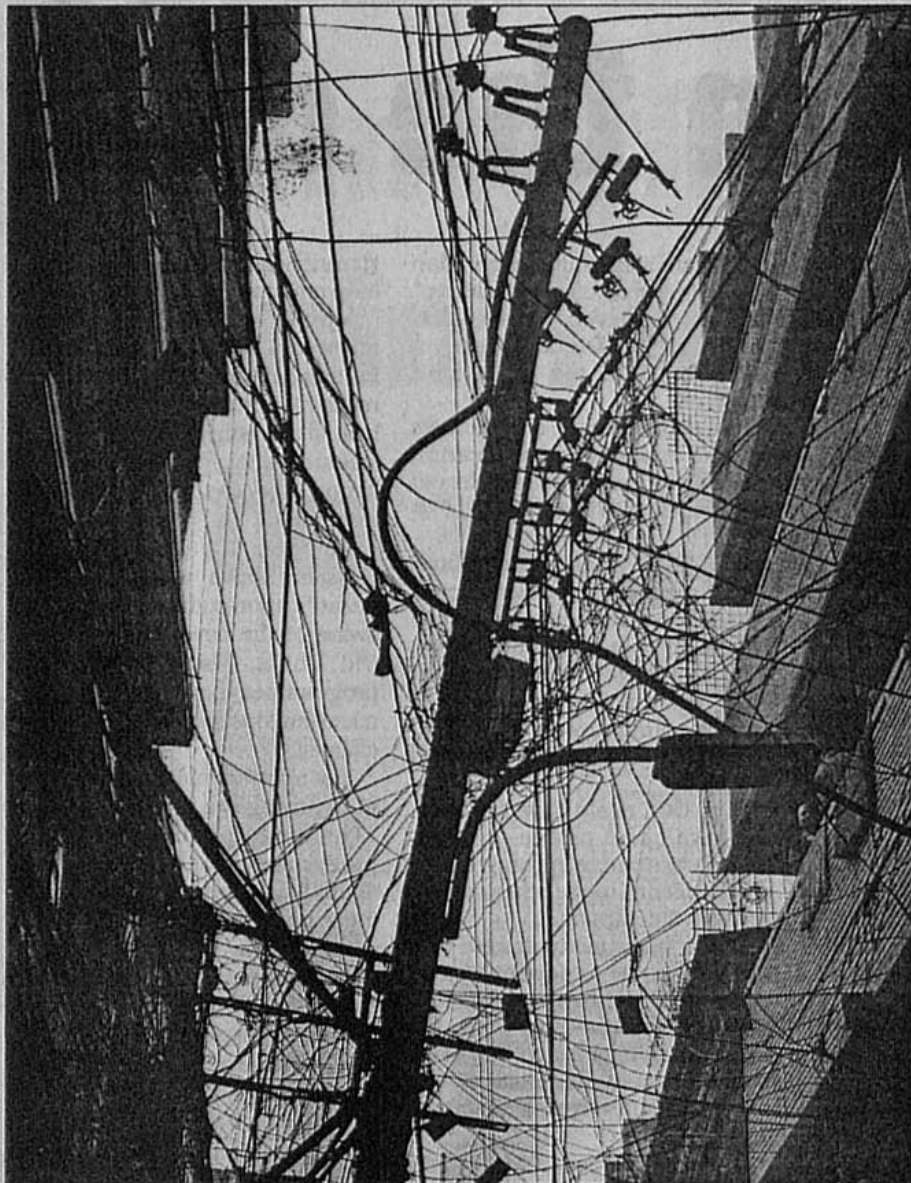


IPS, cable operators can use Desco poles



CABLE CHAOS...Desco's poles have been used indiscriminately by different agencies.

AVIK SANWAR RAHMAN

The Cable Operators Association of Bangladesh (COAB) and internet service providers have reached an agreement with the Dhaka Electric Supply Company (Desco) which will allow them to use Desco's poles.

According to the arrangement, every cable operator and internet service provider will pay five thousand Taka as registration fee by January 5 to continue using Desco's poles.

"We have come to an agreement with Desco's managing director that by January 5 all the cable operators and internet service providers will register with Desco," said Parvez Anwar, president of COAB.

The decision was taken on December 30 after Desco started to cut off cables belonging to ISPs and cable operators that were hanging from Desco's poles in Gulshan, Baridhara, Banani and Uttara areas.

The move was initiated in a bid to organise Desco's tangled cable lines as part of the Dhaka Beautification Project. The drastic measure seriously affected cable subscribers and businesses which were dependent on the internet as connections got snapped.

"Now we will be able to reconnect the lines and Desco has promised not to cut off cables until January 5. However, we have to organise the cables ourselves," said Anwar.

To get permission from the Desco to use the poles, the cable operators will have to submit

their Bangladesh Television (BTV) license and COAB's certificate. The internet service providers on the other hand will need to submit their Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) license.

"There are many cable operators and internet service providers who are doing business without a license and it is difficult to trace these operators. This measure will help us organise the business and become more professional," said Parvez Anwar.

Apart from cable operators and ISPs, the Telephone & Telegraph Board and Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) also use Desco's poles which incidentally have facilities for its lines only.

Three to four 11kv electric cables are installed on top of the poles and four insulated cables are at the second level below the 11kv lines.

There are no provisions to accommodate telephone, internet, satellite TV cables and DCC electric lines.

After the registration process, Desco will instruct the cable operators and internet service providers where and how to organise the cables but utility service providers have to organise their cables themselves.

"Some COAB members have already taken permission from Desco and have started organising their cables. COAB will provide PVC lock for organising cables to registered operators," said Parvez.

Crowds drawn to impressive items & prices

MANISHA GANGOPADHYAY

The fourth annual City IT Computer fair is a marked contrast from the BCS fair held earlier last month, where people flocked to stalls attracted by the flashy and for the most part, gadgets beyond their buying capacity.

At City IT Fair going on at IDB Bhaban, emphasis is laid on sales rather than show, an attribute reflected in the relatively calm shopping experience during the day and the accessible pricing.

"The prices and range of products here are more impressive," said Tareq, a visitor.

To quote some prices of the more popular items, the Sony mp3 players with voice recording are going for Tk 3,400 while 128 MB pen-drives are sold at Tk 1,500. For executives, the fast-selling Blue Tooth infrared cable that connects various office electronic items mobile phones, fax machines, printers and computers -- are found in the range of Tk 2,000 to 2,500. IRDA's wireless connection is strikingly lower at Tk 1,500 to 1,800.

A center stage erected on the ground floor by the fair sponsors -- Asus, Gigabyte and Daffodil International University -- to attract customers to various offers and

provide a ground for gaming and graphics competitions held at the fair daily.

Today's schedule includes a graphic design competition at 11 am, a gaming competition at 1 pm, followed by a raffle draw at 2:30. Each evening, when the fair is in full swing, 3D animation movies are shown on an Intel projection screen.

Perhaps the most exciting attribute of the fair is the prizes. The simple purchase of a Tk 10 entry ticket will enter the purchaser to a

lottery for a Gigabyte multimedia computer. A single winner is selected daily. So far, no one has claimed the prizes, though the fair is well into its sixth day. Winning ticket numbers can be found on the computer city website: www.cityfair.com

"Our goal is to promote sales in the computer city complex and build awareness of the range of products available here," said Azimuddin Ahmed, President of the Computer City Executive Committee.

With 15 temporary stalls added to the existing 150, the organisers of the event hope to meet demands of the visitors, as well as rake in profits for vendors. Alongside computer-related products, consumers can also purchase music equipment, CDs and DVDs, and office furniture.

The fair, which began December 30, will go on till January 7, giving little ones a chance to get involved in a Shishu Art Competition on the last day.



পাওয়ার গ্রিড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ
POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Red Crescent Concord Tower Tower, 17, Mohakhali C/A, 6th Floor, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

No. 01/PGCB/Sec/2004/3655

Date : December 30, 2004

Design-build and Turnkey Contract for Construction of a new 230/132kV Substation at Bogra (Contract No. 2001 66 389/SS) Invitation for Prequalification

Loan No. : 2001 66 389
Date : 02.01.2005
Contract No. : 2001 66 389/SS

1. The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a grant from German government through Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) towards the cost of the Design-build and Turnkey Contract for "Construction of 230kV Baghabari-Serajganj-Bogra Transmission Line (Contract No. 2001 66 389/TL) and new 230/132kV Substation at Bogra (Contract No. 2001 66 389/SS)" as defined in the bidding document. As two separate Contracts will be placed two separate prequalification documents are issued. This invitation refers to Contract No. 2001 66 389/SS.

2. The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. (PGCB- "the Employer") invites applications for the prequalification of a Design-build and Turnkey Contract of Construction of a New 230/132 kV Substation at Bogra (hereinafter referred to as "the Works") which includes :
Design, supply, delivery, installation, testing & commissioning on turnkey basis of the construction of a new 225 MVA, 230/132kV substation at Bogra including four single phase 75 MVA auto-transformers ; and extension of two 132 kV bays at existing Bogra 132 kV substation.

3. Applicants shall meet the following requirements :

- Applicant (lead partner in case of Joint Venture) shall provide evidence that he has successfully completed at least five (5) similar turn-key (design, supply, installation and commissioning) projects with 220kV or higher voltage substation with minimum 100 MVA transformer in the last ten (10) years. At least two (2) of the above mentioned projects have to be outside the Applicant's country (if possible in two different countries) and at least one has to be under successful operation for three (3) years prior to the application's submission deadline.
- The Applicant shall be an experienced manufacturer of main electrical substation equipment (transformers and circuit breakers) for at least ten (10) years.
- Applicant shall provide audited financial statements for the last five (5) years as documentary evidence regarding Liquid Assets and Annual Turnover with their Application. The minimum Liquid Assets and annual Turnover for the Applicant's organization or Joint Venture shall not be less than :
 - Liquid Assets (average of last 5 years) : Euro 2.00 million
 - Annual Turnover (average of last 5 years) : Euro 35.00 million.

The lead partner in case of Joint Venture shall meet not less than 75% of the minimum criteria given above.

4. The works under this turnkey contract shall be completed within twenty four (24) months from the date of signing of the Contract.

5. All information provided with the Application will be assessed by an evaluation matrix. Depending on the ranking of Applications the number of short listed Applicants will be limited to a maximum of five (5).

6. Applicants may obtain further information from :

The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. (PGCB), Red Crescent Concord Tower (7th Floor), 17, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

Attn. : Mr. Mohammed Salim, Company Secretary
Tel : 880-1-9888589, 9888970, 8850476, Fax : 880-2-9888501, E-mail : pgcb@citechco.net

7. A complete set of prequalification documents including

- Instructions to Applicants
- Criteria for prequalification
- Brief on the project and the works and goods to be procured
- Forms of application

can be acquired by sending a letter to the PGCB at the address above together with a non-refundable deposit of Euro 100 (one hundred) or Taka 7,500 (seven thousand five hundred) in the form of pay order in favor of Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited. The complete application (letter of application, prequalification forms, statements, annual reports, certificates, etc.) shall be submitted in one (1) original and three (3) copies in sealed envelopes, clearly marked "Application to prequalify as Bidders for the new Bogra 230/132kV Substation", and delivered to the address above before 14.02.2005 at 03.00 p.m. Bangladesh standard time. Additionally, one (1) copy of the complete application shall be delivered to KfW Bankengruppe, Palmengartenstrasse 5-9, 60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany also before 14.02.2005.

8. PGCB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by applicants in connection with the preparation or delivery of prequalification documents.

(Mohammed Salim)
Company Secretary

পাওয়ার গ্রিড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ
POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Red Crescent Concord Tower Tower, 17, Mohakhali C/A, 6th Floor, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

No. 01/PGCB/Sec/2004/3654

Date : December 30, 2004

Design-build and Turnkey Contract for Construction of 230kV Baghabari-Serajganj-Bogra Transmission Line (Contract No. 2001 66 389/TL) Invitation for Prequalification

Loan No. : 2001 66 389
Date : 02.01.2005
Contract No. : 2001 66 389/TL

1. The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a grant from German government through Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW-hereinafter called "the Bank") towards the cost of the Design-build and Turnkey Contract for "Construction of 230kV Baghabari-Serajganj-Bogra Transmission Line (Contract No. 2001 66 389/TL) and new 230/132kV Substation at Bogra (Contract no. 2001 66 389/SS)" as defined in the bidding document. As two separate Contracts will be placed two separate prequalification documents are issued. This invitation refers to Contract No. 2001 66 389/TL.

2. The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. (PGCB- "the Employer") invites applications for the prequalification of a Design-build and Turnkey Contract of Construction of 230kV Baghabari-Serajganj-Bogra Transmission Line (hereinafter referred to as "the Works") which includes :
Design, supply, delivery, installation, testing & commissioning on turnkey basis of 230kV Baghabari-Serajganj-Bogra double circuit transmission line (approx. 110 km); and 132kV double circuit transmission line from new Bogra 230/132kV substation to existing Bogra 132kV substation (approx. 1.5 km).

3. Applicants shall meet the following requirements :

- Applicant (lead partner in case of Joint Venture) shall provide evidence that he has successfully completed at least five (5) similar turn-key (design, supply, installation and commissioning) projects with 220kV or higher voltage overhead transmission line each minimum 50 km length or a contract value of at least USD 10 million or Euro equivalent, in the last ten (10) years. At least two (2) of the above mentioned projects have to be outside the Applicant's country (if possible in two different countries) and at least one has to be under successful operation for three (3) years prior to the application's submission deadline. The Applicant shall also provide evidence that any kind of piled foundations were applied and wind velocities of 160 km/h or higher were considered as basic design data for at least one (1) of the above mentioned reference projects.
- Applicant shall provide audited financial statements for the last five (5) years as a documentary evidence regarding Liquid Assets and Annual Turnover with their Application. The minimum Liquid Assets and Annual Turnover for the Applicant's organization or Joint Venture shall not be less than :
 - Liquid Assets (average last 5 years): Euro 2.00 million
 - Annual Turnover (average of last 5 years): Euro 40.00 million.

The lead partner in case of Joint Venture shall meet not less than 75% of the minimum criteria given above.

4. The works under this turnkey contract shall be completed within twenty four (24) months from the date of signing of the Contract.

5. All information provided with the Application will be assessed by an evaluation matrix. Depending on the ranking of Applications the number of shortlisted Applicants will be limited to a maximum of five (5).

6. Applicants may obtain further information from The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. (PGCB), Red Crescent Concord Tower (7th floor), 17, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

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8. PGCB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by applicants in connection with the preparation or delivery of prequalification documents.

(Mohammed Salim)
Company Secretary