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Letter of Interest

Established local company with minimum 5 years experience with reputable clients in following services areas are requested to submit Letter of Interest (LOI) for entering into Long Term Agreement for 2 years (from date of signing the Agreement):

First Phase	Second Phase
1. Graphic Design	7. Survey
2. Video Documentation	8. Advertising
3. Photography & Maintenance of Photo Library	9. Audio-Video Maintenance
4. Training/Facilitation	10. Press Clipping
5. Logistics	11. Translation
6. Write-up	12. Media Monitoring

Interested companies are requested to submit Letter of Interest by 11 June (Sunday), 2000 with following information provided exactly in the manner requested, but not limited to:

- LOI on company letter head, with full address, phone, fax, and e-mail, and signed by authorized signatory of the company.
- Main services provided/products offered.
- Description of management including organogram, number of employees.
- Details of experience with 10 major clients, indicating short descriptions of services (related to service area of interest).
- Full list of clients during last 5 years.
- Total annual business/services volumes during last 5 years (in one page).
- Signed CV of technical personnel available in relation to service area of interest.
- List of technical equipment available for providing service in the area of interest.
- Office facilities including communication equipment (computers, printers, photocopiers, tel/fax/e-mail) vehicles, warehousing/storing facilities, etc.
- Partnerships/affiliation with foreign agencies.
- Information on pending law-suits.
- Company registration documents with relevant authorities.
- Summary of company financial statements for last three years (in one page).

Please note:

- The Letter of Interest along with the attachments shall be considered as the property of UNICEF BCO, and responses shall not be returned to originators.
 - Responsive companies will be requested to provide Rate-sheets or Price Offers on prescribed form, based the Terms & References (TOR) to be provided by UNICEF.
 - The advertisement or response thereto, does not bind UNICEF to enter into any agreement or contracts with companies.
 - Separate Letter of Interest (LOI) with related information to be submitted for each service area. One company may submit LOI for maximum 5 services areas.
 - Long Term Agreements for the 12 service area will be issued in two phases.
 - Several companies may be contracted for one service area.
 - Individuals may apply for writing and translation services.
- You are requested to collect the detailed Terms of References for above-mentioned services by 28 May 2000 from UNICEF, HR Section, 4th Floor, BSL Office Complex, 1 Mint Road, Dhaka. D-329

34 pc living below poverty line

State Minister for Planning Dr Muiyuddin Khan Alamgir said yesterday that the number of those living below poverty line has been reduced in recent years due to government's unremitting efforts towards poverty alleviation, reports BSS.

"We are also sparing no efforts to ensure rational opportunities in the society to contribute to the Herculean task of elimination of poverty," he told a regional seminar on poverty monitoring Survey-99 jointly organised by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP).

Mannur-Rashid, secretary, Statistics Division, and director general of the BBS and Dr Muhammad Solaiman also spoke on the occasion. A message of Dr A V S Reddy, Director General of the CIRDAP, was read out in the seminar.

Dr Alamgir reiterated government's determination to eliminate poverty to the best of its ability since it is the key to all development.

The minister said the number of people living under poverty line was 56 per cent in the late eighties but it has come down to 34 per cent in the late nineties.

"This trend must continue so that it comes further down," he said and stressed that particular care has to be taken for those who are below abject poverty line.

Delegates from several regional countries are taking part in the seminar which will go deep into the issue of monitoring poverty alleviation and identify areas where bigger thrust is required to achieve the desired objectives.

The speakers said it was felt in the beginning of 1990s that

implementation of sustainable anti-poverty strategy required reliable and timely information on the state and process of poverty.

They said monitoring adjustment and policies (MAP) in Bangladesh was initiated in 1991 to monitor poverty level using multidimensional indicators, analyse micro impact of macroeconomic and structural adjustment policies and to provide feedback to policy makers to design effective macro policies.

According to the survey findings, the monthly per household income at the national level in May 99 was Tk 4812 while for the poor it was Tk 3229 and for the non-poor it was Tk 5971. In comparison, the urban monthly per household income was Tk 8167 while for the urban poor it was Tk 4741 and for the non-poor Tk 10462.

The monthly per household incomes in May 99 was higher than that of April 98 in both urban and rural areas, revealed the survey report. The urban

incomes were higher 10.2 per cent for all households, 38.5 per cent for poor and only 0.5 per cent for the non-poor households.

The rural incomes, on the other hand, were 13.4 per cent higher in May 99 compared to April 98 while it was 30.5 per cent higher for poor and 3.1 per cent for non-poor rural households, according to the survey report.

The monthly per capita income at the national level in May 99 was Tk 948 while the income for the poor was Tk 602 and that of non-poor was Tk 1228.

The survey came out with the findings that average monthly household income was highest in Dhaka with Tk 7592.8 in May '99 followed by Chittagong (Tk 6460.1), Comilla (Tk 5579.9), Chittagong Hill Tract (Tk 5316.1) and Noakhali (Tk 5161.2).

The monthly expenditure was also highest in Dhaka with Tk 5592.6 followed by Noakhali (Tk 5514.1), Chittagong (Tk 5412.1) and Sylhet (Tk 4987.2), the report revealed.

Army chief leaves for Kuwait

Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman, Bir Bikram, left Dhaka yesterday on a five-day goodwill visit to Kuwait at the invitation of the Kuwait Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Al-Muhammad Al-Mumin, reports BSS.

He is accompanied by Begum Rashida Mustafiz and leading a six-member delegation of the Bangladesh Army.

During his stay in Kuwait, General Mustafiz is likely to pay a courtesy call on Ameer Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah.

The army chief is expected to return on May 26.

Workshop on energy begins

By Staff Correspondent

A four-day workshop on "Lessons Learned in Natural Gas And Power Sector Development-The US Experience" began at Petrobangla yesterday.

The US Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration (EIA), US Agency of International Development (USAID), the Energy Ministry and Petrobangla have jointly organised the workshop being participated by government officials, private sector representatives, teachers and journalists. Senior Energy Advisor of USAID, Dhaka, Bruce McMullen inaugurated the workshop.

Mariner-Volpe and Roger L. Saucy of EIA presented three different papers — "Evolution of US Energy Policy over the last 30 years," "Evolution of Natural Gas Markets in the United States," and "Determination of Electricity prices in a competitive environment" at the workshop.

The speakers discussed past energy policy changes, American and global energy crisis of the last three decades and its impact on policy formulation and regulation, the success and the failures of the regulations and deregulation in the energy sector.

Mark Rodekohl, Barbara



UNITED INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF EGM

Notice is, hereby, given that the EGM scheduled to be held on 22nd May 2000 at 3:30 p.m. at Hotel Sonargaon, Dhaka has been cancelled due to unavoidable reason. A new date of the EGM will be announced at a later date. The AGM will be held, however, as per notice, at the announced time, date and venue.

We regret the inconvenience caused to our valued shareholders.

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