



Prof Dr Anwar Hossain, vice chancellor of Northern University Bangladesh, and Mohammad Ziaul Hasan Molla, deputy managing director of Bank Asia, recently signed an agreement to introduce a student support loan.



H2 Jolion and H6, two models of Haval SUVs, were virtually unveiled by Ace Autos (Pvt), the distributor for Bangladesh, from its Tejgaon showroom in Dhaka recently.

Facebook signs first deal to buy renewable energy in India

Facebook has signed a deal to buy renewable energy in India from a local firm's wind power project, the social media giant's first such deal in the South Asian nation, the companies said on Thursday.

The 32 megawatt wind power project, located in southern Karnataka state, is part of a larger portfolio of wind and solar projects that Facebook and Mumbai-based CleanMax are working together on for supplying renewable power into India's electrical grid, they said in a joint statement. CleanMax will own and operate the projects, while Facebook will buy the power off the grid using environmental attribute certificates, or carbon

credits, the companies said.

Facebook's head of renewable energy, Urvi Parekh, told Reuters the company typically doesn't own the power plants but instead signs "long-term" electricity purchasing agreements with the renewable power company.

"That enables the project to seek out the financing that it would need," she said. India is Facebook's biggest market by users.

In Singapore, Facebook has announced similar partnerships with energy providers Sunseap Group, Terrenus Energy and Sembcorp Industries on projects that can produce 160 MW of solar power, Parekh said.

The electricity generated from these plants will power the tech



A 3D-printed Facebook logo is seen placed on a keyboard in this illustration.

giant's first Asian data centre operations next year, she added.

Data centres driving tech companies like Facebook use up as much as 1 per cent of the world's total energy, the International Energy Agency said last year.

Tech companies like Amazon, Alphabet Inc and Microsoft have pledged to operate carbon-free and achieve net-zero emissions, as demand for data and digital services is expected to see a sustained rise.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced separately on Thursday that the company's global operations are now supported wholly by renewable energy and that it has reached net-zero emissions.



Zahid Ahsan Mohammad Esha Shahadat Hossain

Pubali Bank gets new DMDs

Pubali Bank recently witnessed the appointment of three new deputy managing directors.

The appointees, Zahid Ahsan, Mohammad Esha and Mohammad Shahadat Hossain, were serving as general managers and started off their careers as probationary senior officers, the former in 1988 and the latter two in 1997, says a press release.

Ahsan was in the board division and is currently serving as company secretary. He obtained his LLB (Hons) and LLM degrees from the University of Dhaka.

Esha was in the credit division. He obtained his MBA degree from the University of Dhaka.

Hossain was in international and treasury divisions and obtained his MSS degree in economics from the University of Chattogram.

Office of the Director, Planning & Development Division
Islamic University, Kushtia
Invitation for Tenders (OTM)

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education.
2.	Agency	Islamic University.
3.	Procuring entity name	Planning & Development Division, Islamic University, Kushtia.
4.	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5.	Procuring entity district	Kushtia-Jhenaidah.
6.	Invitation for tender	Procurement of Office Equipment.
7.	Invitation reference No.	P&D/IU/387/2021/01, Dated: 12/04/2021

KEY INFORMATION

8.	Procuring method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
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FUNDING INFORMATION

9.	Budget and source of funds	GOB.
10.	Development partners	None.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11.	Project code	-
12.	Project name	-
13.	Tender package No.	Package No. 01
14.	Tender package name	Procurement of office equipment.
15.	Tender publication date	15/04/2021 - 20/04/2021
16.	Tender last selling date	02/05/2021.
17.	Tender closing date and time	12.00 noon, Date: 03/05/2021
18.	Tender opening date and time	11.00am, Date: 04/05/2021
19.	Name and address of the offices selling tender document	i. Agrani Bank Ltd., Islamic University Branch, Kushtia.
	Receiving tender document	a. Office of the Director, Planning & Development Division, Islamic University, Kushtia.
	Opening tender document	Office of the Chief Engineer, Islamic University, Kushtia.
20.	Pre-tender meeting	N/A

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

21.	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderer must meet the following qualifying and other eligibility criteria: a) Up to date Trade licence, Income Tax clearance certificate, VAT registration certificate. b) All documents should be attested by First class Govt. Officer. c) Other terms & conditions as per tender datasheet (DTS) must be fulfilled. d) All other criterion will be taken as PPA-06 and will be applicable as PPR-08. e) In this regard any misinterpretation of omission of fact will be lead to reject of tender.
22.	Brief description of goods or work	Procurement of Office Equipment.
23.	Price of tender document (Non-Refundable)	Each lot Taka- 1000/= (One thousand) only.

Package No.	Identification of package	Location	Tender security amount (Tk.)	Completion time in weeks/months
01.	Processor, Main Board, RAM, SSD, HDD, VGA Card, Chassis, Power Supply, Water Cooler, Chassis Fan, Monitor 1, Thermal Grease, Mouse & Keyboard, Network Clint PC, Monitor, Keyboard & Mouse, Head Phone, Connector, Power cable, LAN Cable CAT 6, MK Board, Switch 24 Port, Channel for Cabling, LAB AC.	Islamic University, Kushtia	57,000/-	04 (Four) Weeks from the date of Notification of Award (NOA)

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

24.	Name of official inviting tender	H.M. Ali Hassan.
25.	Designation of official inviting tender	Director (In-charge), Planning & Development Division.
26.	Address of official inviting tender	Office of the Director, Planning & Development Division, Islamic University, Kushtia.
27.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Telephone: Office-071-74924, Residence-071-73366.
28.	Special instruction	University Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Note: No tender documents will be sold on the opening date of the tender. If the office remains closed on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the tender will be received at the same time on the next working day and opened accordingly.

H.M. Ali Hassan
Director (In-charge), P & D
&
Project Director
Islamic University, Kushtia

GD-777

Fed sees more optimism among US businesses, activity accelerating

American businesses are feeling more optimistic as vaccinations against Covid-19 become common, and economic activity accelerated moderately in recent weeks, the Federal Reserve said on Wednesday in its survey of business conditions.

However some areas are seeing prices rise, both as a consequence of supply chain snarls and increasing demand as consumers resume daily life with Covid-19 less of a threat, according to the central bank's beige book survey.

In the period from late February to early April, economic activity increased to "a moderate pace," while "consumer spending strengthened" and "manufacturing activity expanded further" with half of the Federal Reserve's districts "citing robust growth," the survey said. "Outlooks were more optimistic than in the previous report, boosted in part by an acceleration in Covid-19 vaccinations," it added.

The report also showed early signs of complications resulting from reopening the economy after the pandemic forced many businesses to downscale or modify operations for almost a year, with supply chain disruptions stopping companies from meeting some orders. "Severe myriad supply constraints continued to hamper potential growth from demand described as 'on fire,' and activity remained below levels attained prior to the pandemic," the Philadelphia district reported.

There were also signs of price increases, which is a dynamic that will be closely watched in coming months given massive government spending that's prompted fears from Wall Street and some economists that the world's largest economy is set for a prolonged spike in inflation. "Input costs rose across the board, but especially in the manufacturing, construction, retail, and transportation sector -- specifically, metals, lumber, food, and fuel prices," the report said.

"Cost increases were partly attributed to ongoing supply chain disruptions, temporarily exacerbated in some cases by winter weather events. "With the economy still short millions of jobs that existed before the pandemic, the survey said most districts reported "modest to moderate increases in headcounts" with the strongest gains seen in manufacturing, construction and leisure and hospitality -- the sector most devastated by the virus.

Some positions were in short supply, specifically commercial and delivery drivers as well as skilled tradespeople. Manufacturing and construction firms were having trouble finding workers, and some raised pay or offered signing bonuses in response, the survey said.

The vaccines have caused Covid-19 cases to decrease nationwide, and the report said some firms were noticing less absenteeism due to the disease.



The Federal Reserve building is pictured in Washington.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA)
Office of the Project Director
Feasibility Study on Dhaka Outer Ring Road
Nagar Bhaban (Level-12), Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000.

Memo: 35.02.0000.010.14.004.2020-21 Date: 13/04/2021

Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Consultancy Services of Feasibility Study on Dhaka Outer Ring Road: Eastern, Western and Northern Part

- Background:**
DTCA has prepared STP in 2005 which is updated and revised in 2016. The revised STP recommended 3 (three) ring roads: Inner ring road, Middle ring road and Outer ring road. DTCA now intends to hire a consultancy service to fix the alignment of outer ring road and feasibility study of the proposed outer ring road. The Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA) consider that the Outer Ring Road is one of the first priority for implementation that will facilitate improved transportation movements around Dhaka. The proposed alignment of Outer ring road will go through the Hemayetpur, Kalakandi, Madanpur, Danga, Bajpail, Gazipur. In order to improve transportation movements around Dhaka, DTCA intends to appoint Consulting firm (s) for Feasibility Study on Dhaka Outer Ring Road: Eastern, Western and Northern Part.
- Scope of Tasks/Service:**
The tasks of the consultant include:
- Consultant will perform detailed transport study to provide a clear justification for the establishment of the road. The study will update the RSTP Dhaka transport model, then develop a new model to determine the number of traffic lanes, geometric and road pavement design, general construction specification, major junctions and link roads, design speed and potential vehicle type.
- Consultant will consider the RSTP proposed alignment of outer ring road. They will review all proposed master plans and proposals including on-going DAP along the corridor. The Consultants will consider various alignment options within the corridor that could lead to a preliminary design. The various corridor options will be evaluated by advantages and disadvantages of each options based on a number of parameters. Based on the above parameters the Consultants should select the preferred option which will then be used as a basis for the preliminary design.
- The consultants have to prepare the Preliminary Design which will include the location of the alignment showing location of all other transport related components. Perform such other tasks as will be detailed in the Terms of Reference (TOR) to be supplied to successfully shortlisted candidates following ranking of submitted Expressions of Interest.
- The Project Director now invites Consulting firm(s) to express their interest in providing the above services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. The EOIs will be reviewed on the basis of the following and the Consulting firm(s) is requested to submit the supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned works: (i) Registration of the firm (s), (ii) Company profile: brochure including management personnel, firm's specialty, performance etc., (iii) Availability and Summary of qualification of key professionals, (iv) List of rendered services in last 5 (five) years, (v) Experience in similar tasks/projects, (vi) Yearly turnover of the firm for last 5 (five) years, (vii) Annual Audit report for last 3 (Three) years and (viii) History of litigation in courts or any arbitration proceedings (if any).
- Applications may associate to enhance their qualifications but should clearly/explicitly mention whether the association is in the form of a "Joint Venture" or "Sub-consultancy".
- The Consulting firm will be selected in accordance with procedures set out in the Public Procurement Rules (PPR), 2008. (Reference 105(1))
- It is expected that the service will commence in September 2021 at Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the above study must be Submitted to the address below by office hours on 11 May, 2021. The envelopes must be clearly marked "EOI for Feasibility Study on Dhaka Outer ring Road: Eastern, Western and Northern Part"
- The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs.

Project Director,
Dhaka Outer Ring Road: Eastern, Western and Northern Part
Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA)
Telephone: 02-9568844
Email: rokihrhd25@gmail.com

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