

# ByteDance picks Oracle as partner to try to save TikTok US

Oracle beat Microsoft in the battle for the US arm of TikTok with a deal structured as a partnership rather than an outright sale to try to navigate geopolitical tensions between Beijing and Washington, people familiar with the matter said.

ByteDance, TikTok's Chinese owner, had been in talks to divest the US business of its hugely popular short-video app to Oracle or a consortium led by Microsoft Corp after US President Donald Trump ordered the sale last

would be the firm's technology partner and assume management of TikTok's US user data, sources told Reuters on Sunday. Oracle is also negotiating taking a stake in TikTok's US operations, they said.

The data is currently stored in Alphabet Inc's cloud.

Some of ByteDance's top investors, including General Atlantic and Sequoia, will also be given minority stakes in those operations, one of the people said.

It is unclear whether Trump, who wants a US technology firm to own most of TikTok in

safeguard TikTok's US user data, the sources said. ByteDance and Oracle did not respond to requests for comment. The White House declined to comment.

China's foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin declined to comment on Monday when asked at a press conference about the TikTok deal, but said TikTok was being "encircled" and "coerced" in the United States into a transaction.

"We urge the US government to provide an open, fair, just and non-discriminatory environment for foreign firms operating and investing in the United States," he said.

Oracle's chairman Larry Ellison is one of the tech world's few Trump supporters. His firm has significant technological prowess in handling and safeguarding data, but no social media experience as its clientele comprises companies, rather than consumers.



A smartphone with the TikTok logo is seen in front of a displayed Oracle logo in this illustration picture.

month and said he might otherwise shut it down.

While TikTok is best known for dancing videos that go viral among teenagers, US officials are concerned user information could be passed to China's communist government. TikTok, which has as many as 100 million US users, has said it would never share such data with Chinese authorities.

Sale negotiations were upended when China updated its export control rules last month, giving it a say over the transfer of TikTok's algorithm to a foreign buyer. Reuters reported last week that China would rather see TikTok shut down in the United States than allow a forced sale.

On Monday, China's state-run English television channel CGTN cited sources as saying ByteDance would not sell TikTok's US operations to Oracle or Microsoft, and would not give the source code for the platform to any US firm.

Under ByteDance's latest proposal, Oracle

the United States, will approve the deal. The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), which reviews deals for national security risk, is overseeing the ByteDance-Oracle talks.

"User data protection and assurances around how the company's algorithms push content to US users are thoughtful components of a substantive solution, but whether they can change political outcomes is a much more difficult question," said regulatory lawyer John Kabealo, who is not involved in the talks.

ByteDance plans to argue that CFIUS' approval two years ago of China Oceanwide Holdings Group Co Ltd's [OWREAC.U] purchase of US insurer Genworth Financial Inc offers a precedent for its proposal with Oracle, the sources said.

In that deal, China Oceanwide agreed to use a US-based, third-party service to manage Genworth's US policyholder data. ByteDance will argue a similar arrangement with Oracle can

Earlier on Sunday, Microsoft said it had been informed by ByteDance that the Chinese firm would not be selling its TikTok US operations. Walmart Inc, which had joined Microsoft's bid, said it was still interested in investing, and that it would talk further with ByteDance and other parties.

"This is bad news for Walmart more than anyone else," said Towson. "Combining TikTok's entertainment and user engagement with its e-commerce platform was its best shot at catching up" with Amazon.com Inc.

As Sino-US relations deteriorate over trade, Hong Kong's autonomy, cybersecurity and the spread of the novel coronavirus, TikTok has emerged as a flashpoint.

Trump signed two executive orders last month targeting TikTok and ByteDance. The first, effective Sept. 20, bans US companies from transacting with them. The second requires ByteDance to sell TikTok by Nov. 12.

Were Trump to agree to ByteDance's proposed Oracle deal, he would have to rescind his order calling specifically for divestment.

As many as 40 per cent of Americans back Trump's threat to ban TikTok if it is not sold to a US buyer, a Reuters/Ipsos national poll found last month. Among Republicans - Trump's party - 69 per cent said they supported the order, though only 32 per cent expressed familiarity with the app.

The White House has stepped up efforts to purge what it deems "untrusted" Chinese apps from US digital networks. Beyond TikTok, Trump has also issued an order prohibiting transactions with Tencent Holding Ltd's messenger app WeChat.

# Indian government to infuse \$2.72b in state-run banks

India's government sought parliamentary approval to inject 200 billion rupees (\$2.72 billion) in state-run banks in the current fiscal year, to help lenders mitigate the expected surge in bad loans due to the pandemic.

In April, Reuters reported that New Delhi had assured state banks that it is ready to provide capital support as the coronavirus pandemic may lead to a surge in bad loans as economic growth slows.

The pandemic's impact is likely to push up the ratio of gross non-performing assets in the Indian banking system to at least

12.5 per cent by March 2021, from 8.5 per cent in March 2020, according to a report by the Reserve Bank of India.

The government has already pumped in 3.5 trillion rupees in the last five years to rescue its banks. In February's budget it had not allocated any funds to support the sector and instead encouraged them to turn to India's capital markets.

The government sought parliament approval for a total additional spending of 1.67 trillion rupees (\$22.8 billion) for the current fiscal year. The government would use the 466.02 billion rupees to transfer to states whose are finding it difficult to raise taxes and 100 billion rupees to subsidize food.



An India Rupee note is seen in this illustration photo.

# Alibaba in talks to invest \$3b in Grab

Alibaba Group Holding Ltd is in talks to invest \$3 billion in Southeast Asia's biggest ride-hailing firm Grab Holdings Inc, Bloomberg News reported here on Monday, citing people familiar with the matter.

The Chinese conglomerate will be the sole investor in the funding round and will spend a portion of the funds to acquire some of the Grab stock held by Uber Technologies Inc, the Bloomberg report added.

Grab declined to comment, while Alibaba and Uber were not immediately available to respond to a Reuters request for comment.

Uber, which surrendered its Southeast Asian operations to Grab in March 2018,

took a 27.5 percent stake in Grab's business.

In April, Uber said it expects an impairment charge of up to \$2.2 billion, adding that the charge would be against the carrying value of some of the company's minority equity investments, due to the impact of the pandemic on the estimated value of those entities.

Grab, which has an estimated valuation of \$14 billion and counts SoftBank Group Corp 9984.T as one of its backers, expanded into financial services, food delivery and mobile payments over the last few years, even before the COVID-19 pandemic hurt its mainstay ride-hailing business.

In June, Grab announced a 5 per cent reduction in staff numbers as it cut costs amid slower growth.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Upazila Engineer  
Golapganj, Sylhet  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি  
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.02.9138.000.14.035.19-417  
Date: 13/09/2020

## e-Tender Notice

### Tender Notice No. 02/2020-21

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works as stated below:

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of works	Tender ID No.	Method of tender	Tender closing date and time
1	e-Tender/PEDP4/SLT/GOL/2020-21/W1.00982	Construction of additional classroom (3H+2V+WB) at Kolashohar GPS under PEDP4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	489457	NOTM	07.10.2020 on or before 14:30 BST
2	e-Tender/PEDP4/SLT/GOL/2020-21/W1.00983	Construction of additional classroom (3H+2V+WB) at Sunampur GPS under PEDP4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	489458	NOTM	
3	e-Tender/PEDP4/SLT/GOL/2020-21/W2.02125	Construction of additional classroom (3H+2V+WB) at Rafipur GPS under PEDP4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	489459	NOTM	
4	e-Tender/PEDP4/SLT/GOL/2019-20/W2.01950	Construction of additional classroom (3H+2V+WB) at Sunapur GPS under PEDP4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	493368	NOTM	
5	e-Tender/PEDP4/SLT/GOL/2019-20/W2.01951	Construction of additional classroom (3H+2V+WB) at Paschim Gaon GPS under PEDP4, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet.	493369	NOTM	
6	e-Tender/PEDP4/SLT/GOL/2020-21/W14.1108	Construction of Boundary wall including Gate at Dakshin Bagh-2 Govt. Primary School under Badeswar UP, Upazila: Golapganj, District: Sylhet	493370	NOTM	

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited through online at any branches of registered bank up to 07/10/2020 13:00 BST.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

The Tender Notice will be available on the website: [www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

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GD-1454

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
পরিচালক ও অধ্যাপকের কার্যালয়  
জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল  
শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭।

আরক নং- এনআইসিডি/প্রশাসন/ বাঃ দরপত্র (রাজস্ব)/২০২০-২০২১/৩১০৭  
তার- ১৪/০৯/২০২০ইং।

## দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০২০-২০২১ইং অর্থ বৎসরের জন্য জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকায় বিবিধ (রাজস্ব) খাতে অন্যান্য মনিহারি দ্রব্যাদি এবং পোশাক(কর্মচারীদের সাজ পোশাক) সরবরাহের নিমিত্তে The Public Procurement Act 2006 ও বিধিমালা ২০০৮ অনুসারে প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী/ব্যবসায়ী এবং প্রকৃত টেন্ডারিং ব্যবসায়ীগণের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইবে।

ক্র. নং	প্রশ্নের নাম	দরপত্র সিদ্ধিগ্ণের মূল্য (চালানের মাধ্যমে)	দরপত্র জামানত(পে-অর্ডার) ফেরতযোগ্য।
১	অন্যান্য মনিহারি দ্রব্যাদি	২,৫০০/- (দুই হাজার পাঁচশত) টাকা মাত্র	৪,০০,০০০/- (চার লক্ষ) টাকা মাত্র
২	পোশাক (কর্মচারীদের সাজ পোশাক)	২,০০০/- (দুই হাজার) টাকা মাত্র	১,০০,০০০/- (এক লক্ষ) টাকা মাত্র

ক্র. নং	প্রশ্নের নাম	দরপত্র সিদ্ধিগ্ণের মূল্য (চালানের মাধ্যমে)	দরপত্র জামানত(পে-অর্ডার) ফেরতযোগ্য।
১	অন্যান্য মনিহারি দ্রব্যাদি	২,৫০০/- (দুই হাজার পাঁচশত) টাকা মাত্র	৪,০০,০০০/- (চার লক্ষ) টাকা মাত্র
২	পোশাক (কর্মচারীদের সাজ পোশাক)	২,০০০/- (দুই হাজার) টাকা মাত্র	১,০০,০০০/- (এক লক্ষ) টাকা মাত্র

ক্র. নং	প্রশ্নের নাম	দরপত্র সিদ্ধিগ্ণের মূল্য (চালানের মাধ্যমে)	দরপত্র জামানত(পে-অর্ডার) ফেরতযোগ্য।
১৪	দরপত্র সিদ্ধিগ্ণের চালান জমা কোড নং	উপরে উল্লেখিত হারে দরপত্র সিদ্ধিগ্ণের ত্রয় মূল্য (অক্ষরতযোগ্য) বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক/যে কোন তফসিলি ব্যাংক থেকে চালানের মাধ্যমে 1-2711 - 0000 - 2366 কোডে পরিচালক ও অধ্যাপক, এনআইসিডি, ঢাকা-১২০৭ এর বরাবর জমা করত: সিদ্ধিগ্ণের সাথে জমা দিতে হইবে এবং দরপত্র জামানত (পে-অর্ডার) ফেরতযোগ্য পরিচালক ও অধ্যাপক, এনআইসিডি, ঢাকার বরাবরে ইস্যু করিতে হইবে।	
১৫	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর নাম, পদবী ও ঠিকানা	অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মীর জামাল উদ্দিন, পরিচালক ও অধ্যাপক জাতীয় হৃদরোগ ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা। ফোন- 9123236, Fax-8142986, ওয়েব সাইট-www.nicvd.gov.bd E-Mail -nicvd@hospi.dghs.gov.bd।	
১৬	বিশেষ নির্দেশিকা	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>দরপত্র কমিটির সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলিয়া বিবেচিত হইবে এবং যে কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন কমিটি সংরক্ষণ করেন।</li> <li>দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির ১২ কলামে উল্লেখিত ও সিদ্ধিগ্ণে বর্ণিত শর্তাবলী যথাযথ পালন না করিলে দরপত্র বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে।</li> </ul>	

১৩. দরপত্র সিদ্ধিগ্ণের মূল্য এবং আবেদনকারীর পরিমাণ:

(অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মীর জামাল উদ্দিন)  
পরিচালক ও অধ্যাপক

GD-1455