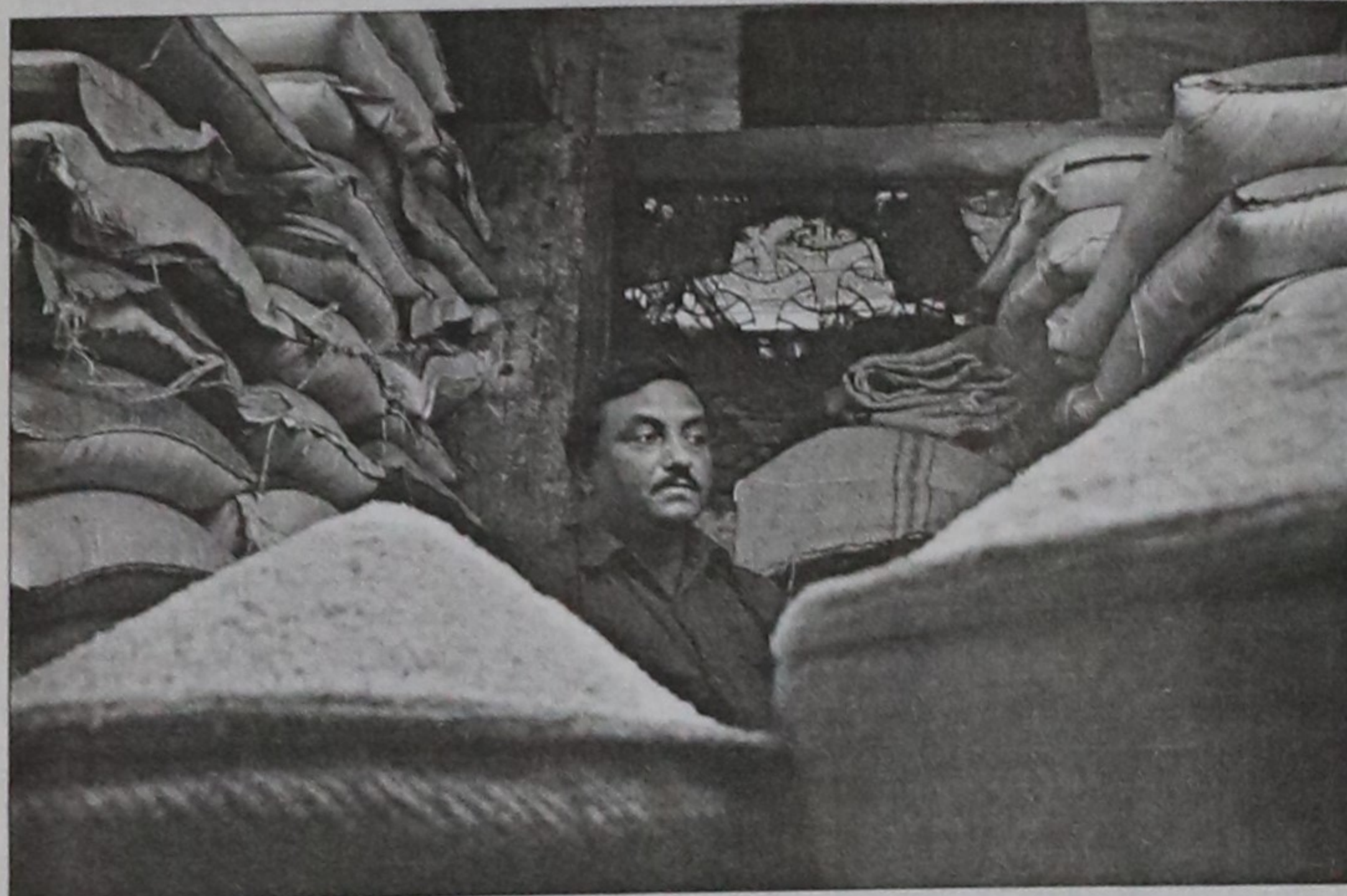




Letters will only be considered if they carry the writer's full name, address and telephone number (if any). The identity of the writers will be protected. Letters must be limited to 300 words. All letters will be subject to editing.

Price hike



Over the last two years, prices of rice, ata, lentil, soyabean oil, powdered milk, sugar and many other essential commodities have been increasing.

Our caretaker government is now considering a pay hike for the government servants to help mitigate their financial difficulties due to the price spiral.

Undoubtedly, the government servants would get some relief if their salaries were increased. But what about millions of poor people of the country who are not government servants? They are working in various private establishments, mills, factories and engaging themselves in different types of works fetching a meagre income.

Time and again, we have observed and experienced that whenever our government increased the pay of the government servants it had an adverse impact on the

market and the prices of essential commodities further shot up.

We hope our government will consider and take the following steps with a view to redressing the sufferings of the majority who are helplessly groaning under the weight of price hike of essential commodities:-

1. The Ministry of Finance may work out and calculate the total amount of money to be spent on payment of increased salary to the government servants.
2. That amount of money may not be paid to the government servants.
3. Rates of duties and taxes on import of rice, ata, soyabean oil, lentil, powdered milk, sugar and other essential commodities

may be reduced drastically and if possible totally withdrawn.

4. Rates of tariff on natural gas, electricity, water supply, railway tickets, municipal holding tax, government service charges, non-judicial stamps, postage stamps etc may be cut by 25 to 50 per cent.

5. All the above subsidiaries and subsequent deficit of Revenue Income may be met from the amount of increased salary of the government servants and re-appropriation of the total amount may be made from the head of account of Revenue Expenses to Revenue Income.

We hope that the above steps would not only help the government servants but these would enable the people of all classes to buy essentials at subsidised prices.

O.H. Kabir
One-mail

CTG's performance

I am sure millions before me have written regarding the present caretaker government and I am also aware that many more will write about it after me. However, the unique circumstances under which this current administration took oath, makes this administration special as it is. If I may recall, the Honourable Chief Advisor had promised reforms, reforms which not only he but the whole of Bangladesh believed would help the country move on.

As I look at the report card for the government, I'm disheartened by the efforts put in by the current administration. The efforts to bring about credibility in the Election Commission, Anti-Corruption Commission, Public Service Commission, separating the judiciary from the executive and the arrest of corrupt people are commendable, but the government has failed to meet the people's expectation in a number of other areas.

The prices of essentials continue to increase and although it must be observed that prices in the international market have also increased, the government should have made some special efforts to contain the prices. Power shortage has also eroded away the popularity of the present government.

Therefore, like many fellow citizens, I would like to urge the government to hold elections and hand over power to a democratically elected government as early as possible.

Sheikh Tanjib Islam
Monash University

require new policy approaches. The introduction or expansion of food fish aquaculture, for example, creates the need for policy makers to consider a wide variety of issues such as environmental impacts of fish farming, potential health risks to consumers of genetically modified products, access of fish farmers to wild brood-stock and transfers of live brood-stock from their ecosystems of origin, research into the different genetic characteristics of different wild stocks and conservation of wild genetic diversity.

The 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), signed by 188 countries (the handful that have not signed includes the US), links these diverse policy issues through its three objectives: the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources. The CBD provides guidelines for national policies and laws. But most countries are still a long way from implementing them because of the complexity of creating legislation that is clear, widely supported and enforceable.

Md. Abdul Kader Talukder
Dept. of Environmental Science and Resource Management
Maulana Bhashani Science and Technology University
Santosh, Tangail

The same faces!

What are we watching lately? The EC sitting with the same old politicians and asking for a pledge of code of conduct!

Old wine in old bottle? The country will not change unless a new leadership comes forward to lead the people.

N.G. Chaudhury
Luxembourg

Conserving aquatic biodiversity

Biodiversity is a term coined by E. O. Wilson (1988) to describe the number and variety of living organisms, at all scales; from individual parts of communities to ecosystems, regions, and the entire biosphere. This term includes the genetic diversity of individual species, the subpopulations of individual species, the total number of species in a region, the number of endemic species in an area, and the distribution of different ecosystems. Most of the aquatic environment is degrading day by day and their biotas are also decreasing.

New uses of aquatic biodiversity

A roadmap for democracy

If we imagine that democracy is the destination, corruption-free society should be thought of as a road towards that destination. Democracy cannot or will not be successful in a corrupt society. In order to make democracy meaningful and comprehensive, first of all, we have to root out corruption. Corruption breeds inequality, movement, political turmoil and many such ills.

Corruption is rampant in third world countries. From top to bottom, each and every person is involved in corruption with few exceptions. When corruption crosses its limit, the "third force" comes to power as a saviour to the nation. This type of government can get tremendous support from the masses but without the support and cooperation of political leaders, bureaucrats, the business community and intellectuals, no government can function effectively - let alone successfully.

The present CTG has no support of political leaders. The top leaders of the two main political parties are in jail on corruption charges and the rest of them are under "threat". Initially, some lead-

ers supported the anti-corruption drive by this government. Subsequently, they kept themselves aside for various reasons.

To establish a robust democracy, the following are the preconditions:

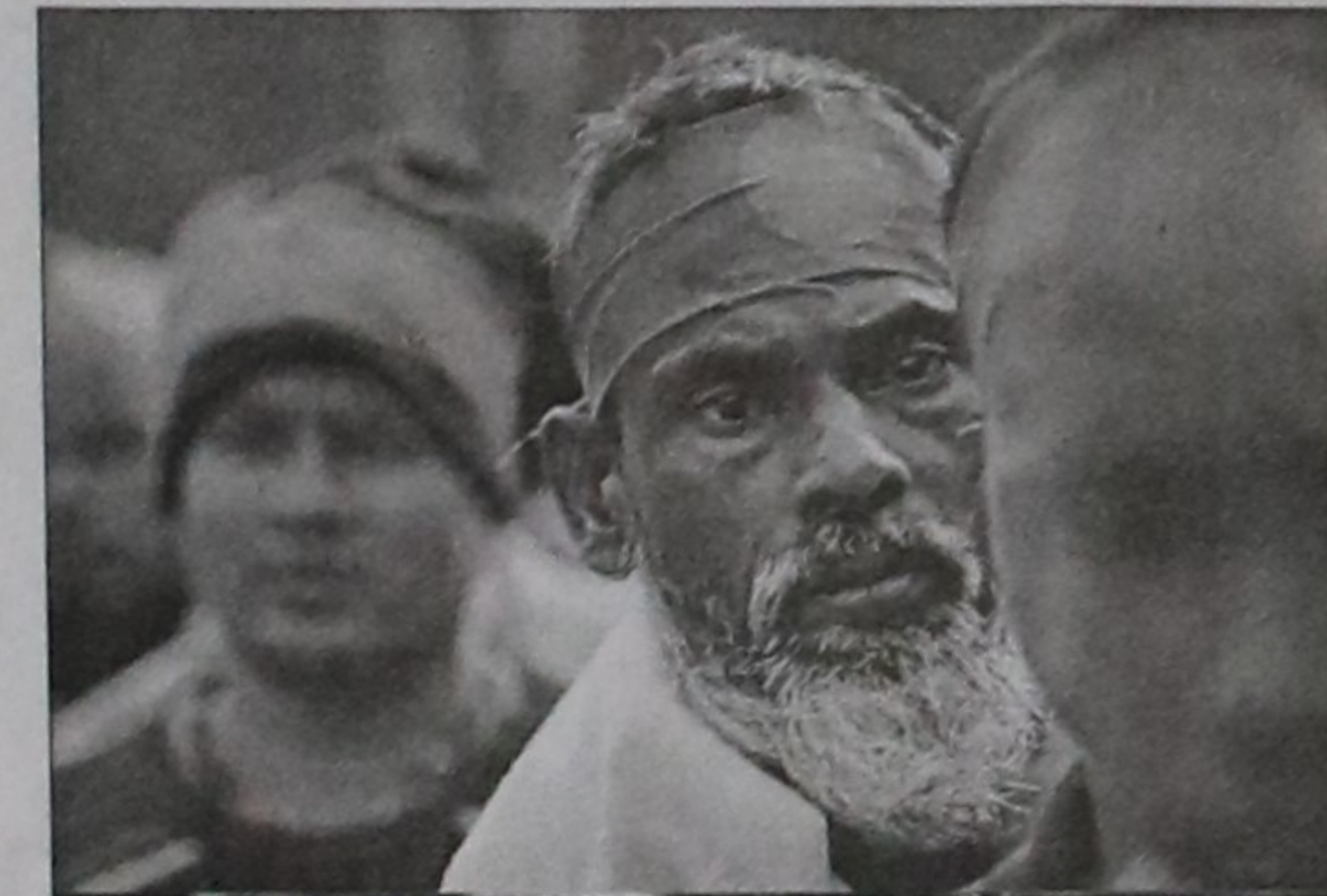
1. Achieving a literacy rate of more than 90%.
2. Separating the judiciary from the executive and giving it functional independence and autonomy.
3. Making all sectors corruption-free.
4. Freedom of the print and electronic media.
5. Ensuring transparency and accountability in the adminis-

tration.

6. Strengthening local government and making it politics-free.
7. Separating the Election Commission from the Executive branch.
8. Uprooting the sources of black money.
9. Introducing e-governance.
10. Strengthening the Anti-Corruption Commission.

Corruption cannot be eliminated within a short period of time - it is a long process. But we must not lose sight of our goals!

Mohammad Ali
West Dhanmondi, Dhaka



MUNEM WASIF / DRINKNEWS

As Ashraf. Since in the present team there is no one like that, we should bring back Khaled Mashud, who was our captain, and a far better one!

Furthermore, none of Khaled Mashud's replacements did a better job, neither as a wicketkeeper nor as a batsman. Besides, I believe it was a very bad thing to show disrespect to him by dropping him from the team. He is one of our heroes, he was part of the team which won the ICC Championship, won against teams like Australia, India, Pakistan...

To win any match talent is not enough, experience is needed very

much. All other teams seem to understand it except ours, especially the selectors. Let the young talents gain some maturity and experience in Under 19 or Under 23 teams or wherever they are playing. We have seen enough "non-performance" by the young talents. Our team should have a good mixture of experience and young budding talents.

But our players must take responsibility, they must understand that they have to play for winning, as all other teams do. They have to play for the team, do whatever is needed to win, individual performances are not enough.

They must learn how to stay at the wicket and when to play aggressively. They must learn about the weaknesses and strengths of their opponents, as all other teams know everything about our players. They should also learn about their own weaknesses and strengths and try to overcome the weaknesses and build on the strengths.

The coach has a very big role to play in this regard.

The players have to really, really try to win every game they play!

Ismat Jahan
Shidheswari Circular Road
Dhaka

সিলেট গ্যাস ফিল্ডস লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী)
Sylhet Gas Fields Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

গ্যাস লগান, গ্যাসের পরিচর্যা করান এবং পরিবেশ বানান।

গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ। এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।

INVITATION FOR BID

Tender No. SGFL/07-08/FP-43 (Re-tender-4) Dated: 28-04-2008

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resource/Energy & Mineral Resource division.
2.	Agency	Sylhet Gas Fields Limited (A Company of Petrobangla).
3.	Procuring entity name	Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, (SGFL).
4.	Procuring entity district	Sylhet.
5.	Invitation ref.no.	SGFL/07-08/FP-43 (Re-tender-4) dated 28-04-2008
6.	Invitation for	Procurement of Methanol.

KEY INFORMATION

7.	Procurement method	Open tender method(International Competitive Bidding),Single stage one envelope system.
----	--------------------	---

FUNDING INFORMATION

8.	Budget and source of funds	Own source of Sylhet Gas Fields Limited.
----	----------------------------	--

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

9.	Project name	N/A
10.	Tender Publication date	N/A
11.	Tender last Selling date	03-06-2008.
12.	Place of tender Selling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, P.O. Chiknagool, Sylhet-3152. Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Dhaka Liaison Office, House-4/10, Iqbal Road, Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207. Petrobangla, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. Titas Gas T&D Company Ltd.105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. Gas Transmission Company Ltd, Red Crescent Borak Tower (Level 4-6), 71-72 Old Elephant Road, Eskaton, Dhaka-1000. Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Co. Ltd. Shahjalal Tower, 80/A-B, Shidheswari, Malibagh, Dhaka-1217.

13.	Date & time of selling of tender document.	The tender document will be available from 05-05-2008 to 03-06-2008 within office hours on all working days.
14.	Tender Closing date & time	04-06-2008 and 12-00 hrs (BST)
15.	Tender Opening date & time	04-06-2008 and 12-15 hrs (BST)
16.	Place of Tender receiving & opening	Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, Dhaka Liaison Office, House-4/10, Iqbal Road, Block-A, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

17.	Eligibility of Bidder	Reputed manufacturer(s)/Supplier(s)/firms from all countries except Israel are eligible to participate in the bidding. Likewise the offered materials should be of origin of any country other than Israel. The Bidder must have minimum 5 years experience in supplying similar materials and the manufacturer or producer must have minimum 5 years experience in manufacturing or producing the offered materials.
18.	Brief description of Goods	Methanol.
19.	Price of Tender document	Taka. 500/00 or US\$. 8.00 (non refundable)
20.	Address of the official inviting tender	Managing Director, Sylhet Gas Fields Limited, P.O. Chiknagool, Sylhet-3152, Bangladesh. Attn: Deputy General Manager (Procurement) Phone No. 880-821-2871735 (Ext. 372).
21.	Special Instruction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bid must remain valid for 90 days from the date of closing of the tender. Bidders shall furnish with the bid an acceptable bid security bond in the form of Demand Draft/Pay Order/Bank guarantee issued by a scheduled bank in Bangladesh or Bank Guarantee issued by any reputed foreign bank duly endorsed with full obligation and liability by a scheduled bank of Bangladesh in the format provided in the Tender Document amounting to Tk. 20,000/- or US\$. 290.00 or GBP. 150.00 or Euro. 220.00 with full obligations & liabilities. The Bid bond must remain valid for one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of closing of the tender. The scope of supply, terms of supply and information required to be furnished by the bidders, etc. are included in the tender document. Bid(s) submitted after the deadline for receiving of bids will be rejected and returned unopened to the bidder. The bid must not be submitted by Fax or E-mail. Photocopy of faxes or e-mailed bid from the principal will not be accepted. This tender notice will also be available at Petrobangla Website @ www.Petrobangla.org.bd and SGFL Website: www.sgfl.org.bd.
22.	Sylhet Gas Fields Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or annul the bidding process without assigning any reason.	

Deputy General Manager (Procurement)

বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন
Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
বিএসসি ভবন, সেন্টগোলা, রোড, চট্টগ্রাম

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আমদানিকারকদের প্রতি নোটিশ

সংশ্লিষ্ট আমদানিকারকদের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ পূর্বক জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, এটি "বাংলার মুক" (৪৩-আগা) জাহাজটি পাকিস্তানের করাচী বন্দর হতে প্রায় ১৩,০০০ মেট্রিক টন বরফবন্দী চিনি নিয়ে আগামী ০৩-০৫-২০০৮ইং তারিখ চট্টগ্রাম বহিঃসংযোগে পৌঁছাবে। জাহাজটি চট্টগ্রাম বন্দরে আগমনের সাথে সাথে আমদানিকৃত পণ্যের ভৌগোলিক অর্ডার/ সরাসরি ভৌগোলিক গ্রহণের জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট আমদানিকারকদেরকে বিশেষভাবে অনুবোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

আবদুস সালাম খন্দকার
মহাবাহাঙ্গাপক (অপারেশন)
বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন
বিএসসি ভবন, সেন্টগোলা রোড
চট্টগ্রাম

জিডি-২০৬৩

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director (ACE), RHD
Road Network Improvement & Maintenance Project-I
Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka

Memo No. PBRRCM-1/1438 Date: 28-04-2008

Road Network Improvement & Maintenance Project-I(RNIMP-I)
[ADB Loan No 1920-BAN(SF) and OPEC Loan No. 916 (P)]
Performance Based Routine Road Maintenance Contract Addendum and Corrigendum No. 3-Dated 28th April 2008

This addendum and corrigendum No. 3 dated 28th April 2008 is issued pursuant to Cl 8 and Cl 22 of Section 1: Instructions to bidders of the bidding documents and shall form a part of the bidding and contract documents for the above contract.

The deadline for submission of bids is hereby extended till 19th May 2008. Accordingly, following amendments shall be incorporated in the bidding documents:

Section 2: Instructions to Bidders

1. ITB 22.1, Page 2-4
The deadline of bid submission shall be:
Date: 19.05.2008
Time: 12.00hrs BST
2. ITB 25.1, Page 2-4
The bid opening date & time shall be:
Date: 19.05.2008
Time: 14.30hrs BST

Invitation for bid issued vide Memo No. 677 dated 25.02.2008.

3. Para 16
The bid documents last selling date & time shall be 18th May 2008 up to 17.00hrs BST.

All other terms and conditions of the bidding documents shall remain unchanged.

All purchasers of bidding documents are requested to acknowledge receipt of this document by signing and returning the attached acknowledgement slip.

Md Firoz Khan Noon
Project Director (ACE), RHD
RNIMP-I
Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka

GD-2065

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Press Information Department
Building No. 09, 2nd floor
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.

No-PID/EMTAP/10 (197)/2007-2008/862 Date: 24/04/2008

Invitation for Tender (Local)

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from manufactures; authorized local agent/distributor/representative/ supplier for the undermentioned goods and services with the following conditions:

Procuring entity name	Press Information Department, Building No. 9, 2nd Floor, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
Procurement method	Open tendering method as per Public Procurement Rules-2008 (Separate tender is invited for each lot).
Budget and source of funds	World Bank.
Invitation Ref No & date	No-PID/EMTAP/10(197)/2007-2008/862 24/04/2008

Tenders name & brief description				
Lots No	Tender No	Item name	Cost of schedule (non-refundable)	Earnest money (refundable)
A	PID/EMTAP/10(197)/2007-2008/862	Computer & Accessories, Multimedia Projector, Over Head Project, UPS, etc.	Tk 1,500/-	Tk 1,30,000/-
B	PID/EMTAP/10(197)/2007-2008/862	Photocopier Machine	Tk 400/-	Tk 10,000/-
C	PID/EMTAP/10(197)/2007-2008/862	Furniture	Tk 300/-	Tk 8,000/-
D	PID/EMTAP/10(197)/2007-2008/862	Air Conditioner	Tk 300/-	Tk 9,000/-

Validity of tender offer	90 days from the date of submission of tender
Validity of tender security	120 days from the date of submission of tender.
Name & address of the office for selling tender document	Press Information Department, Building No. 9, 2nd Floor, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
Name & address of the office for receiving of document	Press Information Department, Building No. 9, 2nd Floor, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
Starting date for selling tender documents	05/05/2008 during office hour.
Tender schedule last selling date	25/05/2008 during office hour.
Date & time for submission of tenders	26/05/2008, 09.00am to 2.30pm noon
Place, date and time for opening of tenders	Press Information Department, Building No. 9, 3rd Floor, Room No. 311, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000. Date-26/05/2008, Time-03.00pm.
Other instructions	All other terms & conditions are mentioned in the tender schedule.

Procuring entity details

Name of the official inviting tender	Md. Joyanal Abedin.
Designation of official inviting tender	Senior Deputy Principal Information Officer and Project Director.
Address of official inviting tender	Press Information Department, Building No. 9, 2nd Floor, Room No. 205, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.
Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 7165083, 7167636. Fax: 7161053, 7165942, 7165553. E-mail: pid_1@banqla.net, Website: www.bdpressinform.org

Other Information

(i) In case, the tender could not be received on the day mentioned for reasons beyond control of Press Information Department, the same will be received on the next working day at the same time & venue.

(ii) The authority also reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

This tender will be conducted as per Public Procurement Regulations-2008.

Md. Joyanal Abedin
Senior Deputy Principal Information Officer
and
Project Director

GD-2026