

# MIT students lend hand to local talents

## STAR BUSINESS REPORT

A group of current students and alumni of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have formed a platform to help students in Bangladesh transform their innovative ideas into business enterprises which will spur social development.

Kolpokoushol, the initiative, aims to encourage its participants to acquire a variety of skills, and employ those skills towards solving local and community specific problems.

Its ideas have been derived from the unique environment and creativity nurtured at the world's one of the top universities.

"The platform is engaging with the young minds of the country to inspire, develop and deploy new ideas and possibilities," said Nazmus Saquib, founder and director of Kolpokoushol.

"Our students can't turn their ideas into enterprises due to lack of knowledge, information, infrastructure and finance," Saquib said.

"Our aim is to provide them with proper guidance so that they can turn their innovative ideas into business enterprises," said Saquib, who is doing his PhD in social computing at MIT.

The opportunity is open to students who have a strong background and interest in the fields of engineering and sciences at the undergraduate level.

"Students from business, fine arts,



**Bitopi Das Chowdhury, head of corporate affairs at Standard Chartered Bangladesh, and Saif Kamal, founder of Toru, attend a press meet at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka yesterday. They announced an initiative--Kolpokoushol--by Massachusetts Institute of Technology students and alumni to engage with the young minds of Bangladesh to develop and deploy new ideas.**

young professionals and college and school students can apply too, as long as they are able to excel the application," said Saquib at a media briefing at Sonargaon Hotel in the capital.

The initiative comprises a six-day workshop for students from undergraduate level and includes a three-day learning on interactive problem solving, rapid idea generation, hardware prototyping, automated human emotion analysis, automated

speech sentiment analysis, virtual and augmented reality, mechanical design technique, data visualisation and analysis tools and technical product management.

At present, 60 students from different universities are participation in the first workshop under the initiative.

The workshop is being held at two venues located in Dhamondi -- the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) campus and the EMK Centre.

They are also partners of the event.

The participants working in groups will share their projects or products on Wednesday.

The programme is facilitated by Toru -- the idea tree, an innovation hub of Bangladesh -- that supports the transformation of innovations to social enterprises.

Standard Chartered Bangladesh is the major sponsor of the event and Microsoft is the technology associate.

"I hope the initiative would be a step forward for the youth in terms of skill building and complementing the mainstream academic education and driving the youth towards the global knowledge pool," said Bitopi Das Chowdhury, head of corporate affairs of Standard Chartered Bangladesh.

Saif Kamal, founder of Toru, said: "To make successful enterprises of the future we need to bridge the knowledge gap prevailing in the country."

"Our association with Kolpokoushol is the beginning of this journey to equip the youth to build better sustainable solutions for greater social inclusion."

The selected projects and products will receive all sorts of support so that they can become commercially viable, according to Kamal.

Kolpokoushol plans to arrange at least one workshop annually and take the event outside of Dhaka.

Amara Technology, Renata and BD Apps are part of the initiative.



**Md Shoaib Chowdhury, vice president of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, poses with the members of the 18th batch of a diploma course on modular learning system in supply chain management, at the DCCI Business Institute on Friday. AHM Rezaul Kabir, secretary general of DCCI, was also present.**



**ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড**  
**DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD.**  
(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

### Invitation for International Tender

1 Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resource / Power Division.
2 Agency	Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC)
3 Procuring Entity Name	Project Director, Prepayment Metering Project for "Design, Supply, Installation, Interfacing with existing Pre-Payment System, Testing & Commissioning of Pre Payment Metering System at NOCS Satmasjid, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar & Mugdaphara Divisions on Turn Key basis."
4 Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
5 Invitation for	Design, Supply, Installation, Interfacing with existing Pre-Payment System, Testing & Commissioning of Pre Payment Metering System at NOCS Satmasjid, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar & Mugdaphara Divisions on Turn Key basis.
6 Invitation Ref. no. & Date	DPDC/SE/PD/PPMS for 3 NOCS/2015/525, date 23.07.2015

#### Key Information:

7 Procuring Method	ICB Single Stage : Two Envelope Method.
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#### Funding Information

8 Budget & source of Funds	DPDC Fund.
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#### Particular Information:

9 Pre-Bid Meeting	A pre-bid meeting will be held on 11/08/2015, 11.00 AM in the office of the Chief Engineer (Development), House # 47 (1st floor), Road # 135, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212						
10 Tender Name	Design, Supply, Installation, Interfacing with existing Pre-Payment System, Testing & Commissioning of Pre Payment Metering System at NOCS Satmasjid, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar & Mugdaphara Divisions on Turn Key basis.						
11 Last Selling Date of Tender, with Bid Submission and Bid Opening Date & Time	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Last Selling Date</th> <th>Bid Submission Deadline with Date &amp; Time</th> <th>Bid Opening Date &amp; Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>13/09/2015</td> <td>14/09/2015 12:00 noon</td> <td>14/09/2015 03:00 PM</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Last Selling Date	Bid Submission Deadline with Date & Time	Bid Opening Date & Time	13/09/2015	14/09/2015 12:00 noon	14/09/2015 03:00 PM
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12 Name & Address of the office for selling, receiving and opening of Tender Document	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Selling</th> <th>Receiving</th> <th>Opening</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>           a) Chief Engineer (Development), House # 47 (1st floor), Road # 135, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212            b) Chief Engineer (North), House no-73/1, Rd 5/A, Dhamondi, Dhaka            c) Chief Engineer (Central), 12/1/B, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000         </td> <td>           i. Office of the Chief Engineer (Development), House # 47 (1st floor), Road # 135, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212            ii. Chief Engineer (North), House no-73/1, Rd 5/A, Dhamondi, Dhaka         </td> <td>Office of the Chief Engineer (Development), House # 47 (1st floor), Road # 135, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Selling	Receiving	Opening	a) Chief Engineer (Development), House # 47 (1st floor), Road # 135, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212 b) Chief Engineer (North), House no-73/1, Rd 5/A, Dhamondi, Dhaka c) Chief Engineer (Central), 12/1/B, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000	i. Office of the Chief Engineer (Development), House # 47 (1st floor), Road # 135, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212 ii. Chief Engineer (North), House no-73/1, Rd 5/A, Dhamondi, Dhaka	Office of the Chief Engineer (Development), House # 47 (1st floor), Road # 135, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212
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#### Information for Tenderer:

13 Eligibility of Tenderer	<b>General Experience:</b> a) The minimum general experience of the Tenderer/ Manufacturer in the network building, database oriented software, Hardware & Software integrated and interfaced software making of at least 02 nos. in operation or in supply and installation of pre-payment electric metering system in utility services within last 5 (Five) calendar years... b) The tenderer/ manufacturer shall have local establishment or local representative having proper establishment in Bangladesh for providing instant services as and when required.
14 Price of Tender Document (Taka)	As stated in Serial No. 15. The amount for purchasing tender document shall be payable in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft and the amount for tender security shall be payable in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee whose validity shall remain valid for at least twenty eight (28) days beyond the expiry date of the Tender Validity from the date of bid submission which is issued from any schedule Bank in Bangladesh in favor of Project Director for "Design, Supply, Installation, Interfacing with existing Pre-Payment System, Testing & Commissioning of Pre Payment Metering System at NOCS Satmasjid, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar & Mugdaphara Divisions on Turn Key basis."
15 Particulars of Tender:	<b>Description of Work</b> Design, Supply, Installation, Interfacing with existing Pre-Payment System, Testing & Commissioning of Pre Payment Metering System at NOCS Satmasjid, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar & Mugdaphara Divisions on Turn Key basis.
	<b>Price of Tender Document</b> US\$ 100.00 or BDT 8,000.00
	<b>Tender Security Money</b> USD 3,50,000 (United States Dollar Three Lac Fifty Thousand Only) or BDT 2,80,00,000 ( Tk. Two Crore Eighty Lac Only).
	<b>Time for completion of Project</b> 18 months from date of contract signing.

#### Procuring Entity Details:

16 Name of official Inviting Tender	A. H. M. Mohiuddin
17 Designation of official Inviting Tender	Project Director for Prepaid Metering System
18 Address of official Inviting Tender	Bidyut Bhawan (Level 12), I Abdul Gani Road, DPDC, Dhaka-1000.
19 Contact Details of official Inviting Tender	Telephone: 01730335182 Fax: 9566699 E-mail: mohiuddin@dpdc.org.bd
20 The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.	Engr. A H M Mohiuddin, Executive Engineer, & Project Director, Prepaid Metering System

# Power generation to go up by 12,853MW in five years

FROM PAGE B1

Vietnam generates 34,000MW of electricity and has plans to increase it to 72,000MW over the next five years, Kamal said.

"Though it seems impossible they are likely to make it happen," the minister said, adding that if Vietnam can achieve their target, so should Bangladesh.

To achieve the target, the specific timeframe for commissioning the power plants have to be met.

"Often we take good plans but those remain unimplemented," said MA Mannan, state minister for finance and planning.

Courageous leadership is required to implement the plans, which is a challenge, he said.

To implement the plans for the energy sector, the government should urgently finalise and adopt the long-pending National Energy Policy, or alternatively develop an energy master plan, Kamal said.

The master plan should address the policies for gas allocation and domestic gas exploration, domestic coal utilisation, energy import, improved cooking stove and energy subsidy pricing, according to the draft.

The plan said the challenges in the energy sector are enormous and much of these relate to policy and institutional reform. These are tough reforms and a strong political will is necessary, especially regarding the adoption of domestic coal policy.

Yet the importance of timely implementation of these reforms cannot be overstated, it said.

The successful implementation and efficient power generation strategy is critically dependent on the implementation of these reforms tied to primary energy.

In addition to a strong political will and leadership, improvements are also needed in the technical and negotiation capacity of the ministry and associate energy agencies, it said.

# Bad loans cut into banks' profits in 2014

FROM PAGE B1

However, the risk was with the concentration of deposits with few banks, as 51.7 percent of the deposits were with just ten banks.

The report said this concentration is expected to be reduced gradually as nine new banks will try to collect deposits from the market.

The report revealed that the capacity of the BB-formed Deposit Insurance Trust Fund has been increased to Tk 363.6 crore, enough to reimburse the deposit claims of 26 banks. The fund is expected to reach over Tk 1,000 crore in 2019.

The report also analysed the risks of the banks.

Credit risk appears to be the most significant with 85.7 percent of the total Risk Weighted Assets of the banking system. The risk was mostly from on-balance sheet items.

The report said stress testing results revealed that the individual banks and the banking system, as a whole, are resilient enough to different levels of stress scenarios.

It said banks are resilient for more than five business days with severe liquidity stresses.

On non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs), the stability report found that their asset quality improved in 2014.

Classified loans and leases dropped 30 basis points to 5.3 percent. On the other

hand, CAR has increased 290 basis points to 21.2 percent. Stress test results revealed that 23 of the 31 NBFIs were resilient in 2014.

As the size of the MFIs is relatively smaller compared to the banking sector, it does not pose any immediate threat to the stability of the financial system.

Asset size of the MFIs is only 5 percent of the banking sector. Besides, MFIs have much lower NPLs -- 4.18 percent -- compared to that of the banking industry.

On the capital and foreign exchange markets, the report said these areas remain stable now despite some volatility last year.

Chowdhury also spoke on the BB programmes that have been taken to strengthen the capacity of the banks and NBFIs.

The BB has decided to start the implementation of Basel III framework from 2015, aiming to strengthen the capital base of the banking sector and enhance risk resilience as well.

He said the central bank has also taken an initiative to develop a 'Coordinated Supervision Framework' involving all other financial regulators to avoid contradictions and unnecessary duplications.

Ali Reza Iftekhar, chairman of Association of Bankers, Bangladesh and chief executive of Eastern Bank, and Selim RF Hussain, chief executive of IDLC Finance, spoke on behalf of banks and NBFIs respectively at the programme.

### Stocks break 9-day rally on selling pressure

FROM PAGE B1

Turnover, another important indicator of the market, also fell 7.3 percent to Tk 754.90 crore on transactions of 17.71 crore shares and mutual fund units.

Of the traded issues, 118 advanced and 159 declined with 41 securities closing unchanged on the premier bourse.

Lafarge Surma Cement dominated the turnover chart with 47.93 lakh shares worth Tk 61.09 crore changing hands, followed by Khulna Power Company, ACI, Shahibazar Power Company and Grameenphone.

Among the major sectors, textiles gained 1.62 percent in