

Software makers seek tax holiday extension

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Software and information services industry people yesterday demanded an extension of tax holiday until 2015 to help develop the software and IT enabled services industry in the country.

BASIS President Rafiqul Islam Rowly said as per the existing provision the software and IT enabled services industry is entitled to have a tax holiday until 2009, which he suggests is not enough for the industry's development.

The BASIS president said Bangladesh has potentials to earn more from the IT enabled services, such as data processing, animation, website services, medical transcription, and call centres.

diately," he said, as he cited examples of Kolkata, the provincial capital of West Bengal, that has three IT parks, but Bangladesh has none.

BASIS also demanded for setting up a software technology park and an improved infrastructure in IT sector.

"We need an IT park immediately," he said, as he cited examples of Kolkata, the provincial capital of West Bengal, that has three IT parks, but Bangladesh has none.

Shoeb Chowdhury, vice-president of BASIS, said call centres have good prospect, but Bangladesh has already lost the market to other players, including India and Philippines, because of the delay in approving the call centres.

Swiss chocolate Lindt launched

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Swiss chocolate Lindt was launched in Dhaka yesterday. "We brought the brand in Bangladesh for the chocolate lovers," said Zahid Hussain, manager of Transcom Distribution Ltd, the marketer of the chocolate.



Zahid Hussain (right), manager of Transcom Distribution Ltd, and Shams Haider, head of operation of Agora, cut ribbons to mark the launch of Swiss chocolate Lindt in Dhaka yesterday.

Initially, the chocolates will be available at 20 super markets, including Agora, PQS and Almas, in Dhaka and Chittagong," he added.

The chocolate was formally launched at Agora's Gulshan outlet.

Eleven types of chocolates will be available in the market. A Lindt chocolate bar is priced at Tk 275, while a gift box containing 18 pieces of chocolates is priced at Tk 1230.

Shams Haider, head of operation of Agora, was also present at the launching.

Mitsubishi to make passenger jet

AFP, Tokyo
Japan on Friday launched a project to build its first ever passenger jet, a next-generation regional airliner that aims to meet growing demand for fuel efficient planes.

The state-backed Mitsubishi Regional Jet is expected to take to the skies in 2013, carrying Japan's hopes of developing a full-fledged civil aviation industry with it.

which limit access to markets or otherwise unduly restrain competition and for matters connected therewith.

With this end, the ministry has drafted the Competition Act, 2008 and hosted the draft at its web site www.mincom.gov.bd for comments and opinion from the stakeholders.

REHAB POLLS Probal's panel gets 11 posts

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Nabadhara Panel led by Tanveerul Haque Probal bagged 11 posts of directorship in the biennial election of Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh (REHAB) held Saturday.

DSE regional office in Sylhet opens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
A regional office of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) was opened in Sylhet yesterday.

Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Chairman Faruq Ahmad Siddiqi formally inaugurated the new office.

SEC Member Saleh Ahmed Chowdhury, and DSE President Abdullah Bokhari, Senior Vice-president Ahmad Rashid Lali, Chief Executive Officer Salahuddin Ahmed Khan and Director Rakibur Rahman were also present.

Warid welcomes decision to allow mobile network in hill districts

Warid Telecom has welcomed the government decision to allow mobile network in three hill districts, says a press release.

BCS IT exhibition begins

UNB, Dhaka
Commerce Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman yesterday urged the country's IT experts to identify specific areas in information technology that Bangladesh could utilize immediately as a weeklong BCS IT Expo 2008 began.

Bangladesh is a land of potential where people willing and ready to work and engage themselves in constructive activities.

"We have to address this type of obstacles that stand in the way to spread digital technology across the country," he said.



Dr Stefan Frowein, the ambassador of European Union (EU) in Dhaka, and A Rouf Chowdhury, CEO and president of private land phone operator Ranks Telecom Limited (RanksTel), exchange documents after signing an agreement in Dhaka recently. As per the agreement, RanksTel will provide the EU mission with complete communication facilities.

China, New Zealand set to sign free trade deal

AFP, Wellington
China will sign its first free trade pact with a developed country on April 7 when it inks a deal with New Zealand, according to reports here Sunday.

Details of the agreement, the result of three years of negotiations, will not be released until after the signing ceremony.

standing in the way of New Zealand having a broad-based relationship with China."

PUBALI BANK LIMITED
ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION
(Engineering Department)
HEAD OFFICE, 26 DILKUSHA C/A, DHAKA-1000.

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the eligible Tenderers as defined in the tender documents of the under mentioned work as per terms & conditions stated below.

1. Procuring Entity : Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division (Engineering Department), Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
2. Tender Name : Internal decoration works of existing premises of our New Market Branch, Dhaka.
3. Time for completion of the work : 20 (Twenty) Calendar days.
4. Eligibility of Tenderers :
 - i) Minimum work experience of 3 (Three) years in building decoration/renovation/construction.
 - ii) The tenderer must have experience during 3 (Three) years in completion of minimum 02 nos. work in same nature each costing minimum Tk.15.00 (fifteen) Lac.
 - iii) Having valid trade licence, up to date Income Tax clearance certificate and VAT registration certificate.
 - iv) Having valid B & C contractory and supervisory licence for electrical works.
 - v) Must be financially solvent.
5. Price of Tender Document : Tk. 1000.00 (One thousand) only non-refundable.
6. Amount of Tender security : 2% of total bid amount in the form of Payment Order favouring Pubali Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka-1000
7. Name and address of the office from where tender documents will be obtained : Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division, Engineering Department (8th floor) 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka -1000
8. Name and address of the office where tender documents will be submitted : Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division, (12th floor) 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka -1000.
9. Last date & time for selling tender document : Up to 5:00 PM (BST) on 15 April 2008
10. Last date & time for tender submission : Up to 11:00 AM (BST) on 16 April 2008
11. Date & time for tender opening : At 11:15 AM (BST) on 16 April 2008 in presence of bidder (if any).
12. Special Instructions : Pubali Bank Limited reserves the right to reject any/all tender(s) prior to acceptance. Tenderers must produce necessary papers alongwith tender.

Md. Rasul Amin
General Manager

UTTARA BANK LIMITED
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT (4TH FLOOR)
HEAD OFFICE, 90, MOTIJHEEL C/A,
DHAKA-1000

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide Suppliers/ Sole Agents/Importers for supply & installation of portable Electric Generators (Preferably Japan/USA/any E.U. Country/Malaysia/Taiwan/Australia/Korea Origin) having capacity range from 5.0 KVA to 8.5 KVA at different branches of Uttara Bank Limited. Intending Tenderers having work experience for supplying, installation & maintenance of at least 50 Nos. of Portable Electric Generators at different Organizations during the last 3 (three) years may collect Tender Documents from the office of the undersigned on cash payment of Tk. 1000/- only (non-refundable) per set on or before 22/04/2008 during office hours after submission of written application on their letter head pad alongwith the attested copies of certificates from the concerned organization /organizations regarding their successful completion of work for supply, installation and maintenance of at least a total number of 50 Nos. of Portable Electric Generators at those organisations.

Tenders will be received upto 12-00 noon on 23/04/2008 in the Tender Box placed at the office of the undersigned during office hours. Tenders will be opened on the same day at 12-30 P.M. in presence of the Tenderers (if any).

The Uttara Bank Limited reserves the right not to accept the lowest Tender and to reject any Tender or part thereof or all Tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(ENGR. M.A. AWAL)
DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER

ACI Advanced Chemical Industries Limited
ACI Centre, 245 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208

PRICE SENSITIVE DISCLOSURE

ACI Board in its meeting held today has given approval to the following :

- a) ACI will forward-integrate collection, storage and distribution of perishable agricultural produce to enhance its Farmers' Partnership Programme.
- b) A subsidiary company be set up with a paid-up capital of Tk. 100 million with 76% shareholding of ACI and 24% shareholding of Mr. M. Anis Ud Dowla, Chairman, ACI Group. The subsidiary will be named ACI Logistics Limited which will link up ACI Agribusinesses connections with ACI distribution network to form an integrated supply chain and outlet configuration. The subsidiary will be involved in procurement, appropriate storage and marketing of agro and biogenic products, fish, meat and other perishables and fast moving consumer goods.

By Order of the Board
Sd/-
Sheema Abed Rahman
Company Secretary

Dhaka
30 March 2008