



Emranul Huq, acting managing director of Dhaka Bank, attends the launch of the bank's mobile application for reverse factoring transaction services—Veefin—at its corporate office in Dhaka on Thursday. Banks, buyers and sellers can complete all dealings through the app-based platform, which will be run with technical assistance from Infini Systems Private Ltd.

DHAKA BANK



Md Ismail Hossain Siraji, chairman of Jamuna Bank; Nur Mohammed, chairman of Jamuna Bank Foundation, and Shafiqul Alam, CEO of the bank, attend the bank's get-together for non-resident Bangladeshi customers in Dubai. The bank also organised a seminar on corporate social responsibility.



Thomas Kürten, director and regional manager at Helaba South Asia; Christoph Winnat, chief representative for Singapore at Helaba, a commercial bank based in Germany, and Ahmed Shaheen, deputy managing director of Eastern Bank, pose with the officials of Eastern Bank at a workshop on "Export Credit Agency-Covered Financing" jointly organised by the banks in Dhaka recently.

Europe brings on charm and blue skies to lure Chinese tourists

AFP, Venice

Chinese tourists are big spenders and with the numbers visiting Europe set to soar by nearly 70 percent over the next five years, the countries of the Old Continent are rolling out the red carpet to make the guests feel welcome.

A total 12.4 million Chinese, mostly in guided tour groups, came to Europe in 2017, according to the European Travel Commission. And the Chinese Tourism Academy (CTA) is expecting the number to reach 20.8 million by 2022.

"A few years ago, the Chinese came to Europe solely to do some shopping. Now, they're increasingly keen to get know the culture and the countryside," CTA president Dai Bin told AFP, speaking in Venice, at the launch of the year of tourism between the EU and China.

Festivals, cooking courses... "they want to have personal experiences and visit areas where they don't see any other Chinese," said ETC's executive director, Eduardo Santander.

"They like the cuisine, the music, the blue skies... most of them come from the coast, where pollution is extremely high," Santander said.

And some were surprised that they can "breathe without coughing," he added.

China is the world's biggest market for foreign tourism -- with 129 million Chinese

holidaymakers travelling abroad, they account for one fifth of the total number of tourists globally.

And they spend more than twice the amount that, say, US tourists do -- \$261 billion in 2016 compared with \$123 billion.

Small gestures can go a long way towards making Chinese tourists feel more at ease in Europe, said Jacopo Sertoli, head of Welcome Chinese, a body that awards certificates to tourism companies catering for Chinese customers.

"You can make them very happy by offering them a glass of hot water," he said, noting most Chinese families drink water at that temperature rather than cold.

Chinese language television stations and good wifi in hotel rooms are a good idea while payment methods favoured by the Chinese, such as UnionPay, the only credit card issuer in China, WeChatPay or Alipay are a must.

CTA chief Dai Bin said Europe should reduce the red tape for its Chinese visitors.

"We hope Europe will make it easier for Chinese to get a visa," he said.

"In a number of eastern European countries, for example, it's easy. But it's very difficult in others. And when Chinese tourists visit Europe, they want to visit several countries, not just one," Dai Bin said.

By reciprocation, China would become

"more flexible when granting visas and Europeans can stay in Beijing or Shanghai for 144 hours -- or six days -- without a visa," he promised.

According to ETC data, France is the number one desired destination in Europe for Chinese tourists, with 61 percent of visitors hoping to go there, followed by Germany with 37 percent and Italy with 28 percent.

Nevertheless, that picture has started to change in recent years, and travel to eastern Europe is booming, not least because of the easier allocation of visas and the increased availability of cheap flights. The string of terrorist attacks in France and Germany in recent years is also a factor.

In 2016, the number of Chinese tourists visiting Serbia, for example, rose by 173 percent, and numbers were up by nearly 90 percent in Montenegro.

But while "the Chinese are very alert to questions of security, they tend to forget more easily than other tourists," Santander said.

Popular for perceived having deep pockets -- a result of the Chinese tradition of giving presents -- Chinese visitors haven't always enjoyed a reputation for their *savoir-vivre*.

But that's an image which China is itself keen to remedy, with "some tourist agencies offering lessons to customers before they go to Europe," said CTA president Dai Bin.

India sends tax notices to cryptocurrency investors as trading hits \$3.5b

REUTERS, New Delhi

India has sent tax notices to tens of thousands of people dealing in cryptocurrency after a nationwide survey showed more than \$3.5 billion worth of transactions have been conducted over a 17-month period, the income tax department said.

Tech-savvy young investors, real estate players and jewelers are among those invested in bitcoin and other virtual currencies, tax officials told Reuters after gathering data from nine exchanges in Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru and Pune.

Governments around the world are grappling with how to regulate cryptocurrency trading, and policymakers are expected to discuss the matter at a G20 summit in Argentina in March.

The Indian government has issued repeated warnings against digital currency investments, saying these were like "Ponzi schemes" that offer unusually high returns to early investors. But it has not so far imposed curbs on an industry estimated to be adding 200,000 users in India every month.

BR Balakrishnan, a director general of investigations at the income tax department in the southern state of Karnataka, said notices were sent following the survey to assess the penetration and patterns of virtual currency trade. "We cannot turn a blind eye. It would have been disastrous to wait until the final verdict was out on its legality," he told Reuters.

The tax department has asked people dealing in bitcoin and other virtual currencies such as ethereum and ripple to pay tax on capital gains. They have also asked for details about their total holdings and the source of funds in the tax notice seen by Reuters.

"We found that investors were not reflecting it on their tax returns and in many cases, the investment was not accounted for," Balakrishnan said.

Bitcoin, the world's biggest cryptocurrency, soared more than 1,700 percent last year, hitting a record high just shy of \$20,000 as institutional and retail investors around the world snapped up the virtual currency.

Its huge gains have attracted the attention of global regulators tasked with protecting investors from fraud.

In recent weeks, Japan and China have made noises about a regulatory crackdown, while South Korean policymakers said they were considering shutting down domestic virtual currency exchanges.

An Indian finance ministry official said a federal committee was looking into the possibility of imposing restrictions on virtual currencies and that eventually parliament would have to legislate a regulatory regime.

Officials at Zebpay, India's leading bitcoin exchange, said the industry was adding near 200,000 users every month with an estimated trade volume of about 20 billion Indian rupees (\$315 million).

"Many of our customers are treating digital currency like gold," said Zebpay co-founder Saurabh Agarwal.

Aman Kalra, marketing head of Coinsecure, a bitcoin exchange in New Delhi, said more than 150 bitcoins were changing hands every week through its platform. The company has 100,000 registered users and is now launching a platform to sell ethereum and other digital currencies.

Eastern Tubes Limited
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation)
374, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh
Phone: 9115175, 9115176, Fax No. 880-02-9117766
Website: www.etl.gov.bd

Ref No. ETL/LED/GD1/2017-18/1480

18/01/2018

Invitation for International Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Industries.			
2	Agency	Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation.			
3	Procuring entity name	Eastern Tubes Ltd.			
4	Procuring entity code	N/A			
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.			
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Design, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Machinery & Equipments for LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL on Turnkey Basis.			
7	Invitation Ref. No.	ETL/LED/GD-1/2017-18/1480.			
8	Date	18.01.2018.			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement method	International Open Tendering Method (Single Stage Two Envelope).			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and source of funds	GOB (Development).			
11	Development partners (if applicable)	N/A.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	5033.			
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL.			
14	Tender package No.	ETL/LEG/GD-1.			
15	Tender package name	Procurement of Design, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Machinery & Equipments for LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL on Turnkey Basis.			
16	Tender publication date	21/01/2018.			
17	Tender last selling date	05/03/2018 up to 15:00 hr (BST).			
18	Tender submission date & time	06/03/2018 up to 12:00 hr (BST).			
19	Tender opening date & time	06/03/2018 on 1:00 hrs (BST) (Tenderers or their authorized representatives, if any, are allowed to attend).			
20	Name and address of the office(s)	Project Director, LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL, 374, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh. Controller of Accounts, Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation (Level-2), 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.			
	- Selling tender document	Project Director, LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL, 374, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh.			
	- Receiving tender document	General Manager (Purchase), Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation, Level-5 "BSEC BHABAN", 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.			
	- Opening tender document	Joint Chief, Planning Wing, Ministry of Industries, 91, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.			
21	Place/date/time of pre tender meeting	N/A.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22	Eligibility of tenderer	<p>a) Tenderers shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract, shall have fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes and social security contributions under the provisions of laws and regulations of the country of its origin and shall not have a conflict of interest pursuant of the Public Procurement Rules-2008.</p> <p>b) The maximum three (3) numbers of arbitration against the tenderer over a period of last five (5) years.</p> <p>c) The tenderer shall have a minimum of five (5) years of overall experience in the supply of similar goods and related services.</p> <p>d) The satisfactory completion of supply of Machinery & Equipments for Installing LED Light Assembling Plant of minimum USD 1.50 million or BDT 1200.00 lac values under maximum one (01) contract in the last three (3) years (i.e. years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper).</p> <p>e) The minimum supply and/or production capacity of goods per year is USD 2.50 million or BDT 2000.00 lac.</p> <p>f) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is USD 2.25 million or BDT 1800.00 lac.</p>			
23	Brief description of goods	As in SI No. 6.			
24	Brief description of related services	Skill level training.			
25	Price of tender document	Tk 6,000/- (six thousand) or USD 75.00 to be paid in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Project Director, LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL.			
26	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount	Completion time
01	Procurement of Design, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Machinery & Equipments for LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL on Turnkey Basis	Eastern Tubes Ltd, 374, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh	USD 37,500.00 or BDT 30,00,000.00 payable in the form of Unconditional Bank Guarantee in favour of Project Director, LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL	Within 180 days from the date of issuance of letter of credit	

27	Name of official inviting the tender	Abdul Hadi.
28	Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director.
29	Address of official inviting the tender	LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL, 374, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh.
30	Contact details of official inviting the tender	Tel: 880-2-9115175-76, Fax: 880-2-9117766, E-mail: eastertubes@yahoo.com
31	a) The tenderers are requested to read the tender document carefully before submission of their offer.	
32	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings.	

Abdul Hadi
Project Director
LED Light (CKD) Assembling Plant in ETL

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-1, Chittagong
Phone-031-723125

Memo No. 5-121/1046

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concerned that the following tenders are invited in the National e-GP Portal:-

Sl No.	Tender ID No.	Publishing date & time	Closing date & time
1.	150857 (Lightning Arrester System)	21-01-2018 7.00	06-02-2018 9.15
2.	150839 (Supply & installation Air Cooler at office of the Additional Divisional Commissioner (General), Court Building, Chittagong)	21-01-2018 7.00	06-02-2018 9.15
3.	150575 (Supply & installation HT cable at Goachi Bagan, Chittagong Medical College Hospital, Chittagong)	21-01-2018 7.00	06-02-2018 9.15
4.	148923 (Refilling of Fire Extinguishers, Divisional Commissioner, & Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong)	21-01-2018 7.00	06-02-2018 9.15
5.	155225 (Providing and installation of lightning arrester on the roof of Circuit House, Chittagong)	21-01-2018 7.00	06-02-2018 9.15
6.	153817 (Replacement of existing 20 Hp Centrifugal Pump Motor set (Standby unit) and related work at Bangladesh Television, Chittagong Centre)	21-01-2018 7.00	06-02-2018 9.15
7.	152251 (Supply, installation for LED Security light & replacement of old SDB & PABX line in Circuit House, Chittagong)	21-01-2018 7.00	06-02-2018 9.15

These are online tenders where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal ([https://www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Gazi Nasimur Reza
Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-1, Chittagong

GD-183

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Brahmanbaria
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No: 46.02.1200.000.07.018.17-233
Reference No. LGED/PD/Housing/C-05(1)/2012/465; Date: 07/12/2017
Reference No. LGED/PD/Housing/C-05(1)/2012/466; Date: 07/12/2017

e-Tender Notice No. 55/2017-18

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of works.

SI No.	e-Tender ID No.	Package No.	Location
1	154502	CHLUMP/B.BARIA/BANCHARAMPUR/H-38/16-17	Bancharampur Upazila
2	154503	CHLUMP/B.BARIA/BANCHARAMPUR/H-39/16-17	