

Damage done in Dhaka airport warehouse blaze Businesses count \$1.0b losses in burnt goods, harmed exports

FE REPORT

Trade bodies have initially estimated a loss of over \$1.0 billion or Tk 120 billion inflicted on Bangladesh's export sector by the devastating fire in the cargo village of Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA). The Exporters Association of Bangladesh (EAB) came up with the loss assessment at a press conference Monday in a city hotel, where exporters demanded unassailable safety and security at all trade gateways. Speaking at the press meet, EAB President Mohammad Hatem said the government should ensure great security in key areas like cargo villages and export-import ports for the sake of assuring global buyers of shipment of goods in time. Raw materials of some 32 pharmaceutical companies worth about Tk 2.0 billion were burnt in the fire, which may cause disruption to

production and distribution of finished goods worth between Tk 30 billion and Tk 50 billion in next two to six months. Leaders of the country's export-oriented sectors believe there had been failure of the authorities concerned in ensuring effective fire-detection and-protection system at the cargo village. They sought greater safety measures at the import cargo zone of HSIA and put forward a six-point demand, including immediate government support to compensate affected small and medium enterprises (SMEs) whose imported raw materials got gutted in the blaze. The EAB president, Mohammad Hatem, noted with deep concern that the fire incident not only caused financial losses but also severely tarnished image of the country.

"It is still difficult to accurately determine the total loss of exporters caused by the blaze. But initially we've assume that the fire has caused losses worth of Tk 120 billion or US\$1.0 billion," Mr Hatem said, demanding a transparent and full investigation into the overall loss. The direct loss is the damage or the burning of goods but the issue is not only the damage, he said, explaining the raw materials destroyed in the blaze would affect production of exportable goods and their timely shipments which might result in losing market, confidence of global buyers and related international agreements. He said they asked their members for information of possible losses which they are yet to get. One after another fire incident at Ashulia, Mirpur, Chattogram EPZ and lastly at Incepta Pharmaceuticals created deep concern and insecurity among the entrepreneurs, he said, adding that the fire at Dhaka airport created uncertainty among foreign buyers which might affect future work orders. Mr Hatem, also president of

Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), reminds that the cargo village of HSIA is one of the country's most vital infrastructures and the fire clearly shows the loopholes in its security-and-safety system. The EAB proposed forming a comprehensive investigation team with representatives from government and business community that would not only determine the cause of such incidents but also come up with effective safety measures to prevent any recurrence. Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI) secretary-general Zakir Hossain said some 32 pharma companies out of 305 informed that raw materials worth around Tk2. 0 billion had been burnt in the cargo-zone fire. Some 250 pharma companies are in operation, he said, adding that they are waiting for the feedback from the rest. Responding to a question, he said 10 to 53 components are needed to produce a medicine and the damage of raw materials worth of Tk 2.0 billion could cause production disruption of medicine ranging from Tk 30 billion to Tk 50 billion in next

two to three months. He, however, said there would be no immediate effect in the supply chain. Mr Hossain, however, expressed concern over the quality of raw materials shifted to Chattogram Airport on Saturday, saying that temperature is an important issue to preserve pharma raw materials and Chattogram airport doesn't have the system. He criticised the Customs House for keeping their activities closed from 5.0 pm to 9.0 am each day and through the weekend holidays and demanded 24-hour operation even on a small scale. They are ready to pay. Citing the damage to his own company, he said one of his narcotic items had been burnt and it would take four to six months to import again after getting fresh permission and obtaining clearance. Md Nazmul Hassan, senior vice president of Leathergoods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association of Bangladesh, said raw materials like accessories and chemical worth of US\$1.0 million were burnt which might result in loss of billion dollars. Md Shahriar, president of Bangladesh

Garment Accessories and Packaging Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGAPMEA), said initially they received statistics of losses in the accessories sector at around Tk 230 million. Industry leaders at the conference called on the government to swiftly implement the EAB's six-point demand after a full investigation and damage assessment. The EAB demands include prompt settlement of insurance claims for goods damaged in the fire, the formation of a special government fund to compensate exporters who didn't have insurance, modernisation and expansion of the Cargo Village to ensure future safety, and setting up a separate and air-conditioned warehouse for the pharmaceutical sector. They also pressed for establishment of a chemical warehouse at a safe distance and full automation of the cargo-village warehouse. Fazlee Shamim Ehsan, president of Bangladesh Employers Federation, Showkat Aziz Russel, president of BTMA, and leaders of other export-oriented sectors also spoke at the conference.

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GOVT BLUEPRINT TO UNLOCK AFRICAN TRADE TREASURE TROVES

Target \$2.5b export to SADC bloc

Exploration mission shortly, Afro-BD trade-investment summit in Dec

JASIM UDDIN

Bangladesh moves to discover trade treasure troves across Africa with an imminent exploration mission and trade summit under a comprehensive plan for export-market diversification into potential destinations yet untapped. Sources say direct shipping connectivity with prime ports on the continent planned and striking trade treaties with African countries under South-South cooperation avenues are also components of the trade-and investment-promotion blueprint. A particular focus of the plan is on fostering ties with the Southern African Development Community (SADC). As part of this initiative, the government plans to host an Africa-Bangladesh Trade and Investment Summit in Dhaka this December. According to sources at the Ministry of Commerce, the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) will organise the summit, aimed at enhancing trade and investment ties with the African economies.

The initiative primarily moves on a just-prepared strategy paper titled 'Unlock Export Opportunities in SADC Countries', which outlines a detailed roadmap to expand Bangladesh's export footprint within the 16-member bloc encompassing major economies.

Prior to the Dhaka conclave, the government has scheduled a trade-delegation mission to major SADC countries in November, according to the commerce ministry sources. The SADC region -- which includes countries such as South Africa, Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe -- has been

TAKEAWAYS FROM GOVT STRATEGY DOC

- Direct shipping connectivity with prime ports on the continent planned
- Diversifying export destinations deemed pivotal task amid paradigm shifts in traditional mkts
- Trade treaties with African countries conceived under South-South cooperation scope
- Exploring strategic coop under African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) also in focus
- 'Made in Bangladesh -- Africa' branding campaign, trade fairs set in govt strategy paper to promote market access

identified as a largely untapped but promising market. With a combined GDP of approximately US\$850 billion and a population of over 380 million, the region presents significant opportunities for Bangladesh to reduce its reliance on traditional export destinations in the European Union and North America. Currently, Bangladesh's trade with the region remains modest. In FY2024-25, total exports to Africa came to US\$410.8 million, of which about US\$158.9 million worth of the trade went to SADC countries. South

Africa emerged as the largest importer within the bloc. Key export items include ready-made garments (RMG), jute goods, pharmaceuticals, leather, and agricultural products. The EPB-drafted strategy paper carries a call for a coordinated approach to removing trade barriers, enhancing logistics infrastructure, and supporting product diversification in preparation for the up-and-coming trade bonanza. Outlined in the blueprint are seven key priority areas: product diversification, bilateral trade agreements, improved logistics and

connectivity, financial facilitation, country branding, Institutional capacity building and strengthened compliance with international quality standards.

The government has set a target to increase exports to the SADC region to US\$2.5 billion by 2030. To this end, the paper recommends initiating trade-and investment agreements with key SADC economies like South Africa, Tanzania, and Mozambique, while also exploring strategic cooperation under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Additionally, plans are in motion to establish direct shipping routes between Chattogram seaport and major African ports such as Durban, Maputo, and Dar es Salaam, which could significantly reduce freight costs and transit times.

Several Bangladeshi business groups have already started looking for prospects in African markets. Sectors showing strong growth potential include pharmaceuticals, agro-processed foods, leather goods, light engineering, plastics, and ICT services.

To further promote market access, a recommendation has been made for launching a 'Made in Bangladesh -- Africa' branding campaign and organising trade fairs in South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia, according to the government strategy paper. However, the report also identifies several challenges, including the absence of preferential trade agreements, tariffs ranging 15-25 per cent, limited logistics and banking infrastructure, and cut-throat

competition from global players like China, India and Turkey. To address these issues, the paper proposes enhanced financial instruments such as export-credit guarantees, establishing correspondent banking relationships, and streamlining letter of credit (LC) procedures for Africa-bound shipments. Trade analysts view the initiative as a key pillar of Bangladesh's evolving 'Look South' policy, which seeks to deepen South-South cooperation and shift export reliance away from saturated Western markets. "If the roadmap is implemented effectively, the SADC region could become a significant growth frontier for Bangladesh's export sector, helping the country reach its US\$2.5 billion target by 2030," says one trade expert. Speaking to The Financial Express, EPB Vice-Chairman Mohammad Hasan Arif said: "We are planning to explore opportunities in the African market. As part of



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The delegation will represent eight priority sectors, including RMG, agro-products, leather and footwear, pharmaceuticals, and IT services.

Arif hopes the upcoming Africa-Bangladesh Summit to bring together around 100 international buyers, and, maybe, held alongside 'Sourcing Bangladesh', the country's first global sourcing expo, scheduled for December 1-3 in Dhaka.

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Airport fire may delay RMG, pharma production by at least two months

Manufacturers estimate losses could far exceed the value of destroyed raw materials

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Local manufacturers are scrambling for raw materials after a massive fire destroyed imported production inputs at the cargo complex of Dhaka airport on Saturday.

Of them, apparel and pharmaceutical producers face the heaviest burden.

Without the imported raw materials and intermediary goods, apparel-makers risk missing export deadlines ahead of Christmas in Western markets, one of the busiest seasons for Bangladeshi fashion exporters.

Many may have to depend on faster, but more expensive air shipments, offer discounts to compensate for delayed deliveries, and see their profit margins shrink.

In these cases, the financial losses will be more than the value of the destroyed items.

Similarly, burned pharmaceutical raw materials will force drugmakers to import them again, requiring lengthy approvals and new bank

(HSIA) offers refrigerated and temperature-controlled storage, which drugmakers rely on for sensitive ingredients.

SM Noor Hossain, executive director (marketing and commercial) at Labaid Pharmaceuticals Ltd, said his company's active pharmaceutical ingredients, worth Tk 1.5 crore, were imported from India and had been waiting at the cargo complex for one week when those were destroyed.

"Now, we will have to import the same materials again. The financial losses are very high as we will need to borrow from banks at high interest rates. The market value of the finished products would have been Tk 10 crore if they had been manufactured," he said.

Mizanur Rahman, managing director of Fabrica Knit Composite Ltd, said he lost accessories and trims worth more than \$2.5 lakh,

ESTIMATED LOSSES

- Total losses estimated at nearly \$1b
- About \$10m loss reported by garment exporters
- 901 RMG factories reported losses so far
- 32 pharmas suffered damages worth about Tk 200cr
- Garment accessories sector losses already exceed Tk 23cr

Impact

Exporters fear losses in production and delays in shipment

Reactions

Exporters blamed lax safety measures

They demand greater safety at cargo complex

International buyers are disappointed

financing. Meanwhile, interest accrued during delayed production of life-saving medicines will add to costs.

"Overall, the affected factories will have to delay production for at least two months because of the loss of raw materials and intermediary goods at the airport," said Inamul Haq Khan, senior vice-president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

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Samad, who is a BGMEA director, led a meeting with senior customs officials at the airport yesterday. They directed all BGMEA members to collect imported goods on the same day or within 48 hours due to current space constraints at the cargo complex.

Of the imported goods lost in the fire, 59 percent were from China, 9.4 percent from Hong Kong, 5.4 percent from India, 2 percent from South Korea, and the rest from other countries.

BGMEA Senior Vice-President Inamul Haq Khan said 901 garment companies had so far reported losses through the trade body's portal, with preliminary estimates reaching nearly \$10 million, or Tk 122 crore.

He said both the number of affected factories and the total losses are likely to rise as more companies register their damage.

Khan himself lost goods worth \$36,000, or nearly Tk 44 lakh.

director of Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd, a leading domestic and export drugmaker, said raw materials and machinery worth at least Tk 8 crore were destroyed in the Dhaka airport fire.

He said it will take seven to eight months more to manufacture the drugs by importing the same raw materials again.

The cargo complex at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport

general of the Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries, said 32 pharmaceutical companies have reported losses of around Tk 200 crore. Total losses of the sector are likely to rise once assessments are complete.

At a press conference in Dhaka yesterday, Mohammad Hatem, president of the Exporters Association of Bangladesh, suggested that losses could reach \$1 billion as assessments continue.

From the programme, exporters called for stricter safety measures at Dhaka airport, blaming inadequate safety standards for the fire.

"International clothing retailers and brands have expressed concern," said Showkat Aziz Russell, president of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association.

"Our textile and garment sectors are being targeted. Setting fires at the airport undermines Bangladesh's reputation abroad and threatens

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Mizanur Rahman, managing director of Fabrica Knit Composite Ltd, said he lost accessories and trims worth more than \$2.5 lakh, or around Tk 3 crore, in the airport fire. "These goods will need to be reproduced, which will take at least four weeks to import. We may have to use air shipments or get work orders cancelled," he said.

Faisal Samad, managing director of Surma Garments Ltd, said his garment accessories worth \$60,000, or Tk 73 lakh, were also lost.

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Khan himself lost goods worth \$36,000, or nearly Tk 44 lakh.

He said although the value of the destroyed raw materials is relatively low, the wider implications are too high as international clothing retailers and brands are now concerned about timely deliveries.

He said exports and imports have resumed at the airport following swift government intervention.

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general of the Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries, said 32 pharmaceutical companies have reported losses of around Tk 200 crore. Total losses of the sector are likely to rise once assessments are complete.

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"Our textile and garment sectors are being targeted. Setting fires at the airport undermines Bangladesh's reputation abroad and threatens our commitments to international partners," he said.

Md Shahriar, president of the Bangladesh Garment Accessories and Packaging Manufacturers and Exporters Association, said losses in the accessories sector have already crossed Tk 23 crore as companies continue to file reports. He called for timely insurance payments.



Exporters fear Tk12,000cr loss from Dhaka airport fire, place six-point demand

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FIRE - DHAKA

TBS REPORT

Pharma sector counts Tk200cr loss, says BAPI

Exporters fear losses of around Tk12,000 crore following the devastating fire at the cargo village of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka, according to a preliminary estimate by the Exporters Association of Bangladesh (EAB).

The association expressed deep concern over the scale of the damage, saying that foreign buyers have also become alarmed by the incident.

At a press conference yesterday, it placed a six-point demand before the government, urging immediate steps to mitigate the fallout and restore confidence among exporters and international partners.

EAB President Mohammad Hatem, speaking at the press conference, said the blaze not only destroyed export goods but also raw materials crucial for production, amplifying the overall financial damage.

"The direct loss is from the goods burnt in the fire, but this is not the only damage. The raw materials destroyed in the blaze will prevent the production of export-ready goods, which will lead to even greater losses," he said.

Hatem, who also serves as president of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), said the total extent of the loss is still difficult to determine.

"We are sending urgent messages to our members to determine the extent of the damage, but a full picture is yet to emerge. The actual scale of loss can only be known after a transparent and complete investigation," he said.

"Nevertheless, our preliminary estimate is - all in all, a loss of approximately one billion dollars or Tk12,000 crore has occurred," he added.

The EAB president underscored the importance of the cargo village, which handles a wide range of essential goods for multiple industries. Exporters in the RMG sector rely on the facility for urgent air shipments of light machinery, spare parts, raw materials, accessories and critical product samples.

The pharmaceutical industry depends on it for importing raw materials and exporting highly sensitive medicines, while exporters of frozen food, agricultural produce, vegetables and fruits also use the complex.

"These products could be completely ruined if not shipped on time, as they are highly sensitive," Hatem said. "International courier services also use the facility for handling vital documents and parcels."

buyers' confidence, and potential damage to international contracts."

Calling the incident a "serious warning" for the business community, Hatem said, "Such incidents clearly show that the security system at the Cargo Village is not sufficiently effective. Even Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport itself is at risk from a security standpoint."

6-point demand

The EAB placed a six-point demand to the government, urging immediate action to minimise further disruption and restore confidence.

The demands include prompt settlement of insurance claims for goods damaged in the fire; formation of a special government fund to com-

establishment of a separate, air-conditioned warehouse for the pharmaceutical sector; construction of a chemical warehouse at a safe distance; and full automation of cargo village warehouse management using modern technology.

Industry representatives at the conference urged the authorities to implement the EAB's proposals swiftly after a full investigation and assessment of the damage. The press conference was jointly organised by major industry associations, including BKMEA, BGMEA, BTMA, BGPMEA, and representatives from the leather, pharmaceuticals, frozen food, jewellery, plastics, silk, handicrafts, and giftware sectors.

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to various pharmaceutical companies were destroyed in the fire.

BAPI Secretary General Mohammad Zakir Hossain, speaking at the same press conference, said letters were sent to 32 companies to assess the damage.

"Their raw materials worth Tk200 crore have been reduced to ashes," he said, adding that the sector might face disruptions in medicine production and distribution worth Tk3,000-Tk5,000 crore over the next three to six months.

Zakir also criticised the Customs House for keeping duty assessment activities closed from Thursday evening through the weekend, arguing that customs operations must remain open 24 hours a day, even at reduced capacity, to prevent further supply disruptions.

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Buyers worried, exporters anxious

Expressing concern over repeated fire incidents across the country, Hatem warned that the blaze in such a high-security area could have serious consequences for Bangladesh's reputation among international buyers.

"It is a serious concern that foreign buyers may become anxious about the security of Bangladesh's export products upon hearing news of this fire," he said. "This could hurt buyer confidence, future orders, and our overall export competitiveness," Hatem cautioned.

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"Nevertheless, our preliminary estimate is - all in all, a loss of approximately one billion dollars or Tk12,000 crore has occurred," he added.

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Tk200cr loss in Pharma sector

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI) estimated that raw materials worth around Tk200 crore belonging

to various pharmaceutical companies were destroyed in the fire.

BAPI Secretary General Mohammad Zakir Hossain, speaking at the same press conference, said letters were sent to 32 companies to assess the damage.

"Their raw materials worth Tk200 crore have been reduced to ashes," he said, adding that the sector might face disruptions in medicine production and distribution worth Tk3,000-Tk5,000 crore over the next three to six months.

Zakir also criticised the Customs House for keeping duty assessment activities closed from Thursday evening through the weekend, arguing that customs operations must remain open 24 hours a day, even at reduced capacity, to prevent further supply disruptions.

"Otherwise, a dreadful fire like this could once again lead to a shortage in the supply of products crucial for public health," he warned.

Buyers worried, exporters anxious

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"It is a serious concern that foreign buyers may become anxious about the security of Bangladesh's export products upon hearing news of this fire," he said. "This could hurt buyer confidence, future orders, and our overall export competitiveness," Hatem cautioned.

"We are apprehensive, and our foreign buyers are also concerned," he said, adding that import-export activities are expected to be hampered for the next few days. "There is a risk of losing market positions, a decline in



21 OCT 2025



A worker waters the site of a rare earth metals mine at Nancheng county, Jiangxi province 16 January 2021. PHOTO: REUTERS

Fall in China's exports of rare earth magnets stokes supply chain fears

TRADE - CHINA

REUTERS

China's exports of rare earth magnets fell in September, reigniting fears that the world's top supplier could wield its dominance over a component key for US defence firms and makers of items from cars to smartphones as leverage in trade talks.

In April and May, Beijing squeezed global automakers with export curbs on a range of rare

earths items and related magnets, while negotiators faced off over triple-digit US tariffs on goods from the world's second-largest economy.

Four months on, after Washington and Beijing unexpectedly reprised threats of fresh tariffs and rare earth export curbs, worry is growing that China could return to the same playbook.

That would mean it reneges on a June deal with the United States to ease the flow of critical minerals.

China's shipments of rare earth magnets fell 6.1% in September

from August, customs data showed on Monday, ending three months of gains, and dropping even before Beijing unveiled a dramatic expansion of its export licensing regime this month.

"The sharp swings in rare earth magnet exports show that China knows it holds a key card in international trade talks," said Chim Lee, senior analyst at the Economist Intelligence Unit.

The September fall to 5,774 tonnes from a seven-month high of 6,146 tonnes in August aligns with reports that China is already making it harder for firms to secure licences for exports of rare earth magnets.

Its commerce ministry is applying

scrutiny similar to that seen in April, at the height of the trade war.

On an annual basis, September shipments rose 17.5%.

Last week, China's commerce ministry accused the United States of stoking global panic over its rare earth controls by deliberately misunderstanding the curbs, and said it would approve export licences intended for civilian use.

Still, analysts worry China could once again entangle civilian commercial users in curbs aimed at choking US defence firms' access to critical materials.

"China's ability to throttle rare earth exports is an exceptionally powerful tool," said Dan Wang, China director at Eurasia Group.



শ্রমসংবাদ

21 OCT 2025

চাল আমদানি সীমিত রাখার সুপারিশ

ট্যারিফ কমিশনের প্রতিবেদন

নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক, ঢাকা

চাল আমদানির অনুমতি সীমিত রাখার সুপারিশ করেছে বাংলাদেশ ট্যারিফ কমিশন (বিটিটিসি)। দেশে চালের দাম স্থিতিশীল রাখার পাশাপাশি কৃষকের স্বার্থ রক্ষায় এমন সুপারিশ করা হয়েছে।

বিটিটিসি বলেছে, উৎপাদন ব্যয় বৃদ্ধির কারণে স্থানীয়ভাবে চালের দাম বেড়েছে। তবে ঘাটতি দেখা দিলে সীমিত পরিসরে প্রয়োজনীয় চাল আমদানি হতে পারে। তবে দীর্ঘ মেয়াদে শুষ্ক রেয়াত সুবিধায় চাল আমদানি চালু থাকলে স্থানীয় উৎপাদন নিরুৎসাহিত হওয়ার ঝুঁকি রয়েছে।

গতকাল সোমবার চালের দাম নিয়ে ট্যারিফ কমিশনের এক প্রতিবেদনে এ সুপারিশ করা হয়েছে। প্রতিবেদনে বলা হয়েছে, দেশে চালের চাহিদা প্রায় ৩ কোটি ৭ লাখ থেকে ৩ কোটি ৯ লাখ টন। স্থানীয়ভাবে চাল উৎপাদন হয় ৪ কোটি ৪৩ লাখ টন। তারপরও দাম বাড়লে আমদানি হয়। বেশির ভাগ চাল আমদানি হয় মূলত ভারত থেকে।

ট্যারিফ কমিশন বলেছে, দেশে গত এক বছরে ধানের দাম ১১ শতাংশ, সরু চালের দাম ১১ শতাংশ, মাঝারি চালের দাম ১৩ শতাংশ ও মোটা

চালের দাম সাড়ে ৭ শতাংশ বেড়েছে। যদিও গত অর্ধবছরে চালের উৎপাদন ২৩ লাখ টন বেশি ছিল। অন্যদিকে আন্তর্জাতিক বাজারে গত এক বছরে চালের দাম কমেছে ৩৬-৩৭ শতাংশ। অর্থাৎ দেশে উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধি ও আন্তর্জাতিক বাজারে দাম কমলেও দেশে গত এক বছরে চালের দাম বেড়েছে।

গতকাল ঢাকার খুচরা বাজারে প্রতি কেজি মিনিকেট ৭০-৭৬ টাকা, নাজির ৭২-৮০ টাকা, ব্রি-২৮ চাল ৫৬-৫৮ টাকা ও মোটা (স্বর্ণা) চাল ৫২-৫৪ টাকা দরে বিক্রি হয়েছে। এর মধ্যে গত এক মাসে ব্রি-২৮ ও মোটা চালের দাম কেজিতে ২ টাকার মতো কমেছে।

এদিকে চাল আমদানিতে সব মিলিয়ে ৬৩ দশমিক ২৫ শতাংশ শুষ্ক-কর রয়েছে। তবে দেশে চালের দাম বেড়ে যাওয়ায় গত বছরের অক্টোবরে দুই ধাপে বিভিন্ন ধরনের শুষ্ক-কর কমানো ও অব্যাহতি দেওয়া হয়। বর্তমানে বেশির ভাগ চাল আমদানিতে মাত্র ২ শতাংশ অগ্রিম আয়কর রয়েছে। তবে শুষ্ক-কর ছাড় পেতে হলে আগে খাদ্য মন্ত্রণালয় থেকে অনুমোদন নিতে হয়।

এ অবস্থায় ট্যারিফ কমিশন বলেছে, স্থানীয় পর্যায়ে উৎপাদন ব্যয় বাড়ায় মূলত দেশে চালের দাম বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে। ফলে দীর্ঘ মেয়াদে শুষ্ক ছাড়ে চাল আমদানি হতে থাকলে স্থানীয় কৃষকেরা ক্ষতির মুখে পড়বেন।

