



Transcom Group Director Simeen Hossain; Transcom Beverages Ltd (TBL) Directors Atiqur Rahman, Arshad Walur Rahman and Shahzreh Huq and Managing Director and CEO Khurshid Irfan Chowdhury; PepsiCo Country Manager for India Debasish Deb and Vice President Vishal Kaul pose at the TBL's annual conference for 2019 at the Long Beach Hotel in Cox's Bazar on January 9. TBL unveiled the theme -- Win the Game -- for 2020 at the conference, which started with the screening of an audio-visual clip from its chairman Latifur Rahman. TBL, a concern of the country's leading conglomerate Transcom Group, is the sole franchisee of PepsiCo in Bangladesh for bottling, distributing and marketing of PepsiCo beverages - 7Up, Pepsi, Mountain Dew, Mirinda, Tropicana Frutz and Aquafina.

## A breakdown for Boeing and the FAA after years of trust

AFP, New York

When Dennis Muilenburg, Boeing's ousted chief, was summoned to Washington last month, he scarcely knew he was in for a dressing-down from the head of the Federal Aviation Administration.

FAA chief Steve Dickson -- a former Delta Air Lines employee who in August took over the reins at the world's most influential aviation regulator -- had announced the day before that Boeing's 737 MAX would not return to the skies before 2020.

The plane was grounded worldwide last March after two crashes in less than five months left 346 people dead.

The meeting between the two men was tense, according to a US official.

Muilenburg had promised airlines and investors the MAX would be back in the sky by December 2019.

ominously, he warned a delay could force a temporary halt to production, something that could inflict pain on the entire US economy.

But Dickson was unswayed, telling Muilenburg to focus on fixing the MCAS anti-stall system implicated in the crashes. Strikingly, he also publicly accused Boeing of making statements

"designed to force FAA into taking quicker action." The souring relations between the two men alarmed Boeing board members, including Larry Kellner, former head of Continental Airlines, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The board feared a complete breakdown in the crucial relationship with the FAA. Boeing needs the agency's support both to emerge from the unprecedented crisis, which has cost it billions of dollars, and also to certify the airworthiness of other jets like those in Boeing's long-haul 777x aircraft line.

Ten days of talks followed. And on December 23 Muilenburg's unceremonious firing was announced in a terse Boeing statement that offered no thanks for his years of service.

David Calhoun, chairman of Boeing's board, had finally dropped Muilenburg after having earlier assured him of his support in the face of blistering attacks from lawmakers and the victims' families.

Adding insult to injury, Muilenburg was informed just hours before the announcement, according to a knowledgeable person.

The bonds of trust between Boeing and the FAA had been fraying since

October. That month, as lawmakers intensified a probe of the 737 MAX's certification, Dickson leveled explosive accusations against Boeing.

He said the company had concealed important documents, including exchanges between employees, showing that the MCAS system, which was meant to prevent stalling, made piloting the aircraft difficult during simulator training.

"I expect your explanation immediately regarding the content of this document and Boeing's delay in disclosing the document to its safety regulator," Dickson said in a letter.

In the documents, former Boeing test pilot Mark Forkner boasted of easily convincing the FAA to approve the MCAS. Forkner told a colleague he was "Jedi mind tricking" regulators. And the FAA ultimately approved the MCAS software without in-depth scrutiny. Another episode further eroded trust between Dickson and Muilenburg.

In early November, Muilenburg asked Dickson to authorize Boeing to resume deliveries of the 737 MAX -- which Boeing assembly plants were still producing at the time -- even before allowing the planes to return to service.

## Infosys profits jump 23.5pc

AFP, Mumbai

India's second-largest IT outsourcing firm Infosys on Friday announced a 23.5 percent jump in its quarterly net profits, beating estimates as it declared that an internal probe had found no evidence of misconduct by its top executives.

This was the company's first financial announcement after whistleblower allegations sparked an internal investigation as well as an ongoing probe by the US Securities and Exchange Commission in October last year.

## China says no significant cut in new energy vehicle subsidies in 2020

REUTERS, Beijing/Shanghai

China will not make significant cuts to subsidies for new energy vehicles (NEV) this year, signalling that its policy will remain relatively stable, state media quoted the country's industry ministry as saying on Saturday.

Earlier, Miao Wei, China's minister for industry and information technology (MIIT), told a forum that the country would not cut subsidies for new energy vehicles (NEV) again in July, an approach which was cheered by vehicle makers.

The government-backed Beijing News said an MIIT representative, in response to Miao's statement, said that "this year's NEV subsidy policy will remain relatively stable and there will not be significant cuts".

Beijing has been slowly rolling back a generous 5-year subsidy programme for NEVs, which began in 2016, saying it plans to phase out subsidies after 2020, amid criticism that some firms have become overly reliant on the funds.

China's monthly NEV sales dropped for the first time in two years in July as the subsidy cuts reached a new level, and have continued falling since.

"There was a subsidy cut on July 1 last year and everyone has been concerned about whether we will see more cuts this year," Miao told the EV100 annual gathering of senior auto industry executives in Beijing. "Today I can tell everyone, we will not cut it in July this year."

Miao's speech was the "best news", He Xiaopeng, chief executive of EV startup XPeng Motors, told Reuters, adding that policy stability was crucial to the industry.

Miao also said NEV sales hit 163,000 units in December and full-year sales stood at 1.2 million NEVs, a drop from 1.3 million in 2018.

The China Association of Automobile Manufacturers will announce 2019 full-year sales figures on Monday. Last month, it said that NEV sales from January to November hit 1.04 million.



Nizam Chowdhury, chairman of NRB Global Bank, and Syed Habib Hasnat, managing director, attend the bank's Yearly Managers' Conference-2020 for its branch managers and divisional heads at the hotel Amari Dhaka yesterday.



Azharul Islam, chairman of Uttara Bank, and Mohammed Rabiu Hossain, managing director, attend the bank's Zonal Heads' Conference-2020 at its head office in Dhaka yesterday.

**North-West Power Generation Company Ltd.**  
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & OHSAS 45001:2018 Certified  
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

**Office of the Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)**  
Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1)  
Soydabad, Sirajganj.

Ref: 27.28.8878.101.07.001.19.012

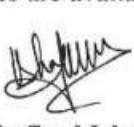
Date: 11/01/2020

**e-Tender Notice**

The following e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)):

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date
1	411247	Spare parts of Field Instrumentation of Water Treatment Plant.	12/01/2020	22/01/2020, 3:45 PM	23/01/2020
2	407875	Supply of different cooling water pump and hydraulic oil pump.	14/01/2020	10/02/2020, 3:45 PM	11/02/2020
3	407880	Spare parts ST field instrument control valves and shutoff valves.	19/01/2020	09/02/2020, 3:45 PM	10/02/2020

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

  
Shafiqul Islam  
Plant Manager (S.E.) (Addl. Charge)  
Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-1)  
NWPGL, Soydabad, Sirajganj.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Municipal Governance and Services Project (MGSP)  
Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar  
Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

Memo No. 46.02.0000.794.26.026.19.42

Date: 12/01/2020

**Invitation for Bids (IFB) for International Competitive Bidding (ICB)**  
IFB No.: ICB/2019-20/05

1. This invitation for bids follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for this Project that appeared in UN Development Business on 25 February 2013.

2. The Government of Bangladesh (GOB) has received a credit from the International Development Association toward the cost of Municipal Governance and Services Project (MGSP) (IDA Credit No. 5339-BD), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the **Contract Package number MGSP/PMU/G94 for Procurement of 21 Nos. (twenty-one) Vibratory Road Roller (8-10.5 Ton)**.

3. The Local Government Engineering Department now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for procurement of goods as mentioned above.

4. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works, and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011 (Procurement Guidelines) and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Project Director, Municipal Governance and Services Project (MGSP), LGED, Email: [pd.mgsp@lged.gov.bd](mailto:pd.mgsp@lged.gov.bd) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours i.e. 09:00 to 17:00 hours (GMT+6 hours).

6. The details of qualifications requirements are provided in the Bidding Documents. A margin of Preference for certain goods manufactured domestically shall be applied. A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at **11:00 hours (GMT+6 hours) on 05 February, 2020** at the office of the undersigned.

7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **equivalent US\$ 85.00 (eighty-five)**. The method of payment will be Cash or Bank Draft.

8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **15:00 hours (GMT+6 hours) on 02 March, 2020**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below on the same day at **15:15 hours (GMT+6 hours)**. The bid must be accompanied by a Bid Security amount **US\$ 45,000.00 (forty-five thousand) or an equivalent amount in any freely convertible currency in favour of the Project Director, Municipal Governance and Services Project (MGSP)**.

9. The address referred to above is: the Office of the Project Director, Municipal Governance and Services Project (MGSP), LGED-RDEC Bhaban (Level-05), Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh, Tel: +880 9113446, Fax: +880 9122434, E-mail: [pd.mgsp@lged.gov.bd](mailto:pd.mgsp@lged.gov.bd)

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