

Oil prices surge as air strike begins

Oil prices have surged after US and UK military action against Iraq.

The prospect of a reduction or total cessation of oil exports from Iraq, one of the world's major producers, has caused prices to rise.

The price of a barrel of oil has leapt by 10% over the past few days, having hit a 12 year low last week.

Oil prices for barrels delivered in January rallied 83 cents to \$12.38 per barrel during New York trading on Wednesday in anticipation of the attacks against Iraq. But prices fell back on Thursday in hectic trading. By 0830 GMT the crude oil price had slipped to \$12.17 a barrel. Prices hit a low of \$9.60 a barrel last week.

The oil industry has been brought to its knees by the slump in oil prices over the past few months. A cut off in supply from Iraq should ease the current glut in production which has dogged producers.

around 1.8m barrels of oil a day under a UN humanitarian scheme.

Producers meet
Dealers were also preparing for a meeting on Thursday of ministers from oil-producing members of Opec Saudi Arabia and Venezuela and non-Opec member Mexico.

The three countries were the main architects of a deal earlier this year to cut production by 3.1m barrels a day in a bid to boost prices.

However, the cuts have failed to revive a market weighed down by surplus stock and falling demand caused by the economic crisis in Asian countries.

"Physically speaking, practically speaking, if there is a military strike, there will be no oil pumped," he said. Iraq currently exports

Nepal opens up telecom sector

By Deepak Gajurel

KATHMANDU, Dec 17: Nepal has thrown open the telecommunications sector to private enterprise, ending decades of monopoly for the state-owned Nepal Telecommunications Corporation (NTC).

Private companies will now be allowed to operate a total of 12 telecom services, including VSAT network provider and VSAT user, audio conferencing, pay phone, pre-paid calling card, local data network and radio paging.

The users are required to obtain individual licences for each service. Licence fee is yet to be fixed. The Nepalese Parliament had in 1996 passed the bill that would allow the private sector to operate various telecommunications services.

VSATs (Very Small Aperture Terminals) are specialised earth stations equipped with transceivers (transmitter and receiver) capable of uplinking as well as downlinking voice, data and video signals. These portable sets can be used anywhere without the assistance of cable connection.

VSAT offers flexible means of data communication which have impressive throughput. This is most useful in a country like Nepal whose development of terrestrial facilities is hampered by difficult terrain.

About a dozen private companies have already applied for licences for the various services, ministry sources said. However, the government has not opened video conferencing and Internet phone services to private operators. Video conferencing has not been opened out because of technical reasons and Internet phone because of the low quality. But the government plans to throw them open later, officials at the Nepal Telecommunications Authority said.

Experts are of the view that these facilities should be given to the private sector which in turn will bring down the cost of Internet service along with upgrading efficiency. In that case,

Internet Service Providers (ISPs) need not depend on the NTC's leased lines. Instead, they will have direct access to the international gateway, experts said.

"Private operators should be given a comprehensive license which allows them to run all services, thus letting them capitalise the opportunities offered by the convergence of technology," said former NTC general manager Suresh Kumar Pudasaini.

The opening up of the telecom services has been largely welcomed in Nepal. "It is a most welcome step which had to be allowed long ago," Pudasaini said.

— India Abroad News Service

Pran declares 20 pc dividend

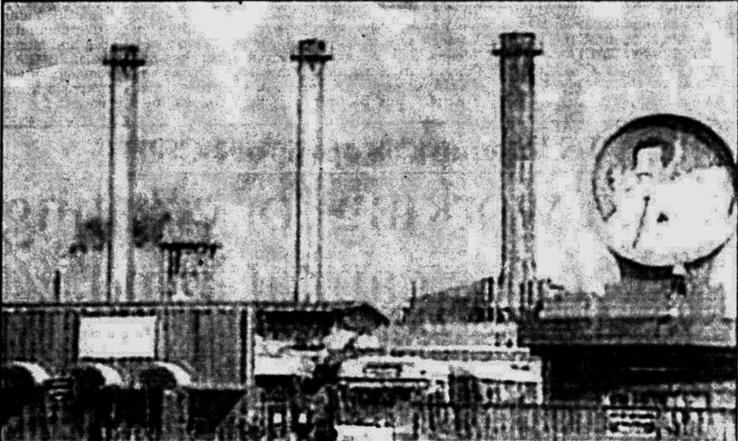
Agricultural Marketing Company Ltd (Pran) declared a 20 per cent dividend at its 13th annual general meeting held at a city hotel on Tuesday.

Pre-tax profit of the company increased by 27 per cent Tk 32 million in 1997-98 from Tk 25 million of the previous year.

Sales grew by over 44 per cent from Tk 173 million to Tk 251 million, says a press release.

Chairman of the Board of Directors of the company Mahtabuddin Ahmed presided over the meeting which was attended by M Giash Uddin — Company Secretary, Amjad Khan Chowdhury — Chief Executive, Barnister Akhter Imam — Director, Sabiha Amjad — Director and Ahsan Khan Chowdhury — Deputy Managing Director.

Amjad Khan Chowdhury thanked the directors, shareholders, financial institutions and employees of the company for the co-operation and concerted efforts they made for the progress of the company.



Iraqi oil field

বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
সমসাময়িক সঠিক বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন
সরকারকে ফাঁকি দেয়ার প্রবণতা বন্ধ করুন

বাসভাড়া বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১. দপ্তরের নাম : তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ সার্কেল, বিদ্যুৎ, রাজশাহী।

২. কাজের নাম : বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, রাজশাহীর বিভিন্ন দপ্তরের কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদের প্রতি কার্যনির্বাহন এবং প্রস্তুত নিয়মে রাজশাহী শহরের কয়েকটি নির্দিষ্ট স্থান হইতে অফিস অর্থাৎ-সেওরা করিবার জন্য সৈনিক ভিত্তিতে কমপক্ষে-১ (এক) কক্ষের জন্য ৩০ (ত্রিশ) আসনবিশিষ্ট ৩০টি টীন বডি/আকর্ষণীয়/টিস-টপ আকারমতকার বাসভাড়া নেওয়ার কাজ।

৩. ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা : প্রকৃত বাস মালিক।

৪. প্রাপ্তি তারিখ : টিকা ২,৬৯,৫৬৮/- (দুই লক্ষ উনসত্তর হাজার পাঁচাত্তর আশী) মাত্র।

৫. দপ্তরের মূলা : টিকা ১০০/- (একশত) মাত্র অফিসব্যয়োগে।

৬. দপ্তর : অতিরিক্ত প্রকৌশলী, বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, বিদ্যুৎ, রাজশাহী এবং নিম্নাঞ্চলকারীরা অনুমতিক্রমে আগামী ২১/১২/৯৮ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে জনতা ব্যাংক, হেডকোয়ার্টার, রাজশাহী হইতে সমগ্র করা যাইবে।

৭. দপ্তর গ্রহণ ও খোলাসার তারিখ : দপ্তরক্রমে আগামী ২২/১২/৯৮ইং তারিখ দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত অতিরিক্ত প্রকৌশলী, বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড, রাজশাহী এবং নিম্নাঞ্চলকারীরা দপ্তর গ্রহণ করিবেন এবং ঐ দিনই দুপুর ১২-০০ ঘটিকার সময় দপ্তর পরিত্যক্ত হইবে। দপ্তরগ্রহণের বা তাহার পরে প্রতিনিধিত্বের উপস্থিতিতে বোর্ডের উপস্থিতি থাকেনা। দপ্তরক্রমে বোর্ড হইবে।

দপ্তরক্রমে সহিত ৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/সে-অর্ডার, উপ-পরিচালক (হিসাব), আঞ্চলিক হিসাব দপ্তর, বিদ্যুৎ, রাজশাহীর অনুক্রমে জামানত হিসাবে জমা দিতে হইবে। বাকী কককর্কি দপ্তরগ্রহণের মুহূর্ত্তে বোর্ডের পক্ষ হইতে প্রকৃত নিম্নাঞ্চলকারীরা দপ্তর গ্রহণ চলাকালীন সময়ে যোগাযোগ করা যাইতে পারে।

বিদ্যুৎ/অন-৭৬৬৪/১৩-৯৯
ডিরেকশন-২৬০৬৯-১৪/১২
ফি-২৬০৬

তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী
পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ সার্কেল
বিদ্যুৎ, রাজশাহী।



M Giash Uddin — Company Secretary, Amjad Khan Chowdhury Chief Executive, Mahtabuddin Ahmed — Chairman, Barnister Akhter Imam Director, Sabiha Amjad — Director and Ahsan Khan Chowdhury — Deputy Managing Director of Agricultural Marketing Company Ltd (Pran) at firm's 13th annual general meeting held at a city hotel on Tuesday.

POST HANDOVER GET TOGETHER AT "OASIS PROJECT"
BUILDING TECHNOLOGY & IDEAS LTD.
DECEMBER 05, 1998

Building Technology & Ideas Ltd arranged the yearly post-handover get-together at "OASIS" project at Gulshan in the city recently. Engr FR Khan, deputy Managing Director, Engr AHM Kibria, Director-Design and Development and other senior officials of BTI, are seen at the function.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Public Works E/M Division-5
2nd Two-Storey Government Office Building
Segunbagicha, Dhaka

Dated: 08/12/98
24/08/1405 Bangla

Tender Invitation Notice
No-37 (98-99)

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No-2911 in sealed envelopes are invited from Public Works Directorate enlisted Special Class I/E/M Class I/ Class II contractors who have valid ABC/BC categories of contractorship and supervisory licences issued by Electrical License Board (which are renewed up-to-date) for the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received till 24/12/98 at 12:00 Noon in the specific tender box kept at the Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6/Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka and will be opened on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence of the intending tenderers/their nominated representatives (if any one remains present). No tender schedule/rules and regulations etc will be supplied. Tender schedule and rules and regulations and other related papers can be procured on payment of Taka 425/- in cash (non-refundable) from Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6/Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka. Earnest money at the rate of 2% of estimated cost (refundable) in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/CD/SD from any bank approved by the Bangladesh Bank in favour of Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-5 will have to be deposited with the tender. Participants in tender, their representatives will have to include/submit the attested photocopy of certificate regarding TIN and money receipt of the tender purchased with the tender. The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason. Contractor himself or his representative bearing an authorised letter can purchase tender by producing registration book and other necessary papers. The last date of selling tender is 23/12/98.

| Serial no | Name of work | Estimated cost | Earnest money | Time allowed |
|-----------|---|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Internal electrification work of godown of Customs, Excise and VAT at Siddiq Bazar in Dhaka | Tk 2,95,223/- | 2% of the estimated cost | 15 (fifteen) days. |

Md Fazlu Haque
Executive Engineer
Public Works E/M Division-5
Dhaka.

DFP-26186-10/12
G-2838

জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
সাতার, ঢাকা
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নং-৩/১৯৯৮-৯৯
জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ৫৬নং ফরমে নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছেঃ

| ক্রমিক নং | কাজের নাম | আনুমানিক ব্যয় বরাদ্দ | আমানতের পরিমাণ | প্রতি কপি দরপত্রের মূল্য (অফিসেরতথ্যে) | কাজ সমাপ্তির সময়সীমা | ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|----------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| ১। | সি-টাইপ বাসভবনের রাস্তা নির্মাণ | ২,২৪,৭৭৫/- | ৪,৪৯৬/- | ১০০/- | ৬০ দিন | জার্সি তালিকাভুক্ত, সড়ক ও জনপদ বিভাগ ও স্বয়ত্বশাসিত প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্ত রাস্তা নির্মাণ (কার্পেটিং) কাজে অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন ঠিকাদার। |
| ২। | বিভিন্ন অফিস ও বিভাগের আস-বাবপত্র মেসারাজ | ৮০,৫৬০/- | ১,৬৭২/- | ৫০/- | ৯০ দিন | আসবাবপত্র তৈরি ও মেসারাজ কাজে অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন ঠিকাদার। (প্রমাণপত্র দাখিল করিতে হইবে) |

দরপত্রের কাগজপত্রসমূহ (সিডিউল) আগামী ২২-১২-৯৮ইং তারিখ হইতে ২৪-১২-৯৮ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় এলাকায় অবস্থিত অফিস ব্যাংকের শাখা হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন (দুপুর ২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত) সময়ে ১নং কাজের জন্য একক কার্যাদেশে ২,০০ লক্ষ টাকার কার্পেটিং রাস্তা নির্মাণ কাজের অধীনে অভিজ্ঞতার প্রমাণপত্র কার্যাদেশ ও কাজ সমাপ্তির সন্তোষজনক সনদপত্র এবং উভয় কাজের ক্ষেত্রে ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেটসহ লিখিত আবেদনের মাধ্যমে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অনুমতিক্রমে জমা করা যাইবে।

দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও খোলাসার তারিখসহ অন্যান্য বিশেষ শর্তাবলী দরপত্রের সহিত সংযুক্ত থাকিবে।

এক এম নেছার উদ্দিন চৌধুরী
তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী
জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
সাতার, ঢাকা।

জিডি-১০৩৫

Tender Notice
DU Zone No-2/T. No. 11-12/1998-99

University of Dhaka: Sealed tenders in Dhaka University form "Tender for works" are hereby invited from the enlisted contractors (civil) of Dhaka University for the undermentioned works and will be received by the undersigned up to 12:00 Noon on the date mentioned against each work & opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the contractors who may remain present. Contractors will have to deposit as earnest money a sum of Taka as stated below in Demand Draft or Pay Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh. Specifications and other particulars may be had from the office of the undersigned up to 12:00 Noon on all working days except on the date fixed for submitting the tender after depositing the cost of tender form & schedule as stated below against each work to the Janata Bank, TSC Branch (non-refundable) after showing the necessary enlisted papers endorsed by the undersigned.

| S/No | Name of work | Estimated cost | Earnest money | Price of tender form | Time allowed for completion | Opening date |
|------|---|----------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Re-roofing & thorough repairing round shape bhaban in front of Modhur Caaten. | 4,61,035/- | Tk 9,221/- | Tk 200/- | 90 days | 28th December '98 |
| 2. | Repairing the Green Super Market, Dhaka University. | 5,66,142/- | Tk 11,323/- | Tk 300/- | 90 days | 28th December '98 |

Md Abdul Mannan
Executive Engineer-3
University of Dhaka

GD-1038

RHD Notice Inviting Tender

1. Tender Notice No : 11/98-99

2. Name of works : Repair and overhauling of 120 HP Hydromaster engine of type-2-013/80 Ferry at Kazirtek ghat, 75 HP Ford engine of Uniflote Ferry No 001/72 at Zager ghat, 150 HP Volvopenta engine of Ulka SF 003 at Haridahpur ghat & Russian welding generator and supply of spare parts for different engines for Propulsion Units in 5 (Five) groups (as per schedule) under Ferry Sub-Divn, Faridpur during the year 1998-99. Ch to 168- RBF-2 Repair.

3. Estimated cost : As per schedule.

4. Earnest money : 2% of the estimated cost.

5. Time allowed : As per mentioned in the schedule.

6. Entitled contractors : A to C general category contractors under RHD, 'D' general category contractors under Mechl. Ferry Circle, Dhaka and 'E' general category contractors under Ferry Construction Division, Dhaka.

7. Name of offices for selling tender documents : Executive Engineer, RHD, Ferry Construction Divn, Dhaka/Ferry Maintenance Divn, Dhaka/Ferry Divn, Sylhet/SDE, RHD, Ferry Construction, Sub-Divn, Dhaka & SDE, RHD, Ferry Sub-Divn, Faridpur.

8. Name of offices for receiving tender documents : Superintending Engineer, RHD, Ferry Circle, Dhaka/Executive Engineer, RHD, Ferry Construction Divn, Dhaka/Ferry Maintenance Divn, Dhaka/Ferry Divn, Sylhet.

9. Last date of selling tender documents during office hours : 23-12-98 Eng/9-9-1405 Bang.

10. Last date & time of receiving tenders : 24-12-98 Eng/10-9-1405 Bang up to 12:30 PM.

11. Date & time of opening of all the tenders by the undersigned : 30-12-98 Eng/16-9-1405 Bang at 1:30 PM.

12. Date & time of lottery (if applicable) : 31-12-98 Eng/17-9-1405 Bang at 12:30 PM.

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from entitled-contractors mentioned above in prescribed schedule along with the BD Form No 2908/2911. Tender if reached after the fixed time will be treated as rejected. Tender will be opened and lottery (if applicable) will be drawn in the fixed date & time in presence of the interested contractors (if any). The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason.

Executive Engineer, RHD
Ferry Construction Divn
House No 536, Rd-No 11, DOHS
Baridhara, Dhaka.

DFP-26138-10/12
G-2837

Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Gaibandha

Notice Inviting Tender of RHD

1. Tender Notice No : 13-EE/RD/1998-99

2. Name of work : Repairing of pavement & earth work at difft location on difft. roads under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1998-99 in 6 (six) groups.

3. Estimated cost : As per group list.

4. Earnest money : As per group list.

5. Time allowed for completion of work : As per group list.

6. Eligibility of contractor : As per group list.

7. Name of offices where tender documents will be available : 1. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Rangpur/Bogra/Kurigram/Gaibandha/Planning Division (P&D), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.
2. Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Road Sub-Division, Gaibandha/Palashbari.

8. Name of offices where tenders will be received : 1. Addl Chief Engineer (RHD), Rangpur Zone, Rangpur.
2. Superintending Engineer (RHD), Rangpur Road Circle, Rangpur/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.
3. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Rangpur/Bogra/Kurigram/Gaibandha.

9. Last date of selling tender (for all groups) : Up to 23-12-1998 during office hours.

10. Date & time of receiving tenders (for all groups) : On 24-12-1998 at 12:30 PM.

11. Date & time for opening of tender box (for all groups) : On 24-12-1998 at 12:45 PM.

12. Date & time of opening of all tenders by this office : On 29-12-1998 at 12:45 PM.

13. Date & time for lottery (if required) for all : At 11:30 AM on 31-12-1998.

14. Head of A/C : Group No: 1 (one) to 5 (five) 168 RBF and Group No: 6 (six) 266 Dev.

| Gp No | Name of work with location | Estimated cost in Tk | Earnest money in Tk | Time allowed for completion of work | Eligibility of contract or | Remarks. |
|-------|--|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. | Repairing the existing flood damaged pavement & premixed bituminous seal coat at 1st km on Gaibandha-Balashighat road under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1998-99 | Tk 5,62,825/= | Tk 11,257/= | 20 (twenty) days | 'A' to 'E' class contractor under general cat egory of RHD | Separate tender with separate earnest money to be submitted for each group. |
| 2. | Repairing pavement by providing premixed bituminous seal coat at 1st km on Gaibandha-Sadullapur road under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1998-99 | Tk 3,47,793/= | Tk 6,956/= | 15 (fifteen) days | - | - |
| 3. | Repairing pavement by providing premixed bituminous seal coat at 2nd km on Gaibandha-Sadullapur road under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1998-99 | Tk 3,33,004/= | Tk 6,661/= | 15 (fifteen) days | - | - |
| 4. | Construction of guide wall at the shoulder of flood damaged pavement at 1st km on Gaibandha-Balashighat road under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1998-99 | Tk 2,78,276/= | Tk 5,566/= | 10 (ten) days | - | - |
| 5. | Repairing the pavement by premixed bituminous seal coat at 3rd (p) & 4th (p) km on Gaibandha-Balashighat road under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1998-99 | Tk 2,58,341/= | Tk 5,167/= | 10 (ten) days | - | - |
| 6. | Earth work for widening the road embankment at 3rd (p) & 4th (p) km on Dariapur-Kamarzani road under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1998-99 | Tk 3,51,395/= | Tk 7,028/= | 25 (twenty-five) days | - | - |

N.B. Group No 2 (two) to 6 (six) will not be received in the office of the Addl Chief Engineer (RHD), Rangpur Zone, Rangpur/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka. Group No 2 (two) to 6 (six) will not be sold in the office of the Executive Engineer, (RHD), Planning Division, (P&D), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.

Md Abdul Bari
Executive Engineer (RHD)
(Current Charge)
Road Division, Gaibandha.

DFP-26129-10/12
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