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Makam E Mahmud Billah, head of retail products and segments at Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh; Md Mahiul Islam, head of brand and marketing, and Nazim Shafkat Choudhury, director of Nazimgarh Resorts, attend the signing of a deal at a programme. Nazimgarh Resorts will provide the credit and debit cardholders of the bank with a range of exclusive benefits, including 35 percent discount on published room rates.

# Banks lending more freely again in early 2017: ECB

AFP, Frankfurt Am Main

European businesses and households tighter lending conditions seen at the end of last year.

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use to judge creditworthiness "continued across all loan categories" as banks compete for borrowers' business, the ECB said in a press release.

According to central bank figures, lenders eased requirements for businesses by 2.0 percent, after a 5.0enjoyed easier access to credit in the percent tightening in the last quarter first quarter of 2017, the European of 2016. Meanwhile, mortgage loans the equation, demand for loans "con-Central Bank said Tuesday, reversing became significantly easier to come by, with standards 5.0 percent looser -- compared with a 1.0-percent tight-A loosening of the standards banks ening on home loans between October and December.

> Banks expect to toughen creditworthiness rules for business loans slightly in the second quarter, while home buyers to take on mortgages.

keeping those for house-buyers broadly stable, the ECB found in its poll of 139 eurozone lenders between categories," the central bank said.

With interest rates at historic lows,

### Puma ups forecast

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AFP, Frankfurt Am Main

German sportswear maker Puma said Tuesday it set a new quarterly record for sales between January and March, springing over the 1.0-billioneuro barrier and upping its forecasts for the year.

Revenues at the Bavaria-based group grew by 18 percent yearon-year to 1.005 billion euros (\$1.1 billion) in currency-adjusted terms, while operating, or underlying profit added 70.1 percent to reach 70.2 million.

Puma, which counts high-profile sports stars such as sprinter Usain Bolt and celebrities including singer Rihanna among its celebrity endorsements, said first-quarter net profit reached 49.6 million euros -- almost double last year's fig-

Footwear sales grew 24.8 percent to reach 498.9 million euros, with more modest growth in its clothing and accessories segments.

# LinkedIn membership reaches half a billion

AFP, Washington

....... The professional social network LinkedIn said Monday its membership had swelled to 500 million, as its user base showed steady growth following its acquisition last year by Microsoft.

"We recently crossed an important and exciting milestone," LinkedIn vice president Aatif Awan said in a blog post.

"We now have half a billion members in tered users.

200 countries connecting, and engaging with one another in professional conversations and finding opportunities through these connections on LinkedIn."

Microsoft's \$26 billion acquisition of

LinkedIn which was completed in December was the biggest-ever deal for a social media company. At the time of the announcement last

June, LinkedIn had 433 million regis-



Benjamin de Fouchier, managing director of Daraz BD Ltd, and Musa Kamal Mahmud, general manager of Hussain Trading Company Ltd, attend the signing of a deal at the headquarters of Daraz Bangladesh at Banani in Dhaka yesterday. Daraz has become the online partner of Hussain Trading, a concern of Rangs.

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Education Technical & Madrasa Division Website: www.tmed.gov.bd

#### Invitation for Tender

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Mohammad Shahidullah.

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Assistant Secretary (Admin-02).

**Technical & Madrasa Division** 

Paribahan Pool Building, Dhaka-1000.

Ministry of Education, Room # 913, Govt.

Mohammad Shahidullah

Assistant Secretary (Admin-02)

Ministry of Education

图: 9575807

**Technical & Madrasa Education Division** 

Name of the official inviting tender

Address of the official inviting tender

tender

GD-864

Designation of the official inviting

Contact details of official inviting tender

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh **Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority** Office of the Project Director

**Dhaka Integrated Traffic Management Project** 

South Nagar Bhaban (13th Floor), Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000

Website: www.dtca.gov.bd

Memo: 35.02.0000.002.37.051.17-89

Date: 23 April 2017

## Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) For Selection of Consulting Firm

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has allocated public funds for the cost of implementation of Dhaka Integrated Traffic Management Project (DITMP) in four (4) intersections of Fulbaria, Paltan, Mohakhali and Gulshan-1. Dhaka Transport Coordination Agency, being the executing agency of the DITMP intends to apply a portion of the fund to eligible payments under the contract for Consultancy Services by a Consulting Firm (The "Consultant") for Publicity and Advertisement works for the project.

The services include in brief:

The Consultant shall conduct all media related work for Publicity and Advertisement work of DITM Project.

The experience, resources and delivery capacity to be provided are:

The consulting firm must have 15 (fifteen) years of experience of all media related work for Publicity and Advertisement including design and implement communication and public awareness strategies in order to positively highlight the project purpose, achievements, good practices and lessons learned.

The Consultant will be contracted mainly to provide the information for better understanding of the pilot project and to disseminate the rules and manners on traffic for the success of the pilot project. The consultancy includes design and printing of poster, leaflet, bill board, banner, sticker for public awareness. Implementation of street interview at four intersections and related communication to media highlighting 4 intersections planned to be improved under the pilot project. The consultant's task includes and not limited for motivating and educating road users on proper use of traffic rules and regulations and good practices on road uses.

Availability of appropriate skills among staff are:

1. Team Leader should have minimum Master Degree in Journalism or Public Relation or Project Management or Communication or Sociology or any other relevant subject with 15 years experience.

If Consultant's team consists of more than one key expert, the experts must have different academic qualification and shall have minimum Master Degree including 10 years experience in relevant field including minimum 5 years experience in conducting street interview for similar activities.

3. The Consultant's team shall include Graphics Designer, Script Writer and Managerial staff.

The DITMP now invites eligible applications to indicate their interest in providing the services. The EOIs would be reviewed on the basis of registration of firm, age of firm, availability of key professionals, bio-data of skilled professionals who will perform the job, experience of the firm in conducting publicity and advertisement work, support service of the firm, etc. Consulting firm will be selected using the method in accordance with the Public Procurement Act 2006 and Public Procurement Rules 2008 issued by the GoB. It is expected that the services will be carried out within 01 year from the date of commencement (possible commencement on early June, 2017 and completion on June, 2018).

Association with other consultant is not allowed.

Interested applicants may obtain further information at the address below and obtain the Request for Application document from the office of the

undersigned during normal office hours (9.00am-5.00pm).

Expression of Interest (maximum 30 pages) shall be submitted by 12.00 noon on 22.05.2017, in sealed envelope delivered to Project Director, Dhaka Integrated Traffic Management Project, South Nagar Bhaban, Fulbaria, Floor 13th, Dhaka-1000 and be clearly marked "Request for Expressions of Interest for Selection of Consulting Firm for conducting Publicity and Advertisement work for Dhaka Integrated Traffic Management Project."

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all EOIs

without assigning any reason whatsoever.

GD-855

Md. Itrat Hossain Zakaria, P.Eng. Project Director Dhaka Integrated Traffic Management Project

Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority South Nagar Bhaban, Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000

March 16 and 31. On the other side of tinued to increase across all loan

businesses took advantage by taking out new loans or refinancing existing ones, while a rising housing market and low interest rates also encouraged

# **HSBC** wins mandate on \$100b Saudi Aramco IPO: CEO

HSBC Holdings Plc has been formally mandated as an adviser on the initial public offering of Saudi Arabia's national oil giant Aramco, expected to be the world's largest ever IPO, HSBC's chief executive said on Monday.

Europe's biggest bank joins peers including JPMorgan Chase & Co and Morgan Stanley on the deal, which is expected to raise some \$100 billion and is the centrepiece of the Saudi government's ambitious strategy to diversify away from oil.

HSBC's Chief Executive Stuart Gulliver announced the bank's appointment on the deal at a shareholders' meeting in Hong Kong, confirming a Reuters report in February that the bank was close to being mandated on the hottest investment banking ticket in the world.

Gulliver also said HSBC is confident it can maintain dividend payouts in the foreseeable future and expects to exceed risk-weighted asset and cost-saving targets.

Despite earnings pressure, HSBC has retained its dividend payout ratio at a higher level in the last few years, at a time when some of its peers, including Standard Chartered, withheld dividend payments for 2016.

The bank may have to move "some thousand roles" from Britain to Paris depending on how the country's Brexit negotiations with the European Union unfold, chairman Douglas Flint added, reiterating the bank's previous estimates of staff moves.

HSBC last month named AIA Group boss Mark Tucker as the new chairman of its board, replacing veteran Flint, whose departure will end one of the longest-serving management partnerships at a major global bank. CEO Gulliver is also due to leave in 2018, and one of the main tasks facing Tucker immediately after taking over the new role in October will be selecting a new chief executive for Europe's biggest bank.

## Reliance lifts Jio investment above \$30b after record year

Reliance Industries plans to spend a further \$2.8 billion on its Jio telecoms business in the current quarter, it said on Monday, taking its investment in the venture to more than \$30 billion.

Reliance derives the bulk of its revenue from its core refining and petrochemicals operations, but the group has bet big on Reliance Jio Infocomm. The project backed by Reliance owner Mukesh Ambani launched in September in a flurry of cheap phones, free voice and

cut-price data plans that have forced rivals to respond. Announcing record profit for the 2016/17 financial year, Reliance said the additional investment is required for its fibre network as it expands Jio's 4G reach. Analysts and investors have expressed concern over the time it will take Jio to recover its heavy outlay, but its head of strategy, Anshuman Thakur, said there would be a "drastic drop" in investment after the cur-

Jio racked up 108.9 million subscribers by the end of March, Reliance said. It started charging for internet data this month, after more than seven months of free services, but has kept prices low. "Jio is witnessing the largest migration from free to paid services in history," said Reliance Chairman Ambani. Ambani's aggressive strategy to capture market

share has led to rivals consolidating. His younger brother Anil Ambani's Reliance Communications merged with smaller rival Aircel and in February India's biggest telecoms company Bharti Airtel bought out the Indian operations of Norway's Telenor.

That was followed by Britain's Vodafone announcing a merger with Idea to create the biggest telecoms

Phone: 9566967, E-mail: ihzakaria@yahoo.com company in India.