



# Newsflash Bangladesh October 2013

*Edition 25*



*Women working in RMG factories*

## *Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands*

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## **Political Update**

The political situation intensified in the month of October due to the ongoing impasse on the question how the elections are to be held. Both Awami League and BNP increased their political activities holding various rallies. The BNP held a rally at Suhrawardy Uddyan in Dhaka on the 25th October and declared strikes for 60 hours starting from 27th to 29th of October and also from 4th November to 6th November. During the strikes there were reports of vehicles torched and damage to public and private properties and outbreak of clashes between police and supporters of BNP and Awami League across the country leading to thirteen fatalities. Awami League also held a rally at the same location on 3rd November. A significant event was the Prime Minister's phone call to the opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia on the 26th of October asking her counterpart to call off the planned strike and inviting her for dinner and talks on the election time government. The conversation was later leaked and broadcasted on national and private televisions. Many hoped the phone call to be a reconciliatory step; it seems however that the phone call has not brought a solution closer. There were also four verdicts declared by the International Crimes Tribunal which saw SQ Chowdhury, Ashrafuzzaman and Chowdhury Moinuddin receive death sentences while Abdul Alim received life imprisonment. The verdicts resulted in sporadic violence across the country by both BNP and Jamaat. The much anticipated verdict of the BDR (Bangladeshi Rifles) mutiny case of 2009 was also declared by a Dhaka Court on the 5th November which saw 152 death sentences and 161 life imprisonment which included ex BNP leader Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu and Awami League leader Torab Ali. 74 people including 57 army officers died in the BDR mutiny which took place in the BDR headquarters on 25-26th of February 2009.



## RMG Update

Recently a split garment workers' wage board voted on a new wage structure for the garment sector and finalised its recommendation that Tk 5,300 should be the minimum salary for workers. Factory owners, however, rejected the proposed 76.66 percent minimum salary hike from the existing Tk 3,000. Failing to reach a consensus on the minimum salary thrice before, the board in its ninth meeting (4 November) went for a vote and the recommendation was passed 4-0, with factory owners in the board refraining from voting. In response, apparel factory owners issued an ultimatum to the Government of Bangladesh on November 5, 2013 to review the new recommended minimum monthly wage in the next 15 days. Alternatively, they planned to shut down production in all the factories registered with the two organizations, BGMEA and BKMEA. However, BGMEA indicated on November 10, that its members were ready to accept, albeit reluctantly, the monthly minimum wage of Tk 5,300 for garment workers as recommended by the Minimum Wage Board. The Minimum Wage Board is convening again on 21 November after which it is expected an official announcement will follow. BGMEA's current stand reflects a major shift in position of the garments' factory owners. However, the recommended wage still remains below the workers' demand of Tk 8,100, which a number of fractions within workers representative bodies continue to demand. These demands have been accompanied over these last days by strikes and (violent) protests on the streets in de RMG industrial zones.

## October Highlights

**Lauching of the ILO Program to improve the working conditions in the Bangladesh ready-made garments sector** The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) launched a USD \$24.21 million initiative – including a new Better Work programme - aimed at improving working conditions in the ready-made garment (RMG) industry in Bangladesh on October 22, 2013. The three-and-a-half year initiative, 'Improving Working Conditions in the Ready-Made Garment Sector' - (RMGP) focuses on minimizing the threat of fire and building collapse in ready-made garment factories and on ensuring the rights and safety of workers. The United Kingdom and the Netherlands are jointly contributing USD \$15 million to the programme. The ILO is also mobilising further resources. "Rana Plaza and Tazreen became the symbols of what is wrong in the RMG sector. Now Bangladesh, supported by the international community, has the chance to get it right. The Netherlands supports this ILO programme because it contains all the crucial elements to make the garment sector safe and sustainable. For us this is a perfect example of using aid to promote responsible trade," said Mr Gerben de Jong, Ambassador of the Netherlands in Bangladesh at the occasion. As part of the new programme the ILO and the International Finance Corporation also announced the launch of a Better Work programme in Bangladesh. This will complement the RMG programme by implementing factory-level activities to improve compliance with national labour laws and respect for international core labour standards while promoting the competitiveness of participating factories.





### **95 percent Nordic companies consider expanding business in Bangladesh (New Age)**

Around 95 percent Nordic companies doing business in Bangladesh are contemplating to increase their activities in the country in the coming three-year period, according to a Business Climate Survey conducted by the Nordic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) in Bangladesh, the Sweden Bangladesh Business Council and the three Nordic embassies (Sweden, Norway and Denmark). This is partly due to the potential for higher profit margins compared to other markets the companies are active. Other reasons include growing demand from the middle class and rising production costs in other markets like China. About 67 percent of respondents consider the business climate in Bangladesh as favourable despite the political instability, erratic power supply, poor transport infrastructure, legal barriers and bureaucratic norms that act as barriers to growth. The survey was sent to a total of 55 companies, of which 46 are NCCI members (74% response rate) and 9 non-members (33% response rate). The survey was conducted between December 1, 2012 and January 15, 2013.



### **Textile and Ready Made Garments (RMG)**

**Fair wages to help retain trade privileges (Source: The Daily Star)** "Bangladesh must ensure fair wages and labour rights for garment workers to safeguard duty-free access for its textile exports to Europe in the coming days," William Hanna, head of EU delegation to Bangladesh at a dialogue on the Rana Plaza tragedy, co-organised by the Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC), ActionAid and Dhaka University Economics Department Alumni Association. "Bangladesh must ensure workers' right to association, collective bargaining, occupational safety and fair wages if the country wants to retain the generalised system of preferences (GSP) for garment exports to European markets," Hanna said. The EU may think of cancelling the "Everything But Arms" scheme, if Bangladesh fails to make sufficient progress in labour rights and safety standards, he said.

**IndustriAll demands \$71m for Rana Plaza victims (Source: The Daily Star)** On October 1, the Bangladesh chapter of IndustriAll Global Union demanded Tk 28.32 lakh in compensation for each of the apparel workers who died or went missing in the Rana Plaza collapse on April 24. "Many victims are yet to be compensated properly even though the factory collapse occurred around six months ago," Roy Ramesh Chandra, general secretary of IndustriAll Bangladesh Council, said at a press briefing. IndustriAll estimated that \$71 million or Tk 547 crore would be needed to compensate and rehabilitate the victims of Rana Plaza. Of the amount, 45 percent should be paid by retailers, 28 percent by factory owners, 18 percent by BGMEA and the remainder by the government, he also said.

**BGMEA seeks support to educate workers and factory owners on trade union issues (Source: The Daily Star)** Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) on October 1 sought support from development partners to educate workers, management and factory owners about the role of trade unions. BGMEA President Atiqul Islam said, "we have to keep in mind that those who are forming trade unions are aged between 20 years and 30 years. They are new blood and don't know what the definition of trade unions is. Our upper and mid-level management also need to get trained on trade unions. Otherwise, the sector will not survive. We welcome any kind of legal and constructive trade unions." The BGMEA chief also backed technological upgradation, saying industries need this type of solution to overcome many of its challenges.

### **Bangladesh Bank (BB) finalises JICA loan for RMG units (Source: New Age)**

According to a circular of BB issued on 23 October, apparel factories of BGMEA and BKMEA members would get total maximum loan of Tk 100 million each from a Japan



International Cooperation Agency (JICA) project to reconstruct risky industrial buildings, purchase equipment required for workplace safety and relocate the factories. Apparel factories having 100-2,000 employees would qualify for receiving pre-financing from the Tk 5 billion JICA fund, which is now being used for a project titled 'financial sector project for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises'. The circular said from now on the banks and the NBFIs would be able to apply to the central bank to receive the pre-finance from the JICA fund. Under the pre-finance, the banks and the NBFIs will be able to receive fund from the JICA project before disbursing the fund to the industries.

**United States Trade Representative (USTR) seeks progress report on 'Action Plan' by Nov 15 (Source: New Age)** The United States Trade Representative (USTR) office has requested for a progress report from the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) on the implementation status of the 'Action Plan' for reinstating the GSP facility. The report has to be sent latest by November 15 this year to the USTR and will form part of the review of the labour and fire and building safety standards in the apparel industry and the revision of GSP suspension. Government is in the process of finalizing the progress report according to the Secretary, Ministry of Commerce. Significant points include: amending the current EPZ Act and labour law to enable factory workers to have their freedom of association and collective bargaining rights, increasing the number of government labour, fire and building inspectors, and dropping or expeditiously resolving pending criminal charges against labour activists.

**EU praises efforts on factory safety (Source: The Daily Star)** The European Union, the largest export destination for Bangladeshi apparel items, has praised Bangladesh's pledge to develop labour rights and workplace safety. "I think a lot has been done in the last few months in all areas to introduce reforms for the development of the apparel sector," William Hanna, head of the EU delegation to Bangladesh, said on October 27. He spoke after a meeting on the garments sector with the ministries of foreign, labour and commerce along with US Ambassador Dan W Mozena, Netherlands Ambassador Gerben de Jong, British High Commissioner Robert Gibson and Canadian Ambassador Heather Cruden. Mahbub Ahmed, commerce secretary, and Mikail Shipar, secretary to labour and employment ministry, were also present.

**Focus on modern branding strategy for RMG sector (Source: Financial Express)** Speakers at a seminar jointly organized by The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and the Bangladesh Brand Forum (BBF) on October 9, called for developing a modern communication strategy in order to brand Bangladesh as the producer of quality apparel items. They also laid emphasis on ensuring labour rights and other compliance-related issues for greater sustainability of the country's readymade garment (RMG) sector. Ambassador of The Netherlands to Bangladesh Gerben de Jong was the chief guest of the seminar, with BGMEA President Md Atiqul Islam in the chair. The Netherlands envoy said the role of media is very crucial for sustainable development of the RMG industry in Bangladesh. "The international buyers, stakeholders and policymakers always follow the news, circulated by the local media. Sometimes, global media produces reports by taking information from the local media," he said. Mr Jong emphasized three major tasks of the RMG business - following international rules, developing good collaborative measures with stakeholders, and implementing effective corporate social responsibility (CSR) policy. "We visited many factories in last couple of months and found standard working condition in most of them. But there were some substandard factories as well." However, he cautioned the RMG businesses and the BGMEA to be more cautious to avert another catastrophe like the Rana Plaza collapse, which took more than 1,100 lives. "If such an incident happens again, it will impel the European Union (EU) buyers to take tough decisions regarding the Bangladeshi garment industry," he added.



## Infrastructure

### **Government investment in power generation hits \$8b in 5 years (Source: Financial Express)**

Prime Minister's adviser on energy issues Dr. Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury on 31 October 2013 said around US\$ 8 billion has been invested in the power sector over the last five years to build new power plants and generate additional electricity. He said power generation has almost doubled to 7,000 mw since Awami League came to power. The adviser was speaking at a deal signing ceremony to set up a 52-mw dual-fuel power plant at Jangalia in Comilla, where Sri Lankan firm Lakthanavi Power will set up the power plant. Implementation Agreement, Power Purchase Agreement and Land Lease Agreement were also signed between Lakthanavi Bangla Power Limited, a subsidiary of the Colombo-based LTL Holdings, and the state-owned Bangladesh Power Development Board to implement the power plant. As per the agreements, the Sri Lankan firm will set up the power plant within the next 15 months.



### **Power Development Board (PDB) to buy solar power at Tk 14.75 a unit (New Age)**

The government is likely to allow a private consortium to set up and operate a three-megawatt solar power plant at Sharishabari in Jamalpur to supply electricity to the national grid. State-run Power Development Board (PDB) will buy the electricity from the consortium of German firm IFC Erikson and two local firms Concord-Pragati Consortium Ltd and Jupiter Energy Ltd at about Tk 14.75 a unit or kilowatt-hour. Power division has sent a proposal in this regard to the cabinet committee on government purchases for approval around mid-October. PDB will sign a deal with the Erikson-Concord consortium for power purchase from its 3MW plant after the purchase committee approves the power division proposal. Government planned to set up renewable power plants with a combined capacity of 1,000MW-1,200MW to produce 800MW of power by 2015. However, till July this year, installed capacity of renewable power stands at 90MW only.

### **China proposes special economic zone (SEZ) for its industries in Chittagong (Source: Financial Express)**

China has proposed a SEZ for its industries on the southern bank of the Karnaphuli in Chittagong according to a letter sent around 20 October to the authority concerned seeking to obtain land for this purpose. The Prime Minister's Office asked Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA) to look into the proposal. Earlier, Bangladesh allowed South Korea to invest by allocating them an export processing zone (EPZ) in Chittagong. The government of Bangladesh has planned to construct a 3.4 kilometre-long four-lane tunnel under the Karnaphuli in Chittagong to ease communications. The tunnel will require an investment of nearly US\$ 700 million. According to the Ministry of Finance, "China is ready to provide the required fund. But before that it needs to obtain permission for setting up the economic zone on the southern side of the Karnaphuli." Feasibility studies have already been conducted by China-Hong Kong consultancy firm China Communication Construction Company (CCCC) and the Arup JV on the proposed Karnaphuli tunnel in June and submitted the report to the BBA.

### **ADB will give \$110m loan for Bangladesh's infrastructure development through PPP (Source: Financial Express)**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide US\$110 million as loan for Bangladesh's infrastructure development through public-private partnership (PPP). Out of the proposed funds, ADB will provide a \$100 million aid to Infrastructure Development Company Ltd. (IDCOL) for investment in projects in power generation, water and sanitation, transportation, and information technology. The lender will also provide a further \$10 million to IDCOL to expand its successful programme to finance off-grid solar home systems (SHS) for households and small businesses in remote rural areas. The support is in line with Bangladesh's sixth five-year



plan (2011-2015) which stresses the need to triple investment in infrastructure development from 2-6 per cent of GDP with substantial private sector participation through public-private partnerships.

## Oil/Gas/Energy



### **Petrobangla invites bids for 3 deep sea blocks**

**(Source: New Age)** Petrobangla has floated tender for oil and gas exploration in three deep sea blocks 12, 16 and 21 in the Bay of Bengal, offering international oil companies more commercial benefits and stake in the production. In a notice issued on October 27, Petrobangla asked the interested IOCs to submit proposals by 11:00am on January 12 next year. Pursued by a number of IOCs, Petrobangla revised the Model Production Sharing Contract 2012, halting a tendering process that

was floated on December 17, 2012. The revisions include an increase of gas price to \$6.5 per thousand cubic feet (from \$5 per thousand cubic feet); 70 per cent increased annual cost recovery limit (from 55 per cent); tax waiver for contractor for the entire project life; no transmission tariff and privilege of selling; and, 50 per cent of contractor's shared gas to a third party within Bangladesh. Petrobangla, instead of an IOC, will pay taxes to the government. In the notice, Petrobangla said that a bidder, singly or in association with other oil-gas companies, can bid for one or more blocks.

### **Government to award 4 offshore blocks to IOCs in a month**

**(Source: Financial express)** The government is set to award four offshore blocks to two international oil companies and one joint venture firm of the IOCs within a month to start oil and gas exploration in the Bay of Bengal, according to energy ministry sources on 25 October 2013. Petrobangla has already inked draft production sharing contract with India's ONGC Videsh Ltd and US's ConocoPhillips for three shallow water blocks.

## Water/Maritime

### **Dhaka WASA signs deal with Dutch firm**

**(Source: The Daily Star)** Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (WASA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Dutch company Vitens Evides International on October 1 to clean the storm sewers of the capital using modern technology available in the Netherlands. Under the project, Segunbagicha Box Culvert (Drain) and Kalyanpur Canal will be cleaned first. The rest of the sewers will be cleaned gradually in the next 10 years, Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan, who delivered his speech as chief guest, said with the new technology, Dhaka Wasa could run its activities more efficiently and effectively. Gerben de Jong, ambassador of the Netherlands in Dhaka, also spoke at the event.

### **\$400m for development of costal embankment**

**(Source: The Daily Star)** The government signed a financing agreement worth \$400 million for the Coastal Embankment Improvement Project (CEIP I) with the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's concessional arm on October 1, 2013. The amount includes \$375 million soft credit from the IDA and \$25 million grant from the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience, the World Bank said in a statement yesterday. The project will help upgrade Bangladesh's embankment system and increase area protected by polders from tidal flooding and frequent storm surges, according to the statement. The project will rehabilitate 600 kilometres embankments in 17 polders in six coastal districts: Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira, Barguna, Patuakhali, and Pirojpur. The rehabilitated polders would provide direct protection to 760,000 people living within the polder boundaries.



## Agriculture

**\$10m grant for solar irrigation pumps (Source: The Daily Star)** The government signed a \$10 million grant agreement with the World Bank to introduce solar irrigation pumps for farmers on September 26, 2013. The Solar Irrigation Project will enable installation of more than 1,300 solar powered irrigation pumps covering more than 65,000 bighas of land for rice cultivation. The project will be financed by the Bangladesh Climate Change Resilience Fund (BCCRF), an innovative multi-donor financing mechanism. The solar irrigations pumps will provide farmers access to clean energy in a comparatively lower cost, the World Bank said in a statement. The Infrastructure Development Company Ltd will implement the solar irrigation project through private sponsors as part of the Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Development II Project.



**Bangladesh shrimp inadequate for demand in US and EU markets (Source: Financial Express)** Demand for shrimp from Bangladesh has increased significantly in the United States and European markets over an epidemic that attacked shrimp farms in China and other Southeast Asian countries. The Early Mortality Syndrome (EMS), the latest epidemic that attacked Asia's booming shrimp industry, was first detected in Chinese farms in 2009 and then it gradually spread to Malaysia, Vietnam and Thailand, according to sources. The price of Bangladesh's 'Black Tiger' variety of shrimp rose to US\$ 9 per kg in the US market in the current year against the previous year's price of \$ 5 per kg, according to Bangladesh Frozen Foods Exporters Association (BFFEA). The shrimp export from Bangladesh grew by 52.30 per cent in the first quarter of the current fiscal against a negative growth in the last fiscal, data available from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) showed.

## Other News

**Forex reserve reaches new high of \$17.1b (Source: Financial Express)** The country's foreign exchange (forex) reserve crossed the US\$17 billion-mark for the first time, thanks to a robust growth of export earnings as well as higher inflow of remittance. The forex reserve has crossed the \$17 billion-mark, mainly due to higher growth of export earnings along with remittance inflow recently, according to the Bangladesh Bank on 23 October. The country's overall exports grew by 21.24 per cent to a record high of \$7.63 billion in the July-September period of the current fiscal year, 2013-14, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year despite the economic slowdown in the EU and the USA. The government has set an export target of \$30.50 billion for FY 14.

**WB lowers GDP growth projection to 5.7pc (Source: New Age)** The World Bank (WB) on 23 October projected that Bangladesh's economic growth would slow down to 5.7 per cent in the current fiscal year, much lower than the government's projection of 7.2 per cent, mainly due to political unrest ahead of next general elections and lower investment. WB disclosed their projection at a press briefing on Bangladesh Development Update-2013 at its office in Dhaka. The WB also said that rebuilding the image of readymade garment industry is the most pressing challenge for the country in coming days along with improving investment situation, removing supply bottlenecks and maintaining economic and financial reforms. Earlier in the month, the International Monetary Fund and Asian Development Bank also forecast lower GDP growth for fiscal year 2013-14 at 5.5 per cent and 5.8 per cent respectively.

**WB and IMF promise \$1.8b aid to Bangladesh (Source: Financial Express)** World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have promised USD1.8 billion aid to



Bangladesh. The assurance was given at the annual conference of the multi-lateral lending agencies in Washington in mid-October. They promised \$500 million in social safety net, \$400 million in coastal protection sector and \$500 million in power development sector for fiscal 2013-14 according to government sources. The country will also get an additional \$400 million for some other projects.

**Leather goods export rising in non-traditional markets (Source: Financial Express)**



Export order for leather goods in non-traditional markets is on the rise thanks to shifting of the buyers from China and India to Bangladesh. Industry insiders said on 13 October, that they have been trying to expand their export market and getting good response from the new destinations. Traditionally Bangladesh has been exporting to Italy, Belgium, France, New Zealand, the US, Canada, Spain, Poland, the UK and Germany. But now leather goods exporters are exploring new markets in South Africa, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Australia, Japan, China,

India, South Korea, Russia and Turkey. Meanwhile, footwear export recorded around 7.3 per cent growth in July-September of the current fiscal year 2013-14 compared to the same period of last year, Export Promotion Bureau data shows.

**Bourses will now start work on demutualization (Source: The Daily Star)**

Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission sent the approved demutualisation schemes to the bourses who will now take the next course of action, a spokesman of the regulator said on October 1. The regulator approved the demutualisation schemes last week after the Dhaka and Chittagong stock exchanges had submitted those on July 29. Demutualisation, a way of separating the bourses' management from ownership, is expected to bring transparency and accountability to the market. It will transform the two bourses from their current non-profit and cooperative state into profit-oriented entities. The schemes will now be made public in the next seven days through the bourses' websites and newspaper advertisements.

## Events

**Meeting with the delegation of Accord** On October 21, a meeting was organized by the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Gerben de Jong, between the visiting delegation of the Accord with the members of the Local Consultative Group (LCG) on Private Sector Development & Trade.

## Upcoming Events

**European Conference on Living Wage: 25-26 November 2013, Berlin, Germany**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Netherlands, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the German Round Table Codes of Conduct will host a European Conference on Living Wage on 25 and 26 November 2013 in Berlin organized by Berenschot consulting firm. During the past years, various supply chain initiatives, multi-stakeholder platforms, businesses, governments and trade unions in Europe have undertaken activities with the aim of working towards living wages in international supply chains. The conference intends to bring together all European initiatives at the Conference with representatives from sourcing countries. The case of Bangladesh will be highlighted. More information about the upcoming conference can be found at <http://www.berenschot.com/expertise/expertise-services/living-wage>.

## Tenders

**Invitation for Design-Build, Supply, Erection, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Skid Mounted Gas Regulating & Metering Station and Construction of Interconnecting Pipeline for Supplying Gas to Bhola 225 MW**



**Combined Cycle Power Plant** including its Related Services. The invitation was published in 16 September 2013; last date of Schedule Submission is 27 November 2013 at 11:00am. For details, please contact: Office of the Secretary, Bangladesh Power Development Board, WAPDA Building (1st Floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka [http://bpdb.alltender.com/tender\\_detail.php?id\\_tender=306934](http://bpdb.alltender.com/tender_detail.php?id_tender=306934)

**In view of the revised terms and conditions for the Deep Sea blocks under the Bangladesh Offshore Bid Round 2012 the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Petrobangla invite International Oil Companies (IOCs) to bid for three (3) deep sea blocks** (DS-12, 16 & 21) currently available for exploration by the IOCs. The revisions include significant fiscal and commercial improvements, such as increased gas price, annual price escalation, enhanced annual cost recovery limit, tax waiver for Contractor for the entire project life, no transmission tariff, and scope to sell Contractor's gas to Third Party within Bangladesh etc. The bidder, singly or in association with other oil/gas companies, can bid for one or more blocks. Contracts will be signed with the successful bidders in line with the Revised Model Production Sharing Contract 2012. Tender was published on 27 October and public opening of bids before the authorized representatives of the bidders will take place at 11:30 a.m. BST. For details, please contact: Director, Production Sharing Contract Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla), Petrocentre, 3 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh, Telephone 88-02-8189930, Fax: 88-02-9127400 E-mail: [dpscpb@petrobangla.org.bd](mailto:dpscpb@petrobangla.org.bd); [mgr1.contract@petrobangla.org.bd](mailto:mgr1.contract@petrobangla.org.bd); [www.petrobangla.org.bd](http://www.petrobangla.org.bd)

***Please remain updated on these and future tenders at the following website:***  
<http://www.cptu.gov.bd/Notices.aspx>

### **More information**

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The Embassy always welcomes your comments on, and suggestions for the Newsflash. We also encourage interested Dutch and Bangladeshi companies to place an article or message in our newsflash. For more information please contact our economic department at the Embassy in Dhaka through email [dha-ea@minbuza.nl](mailto:dha-ea@minbuza.nl), or by phone (00882) 8822715-8.