MRDI organises workshop on CSR in Thailand

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Businesses are more sustainable when they prioritise people and society, and sustainable business initiatives have innovated new ideas to address the needs of people aiming to build a caring society, MRDI said in a statement yesterday.

Experts presented this view at a weeklong capacity building workshop on corporate social responsibility held at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand, jointly organised by the Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI), Bangladesh Bank and AIT.

The Bangladesh delegation lead by Farid Uddin Ahmed, dean of social sciences faculty of Dhaka University, included professors of Dhaka University, officials of Bangladesh Bank, Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management and MRDI.

The workshop participants also visited the Standard Chartered village in the Mekong province to see a sustainable CSR intervention.

The workshop was facilitated by Alex Mavro, professor of the Sasin Institute of Business Administration of Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and Dennis Walker, a management and sustainability consultant.



Participants pose during a weeklong capacity building workshop organised by the Management and Resources Development Initiative, Bangladesh Bank and the Asian Institute of Technology, in Thailand recently.

The workshop presented the ISIS methodology of business sustainability that stands for indicators, systems, innovation and strategy and highlighted global trends and practices in sustainability.

Business that creates values for the stakeholders sustain in the long run, said Jonathon also spoke.

Shaw, executive director of AIT-Extension, at the certificate awarding ceremony. "A programme or business designed in a constructive manner sustains, whereas an extractive design necessarily collapses," he said.

Hasibur Rahman, executive director of MRDI,



Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director of Eastern Bank, launches the EBL Zero Instalment Program (ZIP) for its credit cardholders at a ceremony in Dhaka on Tuesday. M Nazeem A Choudhury, consumer banking head, was also present. ZIP is a non-interest bearing equal instalment plan that allows credit cardholders to convert retail purchase transactions at designated outlets into instalment schemes ranging from three months to 24 months.

Oil drilling to begin in Kailashtila gas field in July

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Oil drilling of Kailashtila well 7 at Golapganj in Sylhet is set to begin on July 15 with rig installation expected to finish in two weeks.

Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and commissioning of the drilling rig, said Project Director Harun Ur Rashid Molla.

Bapex's drilling work may finish in three months at a cost of Tk 220 crore, said Molla, who is also the deputy general manager of the state-run Sylhet Gas Fields Ltd.

"Since it is targeted as an oil well, about 500 barrels of oil would be produced every day. Otherwise it will produce 25 mmcfd gas

everyday. On the basis of seismic surveys, we are optimistic about getting oil here."

The new field has a reserve of 109 million barrels of oil out of recoverable 44 million barrels of oil and 658 billion cubic feet of gas.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the Company (Bapex) would do the testing foundation of the field on September 17 last year and the drilling was supposed to start in December the same year.

It will be the second oil well after the Haripur gas field in Sylhet, he said. Haripur field dried up in 1994.

In 2011-12, Bapex carried out 3D surveys and found oil and gas reserves below the gas structures in Kailashtila, Haripur and Rashidpur.

Alibaba ties up with China's state postal service

AFP, Shanghai

...... E-commerce giant Alibaba said Thursday it would develop a logistics network with China's dominant state postal carrier, the latest in a series of deals before a planned US listing.

The firm operates China's most popular online shopping platform, Taobao, which is estimated to hold more than 90 percent of the online market for consumer-toconsumer transactions. But the company has identified delivery problems as a bottleneck for its business.

It said in a statement that it will develop a "smart" logistics network with China Post through a strategic cooperation deal, integrating more than 100,000 post offices into its own system.

The two will also collaborate on ecommerce, finance and information security, it said, but gave no details.

Taobao sellers have traditionally relied on privately run courier companies to deliver tens of millions of packages daily, rather than the vast yet often inefficient government postal service.

Last year, Alibaba established its own logistics network called Cainiao with partners including Shanghaibased private conglomerate Fosun Group and leading domestic courier companies.

Alibaba said last month it will buy a 10.35 percent stake in Singapore Post -- the city-state's main postal service -- for \$249 million and explore a joint venture in the global logistics business.

Facebook expands users' ad targeting profiles with website data

REUTERS, San Francisco

Facebook Inc is expanding the internal user profiles that underpin its targeted advertising system, for the first time including personal information based on activities that did not occur within the boundaries of its social network.

While Facebook has long maintained internal profiles of users based on the comments they make and the posts that they "like" within its social network, the company will now flesh out those profiles with information based on some of the external websites and mobile apps its members use, a move that could further inflame concerns about how it treats personal privacy.

The enhanced profiles will allow marketers to deliver more relevant ads, Facebook said in a blog post announcing the change on Thursday. If a Facebook user researches a new television on an external website or inside of a mobile app, their profile might now indicate an interest in televisions and in electronics, making it easier for advertisers pitching electronic devices to reach that user on Facebook.

Facebook already has access to much of this information through tools that it uses to measure the performance of its ads as well as through "plug-ins" that integrate Facebook features on third-party websites, but the company has not until now incorporated the data into its users' ad targeting profiles.

Tofail pushes for return of GSP

FROM PAGE B1

The minister also spoke on the strengthening of government agencies, appointment of inspectors, assessment of fire and building safety, adoption of National Occupational Safety and Health Policy, and launching Better Work Programme.

He also talked about the establishment of hotlines and reviewing of the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority Act. "Due to extensive safety measures the industry has not witnessed any accident since the Rana Plaza incident," Ahmed said.

The government has also increased the minimum wage for garment workers by 219 percent in the last four years, he said.

The government has waived duties on imports of all fire safety equipment which will encourage the owners to install fire-fighting measures cost effectively, Ahmed said.

Ahmed rebuffed the alleged reports of harassment and intimidation of the labour leaders in some garment factories. Ambassador Froman thanked Bangladesh for signing the Trade and Investment Cooperation Forum Agreement.

Froman acknowledged the progress Bangladesh has already made to improve labour rights and factory safety in the garment industry.

Catherine A Novelli, US under-secretary of state for economic growth, energy and environment, said the umbrella programme for GSP is yet to be renewed and once renewed there may be opportunities for Bangladesh.

The remaining issues under the GSP action plan need to be addressed by Bangladesh in the meantime, Novelli said. Nisha Desai Biswal, US assistant secretary of state for

South and Central Asian affairs, also spoke.



SOLIDARIDAD NETWORK ASIA Selim Reza Hasan, country manager of Solidaridad Network Asia, and Shyamal Das, director of MU Sea Foods Ltd, attend the signing of a deal at a programme yesterday to increase shrimp export.



Time

Place of

Document, Date & time

Receiving Tender

AAM Zakaria, managing director of First Security Islami Bank, attends the launch of school banking services at Keshobpur Pilot School and College in Jessore recently. Md Asaduzzaman, principal of the school, was also present.



Faruq M Ahmed, additional managing director of City Bank, and Mohammad Ferdousur Rahman, executive director of Prodipon, sign a deal at a programme recently to make banking services available to poor and working children.



Mashiur Rahman, economic affairs adviser to the prime minister, attends the launch of Tsuneishi Alliance Solutions Ltd, a joint venture company of Tsuneishi Kamtecs Corp of Japan, Alliance Holdings Ltd and NewVision Solutions Ltd, at a programme recently. Shiro Sadoshima, Japanese ambassador, was also present.



Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, state minister for home affairs; Dato Hamdan, managing director of IRISH Corporation Barhat, and Asif Mahmud, director of Computer Source, attend the signing of a deal among Bangladesh government, IRISH Barhat, GTI of UAE and Computer Source on Wednesday to provide machine readable passport service to the Bangladeshis currently living in UAE.



Pubali Bank Chairman Hafiz Ahmed Mazumder opens a branch of the bank at Hetimganj in Syhlet recently. Managing Director Helal Ahmed Chowdhury was also present.



ii) Superintending Engineer, Grid Circle, Biddyut Bhaban (1st floor) Agrabad, Chittagong. iii) Company Secretary, IEB New Bhaban (4th floor), Ramna, Dhaka. iv) Executive Engineer, GMD, Chittagong (South), Madunaghat, Hathazari, Chittagong.

The bidder shall have to apply in letter head pad and show documents (Up-to-date Trade License, Income Tax clearance and VAT Registration Certificate) for prior permission from the relevant office head for purchasing the tender document. Tenderer shall meet the following requirements along with the other Eligibility of minimum requirements stated in the TDS (Tender Data Sheet): Tenderers

> experience in the supply of goods and related services. ii) The satisfactory completion of supply of similar goods of minimum Tk. 1 (One) crore under maximum 1 (One) contract in the last 5 (five) years as on the date of opening of tender.

iii) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is Tk. 1 (One) crore. iv) Average annual turnover shall be at least Tk. 60 (sixty) lac within the last (03 (three) years. Audited balance sheet of the last three years

v) Up-to-date Trade license, Income Tax clearance and VAT

i) The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 5 (five) years of overall

Registration Certificate. Tender last 03 July 2014 selling Date & i) Chief Engineer, Transmission-1, Biddyut Bhaban (3rd floor), 1 no.

> ii) Superintending Engineer, Grid Circle, Biddyut Bhaban (1st floor) Agrabad, Chittagong. iii) Executive Engineer, GMD, Chittagong (South), Madunaghat, Hathazari, Chittagong.

06 July 2014 up to 12.00 noon. Place of Tender Executive Engineer, GMD, Chittagong (South), Madunaghat, Hathazari, Chittagong. opening, Date & 10 July 2014 at 10.00 am.

shall have to be submitted with the tender.

Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000.

The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annual the Tender proceedings. Engr. Chiranjib Dewanjee Executive Engineer (Add. Charge)

GMD, Chittagong (South).