



Sheikh Rakibul Karim, acting CEO of Guardian Life Insurance, and Monzur Morshed Siddiqui, managing director of Premier LP Gas, attend a deal signing ceremony. Premier LP Gas employees and their family members will enjoy life coverage and medical benefits.



Md Shahidullah, managing director of Metrocem Group, attends "Metrocem Cement Platinum 40 Annual Programme 2021" at Grand Sultan Tea Resort and Golf in Sreemangal recently.

US retail sales jump in January as recovery gains traction

AFP
US shoppers resumed spending in January, the first increase since September and another sign of growing optimism as President Joe Biden works to win approval for his \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus plan. But the size of the package has raised some concerns it could reignite inflation, which has been absent from the economy for the past year. Those fears could be reinforced by a surprise surge in producer prices last month, but officials argue the economy needs the spending jolt amid the Covid-19 pandemic, and US central bankers have brushed off inflation concerns. The final size of the stimulus could shrink as the plan makes its way through congressional committees, but Democrats, who have a slim majority in both houses, hope to win approval by March 15, when expanded unemployment benefits are set to expire. Along with consumers opening their wallets, data showed manufacturing continues to rise, business executives are more confident that conditions will improve in coming months, and homebuilders remain optimistic the hot housing market will continue. US retail sales spiked 5.3 per cent, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday, after declining in the final three months of 2020. The January rebound came after Congress approved a new round of

government aid in late December, including extended unemployment benefits. Rubeela Farooqi of High Frequency Economics said the gain is "likely in response to fiscal aid that is providing critical support to household balance sheets. Ian Shepherdson of Pantheon Macroeconomics cautioned that sales in February are likely to experience "a correction" partly due to severe weather in much of the country. But "March should see the start of a sustained recovery, provided the recent downward track in Covid cases continues," he said. "Bigger increases should then follow in the second quarter as the approach of herd immunity" allows pandemic restrictions to be lifted, he added. The sales gains were broad-based, driven by increases in numerous categories including furniture, electronics and sporting goods, and a nearly seven-per cent jump in bars and restaurants, according to the Commerce Department report. Even excluding gasoline and vehicles, which economists expected to juice the headline data, sales were up 6.1 per cent. Online merchants, who have benefited from the pandemic, saw their sales surge 11 percent, according to the report. The producer price index (PPI), which measures wholesale inflation, surged 1.3 per cent last month, the

largest since the index was revamped in December 2009, the Labor Department reported. Economists say the jump might be due to one-time events, and the Federal Reserve likely would welcome signs of price pressures as a return to a normal economy. Still, "these numbers come when markets are looking for inflation risks, and they will reinforce the idea that the post-Covid surge in economic activity will bring higher inflation with it," Shepherdson said. But "the Fed, at least for a while, won't mind. "In fact central bankers clearly signaled they were comfortable even with short-term price spikes and none raised concerns about rising inflation at the policy meeting January 27-28, according to the minutes released Wednesday. The members of the Fed's policy setting committee noted that the US economy continues to be threatened by the pandemic and is "far from" achieving growth and employment goals. They noted that as activity begins to return to normal there could be "one-time increases in certain prices. "However, they "stressed the importance of distinguishing between such one-time changes" that "would be unlikely to have a lasting effect," and a more longer term trend. In other data reports showing an improving outlook and confidence, the Fed reported industrial production rose 0.9 percent in January while manufacturing increased 1.0 percent.



A customer pushes a shopping cart at a Walmart store in Chicago, Illinois, US.



Walton Hi-Tech Industries Limited Deputy Managing Directors Nazrul Islam Sarker, Eva Rizwana, Amdadul Haque Sarker and Humayun Kabir, Executive Directors SM Zahid Hasan, Md Rayhan, Tavar Rahman, Ariful Ambia, Shakhawat Hossen and Firoj Alam attend the launch of the company's "Digital Campaign Season 9" at Walton Corporate Office in the capital yesterday. Some of Walton AC customers will be given free electricity bill for 21 years.

Asian markets slip as inflation fears trump recovery hopes

AFP, Hong Kong
Asian markets mostly fell Thursday on profit-taking and growing worries about inflation, which offset long-running optimism about the global recovery as vaccines are rolled out, infection rates slow and Joe Biden's stimulus winds through Congress. Oil prices pushed further up to 13-month highs as the severe cold snap in the United States hammers production, even trumping news that Saudi Arabia is planning to up output in light of the commodity's strong performance in recent months. Confidence that the world economy will enjoy a scorching rebound from last year's collapse has fired global equities and other risk assets for months as immunisation programmes allow people to slowly get back to a semblance of normality and lockdowns are eased. Underpinning that has been vast amounts of government spending as well as ultra-loose central bank monetary policies and pledges of continued support until the recovery is well underway. But that has led to expectations of a surge in inflation and a spike in US Treasury yields to around one-year highs, sparking worries of higher borrowing costs down the line. And it is these fears, along with warnings equities may have run ahead of themselves, that are playing on investors' minds. Those concerns were allayed by a forecast-beating jump in US retail sales last month, and wholesale inflation climbed at its fastest pace since the index was revamped in December 2009. "Strong US economic data dampened the argument that the economy still needs massive stimulus and as rising inflation expectations start to weigh on valuations," said OANDA strategist Edward Moya. "Technology stocks are leading the decline as pricing pressures will likely have the biggest impact on their bottom line. The skyrocketing move in yields is triggering some investors to take off some of their most profitable frothy trades.

| BANGLADESH SHIPPING CORPORATION Chattogram. | |
|---|--|
| INVITATION FOR TENDER | |
| 01. Ministry/Division | Ministry of Shipping |
| 02. Agency | Bangladesh Shipping Corporation |
| 03. Name of Procuring Entity | Administration Department, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation |
| 04. Procuring Entity Address | Chattogram. |
| 05. Invitation for | Supply and installation of CCTV IP Camera and other related items with necessary services. |
| 06. Invitation Ref no. | 18.36.0000.353.0001.21. |
| 07. Procurement Method | OTM |
| 08. Budget and source of funds | BSC's own fund |
| 09. Tender document last selling date | at 11:00 PM, 05/02/2021 |
| 10. Tender submission date & time | at 11:00 AM, 08/02/2021 |
| 11. Tender opening date and time | at 12:00 PM, 08/02/2021 |
| 12. Name & address of the office(s) | (a) Selling Tender document : Accounts Department, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, BSC Bhaban, Subagha Road, Ctg. (b) Receiving Tender document : General Manager (Administration), Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, BSC Bhaban, Subagha Road, Ctg. |
| 13. Place/Date/Time of Pre-tender meeting | N/A |
| 14. Eligibility of Tender | (a) The tender must have at least one successful completion experience on supply, installation and maintenance of IP based CCTV Camera with related works in a single work order amounting not less than Tk. 25 lakhs including 01(one) year repair and maintenance work during the last 10 years in Government Govt./Autonomous bodies. The work completion certificate shall have to be issued by the officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent officer of concerned Government/Agency. (b) The required average annual construction turnover in Tk. 90.00 Lacs during the last five years which will be based on work completion certificate. All work completion certificates must be certified. (c) Minimum 05(five) years' work experience as an IT firm. (d) Tenderer should have the following documents: Val. Registration Certificate, Updated Income Tax Certificate, Valid Trade License, Bank Solvency Certificate and all other qualification with the application specified in ITB. |
| 15. Brief description of goods | Supply and installation of CCTV IP Camera and other related items with necessary services. |
| 16. Price of Tender documents | Tk. 1000/- (One thousand) only. |
| 17. Performance Security | 10.10% of the price of agreement. |
| 18. Tender security amount | Tk. 25,00,000/- (Twenty five thousand) only. |
| 19. Name of official inviting tender | Mohammad Ashraful Anis, Deputy Secretary |
| 20. Designation of official inviting tender | General Manager (Admin) |
| 21. Address of the official inviting tender | Administration Department, BSC, Chattogram. |
| 22. Contact details of official inviting tender | Phone: 01724021000/01724021001, email: gmadmin@bshc.gov.bd |
| 23. BSC authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject whole the tender or part of it, at any stage without assigning any reasons there of whatsoever. | |

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Chief Controller of Stores
Bangladesh Railway
Pahartali, Chattogram-4202
No. P6/Diesel/Supplier-Enlistment/2021 17/02/2021

Corrigendum-1

The following amendment is being carried out in respect of the "Date of Pre-Qualification Meeting" of Invitation Ref. No. P6/Diesel/Supplier-Enlistment/2021 date: 20/01/2021:

Read For
Date of pre-qualification meeting: 10/03/2021 18/02/2021

All the other terms and conditions of the tender shall remain unaltered.

Md. Maniruzzaman
Assistant Controller of Stores/P-2
For Chief Controller of Stores
Phone: 01711-692995

S(21)(51)
GD-335

Daimler sees good times ahead despite pandemic

AFP, Berlin
German automobile giant Daimler on Thursday predicted its sales and revenues will rise "significantly" in 2021, despite the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. "We are confident that we can maintain positive momentum if current market conditions prevail," CEO Ola Kallenius said in a statement. Current shortages of semiconductor chips that are slowing car production worldwide "can be compensated for by the end of the year", the Mercedes-Benz maker said. Outsized demand for personal electronics as huge swathes of populations work from home during the pandemic has led to an acute shortage of semiconductor chips.

ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কস লিমিটেড
বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী
সোনাকান্দা, বন্দর, নারায়ণগঞ্জ
ফোন : ০২-৭৬৬১৪৮০, মোবাইল নং ০১৭৬৯১৯৮৮৭
Web: www.dewbn.gov.bd, E-mail - commercial@dewbn.gov.bd

০৬.০২.৬৭৫৮.১৬৫.০৭.১৯৪.২১.১৩৫৭ তারিখ ১৮ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২১

অডিটর নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ নৌবাহিনী কর্তৃক পরিচালিত ডকইয়ার্ড এন্ড ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ওয়ার্কস লিমিটেড (ডিইউপিটি লিমিটেড) এর ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বছরের চুক্তি হিসাব, কর্মচারী প্রতিবেদন ফান্ড তহবিল, শ্রমিক অংশ গ্রহণ তহবিল ও গ্রামিক কল্যাণ তহবিল নিরীক্ষণের জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তসাপেক্ষে চার্টার্ড গ্র্যাকাউন্ট্যান্টস নিয়োগের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে :

- ০১। সিএ ফর্মকে ন্যূনতম ০২জন অংশীদারসহ সরকারি কাজে ০৫-০৭ বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে।
- ০২। কার্য সম্পাদনের জন্য অমন, থাকা-খাওয়া, যাতায়াত এবং অন্যান্য ব্যয় ফর্মকে বহন করতে হবে।
- ০৩। নিরীক্ষা প্রতিবেদনের অতিরিক্ত হিসাবে প্রতিষ্ঠানের সকল বিভাগের (বিভাগ, সেকশন, অনুবিভাগ অনুযায়ী) আর্থিক ও পরিচালনগত দুর্বলতা চিহ্নিত ও তার প্রতিকারের সুপারিশ সম্বলিত প্রতিবেদন প্রদান করতে হবে।
- ০৪। আইটেম অনুযায়ী ভ্যাট-ট্যাক্সসহ মূল্য উল্লেখ পূর্বক মোট মূল্য নির্ধারণ সাপেক্ষে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
- ০৫। অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী নিয়োগপত্রে উল্লেখ করা হবে।

উক্ত নিরীক্ষা কাজে অংশগ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক সিএ ফর্মসমূহকে ভ্যাট, টিআইএন, আইসিএবি অডিট রেজিস্ট্রেশন এবং অন্যান্য প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যপত্রাদিসহ আগামী ০৪ মার্চ ২০২১ তারিখ বেলা ১০.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে ডিইউপিটি লিমিটেড এর প্রধান ফটকে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বক্সে অথবা ডাক/কুরিয়ার যোগে দরপত্র প্রেরণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। এই দিনই দুপুর ১১-০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। ডিইউপিটি লিমিটেড কর্তৃক কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন সময় দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।

Md. Maniruzzaman
General Manager (Admin)
Dewbn & Engineering Works Ltd.
Sonakanda, Narayanganj

GD-338