

MADDHAPARA GRANITE MINING COMPANY LTD

# Delay of contract renewal affects mine production; sales dropped as stock plunges

Contract with GTC to be ended on Sep 2

KONGRON KARMAKER

Sales of hard rock at Maddhapara Granite Mining Company Limited (MGCL) have come to a standstill due to snail pace of rock production as uncertainty starts looming over the renewal of the contract with the present contract holding company, which is scheduled to be ended on September 2 this year.

MGCL, a company of Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla), is located at Maddhapara village in Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur.

According to the official sources of the hard rock mine, it has around 90,000 tonnes of rock at the stockyard, with four different sizes. But, the mine does not have a stock of 5/20 shaped rocks, which have a higher demand for various development projects across the country.

Daily average sale dropped to below 1,000 tonnes, said mine sources.

During a visit to the mine on Sunday (August 22), this correspondent found more than 1,000 trucks from various parts of the country waiting in queues on both sides on Phulbari-Mithapukur highway in the mining area to take the load from the mine.

But, a few of them were getting the rocks.

There are several stockyards at the mine's compound, but all the yards have already been empty for the production slump.

Habibur Rahman, a trucker of Madaripur district, said he reached the mine area on Thursday last week to take the load from the Maddhapara mine. He got his load after three days of waiting.

"Situation is the same for others," he said, adding that if people suffer this way, they will turn up to other alternative rock sources as it's being imported from other countries, including India and Bhutan as well.

Although there is a high demand for hard rock from Maddhapara for the development of the various projects in the country, many companies are not getting their loads as per the demands for the shortage of rocks, he said.

Sources said that developments of many mega projects in the country, including Roopur Nuclear Power Plant, Paira, Matharbari seaport, and third terminal of Shahjalal International Airport, are using the hard-rock of MGCL.

"The development of these mega projects is much dependent on the rock production of Maddhapara

mine. If the production is hampered, it will affect the development of the projects", said an official requesting not to quote him.

On the other hand, the uncertainty of contract renewal with the incumbent contracted company has already affected the rock production as the foreign and local miners are worried about their jobs.

Mine sources said around 600 local miners and approximately 80 foreign miners have been working under Germania Trest Consortium (GTC), the contracted company.

However, local miners said working condition under GTC is far better than that of Namnam, a North Korean based company of MGCL.

Namnam was the first company contracted by MGCL.

Sources said Petrobangla took over the mine in 2007 after Namnam developed the mine from 1998. The same year, MGCL signed a six-year term contract with Namnam for the mine's development and production. Under the agreement, Namnam had to produce 5,500 tonnes of rock daily operating the mine under three shifts, but it could never achieve the given

target. Hence, the mine suffered massive losses.

Later, Germania Trest Consortium (GTC), a Belarus-based company, was hired by MGCL on September 2 in 2013, through international biddings for the mine's development and rock production. Formally, the 6-year term contract ended on February 20 last year.

Meantime, the authorities of MGCL floated tender for six times inviting bidding applications from experienced international companies, but the bidding process could not be completed since the Covid-19 induced global pandemic.

Later, MGCL signed a Side Letter Agreement (SLA) contract with GTC, which will be over on September 2, said the mine official.

But, with only a week left, there is no sign to be seen to finalise the renewal agreement. Md Abu Taleb Farazi, general manager (mine operation) of MGCL, said MGCL and Petrobangla have been working hard to finalize the contract as early as possible. GTC produced around 40 lakh tonnes of rock during its tenure. The MGCL has sold hard rock worth Tk 627.22 crore since mid-2018.



Mahbubur Rashid's parents -- Hasina Begum and Harun-ur-Rashid -- holding a photo of their son who was one among 24 people killed in the grenade attack on August 21, 2004.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## AUGUST 21 GRENADE ATTACK

# Punish the murderers in our lifetime

Urge the parents of slain Mahbubur Rashid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

"I can't take it anymore. My heart aches all the time and I can't breathe. The only thing I want before I die is the punishment of the murderers."

This is what Hasina Begum said choking back her tears on the anniversary of her son's death on August 21 this year.

The 76-year-old woman lost her son in the August 21 grenade attack of 2004 on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who is also the president of Awami League and the leader of the opposition back then.

Hasina Begum's son Lance Corporal (ret'd) Mahbubur Rashid, the then head of the AL president's security staff, was one of the 24 people who were killed on the fateful day when a rally of the AL came under attack.

Mahbub's father Harun-ur-Rashid, 85, said on August 21 every year, many people including leaders and activists of the AL from the area pay homage to Mahbub by visiting his grave and their home in Fulbaria village of Kushtia's Khoksa upazila.

Wondering "why it has been taking so long to punish the killers," Harun said it would be a matter of great regret if he cannot see the punishment of his son's killers in his lifetime.

Sometimes development in the trial process gets his hopes up, but at other times, the situation is quite frustrating, said the elderly man.

He faced extreme financial hardship while raising his 10 children. After Mahbub passed fifth grade from Fulbaria Primary School in the neighbourhood, Mahbub's maternal



uncle Abdur Rob took him under his wings and got him admitted at Shaheed Khabir Uddin Secondary School in Bahadurpur of Rajbari's Pangsha upazila.

After passing SSC in 1984 from there, poverty-stricken young Mahbub started a job at the house of an army officer for Tk 600. The job later paved the way for him to join Bangladesh Army.

The financial situation of the family started to improve by the time Mahbub completed his service term at the army and later launched a business in his village home.

Retired soldier Mahbub soon found an opportunity to work for the AL President Sheikh Hasina as driver of her car. Within a short time, with his loyalty and honesty, Mahbub made his way up to be a bodyguard for the AL president.

Hoping that Mahbub's two sons -- Ashiq and Robin -- will also live up to expectations, his mother Hasina Begum proudly said that her son was an honest, devoted and responsible person with fighting spirit. "My son sacrificed his life to save Bangabandhu's daughter."



Several hundreds of trucks wait in queue on both sides on Phulbari-Mithapukur highway in the mining area to take the load from the mine but the truckers alleged that they were not getting their loads despite waiting for two to three days. The photo was taken on Sunday.

PHOTO: KONGRON KARMAKER



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ  
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়  
মাদারীপুর।



### দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০২১-২০২২ অর্থ বৎসরে ২য় কোয়ার্টারের (অক্টোবর/২০২১ হইতে ডিসেম্বর/২০২১ পর্যন্ত) রেশন সামগ্রী ক্রয়ের নিমিত্তে দি-পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট এ্যাক্ট/২০০৬ ও দি-পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধি/২০০৮ (সর্বশেষ সংশোধনসহ) অনুসারে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে সীলনমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইবে।

ক্রমিক নং	মালামালের/কার্জের বিবরণ	মাসের পরিমাণ	জামানতের পরিমাণ	সিডিউলের মূল্য	কার্যকাল
০১	উন্নতমানের দেশী মত্তর ডাল (যেহ পলি প্যাকে সরবরাহ)	২৩,৫০০ কেজি	৭৫,০০০/-	৭৫০/-	২০২১-২০২২ (অক্টোবর/২০২১ হইতে ডিসেম্বর/২০২১ পর্যন্ত)
০২	সয়াবিন তৈল (বিএসটিআই অনুমোদিত)	২১,০০০লি	৭০,০০০/-	৭৫০/-	
০৩	পোশা ও চাউল	১২০০ কেজি	৫,০০০/-	৪০০/-	
০৪	জ্বালানী কাঠ (আম/চামুল) সরবরাহ	২৮,০০০ কেজি	৫,০০০/-	৪০০/-	
০৫	গম পেয়াই (যেহ পলি প্যাকে সরবরাহ)	৮৮,৫০০ কেজি	২০,০০০/-	৭৫০/-	
০৬	লোড-আনলোড ও পরিবহন	২,৫০,০০০ কেজি	৫,০০০/-	৪০০/-	

১৮. ডাল ও আটা উন্নতমানের যজ্ঞ পলিপ্যাকে প্যাকেটজাত করিয়া সরবরাহ করিতে হইবে।
১৯. আটা ও ডালের প্যাকেটের গায়ে স্পষ্ট ভাবে পন্যের ওজন, উৎপাদনের তারিখ ও মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণের তারিখ উল্লেখ করিতে হইবে।
২০. সিডিউলে উল্লেখিত পরিমাণ অনুযায়ী প্যাকেটজাত করিয়া সরবরাহ করিতে হইবে।
২১. ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের সত্বাধিকারীর স্বাক্ষরযুক্ত প্যাডে আবেদন পূর্বক অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত দরপত্র সিডিউল ক্রয় করিতে হইবে।
২২. দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন কমিটি কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
২৩. সরকারি সিদ্ধান্তের ক্ষেত্রে দরপত্রে উল্লেখিত কোন তারিখ সরকারি বন্ধ হইলে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত তারিখে কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন করা হইবে।
২৪. কার্জের বিবরণঃ

(গোলাম মোহাম্মদ রাসেল, স্পিনিং-মাস্টার)  
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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Project Director  
Sustainable Forests & Livelihoods (SUFAL) Project  
Bangladesh Forest Department  
Ban Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh  
www.bforest.gov.bd



Memo no. FD/SUFAL/Procurement/SD-37/15/2021/1430

Date: August 25, 2021

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

Country: Bangladesh  
Name of the Project: Sustainable Forests & Livelihoods (SUFAL) Project  
Credit No: 6325-BD  
Assignment Title: Consulting Services for Valuation of Ecosystem Services (Wealth Accounting) and Assessment of Payment for Ecosystem Services.

Reference No. Package no: SD-37

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the Sustainable Forests & Livelihoods (SUFAL) Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for this consulting services.

This consulting services ("the Services") has the broad objectives:

- devise a set of Natural Capital Accounts for forestry in Bangladesh that meets international standards, apply these nationally and to selected Protected Areas, and
- explore the feasibility of Payments for Ecosystems Services in Ramgarh-Sitakunda Reserved Forests.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment and soft copy of Prescribed Format for Submission of Expression of Interest can be found at the following website: [www.bforest.gov.bd](http://www.bforest.gov.bd) or can be obtained at the address given below.

The Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) now invites eligible firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information on Prescribed Format issued with this REOI demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The required qualification and experience of the firm/firms are as follows:

- A registered consulting firm with 10 years of working experience in natural resource management;
- Having 05 years of experience in similar kind of works;
- Working with ecosystem service valuation (ESV) and payment for ecosystem services (PES) will be an added advantage
- Experience of working under donor funded projects will be an added advantage;
- The consulting firm will have sufficient and relevant managerial, financial and organizational capabilities and logistics for the assignment;

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

Attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 (Revised on November 2017 & August 2018) ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. It is preferable to limit the maximum number of joint venture partners in 03 (three) including the Lead partner. Although the lead firm in the joint venture will provide the core expertise, each partner of the JV has to be reasonably qualified to take over the responsibilities and role of any of the partners that may fail to perform or withdraws.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost-based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 9:00 to 17:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **September 22, 2021 up to 3:00 PM.**

(গোবিন্দা রয়)  
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