Md Anwarul Azim Arif, chairman of Social Islami Bank, presides over its 24th annual general meeting at Kurmitola Golf Club in Dhaka yesterday. The bank approved 10 percent stock dividend for 2018. Quazi Osman Ali, CEO, was present.

SOCIAL ISLAMI BANK

Iraq sets up 'loophole' in US sanctions to buy Iranian power

Iraq is establishing a financial "loophole" to continue buying vital gas and electricity from Iran despite US sanctions, AFP has learned, mirroring a European mechanism that came into effect Friday.

The "special purpose vehicle" (SPV) would allow Iraq to pay for imported Iranian energy in Iraqi dinars, which Iran could use to exclusively buy humanitarian goods, three senior Iraqi officials said.

The workaround would allow Baghdad to keep the lights on and avoid shortage-driven protests without triggering US sanctions, as it treads an increasingly precarious tightrope between its two main allies Tehran and Washington.

One senior government official told AFP it was the product of months of talks between Iraqi, Iranian and US officials.

"The Iraqi government will continue to pay Iran for gas by depositing money into a special bank account inside Iraq, in Iraqi dinars," the official said.

"Iran will not be able to withdraw the money, but will be able to use it to purchase goods from outside Iraq." Iraq has an outstanding bill of around \$2 billion for previous gas and electricity purchases, according to Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Zangeneh.

A US official told AFP that Washington was aware of the mechanism's creation.

The US embassy in Baghdad declined to comment, while Iran's embassy did not respond to an AFP request.

Two additional high-level Iraqi officials confirmed Baghdad was establishing such an

REUTERS, New York

Last month Pink Floyd frontman

David Gilmour sold his guitar

collection for \$21.5 million,

including one piece - his famed "Black Strat" Fender Stratocaster -

that went for nearly \$4 million to the

owner of the US National Football

The "Money" singer set a

musical instrument sales record in

the charity auction, marking yet

another milestone for a booming

market just weeks after New York-

based art dealer Sotheby's Holdings,

auctioned Claude Monet's "Meules"

for \$110.7 million, the most ever

And it is not just instruments or

paintings in high demand among

the world's billionaire set. Auction

houses themselves now appear

to be prized vanity purchases:

Just a few days before the Pink

Floyd auction, Franco-Israeli cable

magnate Patrick Drahi, whose firm

Altice earned significant money

in the United States, made a \$3.7

billion bid for Sotheby's, which had

Welcome to the longest US

economic expansion in history, one

just hosted the Monet sale.

for an Impressionist painting.

League's Indianapolis Colts.

whether payments into the account had begun.

"How else is Iraq supposed to pay what it

owes Iran? We have no other choice," the second official said. - 'Iran's ATM' - To offset its notorious power

shortages, Iraq imports around 1,400 MW of electricity and 28 million cubic meters (988 million cubic feet) of gas for power stations from neighbouring Iran, which together make up about a third of Iraq's power supply.

That reliance has angered the US, which slapped tough sanctions on Iran last year but has granted Iraq several temporary waivers to keep purchasing Iranian power until October. The US insists Iraq wean itself off Iranian

energy, but Baghdad has said that could take up to four years, during which it would need to keep purchasing at least Iranian gas. To do so, the central banks of Iran and Iraq

agreed in February to create a payment method that steers clear of US sanctions, Iran's state news agency IRNA said, without providing additional

That would mean not dealing in US dollars and purchasing only "humanitarian goods" allowed by the US -- like food and medicine.

"We would become Iran's ATM," another Iraqi official told AFP.

According to two of the senior Iraqi officials, Baghdad's SPV would likely be set up at the Trade Bank of Iraq.

The TBI has handled most of the Iraqi government's international transactions since its establishment in the aftermath of the US-led invasion in 2003.

A senior TBI source told AFP the bank had

Rich get richer, everyone else not

so much in record US expansion

The painting by Claude Monet, part of the Haystacks "Les Meules"

perhaps best characterized by the acquisitions, to individuals buying

Big-money deals are getting decade, from 267 in 2008 to 607

luxury penthouses, sports teams,

yachts and all-frills pilgrimages to

the ends of the earth. And while

these deals grab headlines, there is

a deeper trend at work. The number

of billionaires in the United States

has more than doubled in the last

last year, according to UBS.

series, is displayed at Sotheby's during a press preview of their

upcoming impressionist and modern art sale in New York, US.

excesses of extreme wealth and an

ever-widening chasm between the

unfathomably rich and everyone else.

its record-setting 121st month on

Monday, signs of a new Gilded Age

bigger, from corporate mergers and

are all over.

তার্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান বিভাগ এবং আওতাধীন দপ্তর/সংস্থার মধে

Indeed, as the expansion entered

account with US knowledge, but could not say been involved in the negotiations but the account had not yet been created.

> "The US Treasury has confidence in the TBI's processes. We are in discussions to reach an agreement, which would be fully within US exemptions," the source said.

- 'Like a ledger' - It would effectively be "loophole" around sanctions, said Ahmed Tabaqchali, senior fellow at the Sulaymaniyahbased Institute of Regional and International Studies. "It's like a ledger. You record the money paid, and Iran has that much credit in Iraq," Tabaqchali told AFP.

The system would work much like INSTEX, a mechanism recently activated by Britain, Germany and France to trade legitimately with Iran without falling foul of US sanctions.

Still, the system is fraught with political, financial and practical complexities.

Iraq's economy relies almost exclusively on oil revenues, paid in dollars, which leaves Baghdad extremely vulnerable to any punitive measures the US could take in response to a violation.

It also remains unclear what exactly Iran could purchase from Iraq as trade is heavily tilted in the other direction.

"Credit would develop in Iran's favour but how would it actually cash it?" said Tabaqchali. Importing goods from outside Iraq would require a third party willing to take the political and financial risk of such a transaction, he told

And, ultimately, much of Irag's transactions with Iran are cash purchases of commercial goods -- something US authorities implementing sanctions are unable to monitor.

drive or the desire for consumption

But there are also signs of

struggle and stagnation at lower-

income levels. The wealthiest fifth

of Americans hold 88 percent of

the country's wealth, a share that

has grown since before the crisis,

Federal Reserve data through 2016

shows. Meanwhile, the number

of people receiving federal food

stamps tops 39 million, below

the peak in 2013 but still up 40

percent from 2008 even though

the country's population has only

growth was not thought possible.

The US financial system was in

bank failures could permanently

undermine capitalism. Policymakers

scrambled to stabilize markets and

boost asset prices when US housing

They did less to tackle income

shambles and people feared

Still, a decade ago, this kind of

grown about 8 percent.

markets unraveled.

and wealth inequality.

has just gone upscale."

"Cash is untraceable," said Tabaqchali.

China pledges to scrap financial sector ownership limits in 2020

REUTERS, Dalian

China will end ownership limits for foreign investors in its financial sector in 2020, a year earlier than scheduled, to show the world it will keep opening up its markets, Premier Li Keqiang said on Tuesday.

China will also further open its manufacturing sector, including the auto industry, while reducing its negative investment list that restricts foreign investment in some areas, Li told the World Economic Forum in the northeastern Chinese port city of Dalian.

Beijing's signal that it is quickening the pace of opening up came after the presidents of China and the United States agreed over the weekend to restart trade talks in another attempt to strike a deal and end a bruising tariff war.

But analysts doubt the ceasefire will lead to a sustained easing of tensions, and warn lingering uncertainty could dampen corporate spending and global growth.

"We will achieve the goal of abolishing ownership limits in securities, futures, life insurance for foreign investors by 2020, a year earlier than the original schedule of 2021," Li said.

Foreign investment banks such as Morgan Stanley are looking to join HSBC Holdings PLC, JPMorgan Chase & Co Nomura Holdings Inc and UBS Group AG in owning controlling stakes in onshore securities joint ventures in China under liberalised rules announced in 2017.

"JPMorgan welcomes any decision made by the Chinese government that looks to liberalise its financial sector further," said JPMorgan China CEO Mark Leung.

Citigroup, which is in the process of



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang

setting up a majority-owned securities joint venture in China, also applauded the news. "Citi welcomes any move that leads

to the further opening up of the Chinese financial system," said a Hong Kong-based spokesman.

The United States and other countries in the West have long complained that Beijing is blocking foreign access to its fastgrowing financial markets and not allowing a level playing field when multinational companies are allowed in.

But in recent months, China has allowed many foreign financial firms to either set up new businesses onshore or expand their presence through majority ownership in domestic joint ventures across mutual funds, insurance and brokerage businesses.

Sources with direct knowledge of the matter previously told Reuters that Morgan Stanley is likely to get regulatory approval for owning a majority stake in the second half of this year.



Firoze Mohammad, director for operations at Fair Electronics, an authorised distributor of Samsung in Bangladesh, opens a Samsung Smart Plaza at Moddho Badda (Progoti Sarani) in the capital on Monday.

"The rich have gotten richer and they've gotten richer faster," said John Mathews, Head of Private Wealth Management and Ultra High Net Worth at UBS (UBSG.S) Global Wealth Management. "The

NCC BANK

Md Nurun Newaz Salim, chairman of NCC Bank, opens its relocated branch at Haji Abdul Razzak Tower in the capital's Kalyanpur yesterday. Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, CEO, was present.



স্মারক নং-ইডঃ হেঃ কোঃ/প্রশাঃ/২৫৯৮

মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ

অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অনুযায়ী বেতনাদি প্রদান করা হবে।

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ এ্যাডিশনাল ইন্সপেক্টর জেনারেল এর কার্যালয় ইভাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ বাড়ি-০৭, রোড-১৩, সেক্টর-১০, উত্তরা, ঢাকা

তারিখঃ ০২/০৭/২০১৯খ্রিঃ

আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল (বাবুর্চি, পরিচ্ছন্নতা কর্মী ও মালী) সরবরাহের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পিপিএ-২০০৬ ও পিপিআর-২০০৮ মোতাবেক আগামী ২০১৯-২০ অর্থ বছরের ইভাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশের জন্য সম্পূর্ণ অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে সাকুল্য বেতনে আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল (বাবুর্চি, পরিচছন্মতা কর্মী ও মালী) সরবরাহের উদ্দেশ্যে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত অভিজ্ঞ ঠিকাদার/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরযুক্ত খামে দরপত্র/প্রস্তাবনা আহ্বান করা যাচেছ

ষরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়, জন-নিরাপত্তা বিভাগ।

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٧.	সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।			
٥.	সংগ্রহকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, ইভাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।			
8.	সংগ্রহকারী স্বত্রাধিকারী	অতিরিক্ত আইজিপি, ইভাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।			
¢.	দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।			
b .	দরপত্রের অর্থের উৎস	পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, ঢাকা হতে বাজেট বরাদ্দ সাপেক্ষে।			
٩.	দরপত্র পত্রিকায় প্রকাশের সম্ভাব্য তারিখ	০৩/০৭/২০১৯খ্রিঃ।			
ъ.	দরপত্র তফসিল/দলিল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	১৭/০৭/২০১৯খ্রিঃ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত (সরকারি ছুটি ব্যতিত)।			
à.	দরপত্র জমা প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৮/০৭/২০১৯খ্রিঃ ১২.০০ ঘটিকা।			
٥٥.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	১৮/০৭/২০১৯খ্রিঃ ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা।			
33.	দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময়	২১/০৭/২০১৯খ্রিঃ ১১:০০ ঘটিকা।			
١٤.	দরপত্র দলিল সংগ্রহের ঠিকানা	এ্যাডিশনাল ইন্পপেস্ট্রর জেনারেল এর কার্যালয়, ইডাঃ পুঃ হেডঃ বাড়ি-০৭, রোড-১৩, সেস্ট্র-১০, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।			
٥٥.	দরপত্র জমা দেওয়ার ঠিকানা	এ্যাডিশনাল ইপপেন্টর জেনারেল এর কার্যালয়, ইডাঃ পুঃ হেডঃ বাড়ি-০৭, রোড-১৩, সেন্টর-১০, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।			
\$8.	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	এ্যাভিশনাল ইন্পপেন্টর জেনারেল এর কার্যালয়, ইডাঃ পুঃ হেডঃ বাড়ি-০৭, রোড-১৩, সেন্টর-১০, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।			
۵৫.	দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারীর অফিস ও ঠিকানা	এ্যাভিশনাল ইন্পপেক্টর জেনারেল এর কার্যালয়, ইডাঃ পুঃ হেডঃ বাড়ি-০৭, রোড-১৩, সেক্টর-১০, উত্তরা, ঢাকা।			
১৬.	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা ও দরপত্রের সাথে যে সকল কাগজ জমা দিতে হবে	(ক) খ-খ প্রতিষ্ঠানের হালনাগাদ বৈধ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, হালনাগাদ পরিশোধিত টিআইএন নাম্বারসহ আয়কর সনদপত্র, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদপত্র, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সী ও ব্যাংক স্টেটমেন্ট এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ থাকতে হবে। (খ) বাংলাদেশের ছায়ী বাসিন্দা হিসেবে নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, ০১ (এক) কপি ছবি, নমুনা খাক্ষরসহ দাখিল করতে হবে। (গ) সিভিউলের উল্লিখিত অন্যান্য যোগ্যতা।			
١ ٩.	কাজের বিবরণ/কাজের নামঃ				
	কাজের নাম		সিডিউলের মূল্য	দরপত্র জামানতের পরিমাণ	মন্তব্য
	সম্পূর্ণ অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে জনবল নিয়োগ বোবর্চি পরিচ্ছনতা কর্মী ও মালী)		৭০০/-(সাতশত) টাকা	২৫,০০০/- (পঁচিশ হাজার) টাকা	

ক) পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স হতে অনুমোদিত বাজেট বরান্দের আলোকে কার্যাদেশ প্রদান করা হবে। এতদসংক্রান্তে কোন আপত্তি গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না। খ) দরপত্র পিপিএ-২০০৬, পিপিআর-২০০৮ ও আউটসোর্সিং নীতিমালা মোতাবেক এবং সিডিউলে/প্রস্তাবনায় সংযুক্ত সকল শর্তাবলী কার্যকর হবে। গ) কার্যাদেশপ্রাপ্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানকে সরবরাহকৃত জনবলকে "ব্যয় নিয়ন্ত্রণ অধিশাখা-৩, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয় এর পরিপত্রে" উল্লেখিত ন্যুনতম সেবামূল্য এবং

ঘ) দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন সময় কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে দরপত্র বাতিলের ক্ষমতা রাখেন

Md Ashadul Islam, senior secretary to Financial Institutions Division at the finance ministry, and Md Ali Hossain Prodhania, managing director of Bangladesh Krishi Bank, exchange a signed "Annual Performance Agreement" at the ministry in Dhaka yesterday.



CITY BANK Mashrur Arefin, CEO of City Bank, receives on behalf of the bank a "Women's Market Champion New Program Award" from the Financial Alliance for Women at an event in France recently. The accolade recognises City Alo, the lender's banking and finance solutions for women.

জিডি-১১৭৬

মোঃ ফরহাদ হোসেন খান বিপি নং-৮২১০১২৬৮৯৩ অতিরিক্ত পুলিশ সুপার (ট্রেনিং) পক্ষে/অতিরিক্ত আইজিপি ইন্ডাস্ট্রিয়াল পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স, উত্তরা, ঢাকা