



Taufiq Hassan, executive vice president and head of retail business at United Commercial Bank, and KM Zakaria, treasury director for finance at Banglalink, attend a deal signing ceremony. Under the agreement, UCB credit cardholders will enjoy special discounts on international roaming usage, while Banglalink roaming subscribers will get waiver on annual fee.

China central bank injects more funds in Dec via liquidity tools

Reuters, Beijing
China's central bank injected a net 121.36 billion yuan (\$17.7 billion) into the financial system via short- and medium-term liquidity tools in December, rising sharply from November as it sought to ease tight cash conditions before the year-end.
In November, the People's Bank of China only injected 4.74 billion yuan of funds into the financial system, amid a sustained crackdown on riskier lending to reduce financial risks.
On Dec. 14, the PBOC nudged money market interest rates upward just hours after the Federal Reserve raised the US benchmark, as Beijing sought to prevent destabilizing capital outflows without hurting economic growth.
The PBOC said in a statement

published on Tuesday that it lent 476 billion yuan to financial institutions via its medium-term lending facility (MLF) in December.
Outstanding MLF was 4.5215 trillion yuan at the end of December compared with 4.4205 trillion yuan at the end of November, implying a net injection of 101 billion yuan last month.
The PBOC also extended 134.06 billion yuan of loans to local financial institutions in December via its standing lending facility (SLF), it said.
The total outstanding amount of SLF loans was 130.42 billion yuan at the end of December, compared with 19.06 billion yuan a month earlier, implying a net injection of 111.36 billion yuan.
The PBOC uses the MLF and the SLF as tools for managing short- and

medium-term liquidity in China's banking system.
The central bank said on the last trading day of 2017 that it would let some commercial banks temporarily keep fewer required reserves to help them cope with the heavy demand for cash ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday, a step that analysts say does not signal any policy shift.
"The set-up of new liquidity facility is likely to add more than 2 trillion yuan into the banking system ahead of the upcoming Chinese New Year," economists at OCBC Bank wrote in their research note.
"Together with the impact of targeted forward reserve ratio cut announced back in late September, which will take effect from 2018, we expect China's liquidity situation is likely to improve in early 2018."



People walk past the headquarters of the People's Bank of China, the central bank, in Beijing. REUTERS/FIL

India factory activity expands at fastest pace in five years

Reuters, Bengaluru
India's factory activity expanded at the fastest pace in five years in December, a private sector survey showed on Tuesday, buoyed by a rise in output and new orders, which allowed firms to raise prices.
Tuesday's data firms up views that business in Asia's third-largest economy continues to recover but also highlights risks that rising price pressures will keep the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from slashing interest rates further.
The Nikkei Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index, compiled by IHS Markit, rose to 54.7 in December from November's 52.6, marking its fifth straight month above the 50 level that separates expansion from contraction.
"India's goods-producing economy advanced on its recovery path, with operating conditions improving at the strongest pace since December 2012," said Aashna Dodhia, an economist at IHS Markit.
"Strong business performance was underpinned by the fastest expansions in output and new orders since December 2012 and October 2016, respectively. Anecdotal evidence pointed to stronger market demand from home and international markets."
The country's manufacturing sector witnessed higher payroll


figures in December while the rate of job creation rose to its highest since August 2012.
The latest survey showed the new orders sub-index, a proxy for domestic demand, also rose to 56.8 in December, the highest since October 2016.
Foreign demand also expanded at its quickest pace since June.
"Challenges remain as the economy adjusts to recent shocks, but the overall upturn was robust compared to the trend observed for the survey history. This outlook was shared by the manufacturing community as sentiment picked-up to the strongest in three months amid expected improvements in market conditions over the next 12 months," Dodhia added.
At the same time, stronger demand allowed firms to raise prices at the fastest pace in 10 months to make up for rising input costs, suggesting overall inflation could remain above the central bank's medium-term target of 4.0 percent in the coming month.
India's retail inflation in November breached the central bank's medium-term target of 4 percent, which could put pressure on it to raise policy rates in the coming months.
Minutes from the RBI's December meeting show bank members are becoming increasingly concerned about inflation.

BP to take \$1.5b hit on US tax reforms

AFP, London
British energy major BP said Tuesday that it expected to take a \$1.5-billion (1.2-billion-euro) hit from US President Donald Trump's tax reforms.
"The lowering of the US corporate income tax rate to 21 percent requires revaluation of BP's US deferred tax assets and liabilities," the company said in a statement.
"The current estimated impact of this will be a one-off non-cash charge to the group income statement of around \$1.5 billion that will impact BP's fourth quarter 2017 results."
However, the energy giant cautioned that longer-term earnings would be "positively impacted" by the US changes.
BP is scheduled to unveil its fourth-quarter figures on February 6.
Trump has signed into law a sweeping overhaul of the US tax code, in what was his first major legislative victory since taking office nearly a year ago.
The measure is expected to boost corporate profits of banks and other companies over the medium and long term by lowering the corporate tax rate to 21 percent from 35 percent.
However, several large corporations have signalled that the law will result in a short-term hit on earnings repatriated from overseas. The reform taxes these earnings at 15.5 percent on cash and equivalents and eight percent on real estate and other illiquid assets.

Oil posts strongest year opening since 2014

REUTERS, Singapore
Oil prices posted their strongest opening to a year since 2014 on Tuesday, with crude rising to mid-2015 highs amid large anti-government rallies in Iran and ongoing supply cuts led by Opec and Russia.
US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures CLC1 were at \$60.63 a barrel at 0747 GMT, up 21 cents, or 0.4 percent, after hitting \$60.74 earlier in the day, the highest since June 2015.
Brent crude futures LCOc1, the international benchmark, were at \$67.18 a barrel, up 31 cents, or 0.5 percent, after hitting a May 2015 high of \$67.29 a barrel earlier in the day.
It was the first time since January 2014 that the two crude oil benchmarks opened the year above \$60 per barrel.



Dhaka Power Distribution Co. Ltd.
(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)
Biddut Bhabon (3rd Floor), 1 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka - 1000
Web site : www.dpd.org.bd

"শেখ হাসিনার উদ্যোগ
ঘরে ঘরে বিদ্যুৎ"

ISO: 9001:2008
Certified

EOI Ref. No.: 87.402.105.01.00.182.2017.661

Date: 02/01/2018

Request FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (For selecting International Firm)

1. Ministry/Division	Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources
2. Agency	Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC)
3. Procurement Entity Name	Superintending Engineer, Design Circle, Dhaka, Bangladesh
4. Expression of Interest for Selection of	International Consulting Firm for "Feasibility study for conversion of Existing Substation to Underground Substation under DPDC Area."
5. EOI Ref. No. & Date	87.402.105.01.00.182.2017.661; Date: 02/01/2018
6. Procurement Method	Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
7. Budget and Source of Funds	DPDC's Own fund.
8. EOI Closing Date, Time and Place	Date: 15/02/2018, Time: 12 : 00 hours BST Place: Office of Superintending Engineer, Design Circle, 11 th Floor, Biddut Bhabon, 1 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka -1000, Bangladesh
9. EOI Opening Date, Time and Place	Date: 15/02/2018, Time: 12 : 30 hours BST, Place: Office of the Company Secretary, DPDC, Biddut Bhabon (2 nd Floor), 1 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
10. Project Background	Dhaka Power Distribution Co. Ltd. has undertaken the project to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study for conversion of existing substations to underground substation (UGSS) in order to exploit the scant and invaluable land of Dhaka City. The aim is to strengthen and modernize the power transmission and distribution network within DPDC area. The study shall cover multifarious aspects for transforming existing substation and corresponding overhead transmission line to underground substation and related underground transmission line respectively. It shall include the necessity for new substation and transmission line, preparation of a Master System Network Plan (MSNP) for DPDC, construction of high rise commercial or residential buildings on top of UGSS, detail design and drawing for UGSS, related transmission line and high rise structure, preparation of cost estimate and BOQ, financial and economic analysis to justify taking such project and time frame for project implementation. The executing authority of the work will be Dhaka Power Distribution Company Ltd. (DPDC).
11. Brief Description of Assignment	Scope of major services under the proposed assignments include but not limited to the following: I. Detail Survey, preparation of digital map having Geographical information for substations and single line diagram for DPDC's existing substations, transmission & sub-transmission line. II. Engineering analysis • Selection of candidate site for Underground Substation (UGSS) based on survey data, calculated load growth and necessary engineering analysis. Preparation of a priority list and time frame for implementation of the project. • Preparation of design and drawing of proposed underground substation (UGSS) and related underground source line based on geological condition, hydrological condition of proposed candidate sites. • Preparation of plan, design and drawing for superstructure above the UGSS and find out its optimum use as commercial, residential or any other forms where it is relevant. Preparation of an alternative solution for use of the land above the UGSS where construction of superstructure is not possible. • Feasibility study for existing GIS substation including office building to convert into UGSS. • Identification of Challenges to implement the UGSS project. • Preparation of a priority list and time frame for implementation of the short listed underground substation and related transmission line. • Preparation of plans and strategies to mitigate the challenges to convert the existing substation to underground substation. III. Financial and Economic Analysis: • Assessment of need for UGSS in Dhaka City under DPDC area and the capacity of the UGSS in terms of the demand to be met by the potential underground substation project. Assessment of the impact of electricity retail tariff variation due to construction of UGSS. Assessment of DPDC's overall financial condition, growth and performance to undertake UGSS project and its long term profitability. • Preparation of the BOQ (Bill of Quantity) and estimate for UGSS, related underground source line and corresponding superstructure. Preparation of a cost comparison list among different form of substations (such as UGSS, Indoor, Indoor + Outdoor, and Outdoor). • Identification of benefits and main areas of costs for proposed UGSS and related underground source line besides preparation of a cost-benefit comparison among different categories of substations such as UGSS, over the ground SS, Indoor SS. • Estimation of the economic internal rate of return (EIRR) and Expected Net Present Value (ENPV) for each independent subcomponent of the UGSS and related underground source line project and for the project as a whole. • Assessment of financial and institutional sustainability • Undertake Sensitivity and Risk Analyses for UGSS + Superstructure and related underground source line. IV. Finding the impact on Environmental and Social Consideration of Dhaka city under DPDC area for construction of UGSS. V. Capacity Enhancement and Transfer of Technology to DPDC personnel.
12. Duration of Services:	The duration of the assignment is 6 (six) months.
13. Experience, Resources Delivery Capacity Required	1. The Consultancy firm (or all partners in case of JV) shall submit audited balance sheets and income statements for the last 3 (three) years. 2. The Consultancy firm (or any partner or all partners together in case of JV) shall have minimum average annual turnover of US \$ 400,000.00 (USD Four Hundred Thousand) or equivalent for the last 3 (three) years. 3.a The consultant (or any partner in case of JV) shall have at least 10 years overall experience in the field of electrical consultancy services with at least 3 (three) nos. electrical consultancy services, each with a minimum value of \$ 100,000.00 (USD One Hundred Thousand Only) or equivalent as on the date of EOI submission. Out of the 3 contracts, at least one contract shall be outside the consultant's home country. b. The consultant (or any partner in case of JV) shall have at least 10 years overall experience in the field of civil consultancy services with at least 3 (three) nos. electrical consultancy services, each with a minimum value of \$ 100,000.00 (USD One Hundred Thousand Only) or equivalent as on the date of EOI submission. Out of the 3 contracts, at least one contract shall be outside the consultant's home country. c. The consultant (or any partner in case of JV) shall have at least 8 years overall experience in the field of civil and mechanical consultancy services with at least 1 (one) nos. electrical consultancy services, each with a minimum value of \$ 100,000.00 (USD One Hundred Thousand Only) or equivalent as on the date of EOI submission. d. Preference will be given to consultant or construction firm having experiences related to underground substation project. • Consultant shall submit the completion certificate as evidence of the stated service(s). Such evidence shall be in client's letterhead indicating address, telephone, email, web address and fax numbers of the clients and shall include name of the project, name of the employers, and description of the work, duration of the project and contract amount. Certificates as evidence must be written in English. • The consultancy firm shall have sufficient number of appropriate key professionals and graduate engineers in the following fields with expertise in the relevant fields to carry out the proposed consulting services and shall furnish the list of key professionals and their CV with photograph: B.Sc. in the area of Electrical, Civil, Mechanical & Environmental Engineering, MBA/Financial expert, MS in Economics.
14. Other Details:	i) Short listing will be made in accordance with the "Rule-115 of Public Procurement Rule (PPR) - 2008." ii) Interested firms shall provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the service (Brochures, Description of Similar Assignments, Experience in similar working conditions, Availability of appropriate qualification and experience among staff with signed Curriculum Vitae, Work Plan and methodology of the proposed assignment should be submitted.) iii) The Expression of Interest (EOI) shall be submitted in 3 (Three) sets (One Original & Two Copies) on or before the specified date and time to the office of the undersigned. The proposals/Applications will be opened on <u>Date: 15/02/2018, Time: 12:30 hours</u> Bangladesh Local Time in presence of the representatives of the EOI Applicant (If any). The Expression of Interest shall be submitted in sealed envelope and clearly marked with name of the assignment to the office of the Inviting official. iv) Interested applicants may obtain further information from the undersigned during the office hours (9:00 to 17:00 hours BST). Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their information in a format which is available in the website: www.dpd.org.bd/ v) EOIs submitted by firms will be screened, and a shortlist will be prepared. Only short-listed firms will be invited to submit proposals. vi) Interested applicants are requested to submit their information in Expression of Interest Forms which are available in the website: www.dpd.org.bd and www.cptu.gov.bd vii) DPDC reserves the right to accept/reject one or all EOIs or stop the process of approval at any stage, at its sole discretion without assigning any reasons and shall bear no liability whatsoever consequent upon such a decision.
15. Evaluation Criteria	EOI will be evaluated for short listing in accordance with Rule-115, Sub-rule (2) Public Procurement Regulation (PPR)-2008. The following criteria will be taken into consideration: i) Association with local firm. ii) Overview of the firm's supported by company brochure/profile. iii) Work experience and its adequacy for the similar assignment. a) Survey of electrical transmission and distribution System supported by performance certificate. b) Engineering (Electrical, Civil, Mechanical and Environmental) analysis, design & drawing of substation & transmission system as well as high rise building, financial and socio-economic analysis. c) Preparation of master plan for power system. iv) Experience in similar operating environment and condition. v) Availability of appropriate expertise and professional qualification among applicant's staff and adequate resources to carry out the assignments. vi) Management and financial capacity. vii) Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedure laid down in PPR 2008. viii) Only short listed consultants will be issued the RFQ. Moreover, the proposal will be evaluated on the basis of grading as per PPR 2008. The grading of the above criteria will be assessed based on the availability of proper and adequate evidence provided by firms in the EOI documents.
16. Association with local firm is	Encouraging
17. Name of Official Inviting Expression of Interest (EOI)	Jayanta Kumar Sikder
18. Designation of Official Inviting Expression of Interest	Company Secretary, DPDC
19. Address of Official Inviting Expression of Interest	Office of the Company Secretary, DPDC, Biddut Bhabon (2 nd Floor) 1 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
20. Contact details of Official Inviting Expression of Interest	Tel: +88029570066 E-mail: cs@dpdc.org.bd ; Mail to: sed@dpdc.org.bd
21. The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all EOIs without showing any reason thereof.	

Jayanta Kumar Sikder
Company Secretary, DPDC