



OK Chowdhury, a director of Beximco Pharmaceuticals, presides over the company's 42nd annual general meeting at Beximco Industrial Park in Gazipur on Saturday. The company approved 12.5 percent cash dividend for the year that ended on June 30, 2018.

Keeping on truckin': DHL seeks to counter driver shortages

REUTERS, Schlem, Germany

Faced with a chronic shortage of truck drivers, logistics firm Deutsche Post DHL Group is trialing a new scheme to get more people behind the wheel so it can keep goods flowing across Europe, especially at peak times like Christmas.

A lack of drivers is already causing delays and rising costs for businesses in North America and Europe, with consumer goods firm Henkel and retailers like Walmart, Kohl's Corp and TJX all reporting problems.

DHL Freight is trying to make the job more attractive by offering drivers well-paid contracts, long-term career prospects, more varied work and schedules that allow them to get home to their families in the evening.

"I don't just drive, I also work regularly in the warehouse, doing stock duties, which makes it more varied," said Patrick Klankert, a 27-year-old, who is one of 30 drivers DHL has hired under the pilot scheme.

High staff and transport costs forced the German postal and logistics group

to issue a profit warning in June and launch a restructuring program at its Post - eCommerce - Parcel (PeP) division, which employs 184,000 staff.

Walmart, which has seen its profit margins dented by higher freight costs, said in September it plans to double its spending on attracting and retaining drivers for its US fleet of 6,500 trucks, including offering referral bonuses of up to \$1,500.

Self-driving trucks could ease the situation but it is unclear how fast that will happen, leading the International Transport Forum think tank to predict a shortfall of up to 800,000 drivers by 2030 in the United States and Europe.

And the prospect of the rise of autonomous trucks is not helping the industry to recruit a new generation of drivers.

While DHL's post and parcel division employs its own delivery staff and pays them according to collective wage deals, the freight and forwarding unit operates an "asset-light" strategy based on brokering services from third parties.

DHL Freight's reliance on subcon-

tractors has led to problems in peak seasons when drivers have failed to turn up for shifts, causing knock-on effects for the entire supply chain.

"That's the backbone. If one of the trucks comes in late, the whole system fails," said Tim Scharwath, global chief executive of DHL's global forwarding business for air, ocean and overland freight.

The dearth of drivers has been exacerbated in DHL's home market of Germany by the ending of compulsory military service in 2011, as the army used to train many future truckers.

There were 195,000 open positions in the German logistics industry in the third quarter, up 19 percent on last year, with a particular demand for drivers of trucks and fork-lifts, according to a survey by private training provider WBS Gruppe.

"At Christmas time, the warehouse and logistics industry is booming and more jobs are being advertised than for a long time," said WBS Gruppe head Joachim Giese.



Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman, chairman of NRB Bank, opens the bank's 39th branch at Mirpur in Dhaka yesterday. Md Mehmood Husain, CEO, was present.



Mohammed Rabiul Hossain, managing director of Uttara Bank, opens the bank's 235th branch in Bandarban yesterday.



Organisers, guests and winners pose at an award presentation ceremony for "1st Porcelanosa Design Competition" organised by Nupami BD in association with the Institute of Architects Bangladesh at Kurmitola Golf Club in Dhaka recently.



Mubarak Ali, managing director of Olympic Industries, presides over the company's 39th annual general meeting in Narayanganj. The company approved 48 percent cash dividend for 2017-18.

Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Jute Research Institute

"Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station and strengthening of research activities at Madarganj of Jamalpur district" Project

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Ref: 12.23.0000.039.14.016.18. ২২০৮(৩) Date: ২৬/১২/১৮

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) [National]

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Agriculture
2.	Agency	Bangladesh Jute Research Institute
3.	Name of Procuring Entity	Project Director "Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station and strengthening of research activities at Madarganj of Jamalpur district" Project
4.	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present
5.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6.	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Hiring of Architectural and Engineering Consultancy Firm to Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station at Madarganj of Jamalpur district.
7.	EOI Ref. No. & Date	12.23.0000.039.14.016.18.
8.	Publication Date	prior or before on 24-12-2018

KEY INFORMATION

9.	Procurement Method	Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
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FUNDING INFORMATION

10.	Budget and Source of Funds	GOV
11.	Development Partner	N/A

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12.	Project/Programme Code	143-1430101-224250900
13.	Project/Programme Name	"Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station and strengthening of research activities at Madarganj of Jamalpur district"
14.	EOI Closing Date and Time	08-01-2019 3.00PM
15.	Place of receiving EOI	Project Director office "Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station and strengthening of research activities at Madarganj of Jamalpur district" Project

KEY INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT

16.	Brief Description of the Assignment	Description of assignment for the project: 1. Sub soil investigation 2. Digital topographic survey 3. Preparing master plan 4. Architectural, structural, electric, plumbing, internal electrification design of the proposed structures. 5. Detail road and drain network design 6. Boundary wall design 7. Landscape design 8. External electrification design 9. Preparing detail estimate 10. Preparing BOQ and tender documents 11. Supervision of construction of building like office and training cum dormitory building, officer's quarter, staff quarter, threshing floor, internal road and other related works etc. of project area.		
17.	Qualification and Experience	The EOI must contain information demonstration that they are qualified to perform the services delineated the criteria of evaluation. Interested firms have to submit the following documents along with EOI: a. eligibility 1. 10 years experienced consultancy firm headed by an architect/ B.Sc. civil engineer. 2. Team leader should be 15 years experienced architect having M. Arch and PhD degree. 3. The firm must have experience preparing a master plan in the same region (Jamalpur District). 4. The firm must have an experience of working with any research center like Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI)/BLRI/BRRI/any Agriculture Based University etc. 5. The firm must have a 10 years experienced town planner having B.URP degree from any recognized University of Bangladesh. b. management competence Information such as the company age, evidence of experience of the firm in the relevant field, legal status like company registration certificate, trade license, VAT registration certificate and upto date income TAX clearance certificate, last three years audit report (only summary part), reputation, organization structure, financial and managerial capability of the firm or consortium shall be assessed to judge their competence. c. HR competence The EOI should demonstrate the availability of pool of qualified and experienced engineers with the firm or the consortium.		
18.	Other Details	Short listing will be made as PPA-2006 and PPR-2008. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI's without assigning any reasons. Interested firms shall submit EOI to the Director General of Bangladesh Jute Research Institute. Applicants may obtain further information from the office of Assistant Engineer, BJRI during normal office hours. 02 (two) sets EOI (1 original + 1 copy) for the lot with supporting documents must be delivered on or before 3.00 PM on 08-01-2019 in sealed envelopes, marked with Request for EOI for consultancy services for the lot of the "Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station and strengthening of research activities at Madarganj of Jamalpur district" Project of BJRI. Any late submission will be rejected. Short listed firms will be called for submitting Technical and Financial Proposals.		
19.	Association with Foreign Firms	Not Encouraged		
20.	Services	Location	Indicative Start Date	Indicative Completion Date
Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station at Madarganj of Jamalpur district		Madarganj, Jamalpur Bangladesh	February, 2019	April, 2021
Receiving EOI				

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

21.	Name of the Official Inviting EOI	Dr. Mahmud Al Hossain
22.	Designation of the Official Inviting EOI	Project Director
23.	Address of the Official Inviting EOI	Principal Scientific Officer, Firm Management Unit, Bangladesh Jute research Institute, Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207.
24.	Contact Details of the Official Inviting EOI	Mobile: 01712252426 e-mail: mahmudbjri@yahoo.com

The applicants are requested not to include any irrelevant papers with their proposals.
The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs

(DR. Mahmud Al Hossain)
Project Director
"Establishment of Jute Research Sub-Station and strengthening of research activities at Madarganj of Jamalpur district" Project
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