

PHOTO: AFP

Syrian and foreign students of the American school in Damascus arrive to attend their classes as a Syrian policeman stands guard outside the school's premises yesterday. Syria decided yesterday to close the US cultural centre and the American school in Damascus after a deadly US raid on a village near the Iraqi border, the state news agency SANA reported. The Syrian cabinet in a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Mohammed Naji Otri called for the education and culture ministers to take the necessary measures to close the two American institutions, SANA said.

Pact stops US incursions on Iraq's neighbours

AFP, Kuwait

A top Iraqi official said yesterday that the proposed security pact between Baghdad and Washington would prevent the US military from launching attacks on Iraq's neighbours.

"There is a very clear article in the SOFA (Status of Forces Agreement) draft that says the US can not, should not, launch any operation from Iraqi soil against other countries," Iraq's national security advisor Mowaffak al-Rubaie told reporters.

Washington and Baghdad are currently negotiating the pact which would determine the presence of American troops in Iraq after the end of 2008 when the UN mandate expires.

Rubaie's comments came after the weekend raid by US troops on a village in northeast Syria in which Damascus said eight civilians were killed.

American school in Syria opens despite closure decision

AFP, Damascus

The American school and US cultural centre in Damascus were still open on yesterday, a day after Syria said it would close them following a deadly US military raid on a village near the Iraqi border.

The Damascus Community School said on its website there was "still no official word from the ministry of education regarding the status of DCS."

It added that parents would be informed if the school were to be closed on Thursday because of information from the ministry or if "security/safety concerns" necessitate such a move.

Meanwhile, sources at the US embassy said they had also received no notification to close the cultural centre.

But at the same time, Americans in Syria were being told there was a possibility the embassy might be closed to the public following the incident.

"The American community in

Syria should be aware that unforeseen events or circumstances may occur that could cause the US embassy in Damascus to close to the public for an unspecified period of time," said a warden's message published on the mission's website.

"In light of these reports, the US embassy wishes to remind the American community to review their personal security practices, such as avoiding areas in which demonstrations take place and to not draw undue attention to themselves."

"The US embassy in Damascus remains concerned about the continued threat of terrorist attacks, demonstrations and other violent actions against US citizens and their interests overseas."

Damascus said eight civilians were killed in the Sunday assault, in the first confirmed US military action of its kind inside Syrian territory.

The Syrian cabinet condemned the raid, which a US official said targeted foreign fighters.

McCain renews attack on Obama as he gains in three key states

AFP, Washington, Miami

A new poll published yesterday showed the US presidential race tightening slightly in the three key states of Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida, but with Barack Obama still clearly in front in two of them.

Obama leads Republican John McCain by 51-42 percent in Ohio compared with 52-38 percent on October 23 and by 53-41 percent in Pennsylvania compared with 53-40 percent previously, the poll from Quinnipiac University showed.

In Florida, however, the race was too close to call, with Obama ahead by 47-45 percent compared with 49-44 percent on October 23.

"With six days to go Senator Barack Obama is holding off what appears to be a too-little, too-late move by Republican Senator John McCain in Ohio and Pennsylvania, but the Democrat's two-point lead among likely voters in Florida leaves that state too close to call," said the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

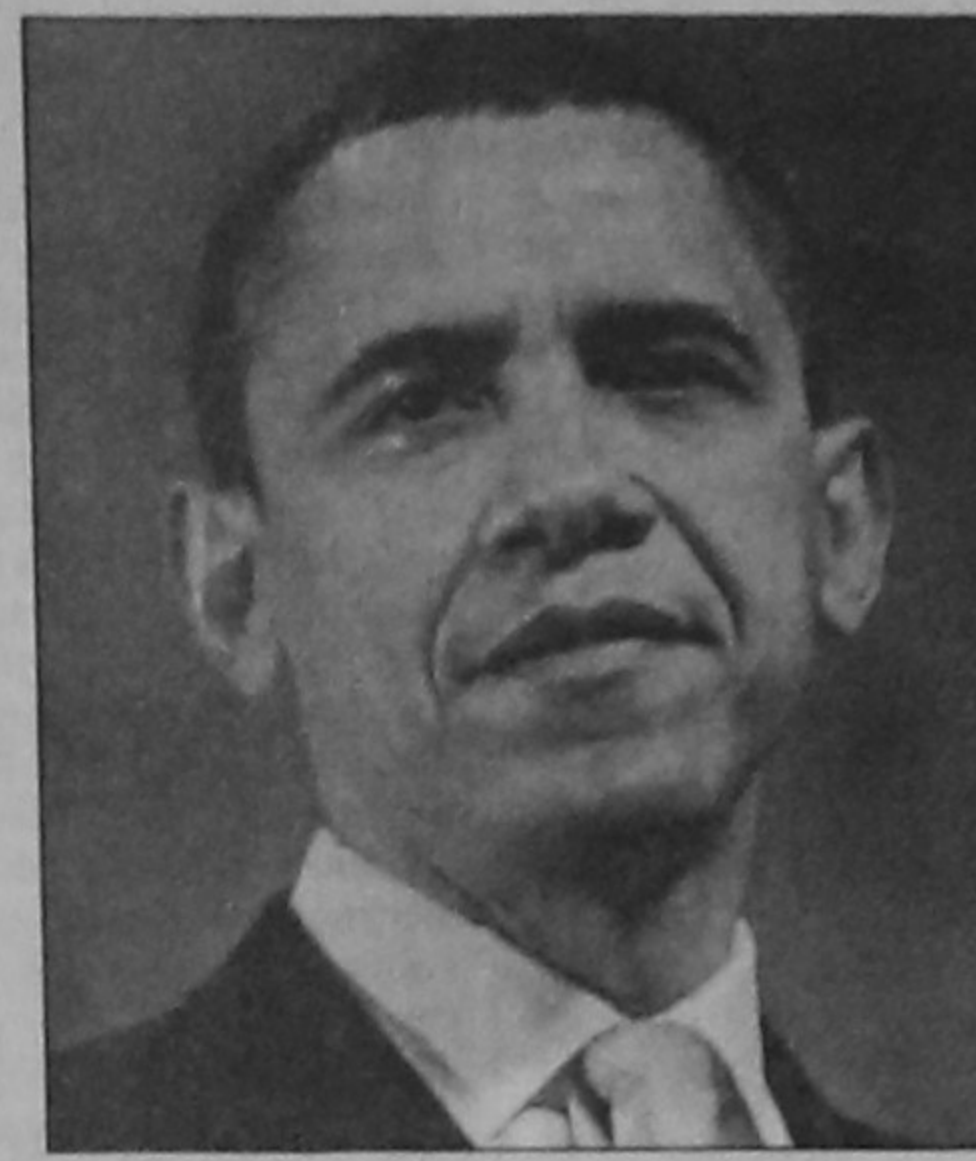
The margin of error was 2.6 percent in Ohio and Florida and 2.7 percent in Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile, republican John McCain renewed his attacks on Barack Obama's ties to a 1960s radical yesterday as he targeted voters in the key battleground state of Florida.

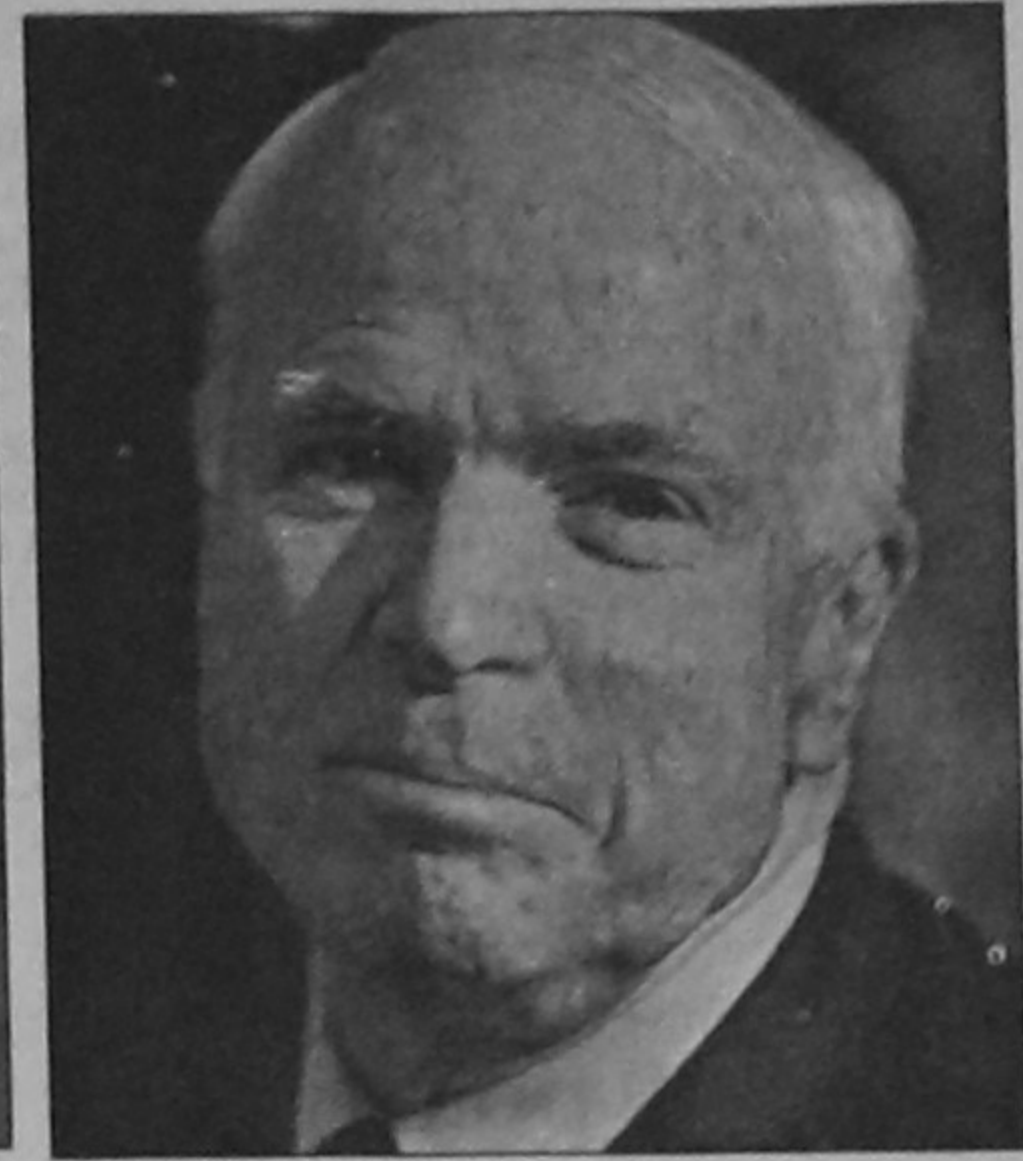
McCain, who has refrained from linking Obama to Bill Ayers during recent campaign speeches, went back on the offensive six days before the November 4 polls in an interview with a Spanish-language radio station in Miami.

"I think this whole issue of the relationship with Bill Ayers needs to be known by the American people," he told Radio Mambi. "Senator Obama said it was just a guy in the neighborhood. We know much more than that."

Ayers was a member of the "Weathermen" movement, classified by the FBI as a "domestic terrorist organization," which carried out a



Barack Obama



John McCain

series of attacks to protest the Vietnam War, including on the Pentagon and US Capitol.

Obama met Ayers early in his political career in 1995 but his campaign has said he has not spoken by phone or exchanged e-mail messages with him since Obama became US senator in 2005.

McCain went on to accuse the Los Angeles Times of refusing to publish a video it had obtained of Ayers attending an even with a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

"I don't care much about an old, washed-up unrepentant terrorist, and his wife who was on an FBI top 10 wanted list," McCain said.

"But we should know about their relationship, including apparently information that is held by the Los Angeles Times concerning an

event that Mr Ayers attended with a PLO spokesman."

McCain appeared to be referring to a Los Angeles Times article from April which said Obama knew and was friendly with Rashid Khalidi, a former PLO spokesman, during his academic career in Chicago.

"The Los Angeles Times refuses to make that videotape public. I'm not in the business of talking about media bias but what if there was a tape with John McCain with a neo-Nazi outfit being held by some media outlet?"

"I think the treatment of the issue would be slightly different," he said, saying Ayers had a "long relationship" with Obama, who was eight years old when the Weathermen were waging their radical campaign.

China asks Dalai Lama to respond 'positively' during talks

PTI, Beijing

Ahead of a new round of talks with the Dalai Lama on the vexed Tibet issue, China today asked the exiled Tibetan leader to make "positive" responses and exert "tangible sincerity and action" at the parleys to be held soon.

"China's central government is to arrange another round of talks with the private representatives of the Dalai Lama in the near future" at the request of the Dalai Lama side, the official Xinhua news agency reported without specifying a date for the in-camera sessions.

The terse statement came after the 73-year-old Dalai Lama said this week he would only hold talks with China on the future of Tibet if Beijing "honestly" wished to engage in dialogue.

The third meeting with the Dalai Lama's representatives in 2008 would be held "despite the Lhasa riot in March and serious disruptions and sabotage to the Beijing Olympic Games by a handful of Tibet independence" secessionists, Xinhua quoted an unnamed Chinese official as saying.

N Korea's Kim suffers 'serious' health setback



AP, Seoul

South Korea South Korean intelligence indicates that ailing North Korean leader Kim Jong Il suffered a serious health setback, a newspaper reported yesterday, while the latest undated video released shows him touring the communist country.

The report in the Dong-a Ilbo newspaper cited an unnamed government official in saying intelligence obtained Sunday suggested "a serious problem" with Kim's health. The report did not elaborate.

Kim, 66, reportedly suffered a stroke and underwent brain surgery in August. North Korea, however, denies he is ill.

South Korea's National Intelligence Service and its Unification Ministry said yesterday they were aware of the Dong-a report but could not confirm it.

Nine killed in separate Iraq attacks

AFP, Baghdad

At least nine people were killed in attacks in Iraq yesterday, including four policemen and a leader of a group fighting Al-Qaeda, security officials said.

Gunmen shot dead two police intelligence officers in the central Shiite city of Hillah as they visited friends, police Lieutenant Kadhim al-Khafazi said. Two other officers were wounded.

In a separate attack, Khafazi said gunmen shot dead a policeman in front of his house in Hillah, the capital of the Shiite province of Babil, which was handed over by US forces to Iraqi troops a week ago.

In Diyala province, northeast of Baghdad, three people were killed when armed men attacked the house of a leader of a group fighting Al-Qaeda.

A security official said suspected Al-Qaeda fighters attacked Abdel Karim Hassan's house in Dahalka village, east of the provincial capital Bagdada, and his father, daughter and a son-in-law were killed in a firefight.

Hassan was wounded along with 13 other members of his family, including his wife, he said.

Diyala remains one of Iraq's most dangerous provinces, and security forces are carrying out sustained military sweeps targeting Al-Qaeda jihadists there.

A policeman was killed and four others wounded when a parked car bomb struck a passing police patrol in the northern city of Mosul, police said.

In Baghdad's Hai Ur neighbourhood a roadside bomb struck a bus carrying education ministry employees, killing two of them, a security official said.



PHOTO: AFP

Nepalese young girls from the ethnic Newar community celebrate the Newari New Year 1129 in Kathmandu yesterday. The Newari New Year, which is known as Nepal Sambat, was recently given national recognition by the Maoist government.



ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LIMITED
(An enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Ashuganj, B.Baria-3402, Bangladesh.
Tel: 08528-74033, Fax: 08528-74044

Memo No. APSCL/Pro-29/2008/1449

Date: 28/10/2008

"Amendment of APSCL Tender Enquiry"

Tender Name, Enquiry No. & Date	Subject to be Amended	Existing as	Shall be Amended as
Rewinding, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 1850 KW 3-phase squirrel cage induction motor for Generator Division of APSCL	- Last Selling date of Tender Document	- 02/11/2008 during Office hour	- 19/11/2008 during Office hour
Tender Invitation No. APSCL/Pro-1/2008/1274	- Tender closing date & time	- 03/11/2008 at 12:00 noon.	- 20/11/2008 at 12:00 noon.
Dated: 15/09/2008	- Opening date & time	- 03/11/2008 at 12:30 P.M.	- 20/11/2008 at 12:30 P.M.

All other terms & Conditions shall remain unchanged

28.10.08

Convenor
Procurement Committee
APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria



পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অফ বাংলাদেশ লিঃ
POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Institution of Engineers (IEB) New Bhaban (4th floor) Ramna, Dhaka-1000

নং- পিওগ্রিড/এনএলভিসি/৩.০১/২০০৮/৬২৬

তারিখ: ২৮/১০/২০০৮ই

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

- কাজের নাম: এনএলভিসি প্রকল্প দরপত্র জমা গাড়ী (Double Cabinet Pic-up & Car) সরবরাহ।
- দরপত্র দলিল প্রাপ্তির স্থান: দরদাতাদিগকে লেটার হেড প্যাডে আবেদনের মাধ্যমে (ক) প্রকল্প পরিচালক (জিজিএম), এনএলভিসি প্রকল্প, বাড়ী নং-৬ (৩য় তলা), রোড নং-২৩/এ, গুলশান-১, ঢাকা-১২১২ (খ) কোম্পানী সচিব, পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অফ বাংলাদেশ লিঃ (পিওগ্রিড), আই ই বি নতুন ভবন, রমনা (৪র্থ তলা), ঢাকা-১০০০। (গ) প্রকল্প পরিচালক (জিজিএম), প্রকল্প-২, বাড়ী নং-৬ (৩য় তলা), রোড নং-২৩/এ, গুলশান-১, ঢাকা-১২১২।
- দরপত্র দলিল মূল্য: পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অফ বাংলাদেশ লিঃ (পিওগ্রিড) এর অনুকূলে ২০০০.০০ (দুই হাজার) টাকা মাত্র (অফারযোগ্য) পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে পরিশোধ করিতে হইবে।
- দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ০২-১২-২০০৮ইং, বিকাল ৩:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
- দরপত্র গ্রহণের স্থান: এনএলভিসি প্রকল্প, বাড়ী নং-৬ (৩য় তলা), রোড নং-২৩/এ, গুলশান-১, ঢাকা-১২১২।
- দরপত্র জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়: ০৩-১২-২০০৮ইং, দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
- দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়: ০৩-১২-২০০৮ইং, দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা।
- জামানত (ফেরতযোগ্য): দরপত্রের সহিত টাঃ ৭৫,০০০/- (পাত্তর হাজার) মাত্র পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অফ বাংলাদেশ লিঃ (পিওগ্রিড) এর নামে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
- টিকাদানের যোগ্যতা: বিউবোর্ড/আরইবি/ডেসায় তালিকাভুক্ত ১ম শ্রেণীর টিকাদার ও প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী।
- বিশেষ শর্তাবলী: দরপত্র সিডিউল ক্রয়ের সময় নিম্নবর্ণিত কাগজপত্র/দলিলাদির মূলকপি প্রদর্শন করিতে হইবে এবং সভ্যতার কপি দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
ক) বেধ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স ও বিউবোর্ড/আরইবি/ডেসায়/পিওগ্রিডের তালিকাভুক্ত বহিঃপ্রকৃত গাড়ী সরবরাহকারী স্বাক্ষর দলিলাদি।
খ) ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদপত্র।
গ) টি আই এন নম্বর স্বস্বস্বিষ্ট স্থান নাগাদ আয়কর পরিশোধের সনদ।
ঘ) গাড়ী সরবরাহের পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতার সনদ।

- কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারন দর্শনো ব্যতীতকে যে কোন/সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ কিংবা বাতিলের পূর্ব ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন এবং যে কোন সর্বনিম্ন দরপত্র গ্রহণের বাধা নহেন।
- এই দরপত্রের ব্যাপারে যে কোন পরিবর্তন স্থানীয় বিজ্ঞপ্তির মাধ্যমে জানানো হইবে। যাহা সন্নিবিষ্ট টিকাদারকে নিজ উদ্যোগে জানিয়া নিতে হইবে।

প্রকল্প পরিচালক (জিজিএম)
এনএলভিসি প্রকল্প



বাংলাদেশ ইনস্টিটিউট অব ম্যানেজমেন্ট
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The following Training Courses will be offered by BIM in NOVEMBER, 2008.

Name of Course	Duration with Time	Venue/ Course Fee	Course Coordinator & Contact Number
1. Certificate Course on Marketing and Sales Management	Nov 2-Jan 22 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 9,500/-	Dr. Uttam Kumar Datta Cell : 01715-782054
2. Professional Shipping Management	Nov. 09-20 17:00 - 21:30	Chittagong Tk. 5,500/-	Salahuddin Ahmed Cell : 01554-334636
3. Human Resources Management, Labour Law & Conducting Domestic Enquiry	Nov. 09-27 17:00 - 21:30	Chittagong Tk. 6,600/-	Salma Sultana Saleh Ejaz
4. Certificate Course on Management Information Systems (MIS)	Nov 16-Feb 5 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 9,500/-	Mohammad Nazmi Newaz Cell : 01715-366717
5. Financial Analysis for Decision Making	Nov. 23-Dec 4 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Md. Manzur Hossain Cell : 01818-063135
6. Human Resource Management for Executives	Nov. 23-Dec 4 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Akhund A. Shamsul Alam Cell : 01715-511354

Courses mentioned above are suitable for Managers/Executives of public and private sector organizations including NGOs and interested educated young people not yet in service but want to develop managerial abilities.

Please send your nominations to Coordinators. If you need further information you can also contact them. For more information please visit our website www.bim.org.bd

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PUBALI BANK LIMITED
ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION
(ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT)
HEAD OFFICE : 26 DILKUSHA C/A, DHAKA.

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

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

- Procuring Entity: Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division (Engineering Department), Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
- Tender Name: Decoration works of existing premises of our Dargagat Branch, Sylhet.
- Time for completion of the work: 25 (Twenty-Five)-Calendar days.
- Eligibility of Tenderers:
 - Minimum Work experience of 3 (Three) years in building decoration/renovation/construction.
 - The tenderers must have experience in completion of minimum 02 Nos. work in same nature each costing minimum Tk. 10.00 (Ten) Lac for last 3(Three) years.
 - Having valid trade license, up to date income Tax clearance certificate and VAT registration certificate.
 - Having valid B & C contractory and supervisory license for electrical works.
 - Must be financially solvent.
- Price of Tender Document: Tk. 500.00 (Taka five hundred) only non-refundable.
- Amount of Tender security: 2.50% of total bid amount in the form of Payment Order favoring Pubali Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka.
- Name and address of the office from where tender documents to be obtained: Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division, Engineering Department (8th floor), 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
- Name and address of the office where tender documents to be submitted: Pubali Bank Limited, Establishment Division (12th floor), 26 Dilkusha, C/A, Dhaka-1000.
- Last date & time for selling tender document: Up to 5.00 PM (BST), 11 November 2008
- Last date & time for tender submission: Up to 11.00 AM (BST), 12 November 2008
- Date and Time for tender opening: At 11.15 AM (BST), 12 November 2008 in presence of bidder (if any).
- Special Instructions: Pubali Bank Limited reserves the right to reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason. Tenderers must produce necessary papers along with tender.

Md. Rasul Amin
General Manager