



Mostafa Jalal Uddin Ahmed, additional managing director of SBAC Bank, and Syed Yameenul Huq, director for sales and marketing of Royal Tulip Luxury Hotels, exchange documents after signing a deal at the former's head office in Dhaka recently. The bank's debit and credit cardholders will get up to 50 percent discount at the hotel.

## London remains top destination for European tech funding

REUTERS, London  
London remained the top destination in Europe for technology investment in 2018, with nearly double the amount being plowed into companies in the British capital than nearest rival Berlin, data showed on Wednesday.

Technology companies in London attracted 1.8 billion pounds (\$2.3 billion) in venture capital funding, 72 percent of the total 2.5 billion pounds raised by UK tech businesses, according to data from funding database PitchBook on behalf of the Mayor of London.

Eileen Burbidge, a partner at venture capital firm Passion Capital, said London was the leading hub for financial technology thanks to its position as one of the world's biggest financial centers, while its universities helped to create companies offering artificial intelligence (AI).

"We get a lot of calls and inquiries from investors in the US and Asia looking for fintech opportunities," she told Reuters. "In fintech, AI and a few other sectors such as life sciences and robotics, London genuinely leads the world."

London's tech sector and its mayor,

Sadiq Khan, have warned that Britain's departure from the European Union could damage its appeal. However, Burbidge said there was no sign of this happening yet, beyond companies asking many more questions when looking to hire from abroad.

The data from PitchBook showed that both Berlin and Paris gained ground against London in the race for funds across Europe, and that London failed to match the record levels it attracted in 2017, but the gap still remained significant.

Berlin attracted 937 million pounds of investment in 2018, almost double the previous year's total, while 797 million pounds went to tech groups in Paris as President Emmanuel Macron stepped up his promotion of the country.

In Britain as a whole, investment in AI rose 47 percent to 736 million pounds while 1.2 billion pounds went into the booming fintech sector and companies such as digital banks Revolut and Monzo.

Total venture capital funding in European tech slipped slightly in 2018, with 10.44 billion pounds raised, against 10.47 billion pounds in 2017.

## Brazil may privatise or close 100 state firms

AFP, Brasilia

Brazil's new government led by far-right President Jair Bolsonaro intends to "privatize or close" around 100 state enterprises to cut public debt, the government said Tuesday.

The program is not expected to include Brazil's most prestigious state-owned companies such as oil giant Petrobras or power firm Eletrobras, considered corporate crown jewels.

But it will extend to some of their non-core subsidiaries, with money from divestments contributing to a plan to cut Brazil's massive debt by 20 percent.

According to the Getulio Vargas Foundation, there are 418 enterprises that are controlled by the government, the states or municipalities.

# US-China trade talks conclude as hopes of a deal build

REUTERS, Beijing

Chinese and US teams ended trade talks in Beijing on Wednesday that lasted longer than expected and officials said details will be released soon, raising hopes an all-out trade war that could badly disrupt the global economy can be avoided.

The talks were extended into an unscheduled third day, showing both sides were "serious", China's Foreign Ministry said.

Share prices jumped in Asia and markets in Europe and the United States were expected to follow suit as the lengthened talks fueled optimism that the world's largest economies were inching toward an agreement.

Ted McKinney, US Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, said the US trade delegation would return to the United States later on Wednesday after a "good few days".

"I think they went just fine," McKinney said of the talks. "It's been a good one for us," he told reporters at the delegation's hotel, without elaborating.

Speaking at a daily news briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang confirmed both sides had agreed to extend the talks beyond Monday and Tuesday as originally scheduled.

Asked if that meant they were difficult talks, Lu said: "I can only say that extending the consultations shows that the two sides were indeed very serious in conducting the consultations."

This week's meetings are the first face-to-face talks since US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed in December to a 90-day truce in a trade war that has roiled global financial markets.

The extra day of talks came amid signs of progress on issues including purchases of US farm and energy commodities and increased access to China's markets.

However, people familiar with the negotiations told Reuters on Tuesday



Under Secretary for International Affairs David Malpass of the US Department of the Treasury and other members of the US trade delegation to China, return from talks to a hotel in Beijing on Monday.

that the two sides were further apart on Chinese structural reforms that the Trump administration is demanding in order to stop alleged theft and forced transfer of US technology, and on how Beijing will be held to its promises.

If no deal is reached by March 2, Trump has said he will proceed with raising tariffs to 25 percent from 10 percent on \$200 billion worth of Chinese imports, at a time when China's economy is slowing significantly. Beijing has retaliated in turn to US tariffs.

But as meetings wound down in Beijing on Tuesday evening, Trump tweeted: "Talks with China are going very well!"

The US team is led by Deputy US Trade Representative Jeffrey Gerrish, and includes under secretaries from the US Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Energy and Treasury, as well as senior officials from the White House.

Vice Commerce Minister Wang Shouwen heads the vice ministerial

level talks for China, though Vice Premier Liu He, a top economic adviser to Xi, made an appearance at a meeting on Monday.

China is keen to put an end to its trade dispute with the United States but will not make any "unreasonable concessions" and any agreement must involve compromise on both sides, state newspaper the China Daily said on Wednesday.

The paper said in an editorial that Beijing's stance remains firm that the dispute harms both countries and disrupts the international trade order and supply chains.

In what is widely seen as a goodwill gesture, China on Tuesday issued long-awaited approvals for the import of five genetically modified crops, which could boost its purchases of US grains as farmers decide which crops to plant in the spring.

On Monday, Chinese importers made another large purchase of US soybeans, their third in the past month.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Principal  
Technical Training Centre  
Kotbari, Cumilla-3503  
IFT Ref. No. TTC/COM/TR-65/38 Date: 08/01/2019

### Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Expatriates Welfare & Overseas Employment.
2	Agency	Bureau of Manpower Employment & Training.
3	Procuring entity name	Technical Training Centre, Kotbari, Cumilla-3503.
4	Procuring entity district	Cumilla.
5	Invitation for	Tender, Goods.
6	Invitation Ref. No.	TTC/COM/TR-65.
7	Date	08/01/2019.

**KEY INFORMATION**

8	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)/National Competitive Bidding (NCB).
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**FUNDING INFORMATION**

9	Budget and source of funds	International Development Association (IDA).
10	Development partners	IDA (World Bank).

**PARTICULAR INFORMATION**

11	Project/program code	5-2551-5030.
12	Project/program name	Skills and Training Enhancement Project (STEP), DTE.
13	Tender package No.	TTC/COM/AF/GD-3.
14	Tender package name	Supply and Installation of P/A System and Furniture under two separate lot.
15	Tender last selling date and time	29/01/2019 up to 4.00pm.
16	Tender closing date and time	30/01/2019 at 12.00 Noon.
17	Tender opening date and time	30/01/2019 at 12.30pm.
18	Name & address of the office(s)	-Selling, receiving & opening tender document Office of the Principal, Technical Training Centre, Kotbari, Cumilla-3503.
19	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Office of the Principal, Technical Training Centre, Kotbari, Cumilla-3503 on 23/01/2019 at 11:00am.

**INFORMATION FOR TENDERER**

20	Eligibility of tenderer	The tenderer shall have a minimum 5 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. Others mentioned in the tender schedule.			
21	Brief description of goods and related services	Lot-1 Furniture for Conference Room Lot-2 P/A System for Conference Room			
22	Price of tender document	Tk 1,000.00 (one thousand) for each lot.			
23	Package No.	Identification of package	Location	Tender security amount (BDT)	Completion time after signing of contract (in weeks)
	TTC/COM/AF/GD-3	Furniture and P/A System for Conference Room	Office of the Principal, Technical Training Centre, Kotbari, Cumilla-3503	Lot-1 30,000.00 Lot-2 10,000.0	8 (eight) weeks

**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**

24	Name, designation, address and contact details of official inviting tender	Md. Nazrul Islam, Principal, Technical Training Centre, Kotbari, Cumilla-3503. Telephone: 081-65662, Mobile: 01711585835, Email: principalcomillatc@gmail.com
25	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

**Md. Nazrul Islam**  
Principal

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Local Government Engineering Department**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer**  
District: Rajbari  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)  
উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র  
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

Memo No. 46.02.8200.000.99.030.18.60 Date: 08/01/19

### Corrigendum for e-Tender No. 10/2018-19

This is notify to all concerned that the e-Tender Notice No. 10/2018-19, vide Memo No. 46.02.8200.000.030.18-2339, date: 05/12/2018 has been amended as follows due to unavoidable circumstances:

SL No.	Tender ID	Subject	Old value	Corrected value
1	254743	Tender last selling date and time	08/01/2019 Time: 5:00pm	15/01/2019 Time: 5:00pm
		Pre-tender meeting end date & time	27/12/2018 Time: 5:00pm	10/01/2019 Time: 5:00pm
2		Tender closing date and time	09/01/2019 Time: 1:00pm	16/01/2019 Time: 1:00pm
3		Tender opening date and time	09/01/2019 Time: 1:00pm	16/01/2019 Time: 1:00pm
4		Last date & time for tender security submission	09/01/2019 Time: 12:00pm	16/01/2019 Time: 12:00pm

All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.  
This amended notice will be treated as the parts & parcel of the tender documents.

**Khan A. Shameem**  
Executive Engineer  
Tel: 0641-65425  
Fax: 0641-65745  
E-mail: [xen.rajbari@lged.gov.bd](mailto:xen.rajbari@lged.gov.bd)

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