

US hopes for WTO progress in Davos

AFP, Washington

US Trade Representative Rob Portman expressed hope Friday that talks among trade powers in Switzerland next week would help get the WTO liberalisation drive back on track.

About 30 ministers from key trading nations are expected to join an informal World Trade Organisation meeting on the sidelines of the Davos World Economic Forum in Switzerland on January

27 and 28, the Swiss government said.

"It's a mini-ministerial, not meant to resolve issues finally, but I do think it's the right mix of individual ministers and countries to be able to make progress," Portman told reporters.

"I'm hopeful we have set the stage to deal with the core issues of market access. I hope that at the mini-ministerial in Davos, this will be the focus," he said.

The Swiss economics ministry

said the meeting was aimed at discussing the next steps in global trade talks following the WTO's ministerial conference in Hong Kong last month, with the aim of clinching a deal by the end of this year.

The Hong Kong meeting concluded with agreement to remove farm export subsidies by 2013, to bring a swift end to cotton subsidies and to open rich country markets to more goods from the

world's poorest nations.

But the 149 trading nations failed to achieve the full framework for the WTO's "Doha Round", leaving out core issues such as cuts in agricultural tariffs and opening up commerce in services and industrial goods.

Another full WTO ministerial meeting is due in April to try to set up the full framework and steer the Doha Round, launched in the Qatari capital in 2001, to completion at the end of this year.



Richard Larison, chief executive officer of Apollo Hospitals Dhaka, and Michael Edward Law, country/operations manager of Century Resources International Pty Ltd, exchange documents on behalf of their organisations after signing a corporate agreement in Dhaka recently. Under the deal, Apollo Hospitals will provide special medical services for the staff of Century Resources.



A 2-day training on 'Consumer Focused Organisation' organised by Citigroup-Bangladesh began yesterday. Amitava Chattopadhyay, the L'Oréal Chaired Professor in Marketing-Innovation and Creativity, and professor of Marketing at INSEAD, the leading business school in Europe, conducted the training programme, the first of its kind.

Malaysia Airlines hikes fuel surcharge

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia Airlines on Saturday announced sharp increases in fuel surcharges starting next month, the carrier's fourth hike in half a year.

"Fuel cost continues to remain as the single largest expense item for all carriers," it said in a statement.

"Malaysia Airlines has been taking measures to mitigate this rise in cost by streamlining and matching fuel surcharge rates in line with other airlines."

The loss-making airline said that, from February 1, fuel surcharges would rise from 20 dollars or less now to 50 dollars for routes from Malaysia to South Asian and East Asian destinations.

Malaysia Airlines said it would also introduce an administration fee of 3.70-7 dollars, depending on routes, and raise insurance charges for international routes to five dollars from 1.25 dollars now.

Malaysia Airlines ended 2005 in a troubled state after posting two consecutive quarters of losses, and faced calls for cost cuts and better contingency plans in the face of rising fuel prices.

It recorded its second straight quarterly loss of nearly 368 million ringgit in the three months to September.



Hanif Zakaria, area manager Bangladesh of Emirates, hands over a prize to a winner recently. Various sporting events were organised at the annual staff day celebration of Triune Group recently. Kazi Wahidul Alam, chief executive officer of Triune Group, is also seen.

WB lends \$400m for Indian power project

PTI, Washington

The World Bank has approved a USD 400 million loan to the Power Grid Corporation of India which would help the country realise the goal of optimal utilisation of electricity resources and strengthen the transmission system.

The allocation has been made for the Power System Development Project. The loan is backed by a government of India guarantee.

The Bank noted that India has identified the power sector as key to achieving its goals of high and sustainable economic growth and to reduce poverty. However, with peak time power shortages of a little more than 12 percent the power sector is currently "inadequately" positioned to support these goals, it said.

"India continues to face severe power shortages that translate into substantial losses to the economy. It stifles development of industry and commerce, increases the cost of doing business, and reduces productivity," said Michael Carter, World Bank Country Director for India.

According to the Bank the project for which the allocation has been made will improve

service delivery of the Power Grid Corporation of India by strengthening transmission system in power deficit regions and increasing inter-regional transmission capacity.

It would also help develop institutional capacity to facilitate implementation of open access and inter-regional trading.

"The large distance between generating stations and load centers necessitates power transfers across the country and therefore a strong transmission network," said Sunil Khosla, World Bank Senior Energy Specialist and Task Team leader for the project.

The Bank said the growth in power exchanges between the regions will be used as the key indicator to measure the performance in achieving the development objectives of the project.

The World Bank has been actively involved in the reform of the transmission sector in India, and specifically in the creation and development of the Power Grid Corporation of India.

In the last ten years funding support has been provided to Central government entities for generation, transmission and renewable investments, and to selected State Electricity Boards (SEBs) for investments associated with sector reform.



Annual Sales Conference 2006. (From left) Square Toiletries Ltd Manager (sales) AT Siddique, General Manager Md Mahmudul Hoque, Managing Director Anjan Chowdhury, Assistant General Manager (sales) Mohammed Tareq and Assistant Manager (marketing) Malik Mohammed Sayeed are seen at the company's 'Annual Sales Conference-2006' held in Sylhet yesterday.

India to be a beacon of light for developing world: Report

PTI, London

India and China will emerge as two economic powers that differ greatly economically and politically in the next two decades and New Delhi will become the "beacon of light for the developing world", according to a report.

"India has been much more efficient than China at using capital. China has invested twice as much as India over ten years and yet only achieved an average growth rate that is about 50 percent higher than India's," the 'Shell Global Scenario' report by the leading energy company, Royal Dutch Shell, stated.

The report highlighted India's young population, vibrant entrepreneurial spirit and strong institutions as its drivers of growth.

However, it also pointed out the need for economic reform and infrastructure investment to

enable a structural shift to agricultural output to higher value items, growth of manufacturing and leadership in IT services.

"China is ten years ahead of India but India is catching up," said Jeroen Van Der Veer, Chief Executive of Shell, while presenting the report in Brussels.

"An India that is far more prosperous and equitable in 2025 than it is today, must be one in which both the manufacturing and especially the agriculture sector have modernised."

The report which viewed India's economic development favourably, stressed that India's complex democracy and the social factors revolving around its ethnic and religious diversity might hinder and slow down the implementation of a countrywide economic reform policy and lead to economic disparities between various states.

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Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority

Setu Bhaban
New Airport Road, Banani
Dhaka-1212

Memo No: Tech/Jb-12/2004-30

Date: 09-01-2006

Request for Expression of Interest

Jumuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority under the Ministry of Communications, Government of Bangladesh desires to engage consultants for Consultancy Services for procurement and installation of most Modern Electronic Toll Collection & Surveillance System in the Jamuna Bridge.

The services includes:

- To guide the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority for procurement and installation of most Modern Electronic Toll Collection & Surveillance System and provision for monitoring of the system from JMBA Head Office in Dhaka.
- Carry out a detailed study of the existing Toll Collection and Surveillance System to appraise the exact requirements.
- Collect information regarding the available automatic vehicle classification based toll collection systems/other alternative toll collection system which will show the type and registration number of vehicles visible & recorded and an effective Surveillance System above/under the bridge as well as the both sides guide bund covering the entire bridge at a time.
- Analyze various systems based on applicability, capability, adaptability to changing circumstances in case of need & cost.
- Design and develop a project-outline for implementing a cost effective system.
- Prepare a tender document including tender schedule and contract agreement for procurement and installation of the system.
- To guide and supervise the installation of the whole system.
- Acceptance evaluation report of the supplied equipments and total system.
- To prepare Operation Manuals for proper functioning of the system.
- Proposed technology transfer plan for running and maintaining the system by JMBA staff.
- To arrange training (study tour) for personnel 12 (twelve persons) of Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority.
- Any other functions assigned by the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Authority.
- A complete evaluation report of the installed system.
- Finalize the Maintenance Manual submitted by the selected contractor and submit to JMBA accordingly.

Required Experience: The Consultants shall have experience in study, design and development of necessary software and its installation & commissioning and supervision of installation of toll equipment for the services stated above as per ToR at list in 1 (one) project in home or in abroad.

Superintending Engineer, JMBA now invites eligible applicants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services along with brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar operating conditions, availability of appropriate professionals, qualification and experience among staff etc.

Consultants may associate with other Consultants to enhance their qualifications. Association with foreign firms is encouraged but not mandatory.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Public Procurement Regulations, 2003 and Public Procurement Procedures issued by the GoB.

Interested Consultants may obtain further information at the address above during normal office hours.

Expressions of Interest shall be submitted in sealed envelop, delivered to the address of the undersigned shown above by 12:00 hrs of 12 February, 2006 and be clearly marked 'Request for Expressions of Interest for Consultancy Services for procurement and installation of most Modern Electronic Toll Collection & Surveillance System' in the Jamuna Bridge.

Mir Abu Sufian

Additional Director (Tech)
Superintending Engineer
Tel: 88-02-9862014



সিকিউরিটিজ ও এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
JIBAN BIMA TOWER (15, 16 & 20TH FLOOR), 10 DILKUSHA C/A,
DHAKA-1000
PABX: 9568101, 9568102, 9561525, FAX: (88)-02-9563721
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তারিখ: ১৭ই জানুয়ারি ২০০৬

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

Securities and Exchange Ordinance, 1969 (Ordinance No. XVII of 1969) এর Section 33-এ প্রদত্ত ক্ষমতাবলে সিকিউরিটিজ ও এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন এতদ্বারা Credit Rating Companies Rules, 1996-এ নিম্নোক্ত প্রস্তাবিত সংশোধনীর উপর সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের মতামত, পরামর্শ বা আপত্তি আহ্বান করিতেছে।

প্রস্তাবিত সংশোধনীর উপর মতামত, পরামর্শ বা আপত্তি উহা সংবাদপত্রে প্রকাশিত হইবার দুই সপ্তাহের মধ্যে নিম্নাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে প্রেরণ করিবার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাইতেছে।

Chairman
Securities and Exchange Commission
Jiban Bima Tower (15, 16 & 20th Floor)
10 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000

প্রস্তাবিত সংশোধনী

In the said rules:-

- In rule 2, after clause (d) the following new clause (dd) shall be inserted, namely:-
"(dd) 'Compliance Officer' means a person appointed by the Credit Rating Company as its compliance officer;
- Rule 3 shall be replaced by the following new rule 3, namely:-

"3. **Requirement for credit rating.-** No issue of debt security, or public issue of share (including rights share) at a premium, shall be made by an issuer unless the issue is rated by a credit rating company and declaration about such rating is given in the offer document, prospectus or rights share offer document, as the case may be:

Provided that the Commission may, by general order which shall be notified in the official Gazette, grant exemption, in the interest of the capital market, from any requirement of this rule."

- In rule 4, after clause (f), the following new clause (g) shall be inserted, namely:-

"(g) that such company shall have to appoint a Compliance Officer who should have a Bachelors degree from a recognised institution:

Provided that the Commission may impose any condition as it may deem fit from time to time in this respect.

Also provided that the Compliance Officer shall submit report on compliance of the securities related laws, rules, regulations, etc. by the Credit Rating Company to the Commission and the company concerned in the format and in the time prescribed by the Commission from time to time: Provided further that the existing Credit Rating Companies shall appoint the Compliance Officer within six months."

For and on behalf of
The Securities and Exchange
Commission
Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam
Chairman

BANGLADESH BANK
Central Bank Strengthening Project
IDA Credit Number: Cr 3792-BD

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

IFB Title: Procurement of Standard Hardware & Software including Training and Technical Support

IFB Number: BB(G)-IT-2

- This Invitation for Bids (IFB) follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for this project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 613 of February 16, 2003.
- The Peoples Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Association toward the cost of Central Bank Strengthening Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the agreement(s) resulting from this IFB: Procurement of Standard Hardware & Software including Training and Technical Support.
- The Bangladesh Bank serves as the implementing agency for the project and now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Standard Hardware & Software including Training and Technical Support.
- Bidding will be conducted using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines that meet the following minimum qualification criteria:
 - The Bidder must have been in business for the last five (5) years.
 - During the past five (5) years, The Bidder must have completed at least one (1) successful contract involving the supply, installation, and provision of technical support for at least one thousand and two hundred (1200) PC/Workstations.
 - The Bidder must demonstrate minimum annual turnover of US\$ fifteen (15) Million equivalent in any year of the last five (5) years
 - The Bidder must demonstrate minimum average annual turnover of US\$ ten (10) Million equivalent calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed, within the last five (5) years.
 - The bidder must demonstrate present liquid asset or line of credit of minimum US\$ three (3) Million equivalent
 - The local agent of the Bidder must have at least 5 (five) years proven experience in providing after sales services. The local agent's relationship with the Principal/Manufacturer shall be at least two (2) years.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Bangladesh Bank and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 10AM to 3PM on all working days.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk 20,000.00 (twenty thousand) or US\$300.00 (three hundred). The method of payment will be pay order or bank draft. The document will be sent by Courier Service or may be collected in person. No Bidding Documents would be sold on the day of Bid opening.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 11AM Bangladesh Standard Time on March 21, 2006. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than Tk 8,000,000/= (eight million) or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below at 11:30AM on March 21, 2006.
- The attention of prospective Bidders is drawn to (i) the fact that they will be required to certify in their bids that all software is either covered by a valid license or was produced by the Bidder and (ii) that violations are considered fraud, which is, among other remedies, punishable by potential blacklisting from participation in future World Bank-financed procurement.
- The attention of the bidders is also drawn to the fact that at the time of receipt of the bidding documents, they carefully check that they have received all sections and attachments of the bidding documents.
- The bidders may kindly note that the package under this IFB is a part of the total Information System to be procured by the Purchaser, and the IFBs against the following packages shall also be issued in due course of time:

Package Number	Package Description
BB(G)-IT-3	LAN, WAN, OA, Intranet & Generator Package
BB(G)-IT-4	Enterprise Resource Planning
BB(G)-IT-5	Banking Application
BB(G)-IT-6	CIB Online
BB(G)-IT-7	Enterprise Data Warehouse

PRPD:48/2006-127

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GD-117