

Banks not strong enough to fund mega projects

Prime Bank MD points to PPP for big financing

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh's banks are yet to be strong enough to finance big infrastructure projects, said a top banker yesterday.

"Banks can fund Tk 1,000 crore or Tk 2,000 crore project, but not a \$2 billion (Tk 14,000 crore) project," M Ehsanul Haque, managing director of Prime Bank, told a press conference marking the bank's decade-long experience in loan syndications at Hotel Purbani yesterday.

He however said it is not possible for the local banks to finance those mega projects alone, government's participation is a must in this regard.

"Banks and government together can undertake big infrastructure projects," Haque said, suggesting the government set mechanism in this regard.

The chief executive officer of the leading private bank also pointed to the public-private partnership (PPP), which could encourage banks to fund such projects.

He briefed the media how the bank since its inception in 1995 has become the leader in financing loans under syndication, once fully dominated by the foreign banks operating here.

Syndicated loan business, based on the mechanism of sharing both risk and return, and pooling of



M Ehsanul Haque, managing director of Prime Bank, speaks at a press conference marking the bank's decade-long experience in loan syndications at Hotel Purbani in Dhaka yesterday.

resources and expertise, add depth and breadth to financial markets in various ways.

The bank established a syndications and structured finance unit in March 1999 aiming to give a boost to its activities in industrial term lending in the country.

Prime Bank has so far raised Tk 1,150 crore as a lead arranger to bring 21 projects under syndicated loan transactions. Almost all the projects the bank has arranged funds for have either duly adjusted bank liabilities or are operating profitably, according to a statement of the bank.

Bangladesh is now poised to achieve rapid industrialisation and economic growth, Haque said.

"We believe that loan syndication has a great role to play in supporting initia-

1.8 lakh new taxpayers last year: Muhith

BSS, Sangsad Bhaban

Finance Minister AMA Muhith said yesterday nearly 1.8 lakh new income taxpayers were registered last year.

In response to queries made by a treasury bench lawmaker in parliament, he said the government has taken several steps to strengthen the tax base by identifying new taxpayers through a survey.

Muhith said the government has also moved to integrate submitting tax returns, making tax payments and providing tax related information through the electronic system.

Besides, trainings were organised for tax officials to raise their skills, he said, adding that tax inspection activities were further geared to investigate irregularities in paying tax.

Muhith said measures were taken to modernise the tax-counselling centre to serve taxpayers on legal issues.

The government collected Tk 13,858.09 crore as income taxes in 2008-09, while the amount fixed for current fiscal year was Tk 16,560 crore, he added.



From left, Ahmed Hossain, chairman of Bangladesh Jute Spinners Association, James Blewett, general manager of Katalyst, and Najmul Huq, chairman of Bangladesh Jute Mills Association, hold the paper of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) after signing it on March 11 in Dhaka. The MoU aims at development of skills and upgrade of machineries in Jute mills.

Stocks end up despite volatility

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Dhaka stocks rose amid volatility in prices -- especially of telecom shares. The major indices ended higher despite price fluctuations, mostly caused by Grameenphone shares, said Argus Research, an independent research division of Race Asset Management.

Each share of Grameenphone, the lone player in the telecom sector, traded between Tk 337 and Tk 348.90, before closing at Tk 338.40 -- showing a 0.99 percent loss.

The benchmark index of Dhaka

Stock Exchange, DSE General Index, increased 14.14 points, or 0.25 percent, to 5,562.37. The broader DSE All Share Price Index rose 11.99 points, or 0.26 percent, to 4,559.31.

Banks led the gain in the indices with NCC Bank advancing 6.27 percent, Pubali Bank 2.93 percent and City Bank 2.77 percent.

As most of the sector shares rose, advancers beat losers 171 to 69 with three securities remaining unchanged.

A total of 4,39,54,402 shares worth Tk 1,012.29 crore traded on the premier bourse.

Beximco Limited topped the turn-

over leaders on the DSE with 20,58,700 shares worth Tk 80.57 being traded.

Chittagong stocks posted a slight rise yesterday. The CSE Selective Categories Index increased 7.25, or 0.06 percent, to 10,532.02. The CSE All Share Price Index gained 14.45 points, or 0.08 percent, to 16,092.78.

A total of 63,62,629 shares worth Tk 90.81 changed hands on Chittagong Stock Exchange. Of the traded issues, 110 advanced, 47 declined and 10 unchanged.

Beximco Limited topped the turnover leaders on the CSE also with 2,47,300 shares worth Tk 9.67 being traded.

SME sector seeks reduced duty on raw materials import

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Foundation is set to finalise a series of budget proposals, including reduced duty on raw materials import.

The foundation yesterday organised a discussion with several SME trade bodies and discussed proposals from different sectors, ahead of the national budget for 2010-11.

Leaders of Bangladesh Engineering Industries Owners' Association (BEIOA) and Bangladesh Electrical Merchandise Manufacturers Association (BEMMA) demanded that the government take measures to safeguard local industries.

Abdur Razzaque, president of BEIOA, said the government should streamline tax and VAT, which often sets back the growth of the sector.

"To this effect, the government should lower import duty on basic raw materials. At the same time, all small and medium enterprises are burdened with excessive VAT that have charged in several steps."

"When an entrepreneur imports basic raw materials, the customs department slaps 15 percent VAT on that. One has to pay supplementary duties. And finally, after production, we have to pay VAT on finished products," said Razzaque.

Speakers urged the government to ensure a balance by reducing duty on the import of raw materials by SMEs, fixing the rate at a 3 percent tariff slab and increasing duty on the import of finished products, including capacitors and welding machines.

The import duty on basic raw materials should be decreased from 12 percent to 5 percent for calcium carbonate and from 25 percent to 5 percent for dolomite powder, they suggested. Alternatively, duties on capacitors should increase from 12 percent to 15 percent, they added.

The government should encourage the SME manufacturing sector to alleviate poverty by generating employment.

Syed Rezwanul Kabir, managing director of SMEF, and Absar Karim Chowdhury, president of BEMMA, also spoke.

Trust Bank stands beside freedom fighters

UNB, Sherpur

The Trust Bank has given lifetime allowances to the families of 34 martyred and war-wounded freedom fighters of Sherpur, as part of the bank's corporate social responsibility (CSR).

The monthly allowance has been set at Tk 1,200 for each family, while they have also been given a lump sum of Tk 7,500.

The bank handed over cheques to the families at a ceremony on Surjadya High School premises in Sherpur Sadar upazila yesterday. Bangladesh Bank Governor Atiur Rahman was present as chief guest and handed over the cheques on the occasion.

The allowance receivers are the wives of 18 martyred freedom fighters, two mothers, eight children and six wounded freedom fighters.



A deal was signed between Jay Jay Mills (Bangladesh) Private Ltd and Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority in Dhaka on Sunday. Md Moyjuddin Ahmed, member (investment promotion) of Bepza, and M Balasubramaniam, chairman of Jay Jay Mills, signed the deal that allows setting up of a garment manufacturing industry in Chittagong EPZ.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Director
Chittagong Medical College Hospital

Memo No. CMCH/2010/1052 Date: 15/03/2010

Invitation for Tenders (IFT)

Invitation for Bids (IFT) for procurement of MSR goods (Medical & Surgical Equipments) from GOB fund (2009-2010, MSR equipments Code 6813) through NCB method.

KEY INFORMATION

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. Agency	Chittagong Medical College Hospital.
3. Procuring entity	Director.
4. Procuring entity district	Chittagong.
5. Invitation for	Procurement of Medical & Surgical Equipments.
6. Tender Ref No & date	Memo No. CMCH/2010/1052 Date: 15/03/2010.
7. Procurement method	Open tender method.
8. Budget and source of funds	GOB (Depends on prior approval of the ministry).
9. Tender package no	MSR: 6813 (2009-2010).
10. Price of tender document	Tk. 1500/- (one thousand five hundred) only non-refundable.
11. Tender publication date	18/03/2010.
12. Tender last selling date	11/04/2010 during office hour.
13. Tender dropping & closing date and time	13/04/2010 at 12.00 noon.
14. Tender opening date and time	13/04/2010 at 1.00pm.
15. Name & address of the offices	
a) Selling tender documents	1. Cashier, Office of the Director, Chittagong Medical College Hospital. 2. Cashier, Office of the Civil Surgeon, Chittagong. 3. Cashier, Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong Division, Chittagong.
b) Receiving tender documents	1. Office of the Director, Chittagong Medical College Hospital. 2. Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong Division, Chittagong. 3. Officer In-charge, Panchlaish Thana (CMP), Chittagong.
c) Opening tender documents	1. Office of the Director, Chittagong Medical College Hospital.
16. The conditions and regulations	In MSR tender Booklet (2009-2010).
17. Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	(Office of the Director, Chittagong Medical College Hospital) 11.00 am 10/04/2010

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

18. Eligibility of tenderers	All tenderers regardless of whether open & as per qualification mentioned in the tender documents terms & conditions. The tenderer shall submit with its tender the following additional documents: a) Purchase receipt of tender document (original) b) Status of the tenderer as a manufacturer/local agent/reseller/ supplier in firm's letter pad. c) The tenderer must provide manufacturer authorization letter (Where applicable). d) List of major supplies of similar type of goods conducted within the last five years as on the date of the month preceding the bid opening date. e) Certificates of satisfactory completion of supply of similar goods within last 3 (three) years. f) Tenderer must submit audited financial statement for last 3 (three) days. g) Trade license valid for 2009-2010. h) Registration of firm/certificate of incorporation (in case of limited company). i) VAT registration certificates. j) Income tax clearance certificate for the year 2008-2009. k) Bank solvency certificate (sanctioned credit line facilities) at least 50 lacs and bank statement from July/2009-December/2009. l) Tenderer having office establishment with skilled manpower (list with mentioning areas of specialty) must be submitted with tender. m) Tenderer must supply soft copy (CD) in MS Word of specifications and technical offer with hard copy.
19. Brief description of goods (detail description in tender schedule)	MSR Procurement of Medical & Surgical Equipments 6813 Code SI No. Name of items 1) Cardiac Monitor (Multi) 2) Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Equipments/Instruments 3) ECG Machine (3 Channel) 4) EP/EMG Machine 5) ERCP Equipments 6) Electric Craniotomy Machine 7) Electric Bone Cutting Systems for Orthopedics 8) Gynecare Thermochoice with accessories (Silicon balloon) 9) Halter Monitor 10) ICU Ventilator 11) OT (Urology) Table 12) Ultrasound Therapy (UST) 13) Olympus Microscope 14) Partial Body Therapy System-PUVA Therapy UV 5040 KL 15) Vital Sign Monitor 16) Laryngoscope 17) Pulse Oximeter.
20. Tender security	TK 4,50,000/- (four lac fifty thousand) only refundable.
21. Name of official inviting tenders	Brig Gen Md Jahangir Hossain Mollik.
22. Designation of official inviting tenders	Director.
23. Address of official inviting tenders	Office of the Director, Chittagong Medical College Hospital.
24. Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone-031-630179, Fax-031-610022

Corrigendum if necessary in future will be a part of this notice. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject in part or whole of any of all tenders.

Note: If the date of selling, receiving & opening of tender is disturbed under any unavoidable circumstances, the next working day will be applicable for the same respectively.

Brig Gen Md Jahangir Hossain Mollik
Director
Chittagong Medical College Hospital

GD-1368

International Exhibition on Agriculture, Horticulture, Dairy, Poultry, Live Stock and Agriculture Products & Technology Trade Show of Bangladesh.

Visit **4-6 April 2010 Dhaka Sheraton Hotel**

Organized by: **ExpoNet Exhibition (Pvt) Ltd.** 01713176422

www.exponetbd.com

RAHIMAFROOZ SOLAR Presents **AgriTECH Bangladesh**

ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LIMITED
(An enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Ashuganj, B. Baria-3402, Bangladesh

Memo No. APSCL/Pro-01/2010/327 date: 20/03/2010

"Invitation For International Tender"

01. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Power Division
02. Agency	Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.
03. Procuring Entity	Deputy General Manager (Maintenance)
04. Procuring Entity District	Brahman Baria, Bangladesh
05. Invitation for	Supply of Position Transducer for Circulating Water Pump Inlet Vane Actuator for unit 3,4 & 5 of APSCL.
06. Invitation Ref No	Memo No. APSCL/Pro-1/2010/327
07. Date	20/03/2010
08. Procurement Method	Open International Tendering Method.
09. Source of Funds	APSCL'S Own Fund.
10. Tender Publication Date	20/03/2010
11. Tender Last Selling Date	04/05/2010 during office hour
12. Tender Closing Date and Time	05/05/2010 at 12.00 BST
13. Tender Opening Date and Time	05/05/2010 at 12.15 BST
14. Name & Address of the Offices	
a. Selling Tender Documents.	(i) Director(Purchase), Bangladesh Power Development Board, WAPDA Bhavan (9 th floor), Motijheel C/A, Dhaka. (ii) Manager (Finance), APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria.
b. Receiving & Opening Tender Documents	Office of the Manager (Procurement), APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria
15. Eligibility of Tenderer	Renowned Supplier having experience of supply as specified in the Tender Document.
16.	

Sl. No	Name of Item	Price of Tender Documents	Amount of Tender Security	Completion time
a.	Supply of Position Transducer for Circulating Water Pump Inlet Vane Actuator for unit 3,4 & 5 of APSCL.	Non refundable Tk. 800/- In favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited in the form of Pay Order / Bank Draft from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh	US\$ 350.00 or BDT 24,500.00 In favour of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited in the form of Pay Order / Bank Draft/ Bank Guarantee from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh.	90 days from the date of L/C opening
17.	Name of official Inviting Tender	A M M Sazzadur Rahman		
18.	Designation of official Inviting Tender	Manager (Procurement)		
19.	Address of official Inviting Tender	Ashuganj Power Station Co. Ltd. Ashuganj, B-Baria, Bangladesh.		
20.	Contract details of official Inviting Tender	Tel : 0088 08528 74033 Fax :0088 08528 74044, E-mail:procurement@apscl.com , Website : www.apscl.com		
21.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders			

(A.M.M Sazzadur Rahman)
Manager (Procurement)
APSCL, Ashuganj, B-Baria