

# TCB looks to domestic market for procurement of essential commodities

## Local bidders show lukewarm response to int'l tenders

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

In view of containing the prices of essentials during Ramadan, state-owned Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) plans to purchase essential commodities from the domestic market, as its international tenders failed to initiate any response.

TCB will procure these commodities from the domestic market to save time, as the Ramadan begins from the first week of next month.

TCB Chairman Ziaul Islam

said an important decision would be taken in this connection after August 15.

The bidders did not respond positively to the international tender as they can hardly make any profit by importing essential commodities, market operators said.

The corporation, however, has floated re-tender to import essential commodities like edible oil, lentil, onion and gram from the international markets, which is a time-consuming process.

"We will not stop selling

essential commodities during Ramadan. We will purchase the goods from the local market if the imported goods do not arrive in time," Ziaul Islam said.

As alternative measures TCB will also sell essential commodities from its stock, although the TCB chief was unable to say anything specific about its stock position.

"But the process of importing the commodities from the international markets will not be stopped," said the TCB chief.

He said the TCB would sell the imported commodities at fair prices after Ramadan, if the commodities do not arrive by the end of Ramadan.

According to the TCB sources, the corporation is planning to import 5,000 tonnes of edible oil, 3,000 tonnes of Masur Dal (lentil), 500 tonnes of onion and 500 tonnes of gram.

The TCB has already published re-tenders in different newspapers, inviting bids from private sector importers.

The tender documents will

be opened soon to select importers, a senior official of the TCB said.

Apart from importing essentials, the TCB will also buy 300 tonnes of sugar from another state-owned enterprise Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) ahead of Ramadan, he said.

The corporation will buy more sugar, if necessary, from BSFIC, he added.

He said the TCB would sell the product, using trucks, in designated cities and towns.



A group of angry investors took to streets in front of Dhaka Stock Exchange yesterday after prices of shares nose-dived. (Story on B-2)

## Majority of Freedom Fighters Trust organisations wind up

MAHTABI ZAMAN

Out of the thirty-two organisations of the Bangladesh Freedom Fighters' Welfare Trust, only four commercial organisations are running, while the rest 28 are either under lease, or have wound up due to lack of capital support from the government.

Among the 32 organisations, seven are in Chittagong and the remaining 25 in Dhaka.

While most of the organisations were established during the Pakistan period, 22 organisations were brought under the Trust authorities in 1972 and 10 more in 1976.

The 32 organisations never ran all at once. The highest net profit that Trust has earned, that is Tk 16.05 crore from 11 industries, was in the financial year 1999-2000. A major portion of Trust's income came from Tabani Beverage Ltd and the highest net profit of this industry came in the same fiscal year (FY), amounting to Tk 18 crore.

Tabani Beverage recorded its first net loss of Tk 2.70 lakh in FY 2003-04. Net loss for FY 2004-05 stood at Tk 7.69 crore and since then Trust has only been running four industries. Those are Tabani Beverage, Mimi Chokolate Ltd and Purnima Filling Station in Dhaka and Eastern Chemical Industries in Chittagong.

In FY 2007-08, Trust recorded net loss of Tk 3.20 crore from its four running industries, even though three out of the four industries were profitable. Tabani Beverage has incurred net loss of Tk 4.38 crore, while the three other industries have recorded profit of Tk 1.19 crore, according to Trust records.

Out of the remaining 28 organisations, two organisations have gone for lease, namely Dinar and Almas Cinema Hall at Chittagong, and eight have wound up, namely Gulistan Film Corporation, Naj Cinema Hall, Anis Film Corporation, Durbar Publications and Advertising Ltd, Chu Chin Chow Chinese Restaurant, Jatrik Publications, Electronics and Films Equipment Ltd and Bux Rubber Industries.

The organisations that Trust have disposed off due to lack of capital support from the government are Sirco-Soap Chemical, Metal Package Ltd, Paroma Eastern Ltd, Bangladesh Glass Industries, Harda Glass Industry, Moon Cinema Hall, Model Engineering Works, Bux Paints, Model Electrical Works, United Tobacco, Bengal National Tannery, Modina Tannery, Bengal Tannery, Hamidia Oil, Hamidia Metal, Omar Sons Pvt Ltd, Trust Modern Hospital and Multiple

Juice Concentrate Plant.

The Trust enlists a total of 7,838 wounded and martyred freedom fighters and it provided state honorarium allowance to the family members of the freedom fighters from the earnings of these organisations till 1979. Thereafter, the government started to provide the freedom fighters such honorarium of Tk 20 crore annually.

Trust annually spends around Tk 1.25 crore to provide other benefits to the freedom fighters and their family members from the earnings of the industries, although it has been recording losses since FY 2003-04.

Wrong and impractical decisions of the policy makers are responsible for the devastation of the organisations, according to some senior officials who want not to be named.

Trust has lagged behind in adopting modernisation due to bureaucratic tangles, the officials said. Some factories were established in the Pakistan period by taking bank loans and those debts increased with interest. The administrators had the huge responsibility of repaying the bank loan, which was never reduced.

"Excessive manpower, bureaucratic tangles and corruption at high levels were responsible for the loss of these industries," said a top-level official, seeking anonymity.



Jefri Ahmed Tambi, AKTEL's managing director and chief executive officer, speaks at a press briefing. The mobile service provider formally launched "AKTEL Call Block" in Dhaka yesterday.

## AKTEL introduces 'Call Block'

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

AKTEL, the third largest mobile phone operator has introduced a 'call block' service, by which its customers can enjoy independence on whether they receive unsolicited calls or not.

Now Aktel's customers do not need to turn off their phone just to avoid unnecessary interruptions. They can just leave it to call block to filter all incoming calls.

Aktel's move to introduce such service, which may reduce incoming calls to its network, was mainly taken following complaints of fake voice calls by mobile users.

"This launch is yet another small step to come even closer to the people of Bangladesh, and win their hearts through developing truly customer-oriented products and services," said Jefri Ahmad Tambi, chief executive officer of Aktel.

At the launching ceremony yesterday in Dhaka, Tambi said his company would bring more products to the market, within a short time, to educate users about the call block service.

AKTEL of TM International Bangladesh (TMIB) with major stakes controlled by Telekom Malaysia has been introducing value added services, one after another, at a time when it is struggling to maintain its posi-

tion in the extremely competitive Bangladesh market.

The operator is yet to regain its second position, lost to Banglalink last year.

In the six months to June 2008, AKTEL's total subscribers rose by 22 percent to 7.85 million.

Meanwhile its nearest competitor Banglalink recorded a 33 percent rise to 9.46 million subscribers during the same period.

By the end of June this year, total mobile phone subscribers stood at 43.7 million, Grameenphone controls nearly half of which, according to official data.

With an aim to fight back, AKTEL and it's would be partner NTT DoCoMo said in June it would introduce '3G' (3rd generation) technology to compete in the Bangladesh market.

In mid June 2008, NTT DoCoMo, one of the leading operators in Japan, said it would buy the Bangladeshi AK Khan and Company's 30 percent stake in AKTEL for \$350 million. The deal is expected close by the end of 2008, DoCoMo said.

AKTEL said over 90 percent of its total subscribers constitute prepaid users with whom the company wants to share 'the joy of friendship' during this month.



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

### Half Yearly Report - 2008

Based on the SEC directives, this is notified for general information that the statement of un-audited half yearly results of the Company as on 30th June 2008, has duly been despatched to all our shareowners and also the SEC, DSE and CSE within the stipulated time.

Dhaka  
5 August, 2008

**Sheema Abed Rahman**  
Company Secretary

## Teletalk Bangladesh Limited

House No. 41, Road No. 27, Block A, Banani, Dhaka-1213. Tel: 8851060, Fax: 9882828 url : www.teletalk.com.bd

### INVITATION FOR TENDERS

Teletalk Bangladesh Limited invites Tender for different Systems and Equipments from both National and International tenderers. The detail information of the Tenders along with the detail Specifications are available at www.teletalk.com.bd. The Tender Schedules will be available from 05 August at Customer Care Desk of Teletalk Head Quarter, Banani, Dhaka. The prospective bidders may procure Tender Documents through applications on the official letter pads. The important information on different works in brief are as below:

Serial No.	Name Of Works	Invitation Ref No. & Procurement Method	Closing/ Opening Date	Tender Document Price (in Cash/Pay order)
01.	Selection of Contractors under Frame-work contract for Supply and Installation of Station Power Equipment (Battery and Rectifier) and other Accessories for 650 sites	TBL/PROC/EXP/04/10/2008/07, 03/08/2008; National Tender	16 September, 2008	Tk. 40,000/- (TK. Forty Thousand)
02.	Selection of Contractors under Frame-work contract for Erection of Towers, Construction of BTS Rooms and Commercial Power Connection for 700 sites.	TBL/PROC/EXP/04/11/2008/07, 03/08/2008; National Tender	17 September, 2008	Tk. 80,000/- (TK. Eighty Thousand)
03.	Selection of Contractors under Frame-work contract for Supply and Installation of Air Conditioning Equipment with ACP, AVR and other Accessories for 700 sites.	TBL/PROC/EXP/04/12/2008/07, 03/08/2008; National Tender	15 September, 2008	Tk. 15,000/- (TK. Fifteen Thousand)
04.	Selection of Contractors under Frame-work contract for Supply and Installation of Earthing System with SPD, MDB and Station Fire Detection, Fire Fighting System with other Accessories for 690 sites	TBL/PROC/EXP/04/13/2008/07, 03/08/2008; National Tender	18 September, 2008	Tk. 30,000/- (TK. Thirty Thousand)
05.	Selection of Contractors under Frame-work contract for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Transmission network Equipment.	TBL/PROC/EXP/04/14/2008/07, 03/08/2008; International Tender (IT)	08 October, 2008	Tk. 50,000/- (Taka Fifty Thousand)

> N.B.1:- Earnest Money for (Sl. No. 1-4) All National Tender is 1% and for Sl. No.5 (IT) is 2% of the total financial proposal.

> N.B.2:- Last (Tender) Selling Date: Within the office hour of the working day before the tender closing date.

> N.B.3:- All the Procurement Processes will be guided by the Procurement Policy for Teletalk (PPT).

> N.B.4:- Teletalk reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders or to delete or change any or whole of the tender without assigning any reason.

DGM(Procurement)  
Teletalk Bangladesh Ltd.

**Teletalk**  
আমাদের ফোন

## Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

TCB Bhaban (3rd Floor)

1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

### Invitation for Tenders

No. BERC/S-11(Part-1)/4842

Dated: 29/07/2008

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the bona fide tenderer as per the Public Procurement Regulations, 2008 (PPR) for the undermentioned works as per terms & conditions below:

01.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
02.	Agency	Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission
03.	Procuring Entity Name	Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission
04.	Procuring Entity Code	N/A
05.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
06.	Invitation for	Goods
07.	Invitation Ref. No	BERC/S-11(Part-1)/4842
08.	Date	29/07/2008
09.	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method, as per PPR, 2008
10.	Budget and Source of Funds	Own Budget
11.	Tender Package No.	VP-005
12.	Tender Publication Date	On or before August 4, 2008
13.	Tender Last Selling Date	Aug 26, 2008
14.	Tender Closing Date and Time	Aug 27, 2008 02:00 pm
15.	Tender Opening Date and Time	Aug 27, 2008 02:30 pm
16.	Name & Address of the office(s)	TCB Bhaban (3rd Floor) 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.
	-Selling & receiving Tender Document	
	-Opening Tender Document	
17.	Eligibility of Tenderer	(i) Original Manufacturer or Local Agents/Dealers/Distributors/ Suppliers Possessing certificate of Original manufacturer having office establishment, repairing workshop and past experience of supplying brand new Microbus. (ii) Attested copies of valid Trade License, latest income tax clearance certificate with TIN, updated VAT registration certificate issued by NBR, Bank Solvency Certificate, Certificate of Incorporation (in case of limited company) should be submitted with the Tender.
18.	Brief Description of Goods	Supply of 01 (One) unit brand new Sedan Car.
19.	Brief Description of Related Services	Supply of Car including BRTA's registration as govt. organization, CNG Conversion and 1st party Insurance for one year from Sadharan Bima Corporation.
20.	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	Tk. 1,000 (One Thousand) only.
	Lot Identification of Lot	Tender Security
	Lot No.	Delivery Time in Weeks/Months
	1. BERC/VP-004	Dhaka Tk. 50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand only) 5 Weeks
21.	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Meskat Ahmed Chowdhury
22.	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Secretary, Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission
23.	Address of Official Inviting Tender	TCB Bhaban (3rd Floor), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.
24.	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	9140125 Fax: 8155743
25.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tenders partly or wholly without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

**Meskat A. Chowdhury**  
Meskat Ahmed Chowdhury 29/07/08  
Secretary  
Phone : 914 0125

GD-3488