

Canadian tie can help boost green energy



Masud Rahman, president of Canada Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry, speaks at a meeting on Renewable Energy Prospects in Bangladesh in Dhaka yesterday. Robert McDougall, Canadian high commissioner, is also seen.

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Canadian High Commissioner Robert McDougall yesterday identified areas in the field of renewable energy, including solar power, which will benefit both the countries if they work together.

Canada has long been working with different sources of renewable energy, where there are "opportunities for mutual benefit" for both countries, said the high commissioner at a seminar in Dhaka.

The Canada Bangladesh

Chamber of Commerce and Industry organised the seminar styled Renewable Energy Prospects in Bangladesh.

McDougall said Canada, with a low-carbon electricity generation portfolio, is blessed with sources of renewable energy, such as hydro electricity, biomass, wind, sunlight and waste.

In this regard, he found potential for both countries to work together in small hydro applications for rivers, small wind turbine generations, tidal-wave and tidal energy resource assess-

ment, and solar energy equipment.

He also congratulated the Bangladeshi government for withdrawing duties on solar energy equipment.

Citing expert estimates, chamber President Masud Rahman said Bangladesh has a vast potential in renewable resources, which can produce 11,000 megawatt of electricity, including 10,000 MW from solar energy and 350 MW each from wind and biomass.

He also sought Canadian help in this regard.

"We can also save at least

1,000 MW of power by using energy saving appliances."

Bangladesh has to increase electricity generation from renewable resources by 2-3 percent a year as a signatory of Kyoto Protocol, he said, urging the government to intensify renewable energy generation efforts.

Presenting a keynote, Munawar Musbah Moin, managing director of Rahimafrooz Renewable Energy Ltd, said the total output of green energy sources of the country is 25 MW, which is less than one percent of around 3,700 MW power generated now.

In India, renewable energy contributes 5 percent to the total power, while Nepal and Bhutan 6 percent.

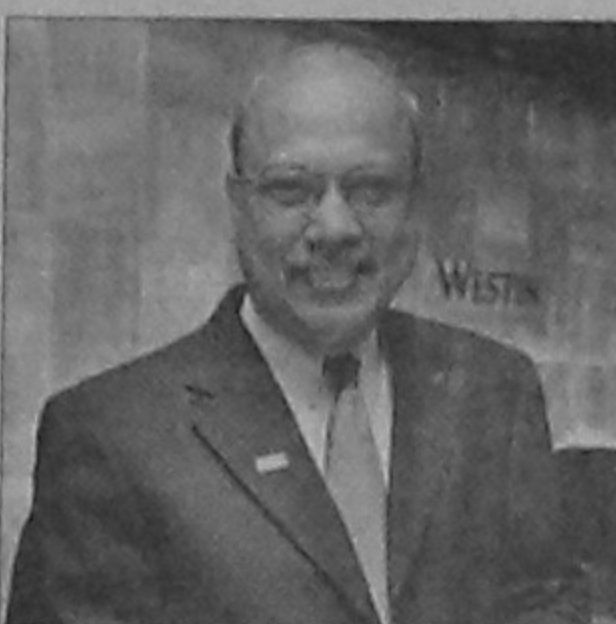
Dipal C Barua, managing director of Grameen Shakti, said his organisation dreams of empowering 75 million people in the country with renewable energy by 2015.

He also stressed implementation and further development of the Renewable Energy Policy to achieve the goal.



Feroz Mahmud, country manager of Microsoft Bangladesh, and Arild Kaale, chief marketing officer of Grameenphone, exchange documents after signing a partnership deal on Digital Literacy Curriculum in Dhaka yesterday. Microsoft will provide e-learning content to Grameenphone Community Information Centres. Oddvar Hesjedal, Grameenphone CEO, is also seen.

New GM for Westin Dhaka



STAR BUSINESS DESK

Atique Rahman will be the next general manager of The Westin Dhaka, said a statement.

Starwood Hotels & Resorts, the operator of The Westin Dhaka, and Noor Ali, the owner, jointly declared the appointment recently.

Prior to taking over this assignment, Atique was the owner's representative for The Westin Dhaka and alongside managed Lake Shore Hotel as executive director.

Atique, a graduate of the State University of New York, worked with Radisson Hotels & Resorts and Ramada International Inc.

He was also the first executive to be the director of operations for The Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

Seven power plants in the north soon

BSS, Rajshahi

The present government has started setting up seven power plants in six northern districts under Rajshahi division, which aimed at minimising power shortage.

Chief Engineer of Northern Distribution Division under Power Development Board (PDB) Latifur Rahman told the news agency yesterday that tender documents were already received and evaluation works of those are progressing.

He said additional 370 megawatt power will be added to the national grid on successful completion of the construction works, which will help fulfil power demands in the 16 northern districts on a large scale.

Of the total seven, four stations will be established with the government's own expenditures, while the three others will be on rental basis.

Rahman hoped the stations will go on generation

by March 2011. He said the rental stations are 50-megawatt each at Thakurgaon, Syedpur under Nilphamari and at Katakali in Rajshahi.

The government will purchase the generated electricity from these stations and will supply those to consumers at a subsidised rate.

Besides, the state-owned stations are 50-megawatt each at Katakali of Rajshahi, Santahar of Bogra, Baghabari of Sirajganj.

Land of the Railway Department has been selected for setting up power plant in Santahar.

He said additional gas will not be provided for operating any more power plants. So, there is no alternative to furnace oil, diesel or coal to generate electricity.

The PDB engineer said the government has taken up this programme for setting up furnace oil based rental power plants that will solve the region's existing power crisis within the next

two years.

As part of this, construction of another coal-based 125-megawatt power unit is at final stage at Barapukuria. It is expected to go into production next year.

The diesel-run power plants will start generating furnace oil-based electricity by next March, Rahman added.

At present, he said the PDB supplies around 420 to 450 megawatt power to the 16 northern districts through the national grid against the daily average demand for 700 megawatts.

To bring balance in production with the demand, 300 megawatt more power will be added to the new regional gridline.

On the other hand, he mentioned that the government has also approved a proposal for establishing six more 33-kilovolt power substations each in Rangpur, Gaibandha, Sirajganj, Pabna, Dinajpur and Thakurgaon districts.

Fish farming at paddy fields gaining popularity in Kurigram

UNB, Kurigram

Fish cultivation along with paddy in paddy fields is gaining popularity as it brings financial benefit to farmers in the district.

Local sources said farmers cultivated fish on 600 acres of land along with paddy this year.

Experiencing the financial

benefit, other farmers also came forward and followed the same technique of fish farming along with paddy.

Ayesha Begum and Mofasser Ali of Belgachha West Kalyan village released four and a half kg of fish fries on one bigha of aman paddy two months back.

They have so far sold fish valued at Tk 4,000 before

harvesting paddy. They expect to sell more fishes worth Tk 5,000 during the harvesting time.

Farm manager of the District Fisheries Department Riaz Uddin said it is easy and profitable to cultivate fish along with paddy, as rainwater is available during the aman season.

Two NGOs - RDRS

Bangladesh and KDS - imparted necessary training and assistance to the farmers for such fish farming.

If fish farming along with paddy at paddy fields spread all over the country, demand for rice along with protein will be fulfilled to a great extent. This will benefit farmers and the country's economy as well.

USFDA team visits shrimp industrial areas

UNB, Bagerhat

A high level four-member delegation of United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) visited different shrimp industrial areas in Sadar and Fakirhat upazilas in the district on Tuesday.

The future of lobster exports to Europe and USA will depend on the report of the delegation.

Stanly Sarfling, Cristina Hilman, Kaniz Shirin and Bret Lausanne Kunz are in the team, while teacher's representative of Maryland University of USA, and Dhaka, Khulna, Mymensingh and

Chittagong Universities of Bangladesh, Shrimp Exporter Samity leaders, several donor agencies and government officials are accompanying them.

In the week-long visit till November 5, the USFDA team will visit different shrimp enclosures, frozen shrimp processing factories and other infrastructures of Khulna and Bagerhat districts.

Earlier in May, the government suspended lobster exports to Europe and USA till November 30 as several consignments were returned due to the presence of nitrofurans, harmful for human body.



Tarek Reaz Khan, general manager and head for secured lending of Standard Chartered Bank, and Syed Iqbal Ahmed, general manager of AG Automobiles Ltd, exchange documents after signing a deal in Dhaka recently. The bank will provide special services to auto loan customers referred by AG.

Banglalink launches business info service

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Banglalink has launched a call centre-based service to access business related information, said a statement.

Banglalink along with Katalyst, a project under Ministry of Commerce, launched the service styled "Babsha Jigyasha 7677" at a ceremony on Monday in Dhaka.

Banglalink customers can avail of the service seven days a week, 24 hours a day by dialling 7677.

Dr Atiur Rahman, governor of Bangladesh Bank, was present in the ceremony as chief guest along with Ahmed Abou Doma, chief executive officer of Banglalink.

Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, secretary of Economic Relations Division in the Ministry of Finance, and Feroz Ahmed, secretary of Ministry of Commerce, were present.

Representatives of SSL and Nirjhor IT, the service partners for "Babsha Jigyasha", were also present.

Ericsson to modernise GP networks

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Swedish telecom vendor Ericsson has stricken a two-year deal to modernise Grameenphone's existing networks with the latest technology.

Ericsson will upgrade its installation of Grameenphone's packet- and circuit-switched core network.

The modernisation programme includes implementation of the latest mobile soft-switch solution, along with the new MSC Server Blade Cluster and the Service Aware Packet Core enabling differentiated service charging and fair usage policies for mobile data services, said a statement.

The MSC Server is the

main node in a mobile core network that is used to control the switching of voice traffic. With the new MSC Server Blade Cluster, networks can be reachable among more than one million subscribers by simply inserting a new blade (electronics board) in the MSC Server cabinet.

The upgrade will provide flexible pricing and campaign possibilities. It will enable revenue growth and cost efficiency for the operator and more attractively priced services for subscribers.

The contract also covers the upgrade of Grameenphone's GSM radio access network.

The latest switching technology from Ericsson will help Grameenphone meet the needs for expand-

ing its subscriber base of 44 percent and pave the way for quick and cost-effective future introduction of new services such as mobile broadband.

Oddvar Hesjedal, chief executive officer of Grameenphone, said: "Ericsson's advanced technology will optimise our network operations and strengthen our ability to evolve and expand our business while preparing our network for future needs."

Håkan Rusch, managing director of Ericsson Bangladesh, said: "This agreement demonstrates Ericsson's commitment to cultivating long-term, strategic relationships with the aim of creating a competitive advantage for our customers."

National Museum of Science & Technology			
Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207			
Ref No: NMST/E-3/5(2)/98/1137(2)		Dated: 02/11/09	
Invitation for Tender			
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh			
1	Ministry/Division	Science and Information & Communication Technology.	
2	Agency	National Museum of Science & Technology.	
3	Procuring entity name	Director, National Museum of Science & Technology.	
4	Procuring entity code	N/A	
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.	
6	Invitation for	Supply of exhibits.	
7	Invitation Ref No	NMST/E-3/5(2)/98/	
8	Date	02/11/2009.	
KEY INFORMATION			
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method.	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
10	Budget and source of funds	GOB	
11	Development partners (if applicable)	N/A	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
12	Project/Programme code (if applicable)	N/A	
13	Project/Programme Name (if applicable)	N/A	
14	Tender package No	N/A	
15	Tender package name	N/A	
16	Tender publication date	07/11/2009	
17	Tender last selling date	25/11/2009	
	Date	Time	
18	Tender closing date and time	26/11/2009 12:00 Noon	
19	Tender opening date and time	26/11/2009 12:15pm	
20	Name & address of the office(s)		
i	Selling tender document (Principal)	National Museum of Science & Technology, Account Section.	
ii	Selling tender document (others)	National Museum of Science & Technology, Account Section.	
iii	Receiving tender document	National Museum of Science & Technology, Administration Section.	
iv	Opening tender document	National Museum of Science & Technology, Administration Section (Conference room).	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
21	Eligibility of tenderer	Relevant contractors/suppliers should have updated and renewed trade license, Vat registration and income tax certificate.	
22	Brief description of goods	(i) Demonstration of moon phases (ii) Demonstration of boiling point. (iii) Feeling of space sickness. (iv) Sound needs media to pass through. (v) Wind Power, as per schedule attached.	
23	Brief description of related services	As per schedule attached.	
24	Price of tender document	Tk 1600/- (non-refundable).	
	Lot No	Location	Completion time in weeks/months
25	1	Science related exhibits	03 months
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
26	Name of official inviting tender	Md Monsur Hussain.	
27	Designation of official inviting tender	Director.	
28	Address of official inviting tender	National Museum of Science & Technology Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.	
29	Contact of official inviting tender	9112084, Fax: 9114831.	
30	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.		
<p align="center">Md Monsur Hussain Director (Joint Secretary) National Museum of Science & Technology Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207</p>			