

# China can be more courageous in opening: central banker

AFP, Beijing

China's chief central banker said on Friday the country could be more "courageous" in opening its markets, as European and American firms push for greater access to the world's second largest economy.

"Now that we have entered a new stage, we can be more courageous in opening our market to the outside world," said Zhou Xiaochuan, governor of the People's Bank of China, during a news conference on the sidelines of the annual rubberstamp parliament in Beijing.

China has been considering opening to foreign financial firms since the late 1990s when it was preparing to join the World Trade Organization, Zhou said, blaming the delay on the global financial crisis.

But now leaders have taken the first tentative steps, allowing foreign firms to take majority stakes in financial firms operating in China.

Last year, Beijing said it would liberalise foreign access within three years, permitting companies to own as much as 51 percent of financial firms -- a welcome move for a key US industry as trade tensions stir between the two countries. And on Friday, deputy governor Yi Gang indicated the shareholding restrictions could be loosened or done away with altogether.

"This will reduce the discriminatory treatment of foreign-invested institutions, and bring about equal treatment for domestic and foreign investors," Yi said during the news conference.

But analysts question whether foreign firms will be able to make much headway in the country, with Beijing having delayed the move for so long that the opening may do little to threaten

## First Session of the 13<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress



REUTERS

Zhou Xiaochuan, governor of the People's Bank of China, prepares to answer a question at a news conference in Beijing.

the dominance of homegrown financials.

Zhou also tore into cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin but adding that China was still interested in digital units. "We don't like the idea of creating a speculative product that prompts people to fantasise about striking it rich overnight," he said. "This is not a good thing."

Last year, China launched one of the world's strictest crackdowns on cryptocurrency trading and initial coin offerings.

At the same time, China's digital payments ecosystem has developed faster than most of the

world with mobile payments dominating everyday transactions throughout urban centres.

The PBoC has set up a digital currency research centre, Zhou noted, stressing that such technological developments should be encouraged as long as they serve the real economy.

"In the future, traditional forms of paper money and coins may gradually fade away, and some day may not exist at all," Zhou said.

The 70-year-old Zhou is expected to step down from his post this spring, after leading China's central bank for 15 years.



Yang Jingyuan, president of Yunnan Traffic Technician College, China, and Kazi Zakir Hossain, principal of Dhaka Polytechnic Institute, sign the documents of a memorandum of understanding in the presence of Nurul Islam Nahid, education minister, at International Skills Conference 2018 in Dhaka on Friday. Eighty two MoUs have been signed between Chinese and local polytechnic and technical training institutes on exchange of students and teachers on education and training.

## Meghna Petroleum Limited

(A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)  
58-59, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong

### Tender Notice

1.	Name of procuring entity	Meghna Petroleum Limited, 58-59, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong.		
2.	Invitation of tender for	Tender No.	Description	Cost of tender documents
		PUR: 082	Construction of 4" MS pipe line & other related works at Sreemongal Depot, Moulvibazar.	Tk 2,000/- (non-refundable)
3.	Procurement method	Single stage double envelope method. Tender should be submitted in two separate envelope, one for Technical offer and the other for Commercial/Financial offer. EACH ENVELOPE MUST BE SEALED PROPERLY.		
4.	Last selling date of tender document	March 27, 2018 15.30 hrs.		
5.	Tender closing time & date	March 28, 2018 15.00 hrs.		
6.	Tender opening time & date	March 28, 2018 15.15 hrs.		
7.	Name & address of the offices for:	Selling of tender documents: 1. Purchase Section, Meghna Petroleum Limited, 58-59, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong. 2. Cash Section, Meghna Petroleum Limited, Meghna Bhaban, 131, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.		
	Receiving of tender documents	DGM (Operations), Meghna Petroleum Limited, 58-59, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong.		
	Opening of tender documents	DGM (Operations), Meghna Petroleum Limited, 58-59, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong.		
8.	Qualification of tenderer	a. The bidder must be 1st class contractor enlisted with any govt/semi-govt/autonomous bodies. b. The tenderer must have minimum 05 (five) years general experience in the civil/mechanical fabrication works as a prime contractor. c. The interested contractor must have successfully completion of civil/mechanical fabrications work of Taka minimum 20.00 (twenty) lac in a single order as a prime contractor in any govt/autonomous bodies over a period of 05 (five) years i.e. years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper. d. Average annual construction turnover shall be greater than Tk 40.00 (forty) lac over the last 03 (three) financial years. e. The minimum amount of liquid assets or working capital or credit facilities of the tenderer shall be Tk 20.00 (twenty) lac.		
9.	Special instructions	Offer must comprise the following documents, failing which the tender may be rejected as being incomplete: i. The following documents must be submitted in the technical offer: a. Letter of Technical Bid (Form-1). b. Tenderer Information (Form-2). c. Attested copies of work order/purchase order along with successfully completion of civil/mechanical fabrication work of Taka minimum 20.00 (twenty) lac in a single order as a prime contractor in any govt/autonomous bodies over a period of 05 (five) years i.e. years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper. d. Attested copy of up-to-date bank solvency certificate or credit facilities as specified in the tender schedule. e. Attested copy of income tax/TIN certificate, up-to-date trade licence & VAT registration certificate. f. Original tender schedule duly sealed & signed by the person duly authorized to sign on behalf of the tenderer. g. Original copy of money receipt against purchase of tender documents. h. Earnest money as mentioned above & any other information/documents as specified in the tender schedule. ii. The following documents must be submitted in the Financial Offer: a. Letter of Financial Bid (Form-7). b. Bill of Quantities (BOQ) (Section-6). NB: After opening/scrutiny of the technical offers the successful bidders will be advised the date/time of opening of the commercial/financial offers to enable their attendance as per schedule.		
10.	Procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or part of any tender without showing any reason whatsoever.	Note: If the tender cannot be received/opened on the date of schedule due to any uncontrollable reason, the same will be received/opened on the next working day at same time and same place.		

GD-687

## Panasonic plans to sell security camera factory in China

REUTERS, Tokyo

Panasonic Corp is considering selling a Chinese plant that makes security cameras in a deal it hopes will fetch over \$450 million, the Nikkei reported on Saturday.

Panasonic is looking to close first-round bidding in early April, and potential buyers include US equity fund Carlyle Group and British funds Permira and CVC Capital Partners, the Nikkei said, without citing sources.

Panasonic expects to gain over 50 billion yen (\$468 million) from selling the plant in Suzhou, a city in southeast China's Jiangsu province, money that could be used in its other key businesses such as automotive batteries, the Nikkei said. The firm may end talks if it does not receive an agreeable bid, the Nikkei added.

A Panasonic official said the firm was considering various options to strengthen its security systems business, but that nothing has been decided. Carlyle and CVC Capital Partners could not be reached for comment, while Permira declined to comment.

## উপজেলা পরিষদ

কর্মসূচির সদর উপজেলা

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