

Ministry designs draft rules on real estate

HELEMUL ALAM

The housing and public works ministry has completed the draft rules under the Real Estate Development and Management Ordinance 2008 to discipline real estate under a strict guideline.

All developers must be registered with the related authorities within 60 days after approval of the rules.

According to the draft rules, now pending with the law ministry for vetting, the work of unregistered developers will be considered illegal.

Progress in the implementation of rules depends on whether the ordinance will get through parliament under the new government, said an official with the housing and public works ministry.

"Real Estate Developer Registration Rules, 2008" had been laid out under the Real Estate Development and Management Ordinance 2008, which was gazetted on December 2, 2008.

The immediate past caretaker government promulgated the ordinance to put in place a clear guideline to monitor the activities of developers.

The rules, if approved, will let the aggrieved clients lodge complaints and seek justice for a breach of contract on apartments and housing plots.

The Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh had not been in a position to take effective measures against its members in the absence of a code of conduct for them.

Developers will face a Tk 10 lakh fine or a maximum of two years in jail or both if they publish advertisements on their projects without registration, according to the draft rules.

If a developer starts his real estate project without taking approval from the authorities, he will have to face a maximum of two years in jail or a Tk 10 lakh fine or both.

According to the draft rules, any developer punished in both criminal and civil cases will not qualify for registration before completion of his term of punishment.

After submission of the application, the authorities will respond in writing if a developer fulfills the criteria under the ordinance and rules to implement his real estate project, the draft rules say.

If anyone gets punished for breaching the condition of the ordinance, he will not be able to submit a new application in the same ownership during the period of punishment.

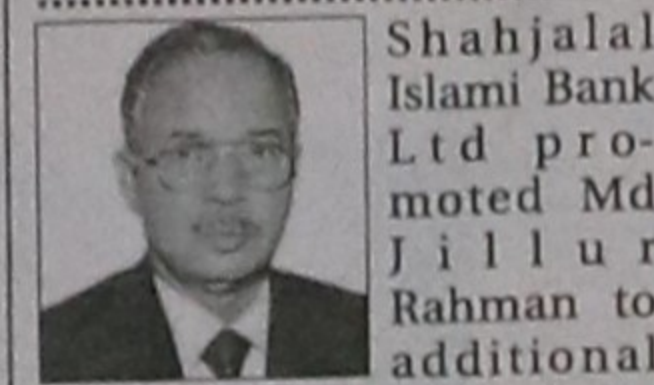
Developers must take necessary steps to provide connections of utility services such as water, electricity and gas, according to the draft rules.

If any developer does not hand apartments over to buyers in line with contracts or sells them to others without informing the purchasers named in an agreement, he will suffer three years in prison or a Tk 20 lakh fine or both.

Any developer constructing a building without following an approved design will face three years in jail or a Tk 20 lakh fine or both.

Shahjalal Bank gets new addl MD

STAR BUSINESS DESK



Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd promoted Md Jilur Rahman to additional managing director of the bank, according to a press release.

Rahman joined the bank as the manager and executive vice president on May 15, 2001. He was later promoted to the post of deputy general manager on July 1, 2005.

Rahman started his career in Uttara Bank Ltd in 1973 as a probationary officer.



Commerce Minister Faruk Khan speaks to a delegation of shop owners at his office in Dhaka yesterday. (Story on B1)

Asia spending to boost finally, says Morgan Stanley official

AFP, Hong Kong

The massive slowdown in demand for Asia's exports will force the region to "get religion" and finally boost its consumer spending, the chairman of Morgan Stanley Asia Stephen Roach said Thursday.

Roach, who was one of the few economists to predict the US-led economic crisis, said the region's failure to develop its own markets meant the unprecedented slowdown would hit Asia hard.

"Now, with a monster external demand shock -- the US, Japan, Europe, all in recession simultaneously, something we have never seen post World War Two -- Asia, which is much more externally dependent today than it was 10 years ago, is in trouble," he told a meeting of the Asia Society.

"There is not a country in the region that is not slowing sharply or in outright recession."



Members attend the ninth annual general meeting of the Women Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh in Dhaka yesterday.

WEAB gets new leader

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Rehana Rahman has been elected the president of Women Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh (WEAB).

She replaces Nasreen Awal Mintoo who has led the association for 9 years since its inception in 2000.

The WEAB's ninth annual general meeting (AGM), held in Dhaka yesterday, chose its new leader.

Shahrukh Rahman has been elected first vice president and Jahan Ara Ansar as vice president. Some other 18 members of the executive committee have also been elected at the AGM.

The WEAB has 7,000 members and 34 district offices across the country.

BERC to decide on power tariff hike in May

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) has accepted in principle electricity-price readjustment at retail level but will announce its decision within May as to whether or not to allow the power-distribution companies to raise the tariffs.

Before the announcement, the watchdog body will hold public hearing on the issue in February to elicit opinion from the retail customers and other stakeholders.

"We've accepted proposals from different power-distribution companies to raise power tariffs. Now, our plan is to hold public hear-

ing on the issue and then announce our judgment within 90 working days from acceptance of the offers," BERC Chairman Ghulam Rahman told the news agency.

From early this month, so far four power-distribution companies-DPDC, Desco, Westzone and REB-have appealed to the BERC to raise their tariff rates by 11-15 percent for retail customers.

Earlier on September 29, the BERC allowed Power Development Board (PDB), which is responsible for power generation, to raise power price at bulk-customer level by 16 percent.

But it had no impact on the retail level as it was only applicable for the distribution companies who are PDB's bulk customers.

But, following the 16 percent enhancement, the distribution companies consequently moved to raise their tariffs at retail level to cover the 16 percent rise at bulk level.

According to BERC sources, DPDC and Desco, which are responsible for power distribution in Dhaka city and adjoining areas, have proposed to raise 14.77 percent their retail tariffs.

West Zone Power Distribution Company and Rural Electrification Board (REB), who operate outside Dhaka, have proposed an 11 percent raise in the retail electricity price.

World stocks slide as New Year optimism fades

AFP, London

Asian and European stocks fell sharply on Thursday, with Tokyo slumping almost five percent to a one-month low, following another deluge of grim economic and corporate news.

A record fall in Japanese machinery orders provided a stark illustration of the fallout of the US-born credit crunch for Asia's economies.

"Equity markets appear to be truly blighted as yesterday's sell-

off looks set to continue as the focus shifts to the latest round of US earnings news and this certainly gave the markets little cause for cheer," said CMC Markets dealer Matt Buckland.

"Japanese machinery order data... underlined the extent of the slowdown in the world's second largest economy and there can be little surprise that equities seem set to tumble further."

Tokyo slumped 4.92 percent, finishing at the lowest level since December 5. Seoul dropped 6.0 percent and Sydney shed 4.3 percent. Hong Kong erased 3.4 percent.

"We haven't had a worse day in the market so far this year," said Michael Heffernan, a strategist at Austock Securities in Melbourne.

Europe's main stock markets also sank after a subdued start, as investors continued to sell amid heightened worries about the global economy and banks, analysts said.

London fell 0.68 percent and Frankfurt slid 0.73 percent in late morning trade.

In Paris, the CAC 40 shares index sank under 3,000 points for the first time since December 5, 2008, losing 1.72 percent to 2,999.55 points before clawing back ground to stand 0.60 percent down.

The euro meanwhile slid to 1.3172 dollars as worries grew over Europe's economic health ahead of an expected rate cut by the European Central Bank (ECB).

"The ECB may have the scope to deliver some cheer, especially if

they can convince traders that their aggressive stance over rate cuts will be sustained as the prospect of even lower yields on cash could lend a degree of support to stocks," added Buckland.

Apple chief Steve Jobs's announcement that he is taking medical leave of absence because of "complex" health issues raised worries about the future of the iconic company and set Wall Street up for a rocky start, dealers said.

US stocks fell hard Wednesday on dismal retail sales data and renewed concerns over banks and other companies set to report quarterly results.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 2.94 percent to end at 8,200.14, extending a losing streak to a sixth session.

Sentiment in Asia was dented by news that Japan's core machinery orders, a closely watched barometer of corporate capital spending, plunged by 16.2 percent in November from the previous month, the fastest drop on record.



PD Lakhani, representative of Disney for Saarc region, and Kazi Jamil Islam, managing director of Express Leather Products Ltd, exchange documents after signing an agreement in New Delhi, India recently. Express Leather, a local leather goods manufacturing company, has become the sole producer and marketer of America's Disney brand shoes in Bangladesh.

China preparing to bailout more industries

AFP, Beijing

China is planning more help for its steel, textile, shipbuilding and other key industries, analysts said Thursday, a day after the government unveiled a stimulus package for its ailing auto sector.

Many of China's main economic drivers are struggling amid the global crisis and the government is hoping tax breaks and subsidies for them will just as crucially boost domestic demand and get consumers to spend, they said.

with the obvious major target being aimed at boosting confidence.

"The government is saying it will not tolerate recession."

The automotive bailout package announced Wednesday included a cut in the sales tax to five percent from 10 percent for cars with engines smaller than 1.6 litres, from January 20 until the end of the year.

The package from the State Council, or cabinet, also included a 10 billion yuan (1.5 billion dollar) subsidy to help car makers upgrade technology and develop alternative-energy vehicles over the next three years.

"In order to adjust and revive the auto sector, we must implement a proactive consumption policy... to stabilise and boost auto demand," the policy initiative on the government website said.

"It has become fashionable around the world for government to take over and help troubled industries, so China is doing nothing different," said Dong Tao, a Hong Kong-based economist for Credit Suisse.

"These measures tend to be wide in scope and are being implemented quickly

Office of the Superintending Engineer, Sewer (R&D) Circle & Project Director
Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA
WASA Bhaban, 9th floor
98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
Date: 6/01/2009

Invitation for Tender
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

1. Ministry/Division	Local Government Division (MOLGRD&C)
2. Agency	Dhaka Water Supply & Sewerage Authority
3. Procuring entity name	Project Director, Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA
4. Invitation for	Construction and rehabilitation of different dia sewer line in different areas of Dhaka city.
5. Invitation No.	Tender No. TA-32/IUSERP
6. Date	6/01/2009

KEY INFORMATION

7. Procurement method	Open tendering method (OTM)
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FUNDING INFORMATION

8. Budget and source of funds	GOB
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PARTICULAR INFORMATION

9. Tender package no.	
10. Project/programme name	Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA
11. Tender publication date	Date: none
12. Tender last selling date	Date: 27/01/2009
13. Tender closing date and time	Date: 28/01/2009 Time: 12:00 noon
14. Tender opening date and time	Date: 28/01/2009 Time: 2:00 pm
15. Name & address of the office(s)	Md Alkas Uddin, Superintending Engineer & Project Director, Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 9 th floor, Dhaka-1215.

- Selling tender document (principal)

1. Janata Bank, Kawran Bazar Corporate Branch/Fakirapool Branch/Posta Branch/Mohammadpur Corporate Branch/Mirpur Section-1 Branch/Mohakhali Corporate Branch.
2. Agrani Bank, WASA Branch, Dhaka.
3. Uttara Bank, Kawran Bazar Branch, Dhaka.
4. One Bank Limited, HRC Bhaban, 64, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.

- Receiving tender document

Superintending Engineer & Project Director, Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 9th Floor, Dhaka-1215. Time 12:00 noon date 28/01/2009

- Opening tender document

Superintending Engineer & Project Director, Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 9th Floor, Dhaka-1215. Time 2:00pm date 28/01/2009.

Eligibility of tenderer

The tenderer must have minimum 5 (five) years overall Experience in construction & rehabilitation of sewer/storm sewer line.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

20. Brief description of goods or works	Construction and rehabilitation of different dia sewer line in different areas of Dhaka city.
21. Brief description of related services	Describe below.
22. Price of tender document	Tk. 500/- (five hundred) only of each package.

Package Identification of the works

Package	Identification of the works	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time
a. Lot-01	Rehabilitation of 600mm dia RCC sewer line at Matsha Bhaban Square to Kakrali, Magbazar SLS, Magbazar, Dhaka under Job No-S-13/2008-2009.	Magbazar	Tk. 75,000/-	45-days
Lot-02	-Do-	Magbazar	Tk. 69,000/-	45-days
Lot-03	-Do-	Magbazar	Tk. 1,02,000/-	45-days
b. Lot-04	-Do-	Magbazar	Tk. 55,000/-	45-days

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

24. Name of official inviting tender	Md Alkas Uddin.
25. Designation of official inviting tender	Superintending Engineer & Project Director, Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA
26. Address of official inviting tender	Superintending Engineer & Project Director, Interim Urgent Sewerage Expansion and Rehabilitation Project, Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 9 th Floor, Dhaka-1215.
27. Contact details of official inviting tender	Fax No-880-2-8116792

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

Superintending Engineer
Sewer (R&D) Circle & Project Director
IUSERP
Dhaka WASA

WASA-PI-31/09
GD-198

Directorate of Planning and Development
Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
Invitation for Tender
NO. P&D/LP(26)/08-09/03(P-1)DR-373(2) Date: 11-01-09

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education.			
2. Agency	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)/UGC.			
3. Procuring entity name	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) represented by Director, P&D.			
4. Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.			
5. Invitation for	Mentioned in identification of packages (SL No.-17).			
6. Invitation Ref. No.	P&D/LP(26)/08-09/03(P-1) Date: 04-01-09			
7. Procurement method	Open tendering method.			
8. Budget and source of funds	Development Budget of BUET.			
9. Tender package No.	Mentioned in SL No. 17.			
10. Tender publication date	15-01-09.			
11. Tender last selling date	08-02-09 (during office hours).			
12. Tender closing date and time	09-02-09 at 12:00 noon (BST).			
13. Tender opening date and time	09-02-09 at 12:30pm (BST), tender shall be opened in presence of tenderers/tenderer's authorised representative (if any).			
14. Name & address of the office(s)	Directorate of Planning and Development (P&D), BUET, Office of Head of Civil Engg. Department, Civil Building, BUET, Office of Head of Mechanical Engg. Department, EME Building, BUET.			
15. Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderer must have experience in supply of similar goods and related services as specified in the tender documents. Tenderer will have legal, financial, professional and technical capacity to deliver the requirements of this tender and have fulfilled the obligations of all tax requirements.			
16. Price of tender document (Tk)	GD-01: BUET-Japan Institute of Disaster Prevention and Urban Safety Project [BUET-JIDPUS/08-09/APP(D)/ITEM-2/LP(26)/S-2] Tk. 500/-			
17. Package No.	Identification of Package(s)	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in weeks/months
GD-01:	BUET-Japan Institute of Disaster Prevention and Urban Safety Project [BUET-JIDPUS/08-09/APP(D)/ITEM-2/LP(26)/S-2]	BUET	2,50,000/-	Stated in the schedule of requirements
18. Brief description of goods	GD-01: (i) Microtremor with five sensors and cables for each sensors including accessories and softwares & (ii) Reinforcement Detection System with accessories and softwares [for BUET-Japan Institute of Disaster Prevention and Urban Safety Project (BUET-JIDPUS)].			
19. Name of official inviting tender	Prof. Dr. Md. Zoyrul Abedin.			
20. Designation of official inviting tender	Director.			
21. Address of official inviting tender	The Directorate of Planning and Development (P&D), BUET.			
22. Contact details of official inviting tender	Director, P&D, BUET, Dhaka, Tel: 9665630, 9665650-80 Ext. 7350.			
23. Validity of tender	90 days from the date of tender opening.			
24. Place/date/time of pre-tendering meeting	N/A			
25. Special instructions	i) Intending participants shall have to apply for purchasing tender documents to the undersigned. The bidder should have valid trade license, bank solvency certificate and Income Tax certificate, VAT registration and experience certificate. Each tender must be accompanied by a Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee issued from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh located in Dhaka City amounting to above mentioned tender security money in favour of "Comptroller, BUET" without which no tender will be considered for evaluation. ii) The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender, to annul the tender process, or to reject any or all tenders, at any time prior to contract award.			

Prof. Dr. Md. Zoyrul Abedin
Director, Planning and Development, BUET

GD-230