

Pak MFN status to SAARC nations likely by 2000

KARACHI, Pakistan, Oct 25: Pakistan will gradually dismantle trade barriers with its arch-rival India on the way to granting it Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status by the year 2000, Commerce Minister Ahmed Mukhtar said on Thursday.

"We are committed to give the MFN status to all the South Asian Countries by the year 2000 but will approach the issue in a phased manner," Mukhtar told a seminar on trade with India.

He said barriers on raw materials would go first and then those on finished goods, but not without what he predicted would be tough negotiations with India.

Mukhtar said Pakistan and India, as members of the World Trade Organisation and part-

ners in the South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement (SAFTA) were committed to liberalising trade, but might still need to protect domestic industrial investments.

"Even after according MFN, it is still permissible to impose non-tariff barriers or ban certain items that would adversely affect domestic industry by the imposition of anti-dumping duties and countervailing duties," he said.

Pakistan and India are the main trading partners in the seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) which launched SAFTA last year in a first step towards the goal of creating a regional free-trade zone.

SAARC members have agreed to cut tariffs on 35 items under the pact.

India has already granted MFN status — under which two countries undertake to give each other the maximum tariff concessions on their mutual trade which they already grant to other countries — to all SAARC nations, including Pakistan.

Mukhtar noted the tension between Pakistan and India, which have fought three wars since independence from Britain in 1947.

"Three wars have been fought, our country was dismembered, in Kashmir the carnage continues. This not with standing, the question arises is it the time to bury the hatchet," he said.

Pakistan controls one third of the Kashmir region. Dozens of militant groups seeking a

Pakistan desires early formation of SAFTA

NEW DELHI, Oct 25: Pakistan desires an early formation of South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) which can be achieved through deliberations and discussions among the SAARC countries, the Director General of Foreign Trade of Pakistan, Khalid Amin, said here today.

"We are equally keen that SAFTA should be formed within the scheduled timeframe of either in 2000 for 2005 and have not raised any major matter to defer its formation," Amin told a group of reporters before the commencement of the third meeting of inter-governmental group on trade liberalisation to conclude the second round of trade negotiations under SAFTA.

On the issue of widening the list of items imported from India from the present level of 573 items, Amin merely said discussions are being held in this regard.

He said all the SAARC member countries would have to agree on the level of tariff that should be imposed on the goods imported by the member countries from other member nations.

"I have not come with a magic formula to suggest the level of tariff among the SAFTA countries and the number of items to be allowed to be imported from India," he said adding this has to be discussed among the member countries and India.

India urges SAARC states to remove restrictions on trade

NEW DELHI, Oct 25: India today urged the members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) to work towards removing quantitative restrictions on trading in the region besides bringing down the tariff levels, reports PTI.

Inaugurating the third meeting of inter-governmental group on trade liberalisation to conclude the second round of trade negotiations under South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement (SAFTA), the Commerce Secretary, Tejender Khanna, said placing of quantitative restrictions will hamper the growth of trade among the member countries.

Khanna said since the trading community in the countries of SAARC region are convinced about the need to usher in an era of free trade, it was the duty of the civil servants and the official representatives to work towards this goal with the approval of their respective governments.

He said India was working towards realisation of the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) by the turn of the century based on unanimity and consensus among the SAARC nations.

Khanna said he perceived the SAFTA to evolve on the lines of the European Union with exchange of free trade among the member countries.

Since trade brings gain to all the participating countries, members must make efforts, to internationalise their economy even while bringing about conducive conditions in the region to enhance international trade, Khanna said.

The setting up of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) augurs well for improving trade inflows from the region.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Division
Natore

Notice Inviting Tenders

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from Sp. 1st, Class 1st, 2nd class and 3rd class approved building contractors of PWD for the under mentioned works and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, No. 1/1 Rajshahi/Pabna/Naogaon up to 12-00. Noon on 6/11/96 Eng. in their tender box kept for the purpose in the room of the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer PWD Division, No. 1/1 Rajshahi/Pabna/Naogaon and will be opened by them in their respective offices on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence of the tenderers who may like to remain present.

Sl No	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Classes of contractors entitled to submit tender
Group No. 1 (One)				
1.	Providing E.I. and Fans including service connection in the police Barrack cum Investigation Centre at Naldanga Dist. Natore during the year-1996-97.	Tk. 2,21,212/-	Tk. 4,425/-	From 1st class & 2nd class Electrical contractor who have got valid ABC/BC licences.
Group No. II (two)				
2.	Providing E.I. and Fans including service connection in one Police Barrack cum Investigation Centre at Banpara, Dist. Natore during the year 1996-97	Tk. 2,21,212/-	Tk. 4,425/-	-do-

Contract documents consisting of Bangladesh Form No. 2911, schedule of items of work, additional terms and conditions can be seen and purchased from the office of the undersigned, Executive Engineer, PWD, Division No. 1/1 Rajshahi/Pabna/Naogaon on payment of cash charge (Non-refundable). The tender form may be purchased by the contractor himself or his/their representatives on production of authorisation letter bearing the signature of the representative duly attached by the contractor along with the registration book in any day during office hours up to 5/11/96. No tender forms and schedule of items of work etc, will be sold after 5-00 PM on 5/11/96 Eng.

Md. Abdur Rahim
Executive Engineer,
PWD Divn, Natore

DFP-23961-21/10
G-1336

Strike against economic package in Pakistan today

ISLAMABAD, Oct 25: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) said Thursday it had called for a protest strike against the government's harsh IMF-inspired economic stabilisation package, reports Reuter.

FPCCI Secretary General Rafiq Khan said the strike would take place on Saturday, coinciding with a separate strike called by the Pakistan Muslim League.

On Tuesday Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government devalued the rupee 7.86 per cent against the dollar and imposed new tax measures and spending cuts for 1996/97 (July-June).

"These steps are not in the interest of the businessmen or the people because they will increase the cost of production and burden everyone beyond their capacity," Khan told Reuters.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Jamalpur Public Works Division
Jamalpur

Tender Notice

No. 20 (1996-97)

Sealed tenders are hereby invited on BD Form No. 2911 from Public Works Directorate enlisted special first class contractors/contractor firms or consortium consisted through affidavit by civil, sanitary and electrical contractors as per financial capacity of their respective types of work (civil, sanitary, electrical). Tenders will be opened in presence of the interested tenderers at 12:15 PM on the tender submitting day and name of work, name and address of contractor/contractor firms/consortium and the tender addressed to and be submitted, should be mentioned on the envelope.

- Name of work : Transforming the existing Govt 'Sishu Sadans' into 'Sishu Paribars' 2nd part (one) at Jamalpur district (boys & girls). Sub-head: Construction of training centre cum-free primary school building.
- Estimated cost : a) Civil portion Tk 6,68,242/-
b) Sanitary portion Tk 61,268/-
c) Electrical portion Tk 80,096/-
Tk 8,09,646/-
- Earnest money : Tk 16,193/-
- Time limit for completion of work : 90 (ninety) days.
- Name of offices where tender will be sold from and received at : Public Works Division, Jamalpur/Kishoreganj/Netrakona/Tangail/Sherpur/Mymensingh. 10.11.96/26.7.1403 BS (during office hours)
- Last date of selling tender : 11.11.96/27.7.1403 BS (up to 12.00 Noon)
- Tender document/schedule containing Bangladesh Form No. 2911 and additional terms & conditions can be seen at the above offices and can be bought on usual payment of Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (Non-refundable), for each Tender and Tk 25 (twenty-five) only (Non-refundable) for each BD Form No. 2911.
- The tender schedule can be purchased by the contractor/contractor firm/Managing Director of the constituted consortium or his/their representative having his signature attested by the contractor/contractor firm/Managing Director of consortium in the authorisation letter, on production of all original registers of enlistment.
- Contractor/contractor firm should enclose attested copy of VAT registration certificate with the tender.
- Consortium should be formed on the affidavit from 1st class Magistrate/Notary Public.
- Sanitary and electrical contractors should form consortium with civil contractors. Civil contractor will execute all the works as principal contractor. It may be noted that one sanitary and one electrical contractor should form consortium with maximum 5 (five) civil contractors.
- Original copies of documents related to the formation of consortium should be produced at the time of purchasing tenders and attested photocopies should be submitted with the tender. Tender of the work can be bought only in the name of consortium enlisted civil contractor.
- Any attestation should be by a 1st class gazetted officer.
- If more than one tender state the same lowest rate than, lottery will be held at the office chamber of the undersigned on 18/11/96 at 11:00 am to select 1 (one) contractor.

All the tenderers or their nominated representatives are requested to attend the lottery.

Md Nuruzzman Mia
Executive Engineer
Jamalpur Public Works Division,
Jamalpur. Ph-3666

DFP-22165-2/10
G-1335

RHD Notice Inviting Tender

Inviting Sealed Tender in BD Form No 2911

- Tender Notice No : 31/RDG 1996-97.
- Name of work : Tender for flexible pavement with pre-mixed bitumenous carpeting and seal coat work at 6th(P) and 7th KM of Salna-Rajendrapur-Kapasia Pabur link road under Gazipur Road Division during the year 1996-97 in 2 (two) groups.
- Estimated cost : As per group list.
- Earnest money : As per group list.
- Time allowed : As per group list.
- Chargeable Head : As per group list.
- Eligibility of Contractor : As per group list.
- Name of offices of availability of tender documents : Offices of the Executive Engineer, RHD Road Division, Gazipur/Dhaka/Manikgonj/Munshigonj/Narayanganj/Norshingdi/Planning Division, (R&H), Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Planning & Design Division, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/SDE RHD, Road Sub-Division, Tongi/Joydebpur.
- Name of offices to receive tender bids : Offices of the Superintending Engineer, RHD, Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka/Planning Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, (P&D) Dhaka/Ex. Engr. RHD, Road Division, Gazipur/SDE RHD, Road Sub-Division, Tongi/Joydebpur.
- Last date of time of selling tender : 9-11-96 during office hours.
- Last date of receipt of tender : Up to 12.30 PM on 10-11-96.
- Date & time of preparing list of tender received by the respective receiving offices : At 12.45 PM on 10-11-96 (The sealed Envelopes shall not be opened by the respective receiving offices. Those will be opened in this office after collecting all the tender papers from all receiving offices on 13-11-96.
- Date of Lottery (If necessary) : 16-11-96 at 12.00 Noon of this Division office.
- Group list of work:

Gr No	Name of work with location	Hd of Acctt.	Estimated Cost Tk	Earnest money Tk	Time allowed	Eligibility of contr.
I	Construction of Flexible pavement with pre-mixed bitumenous carpeting & seal coat work at 6th(P) 7th(P) KM of Salna-Rajendrapur-Kapasia Pabur Link Road under Gazipur Road Division during the year 1996-97.	266-CA	11,73,750/-	23,475/-	45 (Forty five) days	'A to D' class general RHD, enlisted contractor
II	Construction of Flexible pavement with pre-mixed bitumenous carpeting & seal coat work at 7th(P) KM of Salna-Rajendrapur-Kapasia Pabur Link Road under Gazipur Road Division, during the year 1996-97.	266-CA	11,21,790/-	22,436/-	-do-	-do-

Abul Bashar Mohiuddin Ahmed
Executive Engineer, RHD
(Current Charge)
Gazipur Road Division, Gazipur

DFP-23800-20/10
G-1337

Notice of RHD Inviting Tender

- Tender notice no : 14/MWD/1996-97.
- Name of work : As per group list mentioned below.

Group No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed from the date of issue of W/O	Eligibility of contractor
Ka	Supplying the spare parts of propulsion unit (100 H. P) for Hydromaster Ford engine for different ferry ghat under RHD, Workshop Division, Mymensingh during the year 1996-97.	As per schedule	2% of the Estimated cost	20 (Twenty) days	Enlisted general category contractors of RHD, as per financial capacity.
Kha	Supplying the spare parts for repairing gearbox (Hydromaster ford engine 100/120 H. P) of Jamalpur ferry ghat under RHD, Workshop Division, Mymensingh during the year 1996-97.	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-
Ga	Supplying the spare parts for overhauling and other connecting repairing work of pickup No-Shas-63-4017, under (RHD) Workshop Division Mymensingh, during the year 1996-97.	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-
Gha	Supplying the spare parts for Isuju Holler Truck No-Mymensingh-la-237, of Netrakona Road Division to repairing overhauling brake and transmission system and other connecting repairing works and machining, denting, painting under (RHD) Workshop Division, Mymensingh, during the year 1996-97.	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-
Uma	Supplying the spare parts for ferry No. 15 & 17, (Hydromaster for engine 100 H. P) to repairing remote control & Ruler angle transmitter system and repairing 2 No welding transformer and supply K. S. B. water pump and hose pipe for the Workshop Division, Mymensingh during the year 1996-97.	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-	-Do-

- Name of office of availability of tender documents : Executive Engineer (RHD), Workshop Division, Mymensingh/Dhaka and Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Workshop Sub-Division, Mymensingh.
- Name of office to receive tender : Superintending Engineer (RHD), Workshop Circle, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Executive Engineer (RHD), Workshop Division, Mymensingh.
- Last date of sale of tender : 09-11-96 (During office hour).
- Date of receipt of sealed tender : 10-11-96 up to 12-30 PM.
- Date and time of opening sealed tender : 12-11-96 at 11-00 AM
- Date and time of opening sealed tender (if necessary) : 12-11-96 at 12-00 Noon.

Md. Toufiqul Islam Khan
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Workshop Division,
Mymensingh

DFP-23765-20/9
G-1336

Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

Court Road
P.O. Box-8
Brahmanbaria-3400

Asian Development Bank Loan No. 1293-BAN (SF):
Third Natural Gas Development Project, Part-A

International Invitation of Bids for Procurement of Wireline Unit and Associated Facilities, Dated 23.10.96

- Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd (BGFCL), a company of Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) invites sealed offers (bids) under International Shopping (IS) procedure for procurement of wireline unit and associated facilities for various wireline operations and completion of different wells of BGFCL under the Third Natural Gas Development (TNG) Project, Part-A.
- Scope of supply, terms of supply, the information required to be furnished by the bidders, mode & submission procedures of bids etc. are detailed in the tender document.
- The foreign currency cost will be met out of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1293-BAN(SF), received by the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) towards financing of the TNG project. The local currency cost will be financed by GOB through its Annual Development Programme (ADP).
- Only reputed & experienced manufacturers/fabricators/suppliers from ADB member countries are eligible to participate in the bidding. Materials will also to be mined/produced in ADB member countries.
- Bidders shall be required to furnish an acceptable bid bond in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order or Bank Guarantee issued by a registered scheduled bank in Bangladesh or a scheduled foreign bank operating in Bangladesh and acceptable to BGFCL amounting to 2% of the quoted C&F value and valid for 150 days from the date of closing of the tender.
- Bidders shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his bid and BGFCL will, in no case, be responsible or liable for these costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
- Tender document will be available from 31.10.96 to 14.12.96 between 0900 hrs & 1400 hrs BST on all working days on payment of Bangladesh Taka 1500.00 (non-refundable) at the following address:

Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd.
Liaison Office
97, Purana Paltan (Bijoynagar)
Dhaka-1000
Bangladesh

Telephone : 880-2-404209 (Dhaka)
Telex : 642903 BGFCL BJ
Fax : 880-2-836267

- Bids will be received at the Liaison Office of BGFCL at 97, Purana Paltan (Bijoynagar), Dhaka-1000 up to 1100 hrs BST on 15.12.96 and will be opened on the same day at 1130 hrs BST in presence of the bidders or their representative(s), if any.
- Bangladesh Gas Fields Co. Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at any stage without assigning any reason whatsoever.

PRS-9/043(TNG)/96

D-1155