

Jaakko Eskola, second from right, president and CEO of Wartsila Corporation of Finland, and Muhammed Aziz Khan, centre, chairman of Summit Group, pose during Eskola's visit to the office of Summit in Singapore on Wednesday, when they chalk out long-term strategies for the two companies.

Toshiba gets go-ahead for chip unit sale at angry shareholder meeting

REUTERS, Chiba, Japan

Toshiba Corp shareholders agreed to split off its prized NAND flash memory unit on Thursday, paving the way for a sale to raise at least \$9 billion to cover US nuclear unit charges that threaten the conglomerate's future.

Coming a day after Westinghouse filed for bankruptcy, the extraordinary general meeting saw angry shareholders vent at CEO Satoshi Tsunakawa, with one noting that managers had only last year described the chip and nuclear

businesses as core units at the conglomerate.

"How can something that was supposed to be a pillar turn into a Wednesday. hole," said the shareholder, asking Tsunakawa about the company's nuclear business.

"Toshiba has become a laughingstock around the world. You have no clue what's going on," shouted another.

Toshiba, which expects to book an annual net loss of 1 trillion yen (\$9 billion) for this business year on a writedown at Westinghouse, has said it is selling most or even all

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The logo of Toshiba is seen as shareholders arrive at Toshiba's extraordinary shareholders meeting in Chiba, Japan yesterday. of a unit that is the world's secondbiggest producer of NAND chips.

Initial bids for the sale closed on

A source with knowledge of the planned sale said that about 10 potential bidders are interested. Those suitors include Western Digital Corp which operates a chip plant with Toshiba in Japan, Micron Technology Inc, South Korean chipmaker SK Hynix Inc and financial investors.

The government-backed Innovation Network Corporation of Japan, and Development Bank of Japan are expected to enter later bidding rounds as part of a consortium, sources have said, declining to be identified as they were not authorized to speak on the matter publicly.

A separate source said that Foxconn, the world's largest contract electronics manufacturer, is expected to place an offer which is likely to be the highest bid. Other sources have said the Japanese government is likely to block a sale to Foxconn due to its deep ties with China.

While the vote, which won the backing of more than two-thirds of shareholders, and the bankruptcy filing by Westinghouse are steps forward in Toshiba's struggle to stay

in business, it woes are far from over. Toshiba, which bought

Westinghouse in 2006 for \$5.4 billion now faces months of complex negotiations over the fate of its US nuclear business, a discussion that could embroil the US and Japanese governments.

The US government has guaranteed loans of \$8.3 billion loan to help finance some the construction of four reactors in the United States.

Putting American taxpayers on the hook for any losses related to Westinghouse's failure would be an embarrassment for Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, particularly if the debacle sparks criticism from President Donald Trump of Japanese corporations in the United States.

During talks in Washington this month Japan's Trade Minister Hiroshige Seko agreed to share information on developments with his US counterparts Energy Secretary Rick Perry and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross.

Senior officials from both countries will get a chance to discuss Toshiba further in April when Vice President Mike Pence visit for bilateral economic talks. Ross will travel with Pence, according to a Japanese government official with direct knowledge of preparations.

New CEO for Social Islami Bank



Shahid Hossain

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shahid Hossain joined Social Islami Bank (SIBL) as chief executive officer on Wednesday. The bank also promoted Tarik Morshed as its additional managing director.

Prior to joining SIBL, Hossain had been serving Southeast Bank as managing director since January 9, 2013. He joined Southeast Bank as senior vice president in 2003, SIBL said in a statement.

probationary officer with National Bank in regret the error.]



Tarik Morshed

1983. He completed his MSS in political science from Dhaka University in 1980.

Prior to the promotion, Morshed had been serving SIBL as deputy managing director, according to the statement.

Morshed has been with SIBL since its inception in 1995. He holds a master's degree in management from Rajshahi University. He started his career with Brac.

[In a news item on Star Business yesterday, the photo of Tarik Morshed was mistakenly Hossain started his banking career as a published as the CEO of Social Islami Bank. We

Trump to unveil \$1tr infrastructure plan

REUTERS, Washington

US Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao said the Trump administration would unveil a \$1 trillion infrastructure plan later this year, but she did not offer details of funding for projects.

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Chao said at an event at the department's headquarters that the infrastructure initiative would include "a strategic, targeted program of investment valued at \$1 trillion over 10 years.

The proposal will cover more than transportation infrastructure, it will include energy, water and potentially broadband and veterans hospitals as well."

Chao's comments were the most detailed timetable from the administration about its plans to unveil a plan to modernize US roads, bridges, airports, electrical grid and water systems. Chao said the administration

plans to offer incentives for public-private partnerships rather than simply fund improvements.

It was not clear how much new federal funding the Trump administration would propose. She said the plan would aim to speed the processes for government projects. Investors have been growing more skep-

tical that the infrastructure plan will win approval this year. The Dow Jones Transportation Average rose after the election and closed at a record

high on March 1 but is now down 4.3 percent for the month. Some investors have questioned how

soon Trump's pro-growth policies may be implemented. Earlier this month, Trump proposed

\$16.2 billion for the Department of Transportation's discretionary budget for fiscal year 2018, a reduction of 13 percent.

BlackBerry, freed of handsets, looks to software for return to glory

REUTERS, Toronto

Although BlackBerry Ltd has extricated itself from the smartphone handsets that weighed on its recent fortunes, the Canadian firm faces a tough slog to convince skeptics it can return to its glory days through an enlarged software business. The company, which will report

fourth-quarter and full-year results on Friday, says it has no major gaps in its software portfolio, thanks to the integration of a string of recent acquisitions.

It concedes, however, that more work is needed to get those offerings into the healthcare and automotive industries and other sectors that it hopes will power future growth.

"The bottom line is: BlackBerry is a completely different beast than it was a decade ago," said Nicholas McQuire, a workplace IT analyst at CCS Insight, a consulting firm. "However, it still needs to educate enterprises, particularly prospects in markets outside its core regulated footprint on the 'new BlackBerry', " he said.

Investors are unsure how to value the company, waiting for guidance from Chief Executive Officer John Chen, who needs a late bump in sales to hit the 30 percent growth in software revenue BlackBerry targeted for

its recently completed fiscal year.

BlackBerry's enterprise-value-toforward-revenue ratio is 3.14, according to Thomson Reuters data, lower than the roughly 4.5 ratio enjoyed by Oracle Corp and Microsoft Corp, two of its closest peers now that Blackberry focuses on enterprise software.

The Waterloo, Ontario-based company is expected to barely break even in the fourth quarter and likely notch revenue of less than \$1.4 billion in its fiscal year ended Feb. 28, 2017, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S estimates. At its peak, the smartphone pioneer was raking in more than \$5.5 billion a quarter.

Blackberry's Toronto-listed shares were trading down 0.4 percent at C\$9.40, while the benchmark Canadian share index was up 0.3 percent.

BlackBerry declined to comment ahead of its earnings release.

The redesigned company has gone from selling its own phones with the servers and software that manage them for businesses and governments to securing an array of rival devices and the information that flows to and from them.

It is also targeting the burgeoning but fragmented market to connect sensors and other devices and has invested in other potentially high-

growth areas including cyber security consulting and autonomous vehicles. "It has pivoted in the right direction with some new and promising areas ahead of it, but these are nascent markets which will take time to materializes in its bottom line," McQuire said.

The company's 2015 purchases of Good Technology and WatchDox helped it secure a leading position in the enterprise mobility market, and its QNX industrial operating system is key to its self-driving vehicle ambitions. However, there is tough competition in these and other areas of interest.

BlackBerry," said Ali Mogharabi, an analyst at Morningstar. "There's still a lot of uncertainty on how well they are going to progress in autonomous driving and other growth markets."

"We have a no-moat rating for

The company no longer has any responsibility for making or selling smartphones bearing its brand, after setting up late last year to take a cut on sales from the likes of Chinese smartphone maker TCL Communication, which will begin selling a BlackBerry-branded phone in April.

But given TCL is going to rely on the BlackBerry name to sell the KeyOne device, which it announced at a major technology conference last month, the separation may yet prove difficult.



NEWAGE GROUP

ASM Quasem, chairman of Newage Group, a garment maker, poses along with the visiting European Parliamentary Delegation led by Arne Lietz at Newage Garments Complex in Ashulia on Wednesday. Linda McAvan, Norbert Neuser and Agnes Jongerius, members of the European Parliament belonging to the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats, were also included in the delegation.

Japan considers

Bangladesh, opens the Chittagong flagship branch of the bank on **Shahid Abdul Halim** Road in east Nasirabad. Naser Ezaz Bijoy, country head of global banking, and Aditya Mandloi, head of retail banking, were also present.

Abrar A Anwar, CEO of

Standard Chartered

STANCHART

easing Chinese visa rules to extend tourism boom

REUTERS

.......... Japan is considering relaxing restrictions on visas for tourists from China, three people with direct knowledge of the matter said on Thursday, hoping to extend a tourism boom and lend support to consumer spending.

Since Prime Minister Shinzo Abe took office in late 2012, his government has gradually eased visa requirements for Asian countries, pushing to a record high the number of inbound visitors and sparking an increase in hotel construction.

The government is considering lowering the prescribed minimum annual income a Chinese citizen needs to obtain a multiple-entry visa to 3 million yen (\$26,983.27) from around 4 million yen now, the sources said.

"We want to announce this policy when the time is right, depending on the pace of increase in hotel accommodation," said one source, who declined to be named because the plans are not final.

জিডি-৬৮৩

বাংলাদেশ বিজ্ঞান ও শিল্প গবেষণা পরিষদ (বিসিএসআইআর) Bangladesh Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (BCSIR)

ডঃ কুদরাত-ই-খুদা সড়ক, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫, বাংলাদেশ

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দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

দরপত্র দলিলে বর্ণিত শর্ত এবং যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান/সংস্থাসমূহের নিকট হতে নিম্নোক্ত কাজের জন্য সীলগালাযুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে ঃ বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি মন্ত্রণালয়। মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ বিসিএসআইআর। সংস্থা ক্রয়/সংগ্রহের স্বত্তাধিকারীর নাম তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা আহ্বানকত কাজের ধরণ বিল বোর্ড স্থাপন কাজ। ৩৯.৩৩০.০৬৫.০০.০০.০৬৫.২০১৬, তারিখঃ ৩০-০৩-২০১৭ইং। দরপত্র আহ্বানের সূত্র নং ঃ উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)। ক্রয়/সংগ্রহের পদ্ধতি বরাদ্দের উৎস 09. রাজস্ব আয়। ১৬/০৪/২০১৭ইং অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ১৭/০৪/২০১৭ইং বেলা ৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময় ১৭/০৪/২০১৭ইং বেলা ৩.৩০ ঘটিকা। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের অফিসসমূহের ক্যাশিয়ার, বিসিএসআইআর সচিবালয়, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা-১২০৫। 33. নাম ও ঠিকানা দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিস তত্ত্রাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা-এর কার্যালয়। সচিব, বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা-এর কার্যালয় রেজিস্টার্ড ডাকযোগে/কুরিয়ার সার্ভিসযোগে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে দরপত্র প্রেরণ করা যাবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময়ের পরে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না। সচিব, বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা-এর কার্যালয় দরপত্র খোলার স্থান গত ০৩ (তিন) বংসরে বিল বোর্ড তৈরি ও স্থাপন সংক্রান্ত ন্যুনতম ০১ (এক)টি দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা ২০ (বিশ) লক্ষ টাকার কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, আয়কর সনদ, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট ও ব্যাংক সলভেঙ্গী সার্টিফিকেট থাকতে হবে। বর্ণনা অনুযায়ী। দরপত্র জামানত \$8. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী। দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার প্রকৌশল বিভাগ, বিসিএসআইআর, ড. কুদরাত-ই-খুদা সড়ক, ধানমন্তি, ঢাকা-১২০৫। Se. টেলিফোন নং-৫৮৬১০৭৪১ (অফিস)। দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার 36. সাথে যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম নির্ধারিত হারে বায়নার টাকা বাংলাদেশ সরকারের তফসিলি ব্যাংক হতে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা-এর নামে দাখিল করতে হবে

দাগুরিক দরপত্র দলিলের বায়নার টাকা কাজের নাম প্রাক্কলিত মূল্য नश মূল্য, টাকা সম্পাদনের (ফেরতযোগ্য) (টাকা) সময়সীমা (অফেরতযোগ্য) তফসীল ৪৫ দিন 90,000/-3000/-ক্যাম্পাসে বাউভারীওয়াল-এর অভ্যন্তরে ০৩ মোতাবেক (তিন)টি বিল বোর্ড (ডিজিটাল ও সাধারণ) তৈরি ও

দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় কার্যক্রম PPR-2008 এবং তদোত্তর জারিকৃত সংশোধনী/প্রজ্ঞাপন অনুসারে হবে। ক্রয়কারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন অথবা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

> মোঃ মনির হোসেন পাটওয়ারী তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (অঃদাঃ) বিসিএসআইআর, ঢাকা