

Toyota City: symbol of Japan's auto rise



An ultra-compact electric vehicle is charging at a Ha:mio (Harmonious Mobility Network) RIDE station in front of Toyota City hall, Aichi prefecture.

AFP, Toyota City, Japan

Toyota City stands as a testament to the meteoric rise of its namesake, now the world's biggest carmaker with record profits and sales of more than 10 million cars globally last year.

But this sprawling city of 422,000 people, just east of the industrial centre Nagoya, was once a struggling textiles town called Koromo whose inhabitants depended on silk production to make a living.

Times got tough for the little community as the sector began to decline from the end of World War I, and it was further shaken by the 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake, which took 140,000 lives across the country, as well as the Great Depression six years later.

By 1933, as Japan focused on bolstering its

domestic industries and imperial ambitions, Kiichiro Toyoda decided to build automobiles with the same pioneering spirit as his father Sakichi, who invented the automatic loom.

But where could he build a factory big enough to roll out cars? A string of communities were interested. In a stroke of fate, Koromo got the nod for its cheap land and nearby transit links -- and the enthusiasm of the town's then mayor who faced off with sceptical local landowners.

"At that time, people didn't really believe in the auto industry but he (the mayor) had the right intuition," a municipal official told AFP, adding that the sector was "crucial for the city's prosperity".

And on August 28, 1937, "Toyota Jidoshha Kogyo" (Toyota Automotive Industry) was born

with a 495,000-square-metre (5.3-million-square-foot) factory big enough for 5,000 workers opened the following year.

While the Corolla and Prius hybrid maker now has plants in every corner of the globe, Toyota City still has a total of 10 factories building cars and parts in the city proper and surrounding area.

There are about 70,000 local people working for Toyota in the area, many whose parents or grandparents also relied on the giant company for a pay cheque, with about 40 percent of local employees working in the auto sector.

So it seemed appropriate that, in 1959, the town changed its name to Toyota-Shi, or Toyota City in English, although that was a controversial move at the time -- and the current mayor says his community is about more than just one industry.

"It is true that this is the city of the car -- the name speaks for itself -- but that isn't everything," says Toshihiko Ota.

"We are the leading producer of rice in Aichi prefecture and we also grow grapes and pears. Toyota City has many faces, which is sometimes masked by cars."

But the reality is, despite efforts to diversify the local economy, it is still heavily dependent on Toyota and local suppliers, with the company's subsidiaries also involved in real estate, tourism, and insurance.

"When Toyota coughs, the whole city catches a cold" is a common phrase, a point underlined during the 2008 financial crisis that saw Toyota lay off thousands of temporary employees, while tax revenue from the company temporarily dipped.

"The atmosphere was morose, it depressed the entire region," the mayor says.

Still, the city avoided the fate of another auto city, Detroit, whose declining fortunes saw it declare bankruptcy two years ago.

And with the recovery came a renewed optimism for Toyota City, beefed up by municipal projects including new schools and hospitals... sponsored by Toyota.



Shafquat Hossain, head of retail products and segments at Standard Chartered Bank, and Choon Soo Moon, country manager of Samsung Mobile Bangladesh, attend the signing of a deal at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently. The bank's Visa and MasterCard credit cardholders can purchase Samsung Galaxy S6 smartphone on 12 equal monthly instalments at zero percent interest and get 10 percent cash back.



Md Mahfuzur Rahman, head of card division at National Bank, and Sayedul Islam Bhuiyan, head of sales and marketing at Grand Sultan Tea Resort and Golf, exchange a deal signed at the bank's office in Dhaka recently. The bank's platinum and gold cardholders will enjoy special discounts on rooms and dining at the hotel.



Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed, chairman of Standard Bank, and Md Nazmus Salehin, managing director, attend the 16th annual general meeting of the bank at Police Convention Hall in Eskaton, Dhaka on Thursday. The bank announced 15 percent stock dividends for 2014.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of Head of Institute
Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre, Khulna
e-mail: ttc@khulnashipyard.com; website: ksyttc.org

Invitation for Tenders

Ref No. KSYTTC/STEP/Tender/(GD-04)/2015/185 Date: 13-05-2015

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education.
2	Agency	Directorate of Technical Education.
3	Procuring entity name	Capt. M. Zakirul Islam, (E), psc, BN Head of Institute, Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre, Khulna.
4	Procuring entity district	Khulna.
5	Invitation for	Tender, Goods.
6	Invitation Ref. No.	KSYTTC/STEP/Tender/(GD-04)/2015/185.
7	Date	13-05-2015.

KEY INFORMATION

8	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
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FUNDING INFORMATION

9	Budget and source of funds	International Development Association (IDA).
10	Development partners	IDA (World Bank).

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11	Project/programme code	5-2551-5030.
12	Project/programme name	Skills and Training Enhancement Project (STEP), DTE.
13	Tender package No.	KM/GD-17.
14	Tender package name	Welding M/C & Gas Cutting set with all Accessories.
15	Tender last selling date	03/06/2015 up to 4:00pm.
16	Tender closing date and time	04/06/2015; 2:00pm.
17	Tender opening date and time	04/06/2015; 2:30pm.
18	Name & address of the office(s)	
18.1	- Selling tender document	Office of the Institute, Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre, Khulna.
18.2	- Receiving & opening tender document	Office of the Institute, Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre, Khulna.
19	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Office of the Institute, Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre, Khulna, 24-05-2015 at 11:00am.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

20	Eligibility of tenderer	(a) The tenderers should be the manufacturers/distributors/sole agents of related "Welding M/C & Gas cutting set with all accessories" having authorisation from the manufacturer. (b) Shall have a minimum of 03 (three) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. (c) Shall have experience of satisfactory completion of supply of "Welding M/C & Gas cutting set with all accessories" BDT 10 lac (for KSYTTC/GD-04), under a single contract in the last 5 (five) years. (d) Others (as mentioned in the tender document).
21	Brief description of goods	Welding M/C & Gas cutting set with all accessories.
22	Brief description of related services	Fitting, Fixing, Assemble and Install of Welding M/C & Gas Cutting.
23	Price of tender document	Tk 500/- (five hundred) only non-refundable.

Package No.	Identification of package	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time after contract signing (weeks)
KSYTTC/GD-04	Welding M/C & Gas Cutting set with all accessories	Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre, Khulna	25,000/-	06 (six)

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

25-28	Name, designation, address and contact details of official inviting tender	Capt. M. Zakirul Islam, (E), psc, BN Head of Institute address: Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre, Khulna. Telephone: 041-720003 Ext-296 Fax No. 041-720404, Mob No. 01718-627048, e-mail address: ttc@khulnashipyard.com , website: ksyttc.org
29	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

Capt. M. Zakirul Islam, (E), psc, BN
Head of Institute
Khulna Shipyard Technical Training Centre
Khulna

GD-1798

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Special Security Force
Prime Minister's Office
Tejgaon, Dhaka

Invitation for Open Tender

1.	Ministry/Division	Prime Minister's Office.
2.	Agency	Special Security Force.
3.	Procurement entity name	Deputy Director (P&P), SSF.
4.	Source of funds	Revenue of GOB of Financial Year 2014-15.
5.	Tender package No.	661/1/P&P-174
6.	Tender name	Procurement of Bullet Proof Screen with all Standard Accessories.

7. Brief description of works

Ser	Description of the items	Lot	Quantity	Price of tender document	Earnest money
a.	Procurement of Bullet Proof Screen with all Standard Accessories (details are in the schedule)	01	01 pc	2,000.00	Tk.1,34,000.00

8.	Time of work	June 2015
9.	Eligibility of tenderers	Must be principal dealer/supplier having min 05 years of experience of these kinds of supply/maintenance.
10.	Amount of tender security	Earnest money (refundable) in the form of Pay Order or Bank Draft or Irrecoverable Bank Guarantee in the name of DG SSF.
11.	Name and address of the office(s) selling tenders document	Deputy Director (P&P), Room No. 146, ICC Block, Special Security Force, Prime Minister's Office, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215. Phone: 88-02-9112082, Fax: 88-02-9143406.
12.	Name and address of the office(s) receiving tenders	Gate No. 4, Prime Minister's Office, Nakhla Para (Near Old MP Hostel), Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
13.	Name and address of the office(s) opening tenders	Deputy Director (P&P), Room No. 146, ICC Block, Special Security Force, Prime Minister's Office, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
14.	Last date and time for selling tender document	31 May 2015 up to 12:00hrs.
15.	Last date and time for submission of tender	01 June 2015, 11:00 hours local time. Tenderers and authorized representatives are allowed to attend. Tender will be opened at 1115 hours on the same date.
16.	Special instruction	a. All other instructions are described in the tender documents. b. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject whole or part of any tender/offer.

Tanbir Ahmed
Deputy Director (P&P)
For Director General

GD-1806

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pirojpur
Phone No. 0461-62576/Fax-0461-63599

Memo No. 1112 Dated: 12/05/2015

Quotation (2nd Call)

1	Employer	Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division.
2	Procuring entity	Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pirojpur.
3	Lease quotation notice No.	07-PRD/2014-2015.
4	Name of work & location	Toll Collection of Khacha Ferry Ghat at 53rd km of Barisal-Jhalakathi-Bhandaria-Pirojpur Road under Pirojpur Road Division during the year 2015-2016.
5	Earnest money	10% of the quoted amount in favour of Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pirojpur in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft from any schedule bank of Bangladesh Bank. (NB: No Bank Guarantee will be allowed).
6	Time allowed for the lease	Up to {1 (one) year or 365 days} from the date of issuing work order.
7	Last date and time of selling quotations	01-06-2015 up to office hours.
8	Date and time of receiving (sealed) quotations	02-06-2015 up to 12-30pm.
9	Date, time and place of opening (sealed) quotations	02-06-2015 at 3-30pm.
10	Name of offices for availability of quotations	Divisional Commissioner, Barisal/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pirojpur/Barisal/Jhalakathi/Bhola/Planning Division-1, (P & D) Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division Pirojpur/Kawkhali.
11	Name of offices to receive the sealed quotations	Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Barisal/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pirojpur.
12	Place of opening quotations	Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Pirojpur.
13	Eligibility of quotationer	Enlisted contractor of all government/semi-government/non-government/autonomous/experienced lease holder and solvent citizens of Bangladesh who are eligible as per condition of quotation.
14	Price of quotation documents	Tk. 3000/- (three thousand) per set (non-refundable).
15	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.	

Md. Fazle Rabbe
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Pirojpur

GD-1799