



The Prime Minister's Adviser for Economic Affairs Mashiur Rahman, middle, speaks at a roundtable on 'Policy support to CSR in the context of Bangladesh business and economy' at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel yesterday. From right, President of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries Annisul Huq, Editor of The Financial Express Moazzem Hossain, President of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs Rokia Afzal Rahman, Professor of Economics in Dhaka University Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud, Executive Director of Manusher Jonno Foundation Shaheen Anam and Executive Director of Management and Resources Development Initiative Hasibur Rahman are also seen.

# Roundtable stresses guideline to get private sector in CSR funding

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
A set guideline is needed to woo the private sector for funding under Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR), noted economist Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud has said. "Generally the government tends to limit the scope for CSR funding. It should be specified and scope has to be widened, as many institutions now intend to provide more and more fund to help education, health and many other sectors," he told a roundtable in Dhaka yesterday.

The main objective of the roundtable was to identify problems across the country that hold back community development at grass-roots level, find solutions to those problems, and then motivate the corporate sector to channel their CSR funds into the actual act of resolving the problems. Prof Mahmud also emphasised ensuring a monitoring regime for CSR funding, as there is a risk to channel black money through CSR spending. He suggested validating political funding of the businesspeople saying that it would help bring transparency and democratic development

in the country. Dr Mashiur Rahman, adviser to the Prime Minister on economic affairs, Prof Mustafizur Rahman, executive director of Centre for Policy Dialogue, Annisul Huq, FBCCI's president, Anis-Ud-Dowla, president of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Rokia Afzal Rahman, BFWE's president, and Shaheen Anam, MJF's executive director, also spoke. Moazzem Hossain, editor of The Financial Express moderated the roundtable. Said Aminul Karim, member of the National Board of Revenue, said CSR practice is a culture and there is no much link with tax incentive. In this context, he pointed out that investments in some sectors, including children's health and education, are almost nil despite government's

announcement to allow incentives to these sectors for CSR activities since 2009. Annisul Huq said the corporate sector needs policy support so that the sector can enjoy tax rebate against their CSR expenses. Rasheda K Chowdhury, a former adviser to a caretaker government, said CSR can be defined as the responsibility of the corporate sector in making changes in socio-economic aspects. She suggested the government reduce bureaucratic tangles when private enterprises want to donate fund in CSR activities. Prof Mustafizur Rahman said CSR is considered an instrument for making business more committed towards social needs and national development through ethical, legal, social and commercial conduct.



Models pose at a fashion show, organised by Bangla Perfumes Distributors Limited at the launch of Italian D&G perfume in Dhaka on Friday. The company launched the perfumes of five fragrances all in 100ml bottles.

# Double cash incentive demanded for potato exports

## Cold storage association urges emergency meeting

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
Cold storage owners yesterday urged the government to double cash incentive for potato exports, which is now available for all vegetables and other agricultural products. In a statement, Bangladesh Cold Storage Association (BCSA), an association of owners, demanded an increase in the incentive to 20 percent

from the existing 10 percent. The association also urged the agriculture ministry to call an emergency meeting to help meet their demands. Potato output in this season is expected to hover around one crore tonnes, helped by reduced prices of potato seeds, fertiliser and pesticides and the favourable weather, the owners said in a statement. But inadequate facilities

for preservation and distribution are the main hurdles to potato business. The costs of potato production have increased from Tk 10 to Tk 12 per kg, but the prices of the item per maund have dipped to Tk 200 from Tk 400 in the absence of proper preservation and distribution. The government should encourage people to include potato in their daily food menu and set up at least four

potato flakes plants immediately, the association demanded. The BCSA urged the government to make it mandatory to sell five kilograms of potato with every 10 kilograms of rice under the OMS system. Cold storage owners also demanded that the government introduce a 20 percent rebate on electricity bills and withdraw 5 percent value-added taxes on cold stores.

# BCI denounces hike in power tariff

**STAR BUSINESS DESK**  
Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI) has strongly denounced the government's move to raise power tariff. "Government has failed to supply electricity at optimum level. Commodity prices are on the rise and we also face acute gas crisis. In this situation, none will appreciate any tariff hike now," BCI President Shahedul Islam Helal said after a meeting of the trade body yesterday. Narayanganj industrial area faced around 15 hours of load-shedding in 36 times in January, he said, adding: "The condition obviously will be more painful this month."

"The tariff rise will be justified if we get pre-defined load-shedding." BCI also demanded a price cut of diesel and furnace oil, used for generating electricity. BCI Directors Abul Kalam Bhuyian, Zia Hyder Mithu, Abul Kalam Azad and Noorullah John were also present in the meeting.

# Scrap iron traders stage protest in Ctg

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong**  
Traders of scrap iron and other materials that are produced in ship-breaking yards brought out a procession in Chittagong yesterday protesting a policy for scrap vessel import. Thousands of protesters took part in the procession under the banner of Scrap Vessel-Related Businessmen-Workers-Employees' Oikya Parishad, a joint platform. Earlier, following a 10-day suspension of work, the Sitakunda ship-breaking yard in Chittagong returned to normalcy on Wednesday. Ship-breaking workers suspended work on February 20 to protest the new import policy that made it mandatory for ship importers to submit pre-cleaning certificates before any ship enters the country's maritime territory.



Ariel Miranda, managing director of SGS Bangladesh Limited, hands over the certificate for PAS220:2008 Publicly Available Specifications to Jatinder Middha, director (manufacturing) of Nestle BD, at a ceremony at Gulshan in Dhaka recently.

# Hope for Digital Bangladesh rings louder as fair ends

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
There has been a vast change in government mindset as the digitisation process it initiated has helped make its services public. The observation came from Dr Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, an eminent writer, while he spoke at the concluding ceremony of the three-day Digital Innovation Fair 2010 in the capital yesterday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the fair on Thursday, which was jointly organised by UNDP-funded Access to Information Programme unit of the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Science and Information Technology. "After observing that many accounts of government activities are present on the web, the feeling I got is that the government is not an institution far away from us," Iqbal said. The fair was a juxtaposition of government initiatives to digitise the country in line with its electoral pledge of Digital Bangladesh and to showcase the government progress and services on the web portal. Different ministries and departments took part in the fair through 112 stalls at

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo Theatre in Dhaka. "At first Digital Bangladesh was a slogan, but the slogan is now transforming into action," said the eminent writer, giving a cautious note that access to electricity has to be expanded to make the initiative more meaningful. Finance Minister AMA Muhith was present at the concluding event as chief guest, while Prime Minister's Adviser for Power Energy and Mineral Resources Towfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and State Minister for Science and ICT Yeafesh Osman were present as special guests. Echoing Dr Iqbal's view, Muhith said, "The notion that the government activities are secret has begun changing on digitisation process". He said now people could know about duties and functions of government entities through websites. Taking the development of the last one year into consideration, it could be said very easily that the dream of digital Bangladesh is not away, he told the function. Cabinet Secretary M Abdul Aziz and Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Abdul Karim also spoke at the function.



A child uses a laptop with a headphone at the three-day Digital Innovation Fair 2010 that ended in the capital yesterday. The fair was a juxtaposition of government initiatives to digitise the country in line with its electoral pledge of Digital Bangladesh and to showcase the government progress and services on the web.

**Women's Shopping Festival of Bangla New Year**  
**The Women's Fest**  
An Exclusive Exhibition on Anything & Everything for The Women  
Date: 11-14 April 2010  
Venue: Dhaka Sheraton Hotel  
01191616803, 01191616805, 01191616806

**SUNCO**  
Solar Irrigation pump  
Presents  
**AgriTECH**  
Bangladesh  
International Exhibition on Agriculture, Horticulture, Dairy, Poultry, Live Stock and Agriculture Products & Technology Trade Show of Bangladesh.  
Date: 4-6 April 2010  
Venue: Dhaka Sheraton Hotel  
Organized by: ExpoNet Exhibition (Pvt) Ltd.

**Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Chief Engineer  
Headquarter, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229

## Tender Notice

1.	Name of work	Re-construction of Apron at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (S:H- Re-construction of damaged slab Passenger Apron Bay No. 02-front side) at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka.			
2.	Source of fund	CAAB self finance.			
3.	Tender package No.	CD-1=96/2009-10			
4.	Invitation for tenders Ref. and date	CAAB/W-471/Part-31 (ka)/851 Dated 20/12/2009.			
5.	Estimated cost	Tk. 71,02,042/00			
6.	Eligibility of tenderers	CAAB enlisted "A" class and above civil contractor.			
7.	Name & address of the offices selling the tender document	a) Accountant, Civil Circle, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka. b) Accountant, Civil Division-1, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka. c) PA to Member (Ops. & Plan), CAAB, HQ, Dhaka. d) PA to Chief Engineer, CAAB, HQ, Dhaka. e) PA to Director, ZIA, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka. f) Cash Section, Headquarter, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.			
8.	Name and address of the office receiving tenders	Chief Engineer, HQ, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.			
9.	Name and address of the office opening tender	Chief Engineer, HQ, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.			
10.	Last date and time for selling tender document	25-03-2010 up to 12:00 hours.			
11.	Last date of tender submission	28-03-2010 up to 12:00 hours.			
12.	Date and time for opening of tender	28-03-2010 at 12:30 hours.			
13.	Special instruction	a) If communication is disrupted on the date of receiving and opening the tender, tenders will be received on the next working day. Other terms and conditions will remain unchanged. b) The tender will be summarily rejected if the quoted rate is more than 5% above or below the estimated cost. c) If the two or more tenderers quote the same lowest rate. The award winner shall be decided by a lottery.			
14.	Brief description of goods and services (works and services)				
Lot Number	Identification of lot	Location	Price of tender document in Taka	Tender security amount in Taka	Time for completion in weeks/months
96	Re-construction of Apron at Hazrat Shahjalal (R) International Airport (S:H- Re - construction of damaged slab Passenger Apron Bay No. 02-front side) at Hazrat Shahjalal (R) International Airport, Kurmitola, Dhaka	Passenger Apron at ZIA	Tk. 1000/- (one thousand) non-refundable)	Tk. 1,85,000/- (one lac eighty-five thousand) only (refundable) to be furnished in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay-Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Superintendent Engineer, Civil Circle, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka	90 (ninety) days
15.	Special conditions	The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.			

CAAB/PR-88/2010/232  
Date: 01-03-2010  
GD-1018

Md. Shahidul Afroz  
For-Chief Engineer  
Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh