



Mohammad Borhanuddin, deputy managing director of Bank Asia, and Akhlaqur Rahman, chief operations officer of MetLife Bangladesh, exchange the signed documents of a deal at the latter's office in Dhaka yesterday. The insurer's policyholders can now pay premium through the bank's branches and agent banking outlets. Md Arfan Ali, president of the bank, and Syed Hamdul Karim, general manager of MetLife Bangladesh, were present.

BANK ASIA

Oil steadies as equities gain, but concern builds over supply

REUTERS, London

Oil prices were broadly steady on Thursday, supported by a pickup in equity markets, but held back by evidence that supply will overtake demand this year.

Brent crude futures LCOc1 were last down 13 cents on the day at \$64.76 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures CLc1 were up 1 cent at \$60.97 a barrel.

Global oil demand is expected to pick up this year but supply is growing at a faster pace, leading to a rise in inventories in the first quarter of 2018, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Thursday.

"Oil and (the stock market) have been moving hand in hand ... which basically means oil is extremely sensitive to the growth outlook," SEB commodity strategist Bjarne Schieldrop said, adding he still

expected demand growth to reach 1.8 million barrels per day (bpd) this year.

European equity markets were buoyed by strong earnings from several key financial firms, while US stock index futures SPc1 pointed to a pickup on Wall Street later.

The oil price has moved in sync with stocks uninterruptedly for the past 99 trading days, the longest such stretch in two years.

Opec and several other non-Opec producers led by Russia began cutting supply in January 2017 to erase a global glut of crude that had built up since 2014.

The IEA and Opec both reported a modest rise in global inventory levels in January.

Looming over markets has been a relentless climb in US crude output C-OUT-T-EIA, which hit another record last week by rising to 10.38 million bpd, up by more than 23 percent since mid-2016.

US pressing China to cut trade surplus by \$100b

REUTERS, Washington

The Trump administration is pressing China to cut its trade surplus with the United States by \$100 billion, a White House spokeswoman said on Wednesday, clarifying a tweet last week from President Donald Trump.

Last Wednesday, Trump tweeted that China had been asked to develop a plan to reduce its trade

imbalance with the United States by \$1 billion, but the spokeswoman said Trump had meant to say \$100 billion. The United States had a record \$375 billion trade deficit with China in 2017, which made up two thirds of a global \$566 billion US trade gap last year, according to US Census Bureau data.

China reported its 2017 US trade surplus as \$276 billion, also about two thirds of its reported global

surplus of \$422.5 billion.

The White House spokeswoman declined to provide details about how the administration would like China to accomplish the surplus-cutting goal - whether increased purchases of US products such as soybeans or aircraft would suffice, or whether it wants China to make major changes to its industrial policies, cut subsidies to state-owned enterprises or further reduce

steel and aluminum capacity.

In a Thursday editorial, widely-read Chinese state-run tabloid the Global Times said the United States was trying to play the victim.

"If the US wants to reduce its trade deficit, it has to make Americans more hard-working and conduct reforms in accordance with international market demand, instead of asking the rest of the world to change," it wrote.



WARTSILA

Jaakko Eskola, president of Wartsila Corporation, and Javier Cavada Camino, president for energy solutions at the technology group, witness the exchange of documents after the signing of a deal with Baraka Shikalbaha Power Ltd in Dhaka on Wednesday. Under the contract, the Finnish firm will deliver equipment for a 105-MW power plant being built in Shikalbaha, Chittagong. Gulam Rabbani Chowdhury, managing director of Baraka Shikalbaha Power, and Jilur Rahim, managing director of Wartsila Bangladesh, were present.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Municipal Governance and Services Project (MGSP)
LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Memo No. LGED/PD/MGSP/C-26/2017/319 Date: 13/03/2018

Corrigendum Notice of Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for
Development, upgradation and maintenance support of software's consultancy services for Municipal Support Unit (MSU) of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)

The EOI Notice for Development, upgradation and maintenance support of software's consultancy services for Municipal Support Unit (MSU) of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) which was circulated vide Memo No: LGED/PD/MGSP/C-26/2017/262 Date: 04/03/2018 will be changed in SI No. 5(h) according to the following:

Title of EOI	Previous	Present
Development, upgradation and maintenance support of software's consultancy services for Municipal Support Unit (MSU) of Local Government Engineering Department	h). CMMI (Capital Maturity Model Integration) level	h). CMMI/ISO or Equivalent level

The other terms & conditions of this EOI will remain unchanged.

Shaikh Muzakka Zaher
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Municipal Governance and Services Project (MGSP)
Local Government Engineering Department
LGED Bhaban (Level-6), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
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GD-758

উন্নয়নের পথতত্ত্ব
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

Audi expects tough year amid model changes

REUTERS, Germany

Audi expects a difficult year as the launch of over 20 redesigned and new models could hurt deliveries, after declining sales of high-end models and further costs from an emissions scandal kept profitability below that of Mercedes-Benz and BMW.

Volkswagen's main profit engine will introduce a new model every three weeks this year, including the redesigned A6 saloon, the all-new Q8 sport-utility vehicle (SUV) and the battery-powered e-tron SUV, it said on Thursday.

Bottlenecks expected from introducing new vehicle tests done to harmonized world standards, and the "dieselgate" scandal which in 2017 cost another 387 million euros (\$478 million), will add further strains, Audi said. "This means an enormous feat of strength for us," Chief Executive Rupert Stadler said. "2018 will be a year of transition."

The model replacements caused Audi to refrain from projecting another outright increase in deliveries, saying it wants to at least match last year's record 1.88 million sales. Revenue is expected to slightly exceed last year's 60.1 billion euros. The model offensive, also including the overhauled Q3 compact SUV, is expected to have a "sustained positive impact" on deliveries and earnings from 2019, Audi said.

The luxury brand achieved 1 billion euros of cost reductions last year as part of a goal to cut spending in R&D, sales and other departments by 10 billion euros by 2022 to free up funds for its electric-car program.

Also backed by a new joint platform with VW premium stable Porsche, Audi plans to launch 20 electrified models by 2025, more than half of which will be all-electric.

Dry weather hits New Zealand growth

AFP, Wellington

New Zealand's economy expanded by a sluggish 0.6 percent in the last quarter of 2017 as record summer temperatures hit agricultural output, official data released Thursday showed.

The September-December figure, lower than market expectations of 0.8 percent, brought annual growth for calendar 2017 to 2.9 percent.

Statistics New Zealand said agriculture was down 3.2 percent for the quarter, with dry weather affecting output as the nation sweltered through its hottest summer on record.

Analysts said the economy was steady but failed to gain momentum in the final three months of the year.

"Looking ahead, we expect annual growth will average around 3.0 percent again this year, although the risks lie to the downside," Capital Economics' Kate Hickie said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Custom House, Benapole Jessore Invitation for Tender of 100 MT Complete Digital Weighbridge System Tender No. 06/2017-2018

1.	Ministry/division	Internal Resources Division, Ministry of Finance.
2.	Agency	Custom House, Benapole, Jessore.
3.	Procuring entity name	Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Benapole, Jessore.
4.	Procuring entity district	Jessore.
5.	Invitation for	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 01 (one) unit minimum 100 Metric Ton capacity complete Digital Weighbridge System with all standard accessories and related services including earthwork, foundation & building operation room and other civil & electrical works as per specifications and terms & conditions of tender document/schedule.
6.	Invitation Ref. No.	File No. 1 (16)/3/G.L&Purto/weighbridge/Bena/2016
7.	Date	13/03/2018
8.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
9.	Budget and source of fund	Revenue Budget of GOB.
10.	Tender package name	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 01 (one) unit minimum 100 Metric Ton capacity complete Digital Weighbridge System with all standard accessories and related services including earthwork, foundation & building operation room and other civil & electrical works as per specifications and terms & conditions of tender document/schedule.
11.	Tender publication date	14/03/2018
12.	Schedule selling last date	28/03/2018 (During office hour).
13.	Tender closing date and time	29/03/2018 at 12.00 noon.
14.	Tender opening date and time	29/03/2018 at 12.30pm.
15.	Name & address of the office	Custom House, Benapole, Jessore.
	-Selling tender document	Custom House, Benapole, Jessore.
	-Receiving tender document	Custom House, Benapole, Jessore.
	-Opening tender document	Custom House, Benapole, Jessore.
16.	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderer must have legal, financial, professional and technical capacity to meet the requirements of this tender and must fulfill the obligations of all tax requirements. Other requirements are stated in the tender document.
17.	Brief description of goods	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 01 (one) unit minimum 100 Metric Ton capacity complete Digital Weighbridge System with all standard accessories and related services including earthwork, foundation & building operation room and other civil & electrical works as per specifications and terms & conditions of tender document/schedule.
18.	Brief description of related services	As mentioned in the tender document/schedule.
19.	Price of tender document (Tk.)	Tk. 2,000/- (two thousand) in Treasury Chalan with an official letter addressing Commissioner, Custom House, Benapole, Jessore (non-refundable).
20.	Identification of goods	Location Tender security Completion time in days
	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 01 (one) unit minimum 100 Metric Ton capacity complete Digital Weighbridge System with all standard accessories and related services including earthwork, foundation & building operation room and other civil & electrical works for Custom House, Benapole, Jessore	Custom House, Benapole, Jessore Tk. 10,00,000.00 (ten lac only) 50 (fifty) days from the date of issuing purchase order
21.	Name, designation and address of official inviting tender	Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Benapole, Jessore.
22.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Ph: 0422875333 Fax: 0422875118 E-mail: benapolecustoms@gmail.com
23.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

Mohammad Marufur Rahman
Deputy Commissioner of Customs
For Commissioner of Customs

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ ডাক বিভাগ
ডাক অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা-১০০০

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণকে সদয় অবহিত করা যাচ্ছে যে, The Post Office Act, 2018 শিরোনামে একটি নতুন আইন তৈরির লক্ষ্যে ডাক অধিদপ্তরের ওয়েবসাইটে সর্বসাধারণের মতামত প্রদানের ব্যবস্থা রেখে আপলোড করা হয়েছে। এ বিষয়ে কারও কোন মূল্যবান মতামত থাকলে তা আগামী ১৫ দিনের মধ্যে <http://bangladeshpost.gov.bd/notice/category/110-the-post-office-act-2018> অথবা goo.gl/UpSVr2 লিংকে প্রদানের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

মোহাম্মাদ শহিদুল ইসলাম
পরিচালক (কর্মী ও সংস্থাপন)
জিডি-৭৫৪
ফোনঃ ৯৫৫৮০৮০

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust
Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education
House: 44, Road: 12/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209
www.pmedutrust.gov.bd; Fax: 02-8191019

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) For Selection of Software Firm

No: 37.24.02.000.107.121.2018-4421 Date: 14/03/2018

1.	Ministry/Division	Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education.
2.	Agency	Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust.
3.	Procuring entity name	Managing Director (Additional Secretary), Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust, House No: 44, Road No: 12/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209.
4.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
5.	Expression of interest for selection of	Software Firm for 'e-stipend system' development and post-development support.
6.	EOI Ref. No. and date	37.24.02.000.107.121.2018-44; Date: 15/03/2018
KEY INFORMATION		
7.	Procurement method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS).
FUNDING INFORMATION		
8.	Budget and source of funds	Trust Fund.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
9.	Programme name	Distribution of Stipend among Degree (Pass) & Equivalent Level Students.
10.	Last date & time of submission of EOI	[Expression of Interest shall be submitted by 01:00pm (BST) on 04/04/2018 in sealed envelope delivered to Managing Director, Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust and be clearly marked Expressions of Interest (EOI) for "Selection of Firm for 'e-stipend system' development and post-development support".]
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
11.	Brief description of the assignment	Selection of Software Firm for 'e-stipend system' development and post-development support. For detail Terms of Reference (TOR) please log-in: www.pmedutrust.gov.bd
12.	Experiences, resources & delivery capacity requires	This is a national task with utmost importance towards the digital Bangladesh goal so the bidder must prove that they have solid technical background and operational strength to undertake and take this work forward without any hindrances. Bidder must also have adequate technical ability, resources, human resources and processes. As such, following are defined as minimum eligibility criteria: 1. Minimum 07 (seven) years experience in web based software/mobile apps related business as a registered company in Bangladesh. 2. Registered entity with Registrar of joint stock & companies (RJSC) in Bangladesh. 3. Must have experience of developing software solution for Government of Bangladesh. 4. Similar experience on web based payment disbursement and monitoring solution in public sector (Preferably Education) and software solution development related to public service delivery. Proven experience in large scale data migration in public sector. 5. Nationwide implementation of large scale database, integration with other government entities in public sector. 6. Must submit at least 02 (two) work order with minimum value of 50 (fifty) lakh taka within last two years. 7. Minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the firm shall be Tk. 30 (thirty) lakh. 8. Must have BASIS membership. 9. Management capacity (brochures and other documents describing similar assignments, experience, availability of appropriate professional staff and experience among applicant's staff, resources to carry out the assignment). 10. Logistic capability (well-equipped office space at Dhaka with necessary facilities). 11. Multiple Companies having technical and legal competency for developing such product can bid jointly but they must have legal agreement among them where one company needs to be lead. Leading company needs to fulfill all conditions mentioned in the TOR. Joint-venture agreement needs to have clear identification about each responsibility matrix along with IPR. The Managing Director (Additional Secretary) of Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust , Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education now invites eligible software firms to indicate the interest in providing the services. Interested firms/Vendors are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. This shall require substantiation through submission of brochures and other documents describing similar assignments, experience availability of appropriate professional qualification and experience among applicant's staff, resources to carry out the assignment, financial logistical capability, etc. Short list of Firms/Vendors will be prepared upon evaluation of EOIs of the eligible applicants and "Request for Proposal (RFP)" document will be issued in their favour. Firm/Vendor will be selected using the Quality and Cost Based (QCBS) method in accordance with the PPA 2006 and PPR 2008.
13.	Submission of EOI: a) Application for Expression of Interest (EOI); b) Up-to-date trade licence; c) Constitutional documents of the firm(s)/JV/s; d) Up-to-date Audited financial reports of the firm(s)/JV/s; e) Up-to-date VAT registration certificate; f) Up-to-date Income Tax clearance certificate; g) One set original copy and one set photocopy should be submitted.	
14.	The sealed envelope marked as 'Expression of Interest (EOI)' should be submitted to Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust, House No: 44 (1st Floor), Road No: 12/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Short list shall comprise minimum 4 or maximum 7 firms who will be requested to submit the Technical and Financial Proposal (RFP).	
15.	Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust shall reserve the right to accept or reject any or all Expression of Interest (EOIs) without assigning any reason.	

On behalf of Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust

Md. Shahadat Hossain Mojumder
Director (Joint Secretary)
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