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The Daily Star BUSINESS

DHAKA THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1995

HYUNDAI
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KLM to expand intercontinental fleet

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines intends expanding its intercontinental fleet with two Boeing 747-400 Combi and three 767-300 ER aircraft. Contracts for these orders are due to be signed in the very near future, says a press release here.

The additional Boeing 767 equipment is being ordered in the context of KLM's existing contract with US-based International Lease Finance Corporation ILFC, signed in June 1994. This contract covered the operational lease of seven Boeing 767-300ER twin-engine jetliners for a period of seven years. The contract included the possibility of increasing the number of 767-300ER aircraft leased to 14, and of renewing the leases for a further five years.

Boeing will deliver the first KLM Boeing 767-300ER leased from ILFC, in late July. All these aircraft will be equipped with General Electric CF6-80 engines.

In the case of the two Boeing 747-400 Combi aircraft, KLM is taking advantage of the orders already placed with Boeing for two full freighter versions of this aircraft type for delivery in 1998.

These two additions will increase the overall KLM Boeing 747 fleet to 18 Boeing 747-400 aircraft, 13 of them in Combi versions, and 13, Boeing 747-300 aircraft, with 10 in Combi versions. This ranks KLM as the world's major operator of Boeing 747 Combi aircraft. The Combi versions can simultaneously carry passengers and cargo on their main decks, enabling the airline to produce a highly flexible response to developments in both markets. The purchase involves an investment of some 340 million US dollars.

The two 747s will also be equipped with General Electric CF6-80 engines.

Jute cultivation declines in Sherpur

SHERPUR, July 5: The cultivation of jute is declining in the district, reports UNB.

The farmers said the production target of jute in the district could not be achieved in the last decade.

Sherpur is one of the largest jute producing area in the country where about 20,000 acres of land have been brought under jute cultivation during the current season.

Jute plants of many areas have been attacked by pests and other diseases.

Farmers alleged that in the absence of proper cooperation and guidance of the officials concerned and lack of fair prices in the market the production is going down in the district.

They said the authorities failed to supply high yielding variety jute seeds at fair prices in the current season.

They alleged that in the absence of proper patronisation and marketing system they are to sell the commodity below the production. And as a result they are losing interest in cultivating jute and preferring paddy farming.

Meanwhile, many government and private jute purchasing centres of the district have already been closed due to various reasons.

Postal Department incurs Tk 28 cr loss in '94-95

By Staff Correspondent

The Postal Department incurred a loss of Tk 28 crore during the fiscal 94-95.

At a press conference of the Minister for Post, Telegraph and Telecommunications Torikul Islam yesterday, Postal Director General M Badiuzzaman said, the income of the department during this fiscal year was Tk 116.23 crore while its expenditures were Tk 144.23 crore.

"Much of this loss was caused by the increase of salary of the regular divisional employees of the department last year," the DG added.

During the fiscal of 89-90, the revenue income of the department was Tk 59.35 crore while its expenditure was Tk 85.18 crore.

Yet, the DG pointed out, the department did not increase the postal rate since 1989 considering the postal services benefit to the mass people, which include both the rich and poor.

The Postal Department has 16,845 divisional manpower and 18,994 non-divisional manpower. The non-divi-

sional employees get a poor salary scale of Tk 474 (post master) to Tk 445 (runner).

"We are proposing the Ministry to upgrade this scale," the DG added. The conference was also attended by Telecommunications Secretary M Hafizuddin Khan and T&T Chairman MH Chowdhury.

Some 90,000 to one lakh letters are daily sent abroad. In the last year, the Postal Department handled some 28 crore letters.

It sold savings certificates worth Tk 954 crore in the first 10 months of the fiscal 1994-95 against an annual target of Tk 1080 crore.

Some Tk 954 crore have also been deposited with the Postal Savings Bank during the 10 months.

The department sold defence certificates worth Tk 101 crore in first nine months of the 94-95 fiscal.

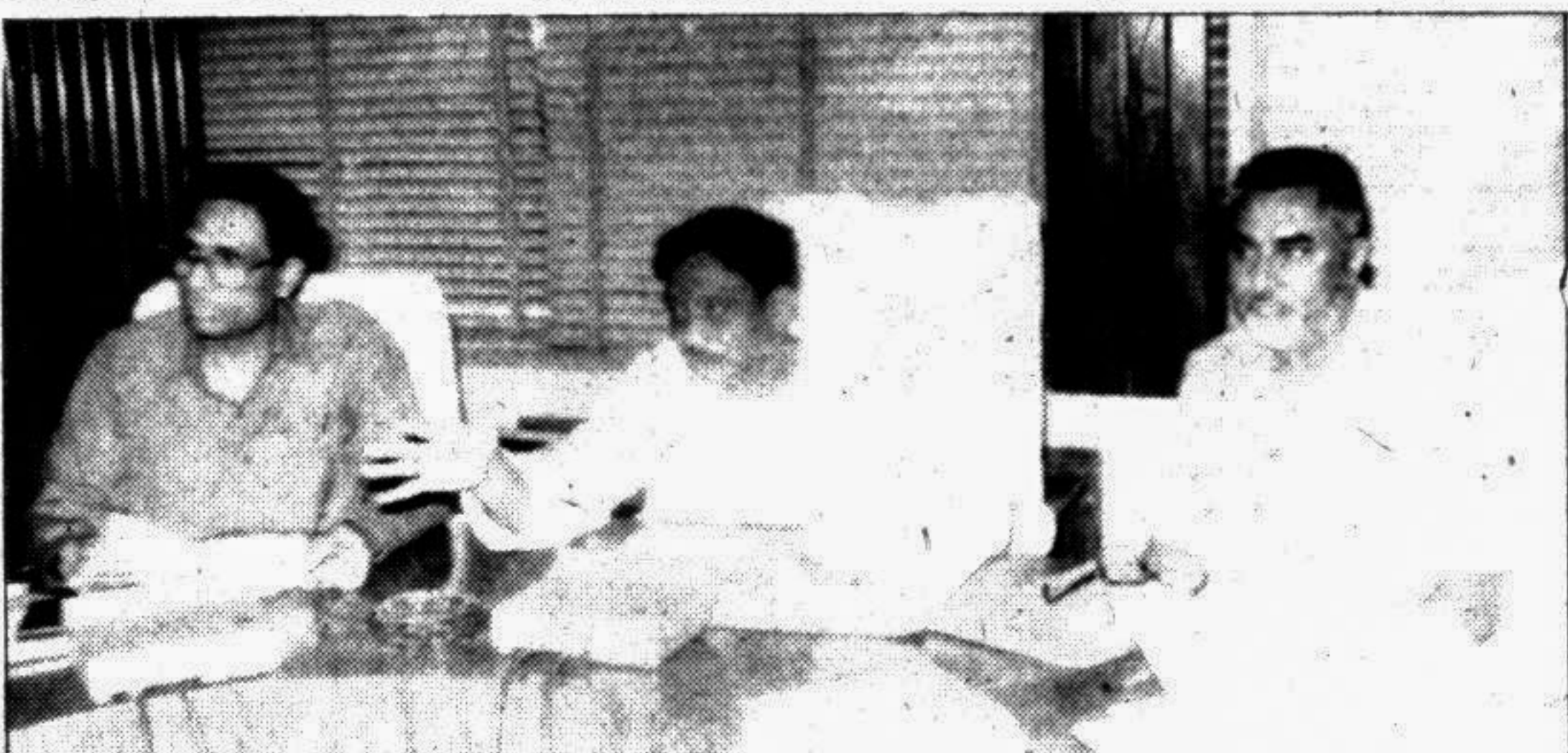
The target for Fixed Deposit Account for the fiscal year had exceeded by nearly Tk 10 crore to 605 crore.

During the last fiscal year, the postal department handled Tk 175 crore of money orders from abroad, while the figure was around 300 crore for inside the country.

There are 8768 post offices across the country at present. Till 1990 from 1971, 1469 post offices were opened while in the last five years, some 750 post offices were opened.

Of the 8768 post offices, 7000 are situated in rural areas. These rural post offices, which are kutcha, are set up in cooperation with local people, the post office bears no cost, Badiuzzaman said. "But from last year, the government decided to construct building for 118 such post offices according to importance. Of these, 104 have already been constructed."

From the year 1971 to 1990, the Postal Department spent Tk 89 crore on repair and development of old post offices. In the last five years, another Tk 18 crore were spent for the same purpose.



Post and Telecommunications Minister Torikul Islam addressing a press conference at the T & T Board Bhavan in the city yesterday. — PID photo

Chandpur Paura budget announced

CHANDPUR, July 5: The Chairman of the Chandpur Paurashava Md Yusuf Gazi recently announced the budget of the paurashava for the year 1995-96, reports BSS.

The budget showed a revenue income of Taka 23.81 crore and an expenditure of Taka 20 crore.

Local elite, Ward Commissioners and officials attended the function during the announcement of the budget.

Sherpur poura budget announced

SHARISHABARI, July 5: The annual budget amounting to Tk 3,92,08,584 of Sherpur Paurashava for the fiscal 1995-96 was announced on Thursday, reports UNB.

The income has been shown at Tk 31,08,580 from the pourashava's own revenue receipts and the expected government grants for the development sectors have been estimated at Tk 3.61 crore.

Chairman of the pourashava Md Faridul Kabir Talukder announced the budget, which imposed no new tax, in presence of Commissioners, journalists, municipal officials and elite of the pourashava.

Sectors like construction of poura shopping centres, poura park, construction and repair of office buildings, roads, bridges and culverts and development works of drains and markets will receive the said allocation for the development sector.

Besides, electrification of the roads will be made from the pourashava's own fund, said an official handout.

UK astronomer warns of mobile phones

LONDON, July 5: Mobile phones which use satellites to transmit conversations could soon be blotting out radio signals used to carry out research into the formation of galaxies, a leading British astronomer warned Monday, reports AFP.

Up to half of current radio research will be threatened by interference from phone conversations relayed from space on the same frequencies that scientists use to monitor readings from stars, the British press reported Tuesday.

Emirates' donation to Filipino journalism awards

President Fidel Ramos of the Philippines has presented two Emirate Business Class tickets to Philippines' Journalist of the Year 1995 during the Rotary Club of Manila's Journalism Awards ceremony held on June 26, says a press release.

The prestigious ceremony was witnessed by 250 distinguished guests at the peninsula Manila. Emirate donated the two Business Class return tickets between Manila and London towards the prize package for the journalist of the year, in support of journalism in the Philippines.

This year's winner was Jun Del Rosario, news reporter with ABS-CBN, who will fly Emirates to London where he will be visiting Fleet Street — the renowned newspaper enclave of the world — and the British Broadcasting Corporation's headquarters.



Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman seven inaugurating the operation of Dhaka Bank Ltd by cutting cake at Motijheel Commercial Area in the city yesterday. Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah and Bangladesh Bank Governor Khorshed Alam attended the function. — Star photo

Strong demand for all teas marked in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, July 5: The weekly tea sale held here yesterday (Tuesday) met with a strong demand except some withdrawals, market sources said, reports UNB.

Polish buyers were again active and observed all bold and large broken at firm to dealer levels. There were also good support from Sudan, Jordan and other out-markets.

Internal buyers including packers lent good support to smaller broken and fannings, the sources said.

A useful quantity of bold broken specially FPs which were taken out from the sale owing to lower bids were subsequently sold at firm to dealer levels in the out-lot sale of market catalogue.

CTC: Bold broken were initially easier and mostly withdrawn but with the progress of sale these sold at firm to dealer levels between Tk 53.50 and Tk 54.20.

Larger broken were also strong market selling at firm

to, dearer levels advancing often up to Tk one over last.

Medium broken were an irregular market but smaller broken were firm to slightly dearer according to quality.

Popular types received fairly good support selling between Tk 48 and Tk 50.

Good liquoring primary fannings continued to be a strong feature selling mostly at firm to dealer levels while mediums were against about steady.

Plainer types were mostly easier. Popular types were sold quite well between Tk 49 to Tk 53.80.

DUST: 2,674 chests, 140 gunny sacks and 32 chests of old season on offer once again met with a strong demand at firm to occasionally dearer rates.

CDs were once again a higher market. Loose tea buyers and packers lent a strong support. The tea went strong in gunny sacks also sold well.

WB plans to lend China \$9b in next 3 years

BEIJING, July 5: The World Bank plans to lend China three billion dollars annually for the next three years, the official Xinhua News Agency reported Wednesday, citing the bank's Beijing representative, says AP.

"The loans will go into public works, environmental protection, education and poverty-relief projects, bank representative Pieter Bottelier said.

Since 1980, when China rejoined the bank, it has received about 22 billion dollars in bank funds, with about 75 per cent devoted to public works projects, Bottelier said.

In the past three years, China has borrowed about three billion dollars annually, making it the bank's largest borrower.

"The bank expects to support China in its increasingly diverse and complex development and policy needs for years to come," Bottelier said.

Mongla Port earns Tk 19.19 cr profit

MONGLA, July 5: Mongla Port has earned a net profit of Taka 19.19 crore out of total revenue income of Taka 59.27 crore during the last financial year by handling 28.26 lakh tons of cargo, a meeting was told today, reports BSS.

The meeting was further informed that compared to 1993-94, the revenue income and the quantum of goods handled in last year rose by 16 and 46 per cent respectively. Of the goods handled in 1994-95, 1.11 lakh tons were in containers. A total of 376 ships called the port during last year.

Shipping Minister MK Anwar was holding a meeting with the officials of the port to review the progress of the ongoing development projects including the dredging of channel. Discussion were held to make the port more dynamic.

Speaking on the occasion, the Shipping Minister asked all concerned to take effective measures for making the port more viable so that it could play a pioneering role in developing the country's economy. He opined that modern and appropriate steps should

have to be taken to further reactivate the port's functioning through ensuring proper management.

The shipping minister asked the officials to take necessary steps to keep the port channel always navigable and ensure timely berthing of ships as well as quick loading and unloading of cargoes.

He also addressed the CBA (Collective Bargaining Agent)

leaders and officers association.

Later, Anwar visited jetties and went round different sections of the port area to have an overall view how things are working. He also planned a sapling at the port premises.

Chairman of Mongla Port Authority Md. Rezwanul Haque and Deputy Commissioner of Khulna Dewan Zakir Hossain, among others, were present.

Asian stock markets close higher

HONG KONG, July 5: Asian stock markets closed mostly higher Wednesday on expectations of a possible cut in US interest rates. Share prices rose in Tokyo for the second straight day after sharp declines in past weeks, reports AP.

Tokyo's 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average gained 74.70 points, or 0.51 per cent, closing at 14,830.44. The benchmark index had climbed 270.33 points, or 1.87 per cent, on Tuesday.

Share prices rose because of short-covering in the futures market, traders said. Until Monday, arbitrage-linked selling had led the market lower for the past few weeks. Investors also have been pessimistic about the government's ability to steer the economy out of a four-year-old recession.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section was up 4.44 points, or 0.37 per cent, to 1,213.02. On Tuesday, it had gained 14.30 points, or 1.20 per cent.

Meanwhile, the US dollar was traded at 84.90 yen in late afternoon, up 0.25 yen from late Tuesday in Tokyo. In London, the dollar had been quoted at 84.75 yen late Tuesday, while US financial markets were closed for the

Independence Day holiday. In Hong Kong, the key index surged to its highest level since early June on strong buying of banking shares ahead of a possible cut in US interest rates.

The Hang Seng Index of blue chips jumped, 224.80 points, or 2.4 per cent, closing at 9,407.27, following Tuesday's 44.26-point rise.

Traders said they saw solid buying in virtually all sectors, but that banking shares received special attention as the US Federal Reserve's policy-making committee prepared to discuss the US interest rate situation later in the day.

Tk 23.59 lakh Saudi grant for ICDDR,B

The government of Saudi Arabia has donated about Tk 23.59 lakh to the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B), reports UNB.

The amount is the Kingdom's contribution to ICDDR,B for implementing its development programmes, said a press release.

Saudi Ambassador to Bangladesh Abdullah Omar Barry, handed over the cheque to Director of ICDDR,B Demissie Habte here yesterday.

Turnover also rose to its highest level in a month as large amounts of overseas capital returned to the local share market.

Elsewhere in Asia: WELLINGTON: New Zealand share prices rose in quiet trading, with brokers expecting the market to remain subdued ahead of the Federal Reserve meeting. The NZSE-40 capital index climbed 1.86 points to 2,063.34.

TAIPEI: Share prices surged as the central bank released four billion Taiwan dollars into the economy, and China assured Taiwan the current military exercises are routine.

SINGAPORE: Share prices rose. The 30-share Straits Times Industrials Index added 6.77 points to 2,128.25.

KUALA LUMPUR: Share prices rose, mostly on the back of local fund buying. The KLSSE Composite Index increased 14.29 points to 1,047.82.

BANGKOK: Share prices rose in heavy trading as investors anticipated a cut in US interest rates. The Stock Exchange of Thailand index jumped 23.31 points to 1,430.46.

JAKARTA: The stock exchange's Composite index gained 5.159 points, closing at 498.588.

Japanese auto industry turning eyes on East Asian markets

TOKYO, July 5: Tired of being knocked-around by the United States, the Japanese auto industry is turning its eyes on the newly-affluent markets of East Asia, reports IPS.

The emerging sparkle of Asian markets has been confined largely to Japanese motorcycles and commercial vehicles. But Japan's Asian neighbours are getting richer, Japanese companies like Toyota, Honda and Mitsubishi need alternative markets to compensate for their overwhelming dependency on the US market.

Despite drops over the last two years, 60 per cent of Japanese auto exports are still absorbed by the United States.

Asian markets have become extremely important to US. Toyota will explore every opportunity offered in Asia to expand sales," said Heisuke Kirimoto Spokesman for Toyota Motor Corporation, Japan's leading auto company. On Tuesday, Japan faces the United States in Geneva

over one of the most stinging bilateral trade disputes to date. The newly established World Trade Organisation (WTO) will be hearing Washington's accusations against the Japanese market which it says remains closed to American cars and auto parts.

Japan, grappling with Washington's retaliatory decision to slap 100 per cent duties on Japanese luxury car imports, is arguing vehemently against the charge.

"The Japanese auto industry faces a tough situation today. The new focus is on expanding in Asia," said Minoru Okabe of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA).

The economic friction stems from the 60 billion dollar trade surplus Japan enjoys against the United States which is threatening to erode close ties between the countries.

Washington's punishment has been particularly hard to take this time. Japan's auto companies, which dominated the world, have been hit

badly by the rising yen and are struggling to keep afloat.

Overall exports declined 24 per cent last year. On the domestic front too, experts say, Japanese auto companies face a no-win situation.

Traffic congestion, the high cost of parking and a lingering economic recession has successfully dipped sales—down 25 per cent last year—at home.

JAMA reports that shipments to the US and Europe, its two most profitable markets have been falling consecutively for the first three months of this year.

Exports to Asia, however, rose 15 per cent in February from a year earlier, with shipments to the Philippines surging 44 per cent and Thailand 49 per cent from a year earlier.

While a break from the United States is not possible, there is clearly a tendency today to re-examine relations with Asia based on Japan's expanding economic ties with the rapidly growing region. Last year Asia accounted

for nearly 40 per cent of Japan's trade with the United States accounting for 30 per cent and Western Europe 17 per cent.

Direct investment into Asia also hit record figures—47 per cent up to 9.7 billion dollars—last year, overtaking Europe for the first time in 11 years.

"JAMA, after years of focusing on the United States, set-up, this year, a special group of analysts to explore the Asian market mainly at the request of Japanese auto manufacturers," said Okabe.

Japanese auto companies have already established a foot into Asia by setting up manufacturing plants in many of the countries.

Mitsubishi Motors Corporation has been assembling the Proton in Malaysia and launched a new joint venture, "Vina Star Motor Corp" in Vietnam last year.

Suzuki auto company manufacturers Maruti in India also hopes to start operations in Vietnam in spring 1996. Toyota and Nissan Motor

Co., the giants in Japan, have joint ventures in most of the ASEAN countries and South-east Asia, that produce commercial vehicles plus automobiles.

Asia's growing consumer market, which once restricted to two-wheelers or small trucks, is changing which is the main attraction for Japanese auto companies, says Okabe.

Economic growth has increased the purchasing power of populations in Indonesia, China and India, for example. Beijing officially forecasts total annual demand to reach 6.5 million in 2010, making China the world's third-largest market after the United States and Japan.

"No more is Asia a base for manufacturing cheaply for export to the west. The significance of Asia as consumer market is growing for Japanese companies," said CH Kwan, an analyst at Nomura Research Institute.

Despite the new leanings towards Asia, experts warn of

the stiff competition Japanese cars will face in the region against foreign producers that are now enjoying brisk sales due to lower prices thanks to the high yen.

Asia also represents a slightly different market to the United States for Japanese companies. ASEAN governments, for example, follow policies that encourage manufacturing to be done in their countries.

Toyota has been meeting Thai regulations that require the company to raise 70 per cent of its procurement of engine parts within Thailand. Import laws in many Asian countries have also forced Toyota's exports of passenger and commercial vehicles to Asia to remain low-key.

In 1989 Toyota shipped 89,000 passenger and commercial autos to Asia. Last year exports reached 100,000 in the same category.

Auto companies remain optimistic. The different conditions in Asia only makes up more eager to succeed in the region, stressed Kirimoto.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
কক্সবাজার গণপূর্ত বিভাগ
কক্সবাজার

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
নং ৮৬/৯৪-৯৫

তারিখঃ ২৭-০৬-৯৫ইং

১। এতদ্বারা নিম্নলিখিত কাজের জন্য গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তরের তালিকাভুক্ত বিশেষ প্রথম শ্রেণী, প্রথম শ্রেণী ইমারত তিকাদার, চট্টগ্রাম গণপূর্ত জেলা, চট্টগ্রামের তালিকাভুক্ত দ্বিতীয় শ্রেণীর ইমারত তিকাদার, চট্টগ্রাম গণপূর্ত সার্কেল-২, চট্টগ্রামের তালিকাভুক্ত তৃতীয় শ্রেণীর ইমারত তিকাদারগণের নিকট হইতে ২৯১১ নং বিডি ফরমে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে। উক্ত দরপত্র নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী এবং নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, গণপূর্ত বিভাগ নং ৩/৪, আগাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম এবং নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, বান্দরবান কর্তৃক আগামী ২০-০৭-৯৫ইং দুপুর ১২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত গ্রহণ করা যাইবে এবং এদিনই বেলা ১২-১৫ মিঃ সময় আগ্রহী দরপত্রদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যাহারা উপস্থিত থাকিতে ইচ্ছুক) খোলা হইবে। খামের উপর কাজের নাম উল্লেখপূর্বক দরপত্র দাখিল করিতে হইবে। মূল্য সংযোজন কর বিভাগের মূল্য সংযোজন নিবন্ধন সার্টিফিকেট-এর সত্যায়িত কপি দরপত্রের সহিত দাখিল করিতে হইবে।

২। কাজের নাম : কক্সবাজার জেলা কারাগার নির্মাণ (উপখণ্ড) জেলা কারাগারের পেরিমিটার দেয়ালের ভিতরে ও বাহিরে পাথ্রে মাটি ভাট কাটা। (সন ১৯৯৪-৯৫ইং)

৩। প্রাক্কলিত ব্যয় : টাকা ১০,৮০,২৮৮/-

৪। বাবদার টাকা : টাকা ২১,৬০০/-

৫। কার্য সম্পাদনের : কার্যদেয় প্রদানের তারিখ হইতে ৩০ (ত্রিশ) দিন।

৬। বিডি ফরম নং ২৯১১ দরপত্র অতিরিক্ত শর্তাবলী ইত্যাদি, নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী, নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, নং ৩/৪, আগাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম এবং নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, বান্দরবান অফিস হইতে আগামী ১৮-৭-৯৫ইং তারিখ বা তৎপূর্বে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে প্রচলিত মূল্যে দেহিতে বা ক্রয় করিতে পরিবে। দরপত্র তিকাদার নিজে বা তৎকর্তৃক ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত প্রতিনিধি ক্রয় করিতে পারিবে।

৭। অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়/জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড কর্তৃক শ্রেণীভিত্তিক কাজের বিপরীতে যে হারে ভ্যাট আদায়ের জন্য নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীকে হইতে থাকিবে। তিকাদার কর্তৃক ভ্যাট নিবন্ধীকরণ এবং নির্ধারিত হারে ভ্যাট পরিশোধ না হওয়া পর্যন্ত চূড়ান্ত বিল নিষ্পত্তি/পরিশোধ করা যাইবে না। যদি একাধিক বাড়ি/প্রতিষ্ঠান এককভাবে দর প্রদান করিয়া নিম্ন দরদাতার হন তবে আগামী ২৪-০৭-৯৫ইং বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকার সময় নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী বা তৎকর্তৃক ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত প্রতিনিধি দ্বারা নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে ককে উপস্থিত তিকাদারগণের সম্মুখে (যাহারা উপস্থিত থাকিতে ইচ্ছুক) লটারী অনুষ্ঠিত হইবে।

মোঃ বদরুল আকতার চৌধুরী
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
কক্সবাজার গণপূর্ত বিভাগ
কক্সবাজার

উপস্থাপন : ১৬৬২২-৩/৭
ডি-১০৪৪