

B2B event for Bangladeshi IT professionals in Tokyo



BANGLADESH EMBASSY IN TOKYO

Bangladeshi IT professionals meet with Japanese professionals at a business-to-business event organised by BASIS and the Embassy of Bangladesh in Tokyo, Japan.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bangladeshi IT professionals have recently met with their Japanese counterparts at a business-to-business event organised by Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS) and the Embassy of Bangladesh in Tokyo.

Bangladeshi IT Professionals in Japan supported the event: Bangladesh-Japan IT B2B

Meeting, the embassy said in a statement.

Thirteen Bangladeshi IT firms displayed their products and services at the event where at least 25 Japanese tech firms, including NTT Data, Fast Retailing and Qualcomm, took part.

Along with establishment of valuable business contacts, some successful business deals were also struck at the event, according to the statement.

"The event is a showcase of the fact that

Bangladeshi IT companies are actively exploring Japan as a potential niche market to establish IT as the next big sector in the land of the rising sun," the Bangladeshi embassy said.

"On the other hand, it is clearly evident that Japanese companies now have a real interest to explore the untapped potential of the booming IT industry in Bangladesh and they are really meaning business."

Japanese companies will receive full cooperation from the Bangladesh government, Masud Bin Momen, Bangladesh's ambassador to Japan, said at the event.

The ambassador welcomed the delegation of BASIS and Japanese IT companies and highlighted the importance of public-private partnership in fostering trade and investment.

Shameem Ahsan, BASIS president, recalled the contribution of Japan in the development of Bangladesh and invited the Japanese companies to invest and enjoy the business-friendly incentives offered by the present government.

To move ahead with the success of the event and to materialise the achievements, the Bangladesh embassy will work on to follow up and will help in making further contacts, according to the statement.

Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) proposed to arrange a visit by Japanese IT delegation to Bangladesh next year possibly during an IT event in Dhaka, the embassy said.

The group of IT professionals is planning to have a seminar about the Japanese market and its potential in Dhaka in collaboration with BASIS. Takashi Suzuki, JETRO senior director, also spoke.



RUPALI BANK

Atiur Rahman, governor of Bangladesh Bank, presents the first-place award to Debasish Chakrabarty, deputy managing director of Rupali Bank, at the school banking conference held in Rangpur.

Salaries under new pay scale from January: Muhith

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Asked if the arrears will be paid at the same time, he said it depends on the accounts officer of the concerned agency, department or ministry.

If they can prepare the bill by fixing the salary by that time, the payment and the arrears will be given together. Otherwise, it may take some time to pay the arrears.

Qatar offers global sale on advance bookings

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Qatar Airways has launched a global promotion titled "Don't just dream it, plan it" to encourage early bookings by offering up to special discounts on airfares.

Customers can avail discounts of up to 35 percent on all-inclusive economy and business class return airfares to a variety of destinations across Europe, the Middle East, Indian Sub-Continent, Asia Pacific, Africa and the Americas, the airline said in a statement yesterday.

The tickets should be purchased in between November 2 to November 6 this year and the bookings will be valid for outbound travel commencing between January 15 and June 30, 2016.

"The Qatar Airways Global Sale is the best opportunity for travellers to explore a new destination with their families," said Ihab Sorial, Qatar Airways' vice-president for Indian Sub-Continent.

Asian Banking Summit kicks off in Dhaka

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Globally adaptive practices are essential to strengthening the existing risk management systems in the banking sector, speakers said at a banking summit that kicked off in Dhaka yesterday.

The two-day Asian Banking Summit, a platform for national and international banking experts, will focus on topics ranging from risk management to trade finance, compliance, and IT security.

Nimai Management Consultants, a UAE-based financial services firm, organised the event at Le Meridien hotel.

Analysing regional economic trends, banking security in IT, and compliance issues mainly featured in the discussions on the first day, according to a statement.

Nisarg Dugad, managing partner of Nimai Management Consultants; Meera Sanyal, former CEO of Royal Bank of Scotland, India; and MA Rumea Ali, chief executive of Bangladesh International

Arbitration Centre, took part in a discussion on regional economic trends.

"Bangladesh has articulated a clear and far-reaching vision for 2021. The summit offers a unique platform for stakeholders in the banking and financial services industry to discuss, learn from each other and map out a plan that will fuel the success of national goals," Sanyal said.

The summit's focus on risk management is appropriate and timely given the global macroeconomic instability and market volatility, she said. Ali said: "I am sure the summit will add to the knowledge and data bank that can be used to drive the changes required for a more robust financial system, which we all aim for, to protect the present and build a better future."

SK Sur Chowdhury, deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank, was the guest of honour at the event, while Salman F Rahman, chairman of IFIC Bank, and Abdur Rouf, vice chairman of Mutual Trust Bank, were special guests.

New acting MD for Grameen Bank



Ratan Kumar Nag

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Ratan Kumar Nag has recently been appointed as the acting managing director of Grameen Bank, the micro-lender said in a statement yesterday.

Prior to the promotion, Nag has been serving the organisation as deputy managing director, according to the statement.

Nag joined Grameen Bank as a field manager in 1983 and has since served the organisation in various capacities. He also worked with Cashpor Malaysia, a microcredit organisation, on behalf of Grameen Bank from 1997 until 1999, Grameen Bank said.

HC stays case on Heidelberg Cement scam

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The three accused were directors of the cement company, now known as Heidelberg Cement, according to a probe report after the 1996 scam.

Although Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission directed them to step down from the posts, they continued to stay as directors in the company, whose prices crossed Tk 18,000 per share in 1996 against a book value of Tk 134.

One of the directors of the company transferred a large number of shares in the July-November period of 1996 to one of his relatives, which were then sold off in the market, the probe report said, without mentioning any name.

The BSEC had also inquired about the sales of shares by the company to outsiders (Indian and Iranian nationals) by bypassing the DSE and Chittagong Stock Exchange.

There was no satisfactory reply from the company, which is also a defendant of the case.

During the period, some shares were sold by foreign investors and there were some price-sensitive announcements, which made the prices peak, the committee found.

These clearly indicate an act of manipulation and the dealings come within mischief under a section of the Securities and Exchange Ordinance, the report said.

China seeks railway electrification deal in Bangladesh

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"We are interested because we specialise in electrification of railways," said the top executive of a leading company specialising in power equipment manufacturing and worldwide power projects.

Headquartered in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, DEC is one of the largest backbone enterprise groups of the Chinese central government. Founded in 1958, DEC already installed the Rawjan Thermal Power Project in Chittagong.

DEC has been enlisted among the top global contractors evaluated by the Engineering News-Record, a US-based weekly magazine that provides news, analysis, data and opinion for the construction industry worldwide since 1994, Weidong said.

Weidong hopes that Bangladesh will consider China for construction of its second nuclear power plant, especially as China believes that the electricity demand of Bangladesh will increase

dramatically in the coming years.

"For a country's development, the first thing is power and infrastructure. That has been China's experience in the last three decades."

During a recent discussion with Bangladesh officials, he found that the nation has an installed capacity of around 14,000MW at present. This capacity cannot fully meet the electricity demand of fast growing Bangladesh, as demonstrated by the purchase of power from neighbouring India, he said. "That means you have a big shortage of electricity supply, for which I hope DEC and Bangladesh can work together."

Moreover, some Chinese textiles are shifting their production facilities to Bangladesh, which will further increase the demand for power, he said.

"Therefore, I think the demand for power [in Bangladesh] will increase dramatically. On the other hand, DEC has a manufacturing capacity of up to 42,000MW. So we have a lot of room

for cooperation."

European countries like Britain are using Chinese technology in nuclear power plants, so the issue of safety is moot, he said. China and Britain signed a deal to build a nuclear power station with a capacity of over 1,000MW in the UK a couple of days ago, during Chinese President Xi Jinping's first state visit to London, he added.

"So our standards are being recognised by developed countries, like the United Kingdom."

Regarding the Rooppur nuclear power plant in Bangladesh, the top executive said Russian technology is good, but Bangladesh will surely make a comparison in taking any future decision.

DEC top officials also discussed their past, current and future projects in various countries, including Bangladesh. Jin Wei, deputy general manager (plant and project) and other officials of DEC were also present.



BRAC UNIVERSITY
Inspiring Excellence

Invitation for Tender

Single Stage Two Envelope Method (NCT)
Office of the Treasurer, BRAC University
66 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Phone: 880-2-8824051 Ext. 4020, E-mail: treasurer@bracu.ac.bd

01.	Procuring Entity Name	BRAC University		
02.	Invitation of Tender for	Procurement of Works		
03.	Invitation Ref No. & Date	BRACU/NC/T/03-02.11.2015		
04.	Procurement Method	Single Stage Two Envelope Method (National Competitive Tendering)		
05.	Budget and Source of Funds	Own Fund		
06.	Project Name	Construction of 13 storied (with 3 Basements) Institutional Building for BRAC University.		
07.	Tender Document Selling Date and Time	From 05-11-2015 to 24-11-2015 (during office hours)		
08.	Tender Submission Closing Date and Time	25-11-2015 at 01:00 PM		
09.	Technical Proposal Opening Date and Time	25-11-2015 at 02:30 PM		
10.	Name & Address of the Office	Office of the Treasurer BRAC University 66 Mohakhali Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.		
	- Selling Tender Document			
	- Receiving Tender			
	- Opening Tender			
11.	Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	Office of the Treasurer, BRAC University 66 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh. Date & Time: 12-11-2015 at 11:00 AM		
12.	Name of Tender	Tender Security	Price of Tender Document	Completion Time
	Construction of Foundation Piles, Diaphragm Walls and other related works for 13 Storied Institutional Building (with 3 Basements) for BRAC University at Holding No. Kha 224, Merul Badda, Dhaka-1212	Tk. 3.00 (three) crore in the form of Pay Order/ Bank Draft/ Bank Guarantee in favour of Treasurer, BRAC University	Tk. 10,000.00 (Taka ten thousand) only	12 (twelve) months
13.	Qualification of Tenderer	(a) General experience in construction business - minimum 15 years under public or reputed sector organization; (b) Experience in building construction works - minimum 10 years under public and reputed private sector organization; (c) Specific Experience-successful completion of at least one contract for construction of retaining and foundation pile work of (1) similar multi storied building complex with at least 2 basements under public or reputed private sector organization such as bank, insurance, private university or (2) long span RCC Bridge or flyover etc. under Public Sector Organization during the last 7 years. (d) Liquid Assets/ Working Capital/ Credit Facilities- not less than Tk. 30 (thirty) crore. Tenderer's latest Credit Information Bureau (CIB) report of Bangladesh Bank must be submitted with the information on Liquid Assets/ Working Capital/ Credit Facilities. (e) Average annual Construction Turnover over the best 3 years of the last 5 (five) years -not less than Tk. 120 (one hundred twenty) crore only (f) Tenderer must own or have arrangements to hire/lease Concrete Batching Plant and Rotary Rig. (g) Tenderer having record of poor performance such as abandoning or not completing the contract, inordinate delay, defective or poor workmanship, financial failures, wasteful claims, consistent history of litigation, debarred by any public or private sector organization etc. shall not be considered for award of contract. (h) Tenderer may be a Joint Venture Consortium Association (JVCA) of maximum 2 (two) Partners. Foreign firms may only submit Tender forming a Joint Venture (JVCA) with a local firms. In case of JVCA of local and foreign firms, member in charge of JVCA must be constituted and registered in Bangladesh. In case of qualification criteria of liquid assets/ cash-flow/ working capital/ credit facilities and construction turnover, each partner and lead partner of JVCA must have minimum 25% and 40% of total requirements respectively and JVCA must have 100% of the same. (i) Tender failure to submit relevant and acceptable Method Statement including Safety Procedures in the Technical Proposal may not be considered for Financial Evaluation. (j) Other eligibility and qualification criteria of Tenderer are detailed in Tender Documents.		
14.	Brief Description of Works	Setting up site including developing compacted formation level, erection of required site facilities, construction of 611 Nos. 45-60 m long 1200 mm dia foundation piles with hydraulic rotary rig, 400 m x 22.3 m x 600 mm diaphragm walls, shore protection, sand filling, making Bund and other related works etc. to be detailed in tender documents.		
15.	Completion time	12 (twelve) months		
16.	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar		
17.	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Treasurer, BRAC University.		
18.	Address of Official Inviting Tender	66 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.		
19.	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Phone: 880-2-8824051, Ext. 4020, E-mail: treasurer@bracu.ac.bd		
20.	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the procurement proceedings.			