



Bashundhara Group Vice Chairman Shafiat Sobhan Sanvir attends an event styled ‘Partners Award 2019’ jointly organised by the Bashundhara Food and Beverage Industries and Bashundhara Multi Food Products at the International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka on Thursday.



Md Kamrul Ahsan, chairman of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority, and Matiur Rahman, chairman and managing director of the Uttara Group of Companies, attend the launch of new Suzuki Alto and all variants of Suzuki WagonR cars at the InterContinental Dhaka yesterday, where 50 new Altos and WagonR cars were handed over to customers. Uttara Motors is the sole distributor of Japanese automobile company Suzuki’s brand-new vehicles, including passenger cars, microbus, ambulance, pick-up trucks and spare parts.

Virus hammers China’s February economic activity

China’s manufacturing activity fell to its lowest level on record in February as official data on Saturday confirmed the massive damage the deadly coronavirus epidemic has caused to the world’s second-largest economy.

The announcement comes as the epidemic has rapidly spread to a growing number of countries, pushing stock markets to their lowest levels since the 2008 global financial crisis over fears that the coronavirus could wreak havoc on the world economy.

Analysts have warned that China’s economic growth will likely take a major hit in the first quarter, and Saturday’s data was the first glimpse at the damage the virus has caused to industries across the country.

The Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI), a key gauge of activity in China’s factories, was at 35.7 points in February, well below the 50-point mark that separates growth and contraction every month.

This was down from 50 points in January and the worst level since China began recording the figure in 2005.

It was also well below expectations of a smaller contraction, at 45.0, according to a Bloomberg poll of analysts.

It was the first official economic indicator published for the month of February, showing the devastating impact of the epidemic on China’s economy -- with fallout likely to be seen around the world.

The National Bureau of Statistics said the auto and specialised equipment industries were hit hard, but the effect was “more severe” in the non-manufacturing area.

“There was a plunge in demand for consumer industries involving gatherings of people, such as transportation, accommodation, catering, tourism, and resident services,” the NBS said in a statement.

Non-manufacturing activity was at an abysmal 29.6 points in February, down from 54.1 points in January.

Toyota plans new \$1.2b EV plant in Tianjin with FAW

Japanese automaker Toyota plans to build a new electric vehicle plant in the Chinese city of Tianjin with its local partner FAW Group, a document from the local authorities showed.

The joint venture between Toyota and FAW plans to invest around 8.5 billion yuan (\$1.22 billion) in the planned car plant in Tianjin, according to a document issued by authorities of the China-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city.

The plant will have manufacturing capacity of 200,000 new energy vehicles a year, the document showed. In China, new energy vehicles include battery-only, plug-in hybrid and fuel-cell vehicles.

Toyota declined to comment on the project but said in a statement that the company regards China as one of its most important global markets and is constantly considering various measures to implement in China to meet the needs of growing the business in the country.

Last year, despite China’s overall auto market dropping 8.2 per cent, Toyota sold 1.62 million Toyota and premium Lexus cars in China, the world’s biggest auto market, a 9 per cent sales jump compared with a year earlier.

It is also expanding car manufacturing capacities in its Guangzhou-based venture with another partner GAC.

India’s Airtel says \$1.1b payment complies with top court’s order on dues

India’s Bharti Airtel Ltd said it was complying with a Supreme Court order to pay dues, after it paid more than 80 billion rupees (\$1.10 billion) to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Saturday.

The court, which had ordered Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel among others, to pay 920 billion rupees in overdue levies and interest by Jan. 23, rejected petitions last month to review its October order.

Airtel has deposited with the DoT 30.04 billion rupees and an additional 50 billion as an ad-hoc payment to cover differences, if any, it said.

“We have now complied,” the company said in a statement, referring to the judgment and court directions of Oct 24, 2019.

The Supreme Court overturned a lower court ruling and agreed with the government’s definition of adjusted gross revenue (AGR), which mobile carriers have contested for more than a decade.

Companies say AGR should comprise just revenue accrued from core services, while the government says it should include all revenue, such as money from rent, land sales or sale of scrap.

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

1	Ministry/division	Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education.
2	Agency	Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information & Statistics (BANBEIS).
3	Procuring entity name	Project Director, Establishment of Integrated Educational Information Management System (IEIMS) Project.
4	Procuring entity code	224246000
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6	EOI for Selection of	A firm for software design and development for Educational Information Management to be used by MOE, BANBEIS, DSHE, DTE, DME, NTRCA and Others.
7	Title of Service	Software design and development for Educational Information Management to be used by MOE, BANBEIS, DSHE, DTE, DME, NTRCA and Others with maintenance support for 3 (three) years.
8	EOI Ref. No.	37.20.0000.005.14.107.2020
9	Date	27 February 2020.

KEY INFORMATION

10	Procurement method	Quality and Cost based Selection (QCBS).
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FUNDING INFORMATION

11	Budget and source of funds	Development Budget (GOB).
12	Development partners	None/Not applicable.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

13	Project/programme code	224246000
14	Project/programme name	Establishment of "Integrated Educational information Management System (IEIMS)" Project.
15	EOI closing date	12 March 2020 within 3:00pm.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS/SOFTWARE FIRMS

16	Brief description of assignment	Tentative list of the software modules to be developed under this assigned service is as follows: - Module for institutional web portal (student data collection from class VI to class XII, student's attendance, internal result processing, report card generation etc.) - E-MIS software of DSHE, DME and DTE - Government Teacher's database at MoEdu, DSHE, DME, and DTE (profile, posts and vacancies at institutions) - MPO database at DSHE, DME and DTE - Online websites of all boards, agencies and ministry - Non-government teacher registration database at NTRCA - Generation of EIIN at BANBEIS - Online E-Survey database (all educational institutions public and private) - Online foreign scholarship processing database - GIS repository of all institutions at BANBEIS - E-Teacher database at BANBEIS - Modules for Analytics for one stop information services. The following points describe the expected standard of the software of the above modules in brief: - The software will be developed using state-of-the-art design standards ensuring high performance, security, maintainability and extendibility. - The software will be deployed in optimized and scalable way. - It is expected that the firm will develop a customized solution for the proposed system. Use of open source technology will be recommended unless justified otherwise to prevent unnecessary use of licensed tool/technology/database. - The firm must follow a well-defined software development process to meet the SQA (Software Quality Assurance) criteria specified by the nominated consultants and followed by standard industry practices. - It must have the provision for extensive configurability and parameterization to ensure easy maintainability. - The reports should be easily extendable to meet various future requirements. - It will be a fully bi-lingual (Bangla and English) system. - The system must be able to communicate through internet using web based and mobile communication technologies so that the users can access to the system from anywhere at any time. - Old data of several years has to be entered from soft-copy document and data migration is also needed from existing database. - All the documents including the source code and test scripts will have to be provided to the Project Authority for further maintenance and extensibility. - The specifications of the project (the required modules and functionality) will be prepared by the nominated consultants from CSE, BUET of this project. - The product, in different phases of the software development, will be tested by the team of nominated consultants. Establishment of "Integrated Educational Information Management System (IEIMS)" Project now invites eligible firms to indicate the interest for providing the services. Interested firms are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services as mentioned in the serial number 17: Experience, Resources and delivery capacity required. This will require substantiation through submission of brochures and other documents describing similar assignments, experiences, availability of appropriate professional qualifications and experiences among applicant's staffs, resources to carry out the assignment, financial capability, etc. A firm may associate with other firm to fulfill their qualifications.
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Experience, resources and delivery capacity required

A shortlist of firms will be prepared upon evaluation of EOIs of the eligible firms and "Request for Proposal" documents will be issued in their favour. A firm will be selected using the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method. It is expected that the services will commence on April 2020. Total duration of the assignment is fifteen (15) months where nine (9) months are for development and six (6) months are for testing, implementation, installation, training and commissioning.

The firms must prove that they have solid technical background and operational strength to undertake and move this work forward without any hindrances. The firms must also have adequate technical ability, resources, and processes. As such, following are defined as minimum eligibility criteria:

- The firm must have minimum 10 years of practical experience of developing large scale software systems to automate organizational activities.
- Multiple firms (not more than two) having technical and legal competency for developing such a product can apply jointly, but they must have legal agreement among them where one firm needs to be the lead firm. All the firms must be Bangladeshi firm.
- The firm(s) must have minimum 60 in-house system architect, software developers (including high, medium and low levels), testing and dev-op having experiences in developing applications with web-based frameworks (e.g., Spring, Struts, etc), non-licensed databases (Relational DBMS such as PostgreSQL, MariaDB), enterprise architecture and frameworks.
- The firm(s) must have full-time deployment expert with experience of optimized development and provisioning in cloud environment.
- The firm(s) must have strong practice of high quality software engineering process and Quality Assurance (including automated testing).
- The firm(s) is expected to have experience in developing software solutions for Government of Bangladesh or any of its agencies.
- Quality experience of large-scale software system for Foreign Organizations will be appreciated.
- To demonstrate experience, the firm(s) must present the following information of the major 5 software development projects: brief description of work, technical challenge, value earned (own portion in case of joint venture) and provide completion/satisfaction certificate from the project authority. Work order will not be considered.
- To demonstrate the human strength, the bidder must give a table for employees mentioning educational qualification with institute/university, experience in relevant technology, and experience in projects. Supporting signed CVs should be attached along with photos.
- The firm(s) must demonstrate its technical management capacity (describing experience to lead similar assignments, experiences, availability of appropriate professional staffs and experiences among applicant's staffs, resources to carry out the assignment) in managing large scale projects.
- The firm(s) must demonstrate its logistical capability, i.e., well-equipped office space in Dhaka with necessary facilities like development and test server of sufficient capacity, other hardware requirements needed to carry out the service.
- The firm(s) must have the minimum amount of liquid assets, i.e., working capital or credit line(s) of 3 (three) crore.
- The firm(s) must have updated audit report of previous 2 years. Yearly turnover of the firm(s) shall be at least BDT 1 crore. All financial requirements must be supported by verified audit report.
- The firm(s) must have up-to-date valid trade license, income tax and VAT certificates.

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Other details

Interested firms shall obtain further information from the Project Office from 10:00am to 4:30pm in any working day before the closing date. Firms shall have to submit 3 (three) copies of EOIs including original and forwarding letter in a sealed envelope labeled with "EOI for software design and development for Education Information Management to be used by MOE, BANBEIS, DSHE, DTE, DME, NTRCA and Others with maintenance support for 3 (three) years under Establishment of 'Integrated Educational Information Management System (IEIMS) Project" to the following address.

19	Association with foreign firm is	Not applicable
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PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

20	Name of official inviting EOI	Md. Shamsul Alam
21	Designation of official inviting EOI	Project Director, Establishment of "Integrated Educational Information Management System (IEIMS)" project.
22	Address of official inviting EOI	1 Zahir Raihan Road (Palashi-Nilkhet), Dhaka-205, Bangladesh.
23	Contact details of official inviting EOI	Phone: 55151815, 9665457-extn. 117 & 168. email : shamsul.alam30@yahoo.com
24	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all EOI without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

Project Director
IEIMS Project

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