



Md Mizanur Rahman, executive director of East Coast Group, and Nizam Mohammad Nusrat, general manager of Omera Home Appliances, pose with the latter's top dealers at a "Partners Meet" conference in Seagull Hotel in Cox's Bazar recently. Omera Home Appliances is a unit of Radiant Alliance Limited, a company of the group.

OMERA HOME APPLIANCES



IGLOO
GM Kamrul Hassan, CEO of Igloo Ice Cream and Milk Unit of Abdul Monem Ltd, speaks at a press conference at a hotel in Dhaka yesterday to announce the start of a three-day "Igloo Ice Cream Festival" at International Convention City Bashundhara in the capital. The festival starts today.

Amazon launches international shopping from US

REUTERS

Amazon.com Inc has launched an international shopping feature that will enable customers across the world to shop more than 45 million items that can be shipped to their country from the United States.

The international shopping feature, which is available on a mobile browser and the mobile app for both iOS and Android devices, has been extended to users to purchase products outside their home markets and is available in five languages, including Spanish, English, simplified Chinese, Brazilian Portuguese and German, Amazon said on Tuesday.

It will allow customers to shop in 25 currencies, with more languages and currencies to be added in 2018.

Customers can also choose from different shipping options and delivery speeds.

EU pushes quick Japan trade deal in face of US protectionism

AFP, Strasbourg

The EU said on Wednesday it was leading the defence of free trade in the face of US "protectionism" as it unveiled plans to fast-track deals with Japan and Singapore.

The European Commission proposals to push through the trade pacts by next year come as Brussels is at loggerheads with Washington over President Donald Trump's tariffs on steel and aluminium.

"They send a strong signal to the world that the EU is committed to open rule-based trade," EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom told a press conference in Strasbourg, France.

"We are willing to take that leadership," the Swedish commissioner said on the sidelines of a European Parliament session.

The commission, the executive arm of the European Union, has concluded draft deals with Japan and Singapore, but the 28 EU states have yet to formally approve them.

It proposes that member states

should approve them directly, thereby avoiding votes in national parliaments that nearly derailed a pact with Canada.

Malmstrom had just described Trump's tariffs on steel and aluminium as "pure protectionism" that breach the rules of the World Trade Organization.

But she said support for "good, win-win trade agreements is growing in the world," with the EU also close to striking trade deals with Australia, Mexico and Latin America's Mercosur trade bloc.

The deal that EU negotiators concluded with Japan in December will form the world's biggest economic area of more than 600 million people while the one with Singapore is seen as a "stepping stone" to Southeast Asia.

Malmstrom said she hoped now for "quick handling" of the deals by the member states, saying it was "realistic" to do so before the five-year mandate of Jean-Claude Juncker's commission expires in mid-2019.

Before they are signed, she said,

the deals will also have to be endorsed by the legislatures in Japan and Singapore, but "this can happen by the end of the year".

The trade agreements with Japan and Singapore do not face the additional hurdles of having to be ratified by the EU national parliaments.

They do not contain clauses on investment protections that nearly derailed a trade pact with Canada two years ago when Belgium's regional parliament of Wallonia threatened to veto the whole deal.

However, a separate investment protection agreement with Singapore must be ratified by EU countries.

Critics have alleged that clauses to protect powerful international investors could force governments to change laws against the wishes of the people.

Under the Japan deal, the EU will open its market to the world-leading Japanese auto industry, with Tokyo in return scrapping barriers to EU farming products, especially dairy products.



Md Ismail Hossain Siraji, chairman of Jamuna Bank, and Golam Dastagir Gazi, a director and a law-maker, inaugurate Jamuna Bank Sports Club at the bank's head office in Dhaka on Tuesday.

JAMUNA BANK



PRIME BANK
Rahel Ahmed, managing director of Prime Bank, cuts a cake to celebrate the bank's 23rd anniversary at its head office in Dhaka on Tuesday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD

Road Division, Faridpur

☎/Fax: 0631/63256-66367

E-mail: eefar@rhd.gov.bd

RHD Quotation for Toll Collection

Sealed Quotation are hereby invited for the following work

| | | | |
|----|---|---|---|
| 01 | Leasing quotation notice No. | : | FRD-01/2017-2018(9th Call). |
| 02 | Description of toll | : | Leasing out for collection of Toll from different Vehicular Traffic crossing the GORAI BRIDGE at 66th km of Daulatdia-Faridpur (Goalchamat)-Magura-Jhenaidah-Jessore-Khulna-Mongla (Degrai) N-7 Road under Road Division, Faridpur during the year 2018-19, 2019-2020, 2020-2021. (From 01/07/2018 to 30/06/2021) |
| 03 | Lease period | : | 3 (three) financial years (from 01/07/2018 to 30/06/2021) 3 years. |
| 04 | Price of quotation scheduled | : | Tk 5,000.00 (five thousand) only. |
| 05 | Earnest money | : | 10% of quoted rate (Except VAT & IT) in the form of BD/PO from any schedule bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Faridpur. |
| 06 | Last date & time for selling leasing quotation document | : | 06-05-2018 up to office hour. |
| 07 | Last date & time for receiving the quotation | : | 07-05-2018 up to 12:30 |
| 08 | Eligibility of quotationer | : | Contractors in RHD or in any Department/Any Persons/Firm in Bangladesh (who possess nationality of Bangladesh, VAT, up-to-date trade licence & Income Tax certificate). |
| 09 | Name of offices where leasing quotation will be available | : | Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, Dhaka/Deputy Commissioner, Faridpur/Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Faridpur/Madaripur/ Shariatpur/Gopalganj/Rajbari/Magura/Planning Division-1, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka/Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division-1/2/1st Line Workshop, Faridpur. |
| 10 | Name of offices where leasing quotation will be received | : | Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Faridpur/Magura. Additional Chief Engineer, RHD, Road Zone, Gopalganj & Deputy Commissioner, Faridpur. |
| 11 | Date, time & place for opening the quotation | : | Place : Executive Engineer, RHD Office, Roads & Highways Department, Road Division, Faridpur. Date : 07-05-2018 Time : 4:00pm |

The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any/all quotations without assigning any reason thereof.


Mohammad Jahangir Alam

ID No. 601929

Executive Engineer, RHD

Road Division, Faridpur

GD-1073

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
|  Padma Oil Company Limited (A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation) Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chittagong | | | | |
| Tender Notice | | | | |
| Interior Decoration of POCL Rented Dhaka Office at BTMC Bhaban (10th Floor) at Karwan Bazar, Dhaka | | | | |
| 1 | Ministry/Division | Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Energy and Mineral Resources Division. | | |
| 2 | Agency | Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC). | | |
| 3 | Procuring entity name | Padma Oil Company Limited. | | |
| 4 | Procuring entity district | Chittagong | | |
| 5 | Invitation for | National Tender | Works | Single Lot |
| 6 | Invitation Ref. No. | E&P/CAPEX-74/F-58/P-34/17-18 | | |
| KEY INFORMATION | | | | |
| 7 | Procurement method | NCT | Single Stage | |
| FUNDING INFORMATION | | | | |
| 8 | Budget and source of funds | Own Fund of Padma Oil Company Limited. | | |
| 9 | Development partner (if applicable) | None | | |
| PARTICULAR INFORMATION | | | | |
| | Project name | Interior Decoration of POCL Rented Dhaka Office at BTMC Bhaban (10th Floor) at Karwan Bazar, Dhaka. | | |
| 11 | Invitation for Tender Ref. No. | E&P/CAPEX-74/F-58/P-34/17-18 | | |
| 12 | Tender last selling date | 06/05/2018 up to 1400 hrs. | | |
| 13 | Tender closing date and time | Date (dd/mm/yyyy) | Time | |
| | | 07/05/2018 | 1200 hrs | |
| 14 | Tender opening date and time | 07/05/2018 | 1500 hrs | |
| 15 | Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting | Address(s) | Date and Time | |
| | | N/A | N/A | |
| 16 | Name & address of the office(s) | Address(s) | | |
| | Selling tender document (principal) | a) Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chittagong. b) DGM (Dhaka)'s Office, Padma Oil Company Limited, 6, Paribagh, Dhaka. | | |
| | -Selling tender document (others) | N/A | | |
| | -Receiving tender document | a) Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chittagong. b) Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chittagong. | | |
| | Opening tender document | Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chittagong. | | |
| INFORMATION FOR TENDERER | | | | |
| 17 | Eligibility of tenderer | a) A satisfactory completion of similar 1 (one) No. Interior Decoration/Civil Work at Government/Semi-Government Organization/Oil Marketing/ Autonomous body/ Reputed Private Organization of Tk.10 (ten) lac over a period of last 5 (five) years shall be required. b) The required average annual construction turnover shall be minimum Tk. 10 (ten) lac over the last 3 (three) years. (c) The minimum amount of liquid assets or working capital or credit facilities of the tenderer shall be Tk. 09 (nine) lac. | | |
| 18 | Brief description of work | As per tender schedule. | | |
| 19 | Tender document price | BDT 1000/- per tender schedule (non-refundable). | | |
| 20 | Type of payment for tender price | On Cash Payment. | | |
| 21 | Type of payment for security amount | In the form of PO or DD in favour of Padma Oil Company Limited. | | |
| LOT INFORMATION | | | | |
| | Lot No. | Identification of lot | Location | Tender security amount in Taka |
| 22 | N/A | N/A | POCL Rented Dhaka Office at BTMC Bhaban (10th Floor) at Karwan Bazar, Dhaka | be Tk. 50,000.00 (fifty thousand) |
| | | | | 45 (forty-five) days from the date of handing over the site. |
| PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS | | | | |
| 23 | Name of official inviting tender | Engr. Md. Nurul Amin. | | |
| 24 | Designation of official inviting tender | Deputy General Manager (E&P). | | |
| 25 | Address of official inviting tender | Strand Road, Sadarghat, Chittagong, Bangladesh. | | |
| 26 | Contact details of official inviting tender | Phone: 031-633243, Fax: 031-612668, 031-618312, email: aminpod@yahoo.com | | |
| 27 | The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without showing any reason whatsoever. | | | |
| Engr. Md. Nurul Amin DGM (E&P) Telephone: 031-633243 | | | | |

GD-1071

British inflation drops to lowest level in year

AFP, London

British inflation unexpectedly slowed in March to reach the lowest level in a year, data showed Wednesday, undermining the urgency of raising interest rates although analysts said a hike was still likely next month.

The pound slumped following news that the Consumer Prices Index 12-month rate dropped to 2.5 percent in March as the official data throws into doubt the course of the Bank of England's monetary policy this year.

Analysts' consensus forecast had been for the annual inflation rate to remain at 2.7 percent last month, while the Office for National Statistics said this was undone by prices for clothing rising by less than one year earlier.

"Sterling fell sharply on the news, losing more than half a cent against the dollar," said Ben Brettell, senior economist at Hargreaves Lansdown.

"Traders had been betting on an interest rate rise next month from the Bank of England, and while this still looks the most likely outcome, the absence of inflationary pressure lessens the onus on the Bank to act immediately," he added.

Markets have been pricing in two interest rate hikes from the BoE's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) this year, in May and November, as workers in Britain enjoy a pick-up in wage growth.

"The fact that inflation has fallen further means that real wages are likely to have strengthened more than expected, relieving some of the pressure on consumers," noted Paul Hollingsworth, senior UK economist at Capital Economics research group.

"This means that -- somewhat counterintuitively -- the fall in inflation might make it easier for the MPC to raise interest rates."

The Bank of England's main lending rate stands at 0.5 percent. Analysts expect it to rise to 1.0 percent this year following two quarter-point hikes.