

Foreign secretary hopes for ease in India's visa process

Ficci points to complexities in starting new venture

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladeshis will shortly benefit from the simplification of the process of Indian visas for them, hoped Foreign Secretary Mohamed Mijarul Quayes.

"At present, many Bangladeshi people, who need to go to India for business and medical purposes, have to face difficulties in obtaining visa. So we raised the issue at the meeting of Bangladesh-India Summit 2010 and urged the Indian government to take necessary steps," Quayes told a meeting of foreign entrepreneurs in Dhaka yesterday.

"Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh assured us of immediate measures by his government to solve the problem. He suggested Delhi's foreign ministry make special arrangement for Bangladeshis seeking Indian visa," the foreign secretary further said.

Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industries (Ficci) organised the luncheon meeting at a city hotel.

On regional connectivity, Quayes



Mohamed Mijarul Quayes, foreign secretary, speaks at the monthly luncheon meeting of Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Dhaka yesterday. AM Hamim Rahmatullah, president of the chamber, is also seen.

said the government is working on developing a tri-nation connectivity between Bangladesh, Myanmar and China.

"Such connectivity will help enhance our market access to not only those countries, but also with other nations in South Asia," he said.

On foreign direct investment (FDI), he pointed his finger at the incentives Bangladesh now offers to overseas investors. "We are putting our all

efforts in facilitating FDI here."

Energy shortage and high cost of doing business are the main obstacles that hinder FDI flow, pointed out some speakers at the programme, seeking immediate government actions in this regard.

"We need huge FDI to develop our infrastructure. The government should be more pro-active to lure investments," said Ficci President Hamim Rahmat Ullah, also suggesting

measures to ensure adequate power supply for different industrial units.

In this context, the chief of the trade body for foreign entrepreneurs sought government actions to cut the cost of doing business, eliminate corruption and unethical practices in different government entities. He also stressed removal of procedural complexities in any effort to go into a new venture.

Abdul Matin, Ficci secretary general, was also present on the occasion.

Bharti Airtel names Bangladesh chief

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India's largest cellphone operator Bharti Airtel, which acquired a 70 per cent stake in Warid Telecom, has appointed Chris Tobit to head the unit in Bangladesh.

Tobit, who has been with Bharti Airtel for more than a decade, is at present is the company's director for sales and operations of its enterprise business. He will be the new managing director and chief executive officer of Warid Bangladesh.

Earlier this week, Bharti Airtel had named Sanjay Kapoor as its chief executive officer for India and South Asia.

Meanwhile, telecom industry watchers in India say Bharti Airtel's acquisition of Warid indicates a new strategy by the company to scale up its global operations through a series of small and medium-size acquisitions in emerging markets.

After its failed bid to merge with South Africa's MTN, a move that would have created the world's fourth biggest mobile phone operator, Bharti Airtel was speculated to have held talks with Egypt's Orascom and Kuwait's Zain which have sizable presence in Asia and Africa.

At present, Bharti's international operation is negligible with presence in Sri Lanka, Seychelles and Jersey islands in Europe.

Bharti has also said the newly-created international business group would comprise a team of seasoned and experienced professionals, including some from within the Bharti Group.

Mutual funds declare weekly net asset value

ICB MUTUAL FUNDS

On the close of operation on January 12, the ICB mutual funds announced NAV for First ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 9,627.99, Second ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 2,721.88, Third ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 2,057.83, Fourth ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 2,176.28, Fifth ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 1,871.06, Sixth ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 720.77, Seventh ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 1,178.09 and Eighth ICB Mutual Fund of Tk 841.35 per unit on current market prices against face value of Tk 100 each. On the basis of cost price, NAV per unit of the eight mutual funds was Tk 1,267.55, Tk 797.62, Tk 565.14, Tk 643.75, Tk 445.38, Tk 261.07, Tk 358.12 and Tk 284.57.

ICBAMCL1ST

The fund declared NAV of Tk 517.61 per unit on the basis of current market price and Tk 308.24 on the basis of cost price against face value of Tk 100, on the close of operation on January 12. The fund's total net assets stood at Tk 51.76 crore on the basis of market price and Tk 30.82 crore on the basis of cost price.

ICBAMCL2ND

On the close of operation on January 12, the fund's NAV stood at Tk 112.95 per unit at current market price and Tk 102.95 at cost price against face value of Tk 100. Total net assets stood at Tk 56.47 crore at market price and Tk 51.47 crore on the cost price basis.

ISTPRIMEFINANCE

The fund announced NAV of Tk 17.08 per unit at current market price basis and Tk 13.09 at cost price against face value of Tk 10 on the close of operation on January 12. Total net assets stood at Tk 34.15 crore on the basis of market price and Tk 26.18 crore at cost price.

ICB1STNRB

On the close of operation on January 12, the fund's NAV stood at Tk 364.68 per unit at current market price and Tk 242.05 on the basis of cost price against face value of Tk 100. Total net assets stood at Tk 36.46 crore on a market price basis and Tk 24.20 crore at cost price.

ICB2NDNRB

On the close of operation on January 12, the fund's NAV stood at Tk 173.30 per unit on the basis of current market price and Tk 135.17 on the basis of cost price against face value of Tk 100 whereas total net assets stood at Tk 173.30 crore on the basis of market price and Tk 135.16 crore on the basis of cost price after all assets and liabilities are taken into account.

ICBISLAMIC

The fund declared NAV of Tk 299.98 per unit on the basis of current market price and Tk 224.26 on the basis of cost price against face value of Tk 100 on the close of operation on January 12. Total net assets stood at Tk 29.99 crore on the basis of market price and Tk 22.42 crore on the basis of cost price.

GRAMENEONE

On the close of operation on January 14, the fund's NAV reached Tk 49.03 per unit on the current market price basis and Tk 25.84 at cost price against Tk 10 in face value, whereas the fund's net assets stood at Tk 83.35 crore.

GRAMENEONE:SCHEMETWO

It has announced NAV of Tk 17.20 per unit at current market price basis and Tk 12.26 at cost price basis against face value of Tk 10 on the close of operation on January 14. Net assets stood at Tk 214.95 crore.

EBL1ST

On the close of operation on January 14, the fund has declared NAV of Tk 12.31 per unit on the market price basis and Tk 10.86 per unit at cost price against face value of Tk 10, whereas net assets stood at Tk 123.13 crore based on market price and Tk 108.56 crore based on cost price.

AIMS1ST

The fund's NAV stood at Tk 4.58 per unit at current market price basis and Tk 2.50 at cost price basis against face value of Tk 1 on the close of operation on January 14. Net assets reached Tk 76.99 crore.

United to fly to Manchester

UNB, Dhaka

United Airways (BD) Ltd, a private sector airline in the country, is going to operate flights to Manchester and Birmingham in the UK.

The airline is also procuring two B767-300/200 ER aircraft, which are likely to be commissioned on Sylhet-London routes from summer 2010.

It has been operating two passenger flights a week on Dhaka-London (Gatwick) route since November 21 last year. It is also planning to introduce additional passenger flights to London (Gatwick)

from Dhaka and Sylhet.

United Airways came up with the plan to increase its flight frequencies to London from two to five per week following a two-day successful meeting on Air Service Agreement between Civil Aviation Authority Bangladesh (CAAB) and British Civil Aviation Department (BCAD), said a press release yesterday.

The airline is currently operating flights from Dhaka to London, Dubai, Kuala Lumpur, Kathmandu, Kolkata, Chittagong, Jessore, Sylhet and Cox's Bazar and also from Chittagong to Kolkata.



Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury attends a meeting with a delegation of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry led by its President M Anis Ud Dowla at her secretariat office yesterday. (Story on B1)

Bangladesh to see huge investment in 2011: Minister

UNB, Dhaka

Industries Minister Dilip Barua yesterday said Bangladesh would see huge investment in its industrial sector in 2011.

"There'll be huge investment in the industrial sector in 2011," Barua said at a meeting with the newly elected leaders of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) at his office.

The minister said an industry-friendly atmosphere created in the country over the last one year due to various steps taken by the government. "Investors both from home and abroad have shown their keen interest to invest in Bangladesh."

He said a research and development cell would be set up in his ministry to help local and foreign entrepreneurs.

Corporate governance to bolster capital market

British envoy tells DSE

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The practice of corporate governance within companies is necessary to accelerate the growth of Bangladesh's capital market, British high commissioner said yesterday.

The corporate governance practice at the stock exchanges is not sufficient for market growth, rather the practice is needed much within the companies, Stephen Nicolas Evans said.

He was speaking at a

meeting with the Dhaka Stock Exchange authorities while visiting the premier bourse.

He also said Bangladesh capital market can reflect well in its economy, according to a DSE statement.

The authorities concerned should emphasise establishing corporate governance to expedite the process of industrialisation in expanding business- and trade-related activities through raising long-term fund from the capital market, Evans said.

He said the capital market's responsibility is not only to encourage companies to get listed for a bigger market capitalisation, but to help them expand.

Evans said the country's capital market has advanced a lot and will have to carry on the pace with more transparency so it can contribute more to the national economy.

He said expatriate Bangladeshis in the UK are much interested to invest in their own country's capital market and the DSE can play

a significant role in drawing such investment.

The envoy also said Bangladesh should concentrate more on diversification of export products.

He also lauded the listing of Grameenphone, as it has helped expedite the market growth both in terms of market capitalisation and depth.

DSE President Rakibur Rahman, Senior Vice-president Saiful Islam and Vice-president Shakil Rizvi were present at the meeting, among others.

Laptop fair kicks off Wednesday

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

A three-day laptop fair will begin on Wednesday at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital.

Top brands such as HP, Compaq, Dell, Fujitsu, Hasee, Gigabyte, Asus, Lenovo, Toshiba, Acer, Great Wall, BenQ and Apple will be on display at the show styled 'Zoom Laptop Fair 2010'.

The fair will remain open from 10am to 8pm on Wednesday and Thursday and from 10am to 9pm on

Friday, said Sultan Mahmud, spokesman of the organiser, Maker Communication, at a press conference yesterday.

A total of 15 pavilions and five stalls will be at the show with an entry fee of Tk 20 each person.

A part of the money generated from ticket sales will be donated to the cold-hit people and another part will be used for education of the street children, Mahmud said.

He said around 3,000 laptops were sold at the last year's fair, and they hope

to sell more than 5,000 units this time.

The growth in sales is a sign of how laptops are gradually taking over desktop computers in Bangladesh, Mahmud added.

Mobile phone operator Citycell is the title sponsor of the exposition, while Acer, Asus, HP and Lenovo are the co-sponsors.

A raffle draw and a quiz will be held on the sidelines of the fair. Bdjobs.com is the online partner, Radio ABC is the radio partner and bdnews24.com is the news partner of the event.

Office of the Project Director
Nobigonj Gas Supply & Distribution Project
Jalalabad Gas Transmission and Distribution System Ltd.
 (A Company of Petrobangla)
Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet-3100, Bangladesh.

Ref. No : JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/ Date : 06/01/2010

Invitation for International Tender

বিনা প্রয়োজনে প্যাস তুলতে বাকি আর বিপদকে ডাকা একই বিষয়

Invitation Ref. No & Group No	Description of Materials	Price of Tender Document	Tender Security Amount
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/A Group No: A	Procurement of High Pressure Gas Linepipe.	BDT 5000.00 or US\$ 75.00	BDT 9,00,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/B Group No: B	Procurement of Tapes & Primer.	BDT 5000.00 or US\$ 75.00	BDT 4,00,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/C Group No: C	Procurement of Ball Valves, Glove Valves and Check Valves.	BDT 5000.00 or US\$ 75.00	BDT 4,50,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/D Group No: D	Procurement of Long Radius Bends, Weld Neck Flange, Blind Flange, Reducer, Tee, Elbow, End Cap, Stud Bolt & Nuts, Gasket and Weld-On-let, Thread-O-let.	BDT 5000.00 or US\$ 75.00	BDT 3,00,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/E Group No: E	Procurement of Insulating Joint, Screwed Valves, Socket, Plug, Nipple, Pressure Gauge, S.S. Tube Coupling, S.S. Tube, S.S Tee, S.S Elbow, Temperature Gauge and Thermo Wells.	BDT 4000.00 or US\$ 60.00	BDT 2,75,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/F Group No: F	Procurement of Filter Separator, Liquid Separator and Dry Gas Filter.	BDT 4000.00 or US\$ 60.00	BDT 2,50,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/G Group No: G	Procurement of Regulator, Slum-Shut off Valve, Relief Valve and Pilot.	BDT 5000.00 or US\$ 75.00	BDT 5,25,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/H Group No: H	Procurement of Odorizer unit and Odorant.	BDT 2000.00 or US\$ 30.00	BDT 75,000.00
JG/NGSDP/MAT/IFIT/2010/I Group No: I	Procurement of Diaphragm Meter, Rotary Meter, Turbine Meter with EVC and Meter Oil.	BDT 4000.00 or US\$ 60.00	BDT 1,75,000.00

Key Information
 05. Procurement Method : Open Tendering Method

Funding Information
 06. Source of Funds : GOB (Under Cash Foreign Exchange.)

Particular Information

07. Project Code	: 7420
08. Project Name	: Nobigonj Gas Supply & Distribution
09. Tender Publication Date	: 05 (Five) days from the date of Invitation of Tender.
10. Last date of Tender selling	: For Group A, B, C, D & E: 23-02-2010, During Office hours. For Group F, G, H & I: 28-02-2010, During Office hours.

Group No	Date	Time
Group A, Group B, Group C	24/02/2010	12.00 noon, BST
Group D, Group E	24/02/2010	3.00 PM, BST
Group F, Group G	01/03/2010	12.00 noon, BST
Group H, Group I	01/03/2010	3.00 PM, BST

Group No	Date	Time
Group A, Group B, Group C	24/02/2010	12.30 PM, BST
Group D, Group E	24/02/2010	3.30 PM, BST
Group F, Group G	01/03/2010	12.30 PM, BST
Group H, Group I	01/03/2010	3.30 PM, BST

13. Name and Address of the offices for :

(a) Selling Tender Document : a) Cash Counter, Finance Department, Jalalabad Gas Transmission & Distribution System Ltd., Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet-3100, Bangladesh.
b) Liaison Office, Jalalabad Gas Transmission & Distribution System Ltd., House No-74, Road No-6, Old DOHS, Banani, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
c) Accounts Division, Petrobangla, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.
d) Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company Ltd. (BAPEX), Shahjalal Tower, 80/A-B Siddeswari Circular Road, Malibagh, Dhaka-1217 Bangladesh.

(b) Receiving Tender Document : Committee Room, 4th floor, Jalalabad Gas Transmission & Distribution System Ltd., Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet-3100, Bangladesh.

Information for Tenderer

14. Eligibility of Tenderer : a) All bonafide Suppliers / Manufacturers & their authorized agent having Overseas Track Records/ Experiences of the similar supply of goods for at least 05 (Five) years. Related evidences must be submitted along with the bid (Detail Terms & Conditions given into the respective tender Schedule).
b) Purchase of tender schedule for local agent/local bidder must submitted their authorization of principle/manufacturer in their letter head pad.

15. Completion time of Delivery : 90 (Ninety) days from the date of receipt of letter of credit (L.C) for all Groups.

Procuring Entity Details:

16. Name & Designation of Official Inviting Tender	: Engr. Jashim Uddin Ahmed Project Director
17. Address of the Official Inviting Tender	: Project Director Nobigonj Gas Supply & Distribution Project Jalalabad Gas Transmission and Distribution System Limited Gas Bhaban, Mendibagh, Sylhet-3100, Bangladesh.
18. Contact Details of the Official Inviting Tender	: Telephone: +88-0821-711005 FAX : +88-0821-711005 email: jashim@bpe.com
19. Special Instruction	: a) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. b) This Tender Notice also available in Company web site: www.jalalabdgas.org.bd c) All the documents/papers Submitted by the bidders along with the bid shall have to be Sealed & Signed by the bidder otherwise the bid may be rejected.

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