



Md Abul Kalam Azad, principal coordinator for SDGs affairs at Prime Minister's Office; Rubana Huq, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association; Sudipto Mukerjee, resident representative of UNDP Bangladesh, and Francois de Maricourt, CEO of HSBC Bangladesh, attend a thought leadership programme on garment sector's sustainability, jointly organised by the bank and the UNDP in Dhaka recently.

Trade pressure seen denting China's 2019 growth to 29-year low

China's economic growth is expected to slow to a near 30-year low of 6.2 percent this year and cool further to 5.9 percent in 2020, a Reuters poll showed, underlining the stiff challenge faced by Beijing even as it steps up stimulus amid a bruising Sino-US trade war.

The median forecast for 2019 growth is near the lower end of the government's target range of 6-6.5 percent, and would be the weakest expansion for the world's second-biggest economy since 1990.

The poll of 83 analysts also forecast third-quarter growth at 6.1 percent year-on-year, lower from 6.2 percent in the last survey done in July and a touch below the 6.2 percent pace in the second quarter.

On the whole, it would mark a further slowdown from growth of 6.6 percent in 2018 and 6.8 percent in 2017, highlighting the intensifying global and domestic pressures on the Asian powerhouse.

China will release its third-quarter gross domestic product (GDP) data on Oct 18.

Growth in 2020 will likely cool



A worker sorts imported goods on a truck next to containers at a port in Qingdao, China on October 14.

further to 5.9 percent, the poll showed, below the 6.0 percent forecast in the previous survey.

A raft of downbeat data in recent months has highlighted weaker demand at home and abroad, fanning market expectations that Beijing will need to unveil more stimulus steps to ward off a sharper slowdown and prevent more job losses.

"Should labor market deteriorate sharply in late 2019 and early 2020, policy support may intensify in March next year," Tao Wang, China economist at UBS, said in a note.

"As policy measures strengthen and take effect, and as the shock of higher tariffs peaks in Q1 2020, we

see China's GDP growth rebounding from Q2 2020 onwards."

Beijing has been relying on a combination of fiscal stimulus and monetary easing to weather the current slowdown, but analysts say the room for aggressive policy action has been limited by worries over debt and housing risks.

Chinese central bank governor Yi Gang said late in September there was no urgent need to implement large interest rate cuts following Beijing's reiteration that it would not use "flood-like" stimulus measures.

The outlook is unlikely to change for the better anytime soon even as tensions in the protracted trade war between Beijing and Washington have eased somewhat. US President Donald Trump said on Friday the two sides had reached agreement on the first phase of a deal and suspended a tariff hike, but officials said much work still needed to be done.

Analysts in the latest Reuters poll expect the People's Bank of China (PBOC) would ease policy further by cutting banks' reserve retirement ratios (RRR) and the one-year loan prime rate (LPR), its new benchmark lending rate.

Malaysia offers to buy more sugar, meat from India

REUTERS, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia said on Tuesday it would look to increase imports of crude sugar and buffalo meat from India, after reports that New Delhi was considering restricting imports of palm oil from Malaysia following its criticism of its actions in Kashmir.

Malaysia is the world's second largest producer and exporter of palm oil after Indonesia, and the edible oil contributed to 2.8 percent of its gross domestic product last year. Malaysian palm oil futures FCPOC3 fell for a third straight session on Tuesday, hitting their lowest in nearly two weeks.

"These steps will be taken in light of India's importance as our third-largest export destination in 2018 for palm oil and palm-based products worth 6.84 billion ringgit (\$1.63 billion)," Teresa Kok, the Malaysian minister in charge of the palm oil portfolio, said in a statement. India is one of the biggest producers of sugar and buffalo meat in the world.

German investor confidence steadies in October

AFP, Frankfurt

Confidence among investors in Germany stabilised in October after recovering from a late summer plunge last month, a survey released Tuesday showed, but financial players continue to fear trade conflicts.

The Mannheim-based ZEW institute's monthly barometer of expectations for the coming months inched down 0.3 points compared with September, to -22.8.

"Financial experts continue to assume a worsening economic situation in Germany," ZEW chief Achim Wambach said in a statement.

"The latest deal reached in the US-China trade conflict does not seem to be reducing scepticism about growth," he added.

US President Donald Trump in recent days touted a trade breakthrough with Beijing, although details remain unclear.

Germany's economy has suffered direct and indirect blows from US-led trade conflicts since Trump took office, with particular exposure from its close links to the Chinese economy.

China was Germany's biggest trade partner between January and July, with 117 billion euros (\$130 billion) of exchanges, official data released Monday showed.

Indicators point to a sharp weakening in German industry, while most observers expect GDP figures released Thursday to show a second successive quarter of economic shrinkage between July and September -- placing the country in technical recession.

Tuesday's ZEW survey showed investors' views of the present business situation fell back 5.4 points, to -25.3 points.

Looking to Germany's 19-nation eurozone neighbourhood, investors' judgement of the outlook shed 1.1 points to -23.5, while the present situation barometer tumbled 10.8 points, to -26.4.



Md Mahbub ul Alam, CEO of Islami Bank Bangladesh, opens the bank's 348th branch at Padma Life Tower in the capital's Banglamotor on Monday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Superintending Engineer (RHD)
HDM Circle
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208

Eol Ref. No: HDM/2019-20/03

Date: 14.10.2019

Request for Expression of Interest (Eol) for Selection of Consulting Firm

Roads and Highways Department (RHD) under the Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges has been allocated public funds from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) for Carrying out Road Inventory Survey (with LRP), Road Condition Survey, GPS Survey, Test Pit Survey, Deflection Survey of RHD Road Network of Rajshahi and Rangpur Zone by engaging consulting firm (National) during the year 2019-20 (Package No- HDM/2019-20/SR-3).

The Superintending Engineer (RHD), HDM Circle (hereinafter referred to as the 'Client') now invites Expression of Interest (Eol) from reputed consulting firm or firms in joint venture/association for short-listing the consulting services.

The services include:

The services include for Rajshahi and Rangpur Zone: (a) Carrying out Pavement Inventory Survey (with LRP) of RHD Road Network; (b) Carrying out Road Condition Survey of RHD Road Network; (c) Carrying out Road Centerline GPS Survey of selected RHD Road Network; (d) Carrying out Test Pit Survey (Construction Type and Quality) of RHD Road Network; (e) Carrying out Deflection Survey of selected RHD Road Network; (f) Providing 01(One) no of 4WD, 5 door, 2300 cc Jeep with air-condition system and including all expenses of driver, fuel, lubricants, tolls etc as required. These services shall be completed within six (06) months from the date of commencement.

The experience, resources and delivery capacity required: Submitted Eols will be evaluated based on the following:

1. Brochures & registration of the firm(s);
2. Legal establishment of the firm(s) (TIN, VAT Registration, Trade License etc);
3. General and overall experience of the firm(s) (limited to three pages);
4. Experience of the firm(s) in similar works during the last 10 years including cost and duration; (Limited to three pages);
5. Average annual turnover of the firm(s) during the last 3 (three) years; and
6. Summary of permanent professional employees with key qualifications. (including academic qualification and experience adequacy to perform the assignment)

Interested bonafide consulting firm/joint venture firms are invited to submit Eol enclosing only the required information mentioned above. In case of joint venture it is preferable to limit the total number of firm including associates to a maximum of 3 (three).

Consulting firm will be selected using the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) procurement method in accordance with the Public Procurement Rules 2008 and procurement procedures issued by the Government of Bangladesh.

Eol shall be submitted on or before **Tuesday, 05 November 2019 by 12.00pm** in sealed envelope to the Superintending Engineer (RHD), Room No-G/201, HDM Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208 and be clearly marked "Request for Expressions of Interest for Selection of Consulting Firm for Rajshahi and Rangpur Zone (Package No- HDM/2019-20/SR-3)"

The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the Eols without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(Mohammad Rabiul Alam)
ID No: 000425
Superintending Engineer, RHD
HDM Circle
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Superintending Engineer (RHD)
HDM Circle
Sarak Bhaban, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208

Eol Ref. No: HDM/2019-20/04

Date: 14.10.2019

Request for Expression of Interest (Eol) for Selection of Consulting Firm

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The Superintending Engineer (RHD), HDM Circle (hereinafter referred to as the 'Client') now invites Expression of Interest (Eol) from reputed consulting firm or firms in joint venture/association for short-listing the consulting services.

The services include:

The services include for Barishal, Khulna and Gopalganj Zone: (a) Carrying out Pavement Inventory Survey (with LRP) of RHD Road Network; (b) Carrying out Road Condition Survey of RHD Road Network; (c) Carrying out Road Centerline GPS Survey of selected RHD Road Network; (d) Carrying out Test Pit Survey (Construction Type and Quality) of RHD Road Network; (e) Carrying out Deflection Survey of selected RHD Road Network; (f) Providing 01(One) no of 4WD, 5 door, 2300 cc Jeep with air-condition system and including all expenses of driver, fuel, lubricants, tolls etc as required. These services shall be completed within six (06) months from the date of commencement.

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