজ্ঞপ্তি (সংশোধিত)"

এতোবার সংশোধিত সকলের অব্যাহির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সড়ক বিভাগ, বালকাঠি কর্তৃপক্ষ প্রকিউরমেট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর আলোকে সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতির আওতায় ২০২৫-২০২৬ অর্ধবছরের জন্য টিকাদার তালিকাভুক্ত করা হচ্ছে। সিপিটিইট কর্তৃপক্ষ নির্বাহীত অব্যাহির জন্য কর্তৃপক্ষ প্রকিউরমেট আর্থিক চলাকালীন সময়ে সরবারাহ করা হচ্ছে (১ক-০১)। ইতোপৰ্যে যারা তালিকাভুক্ত হয়েছেন তাদেরকে ছক-০২ অনুসরণ করে নথায়ন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে।

উদ্দেশ্য যে, সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি প্রয়োগের ফলে প্রাক্তিক প্রকিউরমেট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ এর বিধি ৬০ অনুসরণযোগ্য এবং এ তালিকাভুক্তসম্পর্কে আহ্বান/কাজ প্রদানের নিষ্ঠাত্বা বিধান করে না।

ছক-০১ (নতুন তালিকাভুক্ত সংস্করণ)

বিবরণ	নতুন তালিকাভুক্তির ফি	নতুন তালিকাভুক্তির সময়সীমা
টিকাদারী নথুন তালিকাভুক্তি	৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার টাকা) + ১৫% ভাটি	২০/০৭/২০২৫ইঠ হচ্ছে ৩০/০৮/২০২৫ইঠ বিকল ৫-০০ টাকা

ছক-০২ (নথায়ন সংস্করণ)

বিবরণ	নথায়ন ফি	নথায়নের সময়সীমা
টিকাদারী লাইসেন্স নথায়ন	২,০০০/- (দুই হাজার টাকা) + ১৫% ভাটি	২০/০৭/২০২৫ইঠ হচ্ছে ১৫/০৮/২০২৫ইঠ বিকল ৫-০০ টাকা

শর্তাবলী ১-

০১। ২০২৫-২০২৬ অর্ধবছরে লাইসেন্স নথায়নের জন্য অন্ত দণ্ডের হিসাব শাখায় লাইসেন্স নথায়ন ফি ও ভ্যাট জমা প্রদর্শিত রাখিব হচ্ছে।

০২। টিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির জন্য ১,০০০/- (একাহারা) টাকা মূল্যের ফরম নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, সড়ক উপ-বিভাগ, বালকাঠি কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃপক্ষ প্রয়োগে পুনর করে অন্ত দণ্ডের দাখিল করতে হচ্ছে। তালিকাভুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ যাচাই-বাচাইয়াস্থে উত্তীর্ণ পদ্ধতি/ প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্তি ফি এবং নথায়ন করা হচ্ছে।

০৩। নির্বাহীত তারিখের পরে কোনভাবে টিকাদারী লাইসেন্স নথায়ন/ তালিকাভুক্তি ফি এবং নথায়ন করা হচ্ছে।

০৪। টিকাদারী লাইসেন্স নথায়ন/ তালিকাভুক্তি ফে ক্ষেত্রে কর্তৃপক্ষের সিদ্ধান্তেই হ্রাস দেওয়া হচ্ছে।

১০/০৭/২০২৫

(শাহীরায়া সর্বীকৃত খান)  
পরিচিহ্নিত নং-৬০২৪২৭

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, সওজ, (চলাই)