

# Hard money, soft standards? Tough questions for China's new bank

AFP, Beijing

China scored a diplomatic coup by enticing almost 50 countries including key US allies to join its new development bank.

But analysts say authoritarian Beijing now faces a daunting task managing a multilateral institution for the first time, with members ranging from the Netherlands to Nepal.

By Tuesday's deadline to seek founding membership of the \$50 billion Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) a total of 49 countries and Taiwan had applied, the finance ministry and governments said.

They include four of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, 18 out of 34 members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and all 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Conspicuous by their absence are the United States and Japan.

China already has leading roles in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation that links it with Russia and Central Asian countries, and the BRICS group of emerging economies -- which also comprises Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa.

But the AIIB "is on a whole different level", said Christopher Balding, of Peking University's HSBC Business School. "This is a lot more money, this is countries that have a lot more influence and expect to be taken a lot more seriously."

The signatories include countries closely tied to China such as Kazakhstan and Myanmar, but also some of Washington's biggest allies -- Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Australia.

With democratic and market systems they will have strong views on issues such as the environment, human rights, corruption and efficient lending.

China has basked in the enthusiastic acceptance of its invitations despite US opposition, but the victory could end up a case of "be careful of what you wish for", Balding added.

"The more countries like this that you bring on board, the tougher it's going to be for you to control and the more input those people are very reasonably going to expect to have," he told AFP.

The Global Times newspaper, affiliated with the ruling Communist Party mouthpiece People's Daily, acknowledged as much on Wednesday, saying in an editorial: "The more countries and regions join, the harder it will be for us to achieve a consensus in the future."



A man carries a package as he walks along a street at a Central Business District in Beijing.

Reports said a key part of Beijing's appeal was a willingness to give up veto power over the bank's decisions -- which it said it was not seeking.

ANZ economists said the AIIB could offer "a new approach for Asia's infrastructure financing", with "more transparent and well-developed practice and policies from advanced economies".

But there are enduring concerns over the openness of a bank helmed by China -- which is led by an authoritarian Communist Party embroiled in endemic corruption -- and whether Beijing will want to use it to push its own geopolitical and economic interests as a rising great power.

Asia will need vast transport, power and telecommunications networks in coming decades, costing far more than existing multilateral lenders such as the US-led World Bank and the Japan-led Asian Development Bank (ADB) are considered able to deliver. An ADB study once estimated infrastructure spending demand at \$8 trillion between 2010 and 2020.

Under President Xi Jinping China, the world's second-largest economy, is pushing to build on the ancient Silk Road trade routes on land and sea, a "One Belt, One Road" initiative expected to

be part-funded by the AIIB. "Beijing is clearly pursuing economic statecraft in a big way, centring its foreign policy on the strategy of what I've called 'Talk softer and carry a large purse', said Damien Ma, an expert at The Paulson Institute in Washington.

The approach is built around a "grandiose vision of recreating the old Silk Road trading routes to further integrate Eurasia economically", he said in an email. "All the newly formed entities, AIIB, Silk Road Fund, BRICS Bank etc, should be viewed as vehicles that will support this ambitious endeavour in one form or another."

China insists it has no ulterior or selfish motives. "The AIIB is a mutually beneficial initiative and is a beneficial complement to the existing international economic order," vice finance minister Shi Yaobin said in a statement, promising it will be built "in an open, transparent and highly-efficient manner."

The AIIB could erode the role of the World Bank and the ADB. The US and Japan have so far refused to apply, with Tokyo's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga saying it remains "dubious" about governance.

# Maruti expects FY16 car sales to grow more than 5-6pc

REUTERS, New Delhi

Maruti Suzuki Ltd, India's top selling car maker, expects car sales to grow at a faster pace than the forecast of 5-6 percent growth for the industry in the fiscal year that started on April 1, a company executive told Reuters.

Maruti Suzuki, which sells about one in every two cars in India, reported its best-ever annual sales in the year to end-March but is yet to see a strong recovery in the

passenger car market, executive director, RS Kalsi, said on Wednesday.

Sales growth in the 2014/2015 fiscal year was mainly helped by new product launches, an expansion of its dealer network and discounts, Kalsi said.

Maruti Suzuki sold 1.29 million passenger vehicles in the fiscal year ended March 31 - a 12 percent increase from a year ago and higher than its previous peak of 1.27 million in the year 2010/2011.

# Amazon launches button for instant product ordering

REUTERS

Online retailer Amazon.com Inc has launched a hardware that allows its Prime members to order a product by pushing a button.

The 'Dash button', which is connected with the Amazon app through Wi-Fi, is brand specific and the company has tied up with household names such as Tide, Huggies and Gillette.

The 'Dash button' comes with an adhe-

sive and a hook and can be hung or hooked anywhere in the home.

The offer, limited to three Dash buttons per customer, is only open to members who receive an email from the company with an invitation to receive a free Dash Button.

Reuters had reported in September that Amazon would boost staffing at its secretive Silicon Valley-based hardware unit as it tests Internet-connected "smart" home gadgets.



M Ghaziul Haque, chairman of Eastern Bank, and Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director, attend the bank's 23rd annual general meeting at Unique Trade Centre in Dhaka on Tuesday. The bank declared 20 percent cash dividends for 2014.

**Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute**  
Development and Dissemination of Pearl Culture Technology Project  
Mymensingh-2201, Bangladesh

Memo No. 33.04.0000.136.04.007.13-302 Date: 28/03/2015

### Request for Expressions of Interest (3rd Call)

Ministry/Division	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Bangladesh.	
Agency	Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Mymensingh.	
Procuring entity	Director General.	
Expression of interest for selection of	An International Pearl Culture Specialist; Package No. SD1.	
Duration	12 months.	
REol Memo No.	Memo No. 33.04.0000.136.04.007.13-302.	
Date	28/03/2015.	
Procurement sub method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS).	
Budget and source of funds	Development Budget and GoB.	
Development partners	N/A.	
Project/programme code	5-4405-5012	
Project/programme name	Development and Dissemination of Pearl Culture Technology Project.	
Eol closing date and time	14/05/2015 and Time: 05.00pm.	
Information for applicant		

Outline of the assignment and required qualifications & experiences [Details provided in the Standard Request for Application (SRFA)].

Position	Outline of the assignment	Qualification & experience
An International Pearl Culture Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The specialist will initiate pearl culture using the selected native species and provide training to counterparts in the whole process of mussel surgery for pearl culture.</li> <li>The specialist will initiate propagation of selected mussels for pearl culture.</li> <li>The specialist will develop research programs relevant for mussel propagation, mussel culture and pearl production in Bangladesh.</li> <li>The specialist will provide progress reports and final report during consulting period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The pearl culture specialist must have at least MS or equivalent degree in Fisheries/Aquaculture/Marine science with minimum 10 years working experience abroad on pearl culture and breeding.</li> <li>Must be capable enough to produce quality pearl in our native mussels.</li> <li>Must have experience in image pearl production, colour development of pearls etc.</li> <li>Must have international publication along the line.</li> </ul>

**Other Details:**  
Applicants are requested to provide information as per the format provided in Standard Request for application (SRFA) indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (complete CV in prescribed form with other details as applicable). SRFA may be obtained from the websites: [fri.portal.gov.bd](http://fri.portal.gov.bd) or [www.mof.gov.bd](http://www.mof.gov.bd) or from the address below either through email or in person from the office of the undersigned. The applicants shall submit supporting documents in favor of their experience and qualifications along with the SRFA. The services of the specialist will commence immediately after appointment and shall be completed by June 2017 as described in RFA.

**The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Eol(s) without assigning any reason thereof.**

**Procurement Entity Details**

Name of official inviting Eol	Md. Harunor Rashid.
Designation of official inviting Eol	Project Director.
Address of official inviting Eol	Development and Dissemination of Pearl Culture Technology Project, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Mymensingh-2201, Bangladesh.
Contact details of official inviting Eol	Tel: +88-091 62953; Fax: +88-091 62952; Cell: +88-01711 003368 Email: harunor_rashid21@yahoo.com Skype: harun.bfri

**Md. Harunor Rashid**  
Project Director

GD-1200

**বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড**  
প্রধান কার্যালয়  
১৭১-১৭২, বায়েজিদ বোস্তামী রোড  
নাসিরাবাদ, চট্টগ্রাম

### কতিপয় সংস্কার/নির্মাণ কাজের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির সংশোধনী

দি ডেইলি স্টার পত্রিকায় গত ২৪/০৩/২০১৫ তারিখে প্রকাশিত উপরে বর্ণিত কাজের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের তারিখ ভুলবশত ২৫/০৩/২০১৫ তারিখ হতে ০৭/০৩/২০১৫ তারিখ ছাপা হয়েছে, যা প্রকৃতপক্ষে ২৫/০৩/২০১৫ তারিখ হতে ০৭/০৪/২০১৫ তারিখ হবে। দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ০৮/০৩/২০১৫ তারিখ ছাপা হয়েছে, যা প্রকৃতপক্ষে ০৮/০৪/২০১৫ তারিখ হবে।

সচিব  
বাংলাদেশ চা বোর্ড

জিডি-১১৮৪

**বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড**  
**Bangladesh Power Development Board**  
Office of the Director of Purchase, BPDB  
WAPDA Building, 9th Floor  
Motijheel C/A, Dhaka  
Tel: 9550532, Fax: 880-2-7126151

বিদ্যুৎ সান্ত্রী বাতি ব্যবহার করুন

Memo No. Pur-309/2015/2791 Date: 29.03.2015

### Addendum-01

**Subject: Amendment of BPDB's International Tender Enquiry No. Pur-309/2015, date 10-02-2015 for Procurement of Hardware for Major Inspection Work of GT Unit No. 8 & 9 of Shahjibazar Power Station, BPDB Hobiganj.**

The subject tender is amended as follows:-

Sl No.	Tender enquiry No. & date	Description	Existing	Amended as
01	Pur-309/2015 dated 10-02-2015	Tender last selling date (Tender Notice SI No. 17)	01-04-2015	08-04-2015
		Tender closing & opening date (Tender Notice SI No. 18 & 19)	02-04-2015	09-04-2015

All other terms and conditions of tender shall remain unchanged.

**Md. Abu Yousuf**  
ID No. 1-0679  
Director  
Biddiut/Jana-963(4)/29/3/15 Directorate of Purchase  
GD-1166 BPDB, Dhaka

**Biman Bangladesh Airlines**  
HEAD OFFICE, BALAKA, KURMITOLA, DHAKA-1229, BANGLADESH, PHONE-8901600-14, 8901680-94, FAX: 88-02-8901558, www.biman-airlines.com

Ref: DACPM/777-300ER/157/2015/1485 Date: 31 March 2015

### Request for Proposal (RFP) for Dry Lease of one 777-300ER Aircraft

- Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd. invites offers/proposals for Dry Lease of 01 (one) 777-300ER aircraft for a period of 60 (sixty) months. Airlines, Operators, Owners of Aircraft, Manufacturers, Leasing Companies having aircraft of its own or legally authorized by the owner to submit the offer, may participate in the RFP complying with the terms & conditions stated in the RFP schedule. Basic requirements are mentioned below:

Particulars	Requirement
i. Number and Type of Aircraft	01 (one) 777-300ER aircraft.
ii. Nature & Period of Lease	Dry Lease for 60 (sixty) months.
iii. Configuration	Two class configuration not less than 419 seats. All seats shall have to be in good condition.
iv. Age of the Aircraft	Not more than 12 years as on 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2015
v. Authorization	If the lessor is not the owner of the aircraft, owner's authorization/mandate must be submitted prior to negotiation.
vi. Commencement of Lease	July-December 2015

- Detailed terms and conditions have been given in the RFP schedule. RFP notice and schedule may be viewed in Biman's web-site: [www.biman-airlines.com](http://www.biman-airlines.com)
- The Offers/Proposals are to be submitted latest by **1000 hours LT (0400 hrs UTC) on 22 April 2015** addressed to General Manager (Corporate Planning), Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd., Head Office, Balaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh through E-mail at [dacpm157@bdbiman.com](mailto:dacpm157@bdbiman.com). Proposals/offers may also be submitted through courier service or dropped in the Tender Box placed in the office of General Manager (Corporate Planning), Biman Head Office, Balaka, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229. No offer/proposal will be accepted after the closing time and date.
- For further information or query, General Manager (Corporate Planning) may be contacted at Telephone: +880-2-8901600/Extension-2415, +880-2-8901697 (direct), Fax: +880-2-8901396, E-mail: [gmp@bdbiman.com](mailto:gmp@bdbiman.com) during the office hours.
- Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the offers/proposals partly or wholly without assigning any reason whatsoever and no claim shall be entertained in this regard.

**Mohd. Abdur Rahman Faruky**  
General Manager Corporate Planning (Acting)

GD-1201

**Biman Bangladesh Airlines**  
HEAD OFFICE, BALAKA, KURMITOLA, DHAKA-1229, BANGLADESH, PHONE-8901600-14, 8901680-94, FAX: 88-02-8901558, www.biman-airlines.com

Ref: DACPM/777-200ER/158/2015/1486 Date: 31 March 2015

### Request for Proposal (RFP) for Dry Lease of one 777-200ER Aircraft

- Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd. invites offers/proposals for Dry Lease of 01 (one) 777-200ER aircraft for a period of 60 (sixty) months. Airlines, Operators, Owners of Aircraft, Manufacturers, Leasing Companies having aircraft of its own or legally authorized by the owner to submit the offer, may participate in the RFP complying with the terms & conditions stated in the RFP schedule. Basic requirements are mentioned below:

Particulars	Requirement
i. Number and Type of Aircraft	01 (one) 777-200ER aircraft powered by PW4090 engine.
ii. Nature & Period of Lease	Dry Lease for 60 (sixty) months.
iii. Configuration	Two class standard configuration not less than 319 seats. All seats shall have to be in good condition.
iv. Age of the Aircraft	Not more than 12 years as on 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2015
v. Authorization	If the Lessor is not the owner of the aircraft, owner's authorization/mandate must be submitted prior to negotiation.
vi. Commencement of Lease	July-December 2015

- Detailed terms and conditions have been given in the RFP schedule. RFP notice and schedule may be viewed in Biman's web-site: [www.biman-airlines.com](http://www.biman-airlines.com)
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- Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the offers/proposals partly or wholly without assigning any reason whatsoever and no claim shall be entertained in this regard.

**Mohd. Abdur Rahman Faruky**  
General Manager Corporate Planning (Acting)

GD-1202