



Mahbubur Rahman, chairman of Eastland Insurance Company Ltd, presides over the company's 31st annual general meeting at Golden Tulip - The Grandmark Dhaka on June 28. The company approved 7.5 percent cash and 7.5 percent stock dividends for 2017.

US workers fear steel tariffs could be nail in the coffin

AFP, Poplar Bluff, United States

The mood is tense at a nail factory in rural Missouri, where workers fear that steel tariffs imposed by President Donald Trump's administration could cost them their jobs.

As giant spools of steel feed the manufacturing process, the men and women operating the whirring, screeching machines of the Mid-Continent Nail Corporation wonder if Trump himself will come to their rescue.

It has been a successful business, employing some 500 people in the rural community of Poplar Bluff.

"People like us, we thought: biggest nail manufacturer in the United States, our jobs should be safe. Obviously, it's not," said machine shop supervisor Sean Hughey.

The nail company is publicly raising the alarm, saying the tariffs on steel imports may put it out of business.

They have had to raise prices to pay for more expensive steel and cannot compete with cheaper imported nails -- completed products that face no tariffs at all.

"It's a misguided policy," said Chris Pratt, Mid-Continent's chief financial officer and operations chief. "I just think it's a policy that wasn't thought out completely. And we got to fix it."

Many of the workers here voted for Trump. And the Poplar Bluff region favored the president over Hillary Clinton in the 2016 election by a margin of more than 60 percent.

They liked his promise of a resurgence in

American manufacturing.

"I just want to have America on a level playing field, you know. And he seemed like he was interested in doing that," said Hughey.

Support for Trump has not wavered. But workers want the brash Republican to provide an exemption from the tariffs, so the factory can continue to import cheap steel from Deacero, the Mexican company that owns Mid-Continent.

But the company's exemption request is one of more than 20,000 the Trump administration has received.

Factory executives say they can't wait.

Orders have plunged 70 percent and they already have shut down one of their three plants at a sprawling complex in Poplar Bluff. Sixty workers are laid off and hundreds more may soon lose their jobs.

If nothing changes within a few more months, the company might close altogether.

"We need help immediately," said George Skarich, Mid-Continent's vice president of sales. "Because the longer this lasts, the longer it puts us in a position of losing money on a daily basis."

Poplar Bluff is a small community of approximately 17,000 with a handful of manufacturing plants, surrounded by a seemingly endless expanse of farms.

Mid-Continent -- source of 50 percent of all American-made nails -- is a regional economic powerhouse.

It is also a lifeline for Diane Brogdon. Her job as a machine operator provides the sole source

of income for the 54-year-old and her daughter, who is attending college.

"I'm scared about losing everything I have. I think I'm too old to start over again," she said.

Brogdon has worked at the plant for eight years. Just a few months ago, she felt secure enough to buy a house. Now, she's afraid she will lose it.

She still supports Trump, but wants him to rethink some of his actions.

"He needs to stop and think about the people that might lose their jobs because of some of his policies," she says.

Other plant workers echo Brogdon's sentiment. They are hopeful Trump would help, if only he heard their pleas.

They have engaged in a media blitz, including a full-page ad in the local newspaper with an open letter asking for the president's help.

"More than any other president in our time, you have shown compassion for US manufacturing workers," the letter says.

Certainly, the tariffs have been good for some.

In March, US Steel hired 500 workers as it expanded capacity at one of its plants just a two-and-a-half hour drive north of Poplar Bluff and is bringing on 300 more this summer.

Sam Anders can attest to the business boom. The 28-year-old travels from town to town for a company that refurbishes steel plant furnaces. He said he can't keep up with demand.

"We're so far behind on work right now we can't even hardly keep guys out on the road long enough," Anders said.

Opportunities for Afghan money traders as Iran sanctions loom

REUTERS, Herat, Afghanistan

Aziz Ahmad is one of the unlikely winners of the stand-off between the United States and Iran, turning his modest transport service into an international foreign exchange operation that is providing much-needed dollars to the stricken Iranian economy.

A driver in the western Afghan city of Herat, he crosses the border regularly, taking passengers in his transit van to Mashhad in Iran and carrying thousands of dollars to a country desperately starved of foreign exchange.

"Lately it's been possible to make good money with dollars in Iran," he said. On each trip, he takes about \$5,000-6,000 with him, making around \$100 on the exchange rate alone and buying foodstuffs and other products to sell back home.

"Usually, I bring back a few things you can make a profit on here," he said.

Iran's rial has lost 40 percent of its value since President Donald Trump's decision on May 8 to pull the United States out of Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers and reimpose tough economic sanctions on Tehran. As the threat of renewed US sanctions starts to bite, Tehran has become increasingly desperate for dollars and neighboring Afghanistan, with a loosely regulated, dollarized economy and a border with few controls, is an obvious source.

No official figures exist for a trade which is conducted largely out of sight of the authorities, but money changers in Herat say

there has been a clear increase since Trump pulled out of the nuclear accord.

Iranian rules allow travelers to bring in up to 10,000 euros (\$11,697.00), which can be sold to banks in Iran, with the official rate at 42,450 rial to the dollar, well above an unofficial rate of some 77,000 on Wednesday. The government has threatened people trading dollars at unofficial rates with arrest.

A shortage of dollars hurts importers and inconveniences Iranians who travel, study or do business abroad.

"Since the imposition of sanctions on Iran by the United States and the fall in the toman (rial) against other foreign currencies, a lot of Afghan citizens have been taking large quantities of dollars across the border," said Bahulludin Rahimi, president of the Federation of Money Changers of Herat.

He estimated that as much as \$2-3 million dollars cross the porous borders of the western provinces of Herat, Farah and Nimruz into Iran every day.

The lawless regions of Farah, a remote and sparsely populated province south of Herat whose main city was briefly overrun last month by Taliban attackers, are already one of the main smuggling routes and dollars are also crossing the border.

"Afghanistan is a cash economy and it is very hard to control this," said one financial official, who is closely involved in monitoring the traffic. "But if this trend continues, there will be a huge shortage of foreign currency in the country and further devaluation of the afghani."



Khurshed Alam, head of retail finance at LankaBangla Finance Ltd (LBFL), and Md Shafiqul Islam, head of marketing and sales at US-Bangla Airlines, attend a deal signing ceremony at the former's head office in Dhaka on June 28. Card members of LBFL can buy Dhaka-Guangzhou-Dhaka air tickets at a discounted price of Tk 35,555 from the city outlets of the airline.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ
মিরপুর-১৪, ঢাকা-১২০৬

সরবরাহকারী/ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন-২০০৬ এবং পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০০৮ ও তদীয় সংশোধনী মোতাবেক পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ এর ২০১৮-২০১৯ অর্থ বছরে বিভিন্ন প্রকার ক্রয়, সেবা ও মেরামত কার্য সম্পাদনের নিমিত্ত ঠিকাদার/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান তালিকাভুক্তকরণ এবং তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়নের লক্ষ্যে অত্রস্থ বাংলাদেশী ঠিকাদার/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে শর্ত সাপেক্ষে আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	ঃ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়।
২.	সংস্থা	ঃ	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।
৩.	প্রকিউরিং ইনটিটির নাম	ঃ	রেস্টুর, পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ।
৪.	প্রকিউরিং ইনটিটির জেলা	ঃ	ঢাকা।
৫.	আহ্বানের উদ্দেশ্য	ঃ	নতুন ঠিকাদার তালিকাভুক্ত এবং তালিকাভুক্তি ঠিকাদার নবায়নকরণ।
৬.	প্রকিউরিং পদ্ধতি	ঃ	সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (LTM)।
৭.	বাজেট এবং অর্থের উৎস	ঃ	রাজস্ব।
৮.	আবেদনপত্র জন্মের শেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	ঃ	২৪/০৭/২০১৮খ্রিঃ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত। প্রশাসন শাখা, পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ, মিরপুর-১৪, ঢাকা।
৯.	আবেদনপত্র জমা প্রদানের শেষ তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	ঃ	২৫/০৭/২০১৮খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকায় উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ) এর অফিস কক্ষ, পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ, মিরপুর-১৪, ঢাকা এর অফিস কক্ষে রক্ষিত বাস্তব জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। নির্ধারিত তারিখের পরে কোন আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।
১০.	অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	ঃ	পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ), পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ, মিরপুর-১৪, ঢাকা।
১১.	আবেদনপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	২৫/০৭/২০১৮খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকায় উপ-পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ) এর অফিস কক্ষ, পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ, মিরপুর-১৪, ঢাকা (আবেদনকারীদের সম্মুখে, যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন)।
১২.	আবেদনকারীর যোগ্যতা	ঃ	(ক) হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স (খ) আয়কর পরিশোধের সনদপত্র (গ) ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট (ঘ) অর্থনৈতিক সচ্ছলতার প্রমাণপত্র (ঙ) সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র (চ) জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের কপি (ছ) সদ্য তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ১ (এক) কপি ছবি। বর্ণিত সকল প্রকার কাগজপত্র প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সত্যায়িতকরণ আবেদনপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে।
১৩.	কাজের সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ	ঃ	(ক) টেশনারী ও বিভাগীয় ভাডারের মালামাল এবং বিবিধ প্রকার ক্রয়, (খ) বইপত্র ও সাময়িকী ক্রয়, প্রকাশনা, মুদ্রণ ও বাঁধাই সংশ্লিষ্ট ক্রয় ও সরবরাহ, (গ) আসবাবপত্র ক্রয় ও মেরামত, (ঘ) ভবন ও অবকাঠামো নির্মাণ এবং মেরামত ও সংরক্ষণ কাজ, (ঙ) প্রশিক্ষণ সংশ্লিষ্ট মালামাল ক্রয় কাজ, (চ) কম্পিউটার ও আইসিটি সামগ্রী ক্রয় ও মেরামত কাজ, (ছ) যন্ত্রপাতি ও অন্যান্য সরঞ্জামাদি ক্রয় ও মেরামত, (জ) গাড়ির কাঁচামাল ও খুচরা যন্ত্রাংশ ক্রয়/মেরামত কাজ।
১৪.	আবেদন ফরম এর মূল্য (প্রতি ফরমের জন্য)	ঃ	নতুন এর জন্য ৫০০/- (অফেরতযোগ্য) এবং নবায়ন এর জন্য ৩০০/- (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
১৫.	তালিকাভুক্তি ফি এবং তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়ন ফি	ঃ	নতুন এর জন্য নগদ ৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকা এবং নবায়ন এর জন্য ২,০০০/- (দুই হাজার) টাকা অফেরতযোগ্য (ভ্যাট ব্যতিত)।
১৬.	প্রতিটি নির্বাচিত ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে নতুন তালিকাভুক্তি ও তালিকাভুক্তি নবায়নের জন্য নির্ধারিত মূল্যসহ মূল্যের ১৫% ভ্যাট নগদ জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে সকল/আংশিক আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করেন।		

মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন
বিপি-৭০৯৮০১০০৪০
পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ)
পক্ষে/-রেস্টুর
পুলিশ স্টাফ কলেজ বাংলাদেশ

জিডি-১৬৭১

Hello Kitty bullet train debuts in Japan

AFP, Tokyo

A sleek "Hello Kitty" bullet train festooned with images of the global icon from Japan began services on Saturday, drawing hundreds of fans to its opening ceremony.

The special white and shocking pink shinkansen or bullet train departed from Hakata station in Fukuoka for Osaka, waved off by a conductor dressed in a Hello Kitty outfit -- complete with the character's trademark pink ribbon -- and watched by a crowd of some 400, according to local media.

The train will run for the next three months between the western cities of Osaka and Fukuoka, the West Japan Railway Company said, hoping that one of the country's most famous exports will boost tourism.

Inside the train, Hello Kitty smiles down from the shades of every window, while one car features a "life-sized Hello Kitty doll" for fans to take selfies with.

Another car will have no passenger seats but offer regional specialties, including a selection of goods and foods, in a bid to boost the local economy and tourism.

Xhello Kitty has spawned a multi-billion-dollar industry since Sanrio introduced it in 1974, adorning everything from pencil cases and pyjamas to double-decker buses and airliners.

"শেখ হাসিনার উদ্যোগ, ঘরে ঘরে বিদ্যুৎ"

ELECTRICITY GENERATION COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LIMITED
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Unique Heights (Level-15 & 16), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh.
Tel: 55138633-36 (PABX), Fax: 880-2-55138637, E-mail: info@egcb.com.bd, Web: www.egcb.com.bd

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (INTERNATIONAL)

1	Ministry / Division	Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources.			
2	Agency	Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh Limited.			
3	Procuring Entity name	Siddhirganj 2x120 MW Peaking Power Plant			
4	Procuring Entity Code	N/A			
5	Procuring Entity District	Narayanganj			
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Goods (Single Lot)			
7	Invitation Ref. No.	27.27.2666.103.02.033.18.1649			
8	Date	01/07/2018			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement Method	ICT (Open Tendering Method)			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Revenue Budget (Own fund of EGCB Ltd.)			
11	Development Partners (if applicable)	N/A			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project/ Programme Code (if applicable)	N/A			
13	Project/ Programme Name (if applicable)	N/A			
14	Tender Package No	N/A			
15	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Human Machine Interface (HMI) for Mark-VI Control System of Siddhirganj 2x120 MW Peaking Power Plant, EGCB Ltd., Narayanganj, Bangladesh.			
16	Tender Publication Date	02/07/2018			
17	Tender Last Selling Date	13/08/2018 up to 15:00 Hr (BST)			
18	Tender Submission Date & Time	14/08/2018 up to 12:00 Hr (BST)			
19	Tender Opening Date & Time	14/08/2018 on 12:30 Hrs (BST) (Tenderers or their authorized representatives, if any, are allowed to attend).			
20	Name and Address of the office(s) - Selling Tender Document	Executive Engineer (Procurement), Corporate Office, Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh Limited, Unique Heights (Level-16), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh.			
	- Receiving Tender Document	Executive Engineer (Procurement), Corporate Office, Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh Limited, Unique Heights (Level-15), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh.			
	- Opening Tender Document	Executive Engineer (Procurement), Corporate Office, Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh Limited, Unique Heights (Level-15), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh.			
21	Place/Date/Time of Pre Tender Meeting	N/A.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22	Eligibility of Tenderer	(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 to Rule 55 of the Public Procurement Rules-2008. (b) The maximum three (03) numbers of arbitration against the Tenderer over a period of last five (05) years (c) The Tenderer shall have a minimum of five (05) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. (d) The satisfactory completion of supply of similar goods of minimum USD 250,000.00 value under a single contract in the last three (03) years (e) The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is USD 320,000.00 N.B: Years will count backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper.			
23	Brief Description of Goods	Procurement of Human Machine Interface (HMI) for Mark-VI Control System of Siddhirganj 2x120 MW Peaking Power Plant, EGCB Ltd., Narayanganj, Bangladesh.			
24	Brief Description of Related services	N/A			
25	Price of Tender Document	TK 2,000/= (Two thousand) or USD 25/= (Twenty Five) to be paid in the form of Bank Draft / Pay order in favor of "Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh Limited"			
26	Lot No.	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount	Delivery & Completion Time
	01.	Procurement of Human Machine Interface (HMI) for Mark-VI Control System of Siddhirganj 2x120 MW Peaking Power Plant, EGCB Ltd., Narayanganj, Bangladesh.	Siddhirganj 2x120 MW Peaking Power Plant Store, EGCB Ltd., Narayanganj, Bangladesh	USD 7,250.00 or BDT 600,000.00	196 days from the date of opening of Letter of Credit.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
27	Name of Official Inviting the Tender	Muhammad Saifur Rahman			
28	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer (Procurement)			
29	Address of Official Inviting the Tender	Corporate office, EGCB Ltd., Unique Heights (Level-15 & 16), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh.			
30	Contact details of Official Inviting the Tender:	Tel: 880-2-55138633-36, Ext-1114, Fax: 880-2-55138637, E-mail: saifur.rahman@egcb.com.bd			
31	a) The Full Tender Document will be available in PDF format in the EGCB website (www.egcb.com.bd). b) The Tenderers are requested to read the tender document carefully before submission their offer.				
32	The Procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.				

Muhammad Saifur Rahman
01-07-18
Executive Engineer (Procurement)
Corporate Office, EGCB Ltd.