BANK ASIA

Md Arfan Ali, president and managing director of Bank Asia, and Mohammad Ibrahim Khalil, CFO, receives a trophy from Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi at a 20th ICAB National Award at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka recently. Bank Asia won three awards in categories of private sector banks, corporate governance disclosures and integrated reporting for "Best Presented Annual Reports 2019".

LAFARGEHOLCIM BANGLADESH

Rajesh Surana, CEO of LafargeHolcim Bangladesh, attends the launch of water resistant cement Holcim Water Protect through a digital platform on Sunday.

উন্নয়নের গনতন্ত্র
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

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Invitation Ref. No.: 46.50.3029.250.02.001.2020-**290** Date: **30-11-2020**

e-Tender Notice No.: 02/2020-2021

The e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of the following works described below:

Package No.	Name of Scheme	Tender ID	Tender/Proposal Document last Selling/ downloading Date & Time	Tender/Proposal Closing/Opening Date & Time
ADP/FENI/2020-21/P-01	Construction of RCC Retaining wall Boundary wall & Gate at Lomi Hazari Bari Grave yard and 2 Construction of R.C.C Road and Road side Drain at Sahadebpur Mozumder Bari Road Ch. 0.00m to 95.00m at Ward No.-02 under Feni Pourashava.	518764	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.00 hr
ADP/FENI/2020-21/P-02	Improvement of Barahipur Hazari Bari Road by bituminous dense carpeting Part-I Ch. 0.00m to 200.00m at Ward No.-08 under Feni Pourashava.	518808	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.00 hr
ADP/FENI/2020-21/P-03	Improvement and Maintaince of BC Road work in Modhupur Malek Miah Bazar Road at w15.under Feni Pourashava.	518810	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.00 hr
ADP/FENI/2020-21/P-04	Construction of RCC drain work at Rampur AL-Came Hospital Road at w16.under Feni Pourashava.	518811	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.00 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-01	Improvement of Barahipur Hazari Bari Road by bituminous dense carpeting Part-II Ch. 200.00m to 550.00m Total Length 350.00m at Ward No.-08 under Feni Pourashava.	519479	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.00 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-02	1. Construction of Brick Drain at a Cadet College Road side Infront of Mr. Alauddin Ahmed Naism Chowdhury House Ward No. 08. b Kalabagan Feni-Bilonia Road side Ward no.-07.c Infront of Journalist Mr. Dulal House Ward no.-102. Repair and Maintenance of Feni Rajajir Dighi Bank Road In front of Magistrate Dormitory.	519480	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.00 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-03	1. Construction of R.C.C Road and Brick Drain with Top slab at Bazal Kerani Bari Road Ward No.-01 under Feni Pourashava. 2. Construction of East Ukilpara Nath Bari North side Road by C.C Ch. 0.00m to 100.00m at Ward No.-01 under Feni Pourashava.	519481	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.00 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-04	1. Construction of RCC Drain at Baitul Nazat Jame Mosque Road Azmery Begum Road Bylane Ch. 0.00m to 190.00m at Ward No.-08 under Feni Pourashava District-Feni. 2. Improvement of Baitul Nazat Jame Mosque Road Azmery Begum Road Bylane Ch. 0.00m to 180.00m by dense bituminous carpeting at ward no.-08 under Feni Pourashava District-Feni.	519482	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-05	Construction and Beautification of StatsuGarden Tiles and RCC Road work in infront of South Charipur Boro Bari Road at Word no-13.Under Feni Pourashava.	519483	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-06	Construction of Boundary wall work at Feni First Bapist Charch Mohipal Circuit House Road side at w13.Under Feni Pourashava.	519484	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-07	Construction of CC Road and Brick drain work at South Charipur Abdul Khalek Dewan Bari Road at w13.under Feni Pourashava.	519485	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-08	Repair and Maintenance of a. Munshi Bari Road W-01 b. Sultan Mahamud Poura Hokers Market Road c. Birinchi Primary School d. Birinchi Madrasa Road e. Alam Gazi Road f. Birinchi Bhuiyan Bari Mosque Road g. Birinchi Raton Road h. Hanger Road i. Abu Bakkar Road j Sufi Sadar Uddin Road k Shahid Selina Parveen Road l. Biraj Mozumder Road m. Raton Road to Madrasa Road Connecting Road and n. others Damage Road of Feni Pourashava.	519486	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-09	Maintaince of WBM Road work at.a Kutirhat Road.b Malek Miah Bazar Road.cAfzalia Road.dMoksadur Rahman Road.eKhiroad shah Road.f. Rampur Showdagorpara Road.gWeaz Uddin Road.hLuddarpar Cyclone Center Road. under Feni Pourashava.	519487	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-10	Maintenance of Petrobangla road to Daudpur Khal Ch. 0.00m to 500 at Ward No.-02 under Feni Pourashava.	519488	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr
REV/FENI/2020-21/P-11	Manufacture & Supplying Conservancy Rickshaw Van for remove offal collect from household of different ward at Poura area.	520713	23 December 2020 Time : 17.00 hr	24 December 2020 Time : 13.30 hr

1) This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no offline/Hard copies will be accepted.
2) To submit e-Tender, registration in National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.
3) The fee for downloading the e-Tender Documents of the following package from the National e-GP system Portal has to be deposited through online any registered Bank branches up to dated **13-December-2020, 17:00 hr.**
4) Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

(Md. Azizul Hoque)
Executive Engineer (PE)
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GD-1915

RBI seen holding rates; liquidity stance watched

REUTERS, *Mumbai*

The Reserve Bank of India monetary policy committee is expected to leave interest rates unchanged when it meets on Friday, after data showing the economy contracting less than expected and persistently high inflation.

Economists and market participants are closely watching the commentary from the RBI around liquidity. The overnight call money rate has fallen below the reverse repo rate on days on account of the excess liquidity in the banking system.

"The MPC's views on liquidity will assume more importance, as the transient surplus has pushed down short-term/ overnight rates sharply," said Radhika Rao, an economist with DBS Bank.

Economists expect the RBI to announce measures to help tweak market rates through liquidity absorbtion operations or giving increased access to the reverse repo window to more market participants.

All 53 analysts and economists in Reuters poll conducted ahead of the GDP data released last week said they don't expect any change in rates on Friday.

Economists also pushed back the expected timing for the next rate cut by a quarter after the RBI having cut its key interest rate by a total 115 bps this year to a record low of 4 per cent. The poll showed economists now expect the next rate cut to be in the Apr-June quarter, as against the Jan-March period they had predicted in the previous two surveys.

Inflation has remained consistently above the upper end of RBI's mandated 2 per cent-6 per cent target range every month barring March this year while core inflation has also remained sticky.

On the other hand in the September quarter gross domestic product contracted 7.5 per cent on year compared to a decline of 23.9 per cent in the previous three months, when the impact of the coronavirus pandemic was more pronounced.

'Our engagement will grow across the board'

FROM PAGE B1

Bangladesh is a very important partner under the US's Free and Open Indo-Pacific strategy, which aims to facilitate the rule of law and peace and develop infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific, the envoy said.

He said Bangladesh is an active player in this area and the country needs to play an important role in international and regional.

Bangladesh will also be greatly benefited from the Indo-Pacific Strategy as the US government has a plan to invest billions of US dollars in infrastructure development under the initiative.

"The Indo-Pacific Strategy is not a counter to the Belt and Road Initiative of China. We can work together. The way we do that is multifaceted," Miller said.

Regarding the possibility of a duty reduction on the export of Bangladeshi goods to the US, the ambassador said the duty is usually reduced under the regional agreements like the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

Since the duty on exports of goods from Bangladesh to the US is calculated on the most-favoured-nation category, the structure of duty is higher for Bangladesh compared to other countries.

Bangladeshi exports, especially the garment items, face 15.62 per cent duty on shipment to the US. On the other hand, the shipment from the countries like China and Vietnam is charged way lower.

For instance, apparel items from China, the largest garment supplier to the world, face about 3 per cent duty in the US market.

The ambassador praised the growth of start-ups in Bangladesh. Over the last few years, Bangladesh has got a lot of young and talented start-ups in various sectors.

The US embassy has programmes to nurture start-ups.

Workers' continue demos for dues

FROM PAGE B1

"The DEPZ should seriously take up the responsibility of the payment of the workers," said Mohammad Faridul Islam, president of National Garment Workers Federation's Ashulia wing.

The company's Italian owner could not be reached over the phone despite several attempts.

A-One (BD) Ltd was a 100 per cent foreign-owned sweater manufacturing factory, and it had about 1,076 employees before it was closed on April 18.

The company had been failing to continue its normal production since December 2019 due to shortage of raw materials, availability of sufficient order and recurring order cancellation for worldwide coronavirus cases, said Nazma Binte Alamgir, general manager for public relations of the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza), in a statement.

Factory workers did not get a three-month salary from their management at that time. Considering the fact, the land lease agreement of the company was terminated on April 18, she said.

Since the factory owner could not run the factory, the Bepza was trying hard to find a suitable investor, who is willing and capable of operating it. But nothing happened.

Finally, the Bepza went for the auction process, Nazma said.

But in the middle of the auction process, Dhaka Bank filed a writ petition against the auction, and the High Court passed a stay order on the process for a month and later extended it by another month, she said.

In order to vacate the stay order to start the auction process, the Bepza filed a petition with the High Court. The hearing continues, Nazma said.

The Bepza has filed another appeal before the Appellate Division to declare the Dhaka Bank writ unlawful, she said.

Remittance hits $2b mark for third straight month

FROM PAGE B1

It entails passive or hands-off ownership of assets as opposed to direct investment, which would involve an active management role.

"Many countries in North America and Europe have already entered into the deadlock of a zero per cent interest rate. A country usually will take several years to get rid of such a situation," Mansur said.

This has also created a deflation in the countries in the two continents.

Given the experiences of countries that had earlier faced deflation, an economy requires at least three to four years for the moribund state of affairs to fade away.

So the Bangladeshi diasporas now send money as the interest rate on deposit products offered by local lenders is much higher than those in the countries they are now based in.

Mansur went on to express the hope that the upward trajectory of remittance will continue for at least five to six months.

The two per cent cash incentive introduced by the government last year has also encouraged the expatriate Bangladeshis to send more money through the formal channel, said Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director of Mutual Trust Bank.

Between July and November, remittance hit $10.90 billion, up from 41.32 per cent year-on-year.

This has had a great impact on the country's foreign exchange reserve. The reserve stood at $41.18 billion as of November 25 in contrast to $31.72 billion one year earlier.

National Life Insurance gets new chairman

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Lawmaker Morshed Alam has been elected chairman of National Life Insurance Company.

The election took place at a meeting of the board of directors through a digital platform recently, says a press release.

Alam is a sponsor director of the company. He is the chairman of Bengal Group, Mercantile Bank and RTV.

Britain bans new Huawei 5G kit installation from September 2021

REUTERS, *London*

British telecommunications firms must not install new Huawei 5G kit after September 2021, the government said on Monday, as part of a plan to purge the Chinese firm's equipment from high speed mobile networks.

PREMIER BANK

M Reazul Karim, CEO of Premier Bank; Mohammed Emtiaz Uddin, head of SME and agriculture banking, and Bidyut Kumar Basu, CEO of development organization UDDIPAN, attend a deal signing ceremony on credit facilities for low-income professionals, farmers and holders of small and marginal businesses under Bangladesh Bank Refinance Scheme.

NESTLÉ

Mobara Khanam, commissioner for Custom House ICD, Dhaka, and Debabrata Roy Chowdhury, director for legal & tax and company secretary at Nestlé Bangladesh, attend the presentation of a "Certificate of Recordation" from the Custom House ICD in Kamalapur to Nestlé.