



**Banglalink CEO Erik Aas and Benchmark PR CEO Ashraf Kaiser exchange signed documents of a deal at a programme. Under the deal, Benchmark PR will take charge of strategic and corporate communications of Banglalink.**

# TPP countries consider amendments to stalled trade deal

US President Trump withdrew from the agreement. Trump's move fulfilled a campaign pledge to put "America first" - a policy that aimed to bring manufacturing jobs back to the United States.

Although the remaining members have publicly said they remain committed to the deal, implementation of the agreement linking 11 countries with a combined GDP of \$12.4 trillion has stalled - raising fears that other countries will follow the US lead and withdraw.

Eager to keep all members onboard, representatives from the remaining countries are considering changes to the original TPP deal, three sources familiar with the talks said.

"We're all open to evaluating what we can do and what viable alternatives there may be," Edgar Vasquez, Peru's deputy trade minister, told Reuters.

While no agreement is expected at the end of the three-day meeting, Vietnam's desire to shelve the IP provisions around pharmaceutical data is likely to win broad support, with Japanese and New Zealand officials also indicating their support for the change, two other sources said.

The original TPP agreement was seen as particularly onerous on Vietnam, which be forced to make significant reforms, analysts said.

"There's not much sense to agree to provisions they don't really want such as stronger monopolies on medicines if they are not going to get access to the US market," said Patricia Ranald, research associate, University of Sydney.

The original TPP offered an eight-year window before competitors can

# Debt cut for Greece not on agenda for now, Germany's Schaeuble says

REUTERS, Berlin

Greece must press ahead with implementing its reforms-for-aid programme and become more competitive, German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble was quoted as saying, adding that debt relief for Athens was "currently" not on the agenda.

Euro zone finance ministers and the International Monetary Fund reached an agreement on Greece in June, paving the way for new emergency loans for Athens while leaving the contentious issue of debt relief for later.

Asked in an interview with the newspaper Mannheimer Morgen if he could envisage a partial cut in debt for Greece, Schaeuble said, "That's currently not on the agenda at all."

Chancellor Angela Merkel and Schaeuble do not want to discuss any details of debt relief for Greece before federal elections on Sept. 24, in which the far-right euro-sceptic AfD party is forecast to enter parliament for the first time. Starting a discussion about debt relief would send the wrong signal to Athens at a time when the economy was doing better and recovering, Schaeuble told Mannheimer Morgen.

"The country doesn't need a debt cut now, but it must continually work on its competitiveness," Schaeuble said. He pointed out that Greece's borrowing costs for the next 10 to 15 years were already relatively low.

"Above all, as long as member states are responsible for financial and economic policy, they must also bear the consequences of their own decisions themselves", he said.

Schaeuble, whose insistence on reforms to public finances in Athens has long made him a hate figure for many Greeks, has signalled his readiness to deepen euro zone integration as long as risks and liabilities arising from political decisions remain linked.

# UK house price growth eases to 3-month low in August

REUTERS, London

British house price growth eased to a three-month low in August, adding to signs that the squeeze on household spending since last year's Brexit vote has led to a slowdown in the housing market, a survey showed on Tuesday.

Mortgage lender Nationwide said house prices rose 2.1 percent year-on-year in August, slowing from 2.9 percent in July and matching May's four-year low.

A Reuters poll of economists had pointed to annual growth of 2.5 percent.

House prices slipped 0.1 percent in August compared with the previous month, after rising 0.2 percent in July.

# Oil prices decline

REUTERS, London

Crude prices dipped on Tuesday as the market grappled with the shutdown of some 13 percent of refining capacity in the United States after a hurricane ripped through the heart of the country's oil industry.

The refinery closures helped push US gasoline futures RBC1 to a two-year high of \$1.7799 per gallon on Monday, although they had receded to \$1.7030 by 1158 GMT on Tuesday.

International Brent crude futures LCOc1 were 32 cents lower at \$51.57 per barrel, having traded as high as \$52.19 earlier in the day.

US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude CLc1 edged down 5 cents to \$46.52 a barrel, after falling more than 2 percent in the previous session.

The damage assessment could lead to more volatility. Some refineries were preparing for restarts, but heavy rains are expected to last through Wednesday, adding to catastrophic flooding in Houston.

"Refineries in Asia should run much harder to make up for (US closures), which is supportive for Brent," said Olivier Jakob, managing director of oil analysis firm PetroMatrix. Still, Jakob warned that the scale of US upstream outages was not yet clear, and extensive damage on oilfields or pipelines could boost WTI prices.



**Andy Ow, country manager at Toshiba TEC Singapore, and Azhar Ali, managing director of International Office Machines Ltd, and Rezaul Karim, a director, at the launch of e-STUDIO3508LP series, Toshiba's erasable printing system, in Dhaka.**

# Merkel supports European Monetary Fund to bolster euro zone stability

REUTERS, Berlin

German Chancellor Angela Merkel endorsed the idea of a European Monetary Fund on Tuesday and said she could imagine creating a combined European finance and economy minister, signalling a willingness to deepen euro zone integration.

Speaking to reporters ahead of a Sept. 24 election, Merkel addressed a wide range of issues in good humour two days after her main challenger, Social Democrat Martin Schulz, accused her of being aloof and out of touch with voters.

In power since 2005, the conservative chancellor, 63, is comfortably on course to win re-election and indicated she was ready to press ahead with the deeper euro zone integration that France's new president, Emmanuel Macron, also wants to pursue.

Merkel said she supported a "very good idea" from her finance minister, Wolfgang Schaeuble, to turn the euro zone's rescue fund, the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), into a European Monetary Fund.



**Dilip Kumar Agarwala, managing director of Diamond World, and Torang Mehata, head for marketing at Forevermark, attend the launch of Forevermark jewellery in Bangladesh at the Westin Dhaka in the capital yesterday. Forevermark jewellery will be available at Diamond World showrooms.**

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
 Ministry of Labour and Employment (MOLE)  
 Room # 427/B, Building # 07, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka  
 Memo No. 40.00.000.038.26.005.17-484 Date: 20 August 2017

## Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/division	Ministry of Labour and Employment.
2	Agency	N/A
3	Procuring entity name	Secretary.
4	Procuring entity code	None
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Tender for procurement.
7	Invitation Ref No. & date	Memo No. 40.00.000.038.26.005.17-484 Date: 20 August 2017

**KEY INFORMATION**

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

9	Budget & source of funds	GOB
10	Development partners (if applicable)	N/A

**PARTICULAR INFORMATION**

11	Project/programme code	N/A
12	Tender package No.	01 (one).
13	Tender package name	Supply of Heavy Duty Rugged Construction CNG-converted Microbus (Min 12 persons sitting capacity).
14	Tender publication date	On or before 07 September 2017.
15	Tender selling date	From 07 September 2017 during office hours.
16	Tender drop closing date and time	27 September 2017 up to 2.00pm.
17	Tender opening date and time	28 September 2017 at 02:30pm. Tenderers and their representatives are allowed to attend.
18	Name & address of the office(s) selling tender document	Mr. Md. Shahjahan Miah, Joint Secretary (Admin), Ministry of Labour and Employment, Room # 426, Building No-7, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000. Telephone No.: 02-9575587, Fax No.: 02-9575583.
19	Name & address of the office(s) opening tender document	Attention: Mr. Miah Abdullah Mamun Additional Secretary (Admin), Room # 427/B, Building # 07, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000. Telephone: 95788402, Fax No.: 02-9588433 E-mail address: mamun_abdullah@yahoo.com

**INFORMATION FOR TENDERER**

20	Eligibility of tenderer	i) The tenderer shall have a minimum of five years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. ii) The maximum two number of arbitration against the tenderer over a period of last five years. iii) The tenderer shall have successfully completed minimum two numbers supply contract of similar goods and related services within last five years. iv) Tenderer shall have to submit trade licence, latest income tax clearance certificate & latest VAT clearance certificate with the tender. v) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is Tk. 40 lac. vi) Tenderer shall have to fulfill the requirements of TDS & PCC. vii) Bank solvency certificate.
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21	Brief description of goods & physical services	Supply of Heavy Duty Rugged Construction CNG-converted Microbus (Min 12 persons sitting capacity). Microbus should have heavy duty min. 4 cylinder/4-Cycle, Water Cooled EFI/ECI/SOHC/DOCH Control System Petrol Engine with min. 4 (four) doors including back lift-up.			
22	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in weeks/months
	01	One Unit Microbus	Dhaka	3% of the quoted price	4 weeks from the date of contract signature

23	Price of tender document	BDT 1,000.00 (one thousand) only.
24	Form of tender security	In the form of a Bank Draft or Pay Order 10% of quoted price on any schedule bank of Bangladesh in favour of Deputy Secretary (Admin), Ministry of Labour and Employment.

**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**

25	Name of official inviting tender	Mr. Miah Abdullah Mamun, Additional Secretary (Admin), Ministry of Labour and Employment, Room # 427/B, Building # 07, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000. Telephone: 95788402, Fax No.: 02-9588433 E-mail address: mamun_abdullah@yahoo.com
26	Special instruction	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.

**Md. Shahjahan Miah**  
 Joint Secretary (Admin)  
 Phone: 02-9575587  
 E-mail: dsadmin@mole.gov.bd

GD-1761

**গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার**  
 বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়  
 প্রাক্টেশন ট্রায়েল ইউনিট বিভাগ  
 বাংলাদেশ বন গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট  
 রূপাতলী, বরিশাল

## নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং: ০১/২০১৭-১৮ তারিখ: ২৯/০৮/২০১৭খ্রিঃ

এতদ্বারা প্রতিষ্ঠিত ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, প্রাক্টেশন ট্রায়েল ইউনিট বিভাগ, বাংলাদেশ বন গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট, বরিশাল এর আওতাধীন ভোলা জেলার চরফ্যাশন উপজেলার অন্তর্গত চর কুকরী-মুকরী বন গবেষণা কেন্দ্রে অবস্থিত ল্যাবরেটরী-কাম-অফিস ভবনটি ব্যবহার অনুপযোগী পরিত্যক্ত ঘোষিত হওয়ায় বর্তমানে যে অবস্থায় আছে সে অবস্থায় নিলামে বিক্রয়ের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত খামে নিলাম দরপত্র আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। আগামী ১২/০৯/২০১৭ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নগদ ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা মূল্যের (অফেরতযোগ্য) দরপত্র নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয়ে বিক্রয় করা হবে। আগামী ১৩/০৯/২০১৭ তারিখে উক্ত কার্যালয়ে দুপুর ১-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে এবং ঐদিন দুপুর ২-০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত নিলাম দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হবে। কাজিত মূল্য উদ্ধৃতকারী দরদাতা হিসাবে মনোনীত হবেন এবং তার অনুকূলে সংগ্রহাদেশ প্রদান করা হবে।

ক্রমিক নং	ভবনের বিবরণ	সরকারি নিলাম মূল্য	কার্য সম্পাদনের সময়সীমা
১	ল্যাবরেটরী-কাম-অফিস ভবন	৩৩,৮৩৪/-	১৫ দিন

দরপত্রের শর্তাবলী ও অন্যান্য জ্ঞাতব্য বিষয়াদি অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর কার্যালয়ে হতে জানা যাবে। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ কিংবা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

**শেখ এহিউল ইসলাম**  
 বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তা  
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জিডি-১৭৬৬