



Humaira Azam, managing director of Trust Bank Ltd, cuts a ribbon to inaugurate the bank's relocated Khawja Garib-e-Newaz Avenue branch at Tropical Akhando Tower, Uttara in Dhaka yesterday. Ahsan Zaman Chowdhury, Hasna Hena Chowdhury and Akhlasur Rahman Bhuiyan, deputy managing directors, were present.

TRUST BANK

Md Quddus Khan, administrator of Delta Life Insurance Company Ltd, inaugurates the Annual Conference-2019 of the insurer at the Long Beach Hotel in Cox's Bazar recently. Md Shah Alam, a director of the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority, and Md Monjure Maula, deputy managing director of the insurance company, were present.

COLLECTED



Asian markets rise

AFP, Hong Kong

Asian equity markets mostly rose Monday to build on a recent run-up following another healthy showing on Wall Street, though inflation concerns continue to dampen the mood.

While optimism about the global economic recovery remains intact, the rise in prices at rates not seen for decades has traders increasingly worried that central banks will have to tighten monetary policy quicker and more sharply than previously thought.

Rice price remains high despite huge imports, stocks

FROM PAGE B1

Many private importers have already canceled LCs." Between July and October, letters of credit (LCs) were opened to import 7.97 lakh tonnes of rice, said a senior official of the food ministry.

Majumder said the import cost of rice was Tk 40 per kilogramme (kg), but it would go up in the local market due to the reinstatement of the higher duty.

Food Secretary Mosammat Nazmanara Khanum said: "The reasons for the increase in the price of rice can't be pinpointed precisely. Imports have gone up but not as much given the number of approvals given."

She said the import duty was brought to the previous level to help farmers get fair prices. "If the prices go up, we will think about lowering the import duty again."

The higher import came as the price has declined in key exporting nations. For instance, rice was sold at \$381 per tonne in October in Thailand, down from \$451 in the same month last year.

During the period, it fell to \$359 per tonne from \$369 in India, and from \$526 to \$445 in Myanmar. In Bangladesh, the production of paddy also rose.

The production of Boro, the largest crop in Bangladesh, was up 1.2 per cent at 1.99 crore tonnes in the last fiscal year. The higher import of rice and the robust public procurement of boro rice sent the stock of the staple in state warehouses to a new high.

On October 10, state warehouses had a rice stock of 13.70 lakh tonnes, way higher than the 8.2 lakh tonnes recorded on the same day last year, food ministry data showed. The stock of food, consisting of rice and wheat, jumped to 15.26 lakh tonnes on November 10, up from 8 lakh tonnes in January.

LDCs to demand continuation of fisheries subsidies

FROM PAGE B1

WTO were given the task of securing an agreement on disciplines to eliminate subsidies for illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, with special and differential treatment for developing countries and LDCs integral to the negotiations.

Declining fish stocks threaten to worsen poverty and endanger coastal communities that rely on fishing, the WTO says.

At a meeting of the negotiating group on November 8, the chair of the fisheries subsidies negotiations, Ambassador Santiago Wills of Colombia, introduced a second revision of the draft negotiating text to be used as the basis for discussions among members aimed at resolving remaining differences ahead of the upcoming ministerial meeting.

Bangladesh, along with other LDCs, has also decided to seek zero-duty trade benefit for nine years, from 12 years initially thought about, for the countries that graduate from the group.

For the last few years, the LDCs have been lobbying the WTO for a trade benefit for 12 years. But the developing and developed countries are not agreeing to the idea of extending duty benefit for 12 years.

"So, we have changed our position. Now, we will demand it for nine years," said Rahman.

The LDCs also want the value-addition of manufactured goods to be fixed at 25 per cent for them to qualify for the duty benefit under the Rules of Origin, down from 40 per cent demanded by the developed and

developing countries.

"This is also included in the main agenda of the WTO Summit," Rahman said.

Bangladesh is lobbying with other countries, multilateral platforms and regional trade blocs to attain duty-free trade benefits as the country is set to leave the LDC group in 2026. The European Union will continue the current duty privilege for three years after graduation.

Stocks recover from single-day knock

FROM PAGE B4

Stocks of Beximco Limited traded the most, worth Tk 194 crore, followed by Brac Bank, IFIC Bank, Orion Pharmaceuticals and Genex Infosys.

Brac Bank made the greatest contribution to the DSE's benchmark index, accounting for 9 points on the day, according to amarstock.com, a stock market related data provider.

Meanwhile, Brac Bank, British American Tobacco Bangladesh, Square Pharmaceuticals, the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh and Dutch-Bangla Bank collectively added 30 points to the index, the data shows.

The Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) also rose yesterday as the CASPI, the main index of the port city bourse, rose 29 points, or 0.14 per cent, to 20,323.

Among the 282 traded companies, 104 advanced, 164 fell and 14 remained unchanged.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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e-Tender Notice

e-Tender has been invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the following packages under Road Division, Chandpur during the year 2021-2022 (Charged Head: Revenue).

Name of the works	Package No.	Tender ID	Tender document last selling/ downloading date and time	Last date and time for tender security submission	tender closing date and time
Reconstruction of Two Vent 2x 6.00m (clear) Length & 5.00m (clear) Height RCC Box Culvert with U type Wing Wall, Protective Work & Earthwork at 15th Km (Ch. 14+770) of Kachua-Gulbahar-Kashimpur-Matiab Dakhin Road (Z1445) under Road Division Chandpur during the year 2021-2022	egp/CRD/EE/09/4111305-Culvert/2021-2022.	627823	29-Nov-2021 17:00pm	30-Nov-2021 10:30am	30-Nov-2021 11:10am

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 (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

For further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and also from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) or eechan@rhd.gov.bd

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GD-2063

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Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
Power Division
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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI) FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTING FIRM TO CONDUCT STUDY FOR STRENGTHENING BREB FOR SUSTAINABLE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION (RE) SYSTEM (Package No. S-27)

No: 27.71.0000.002.12.003.21- 940 Date: 15/11/2021

1. Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (BREB) has been implementing the Rural Electrification (RE) Program in Bangladesh since 1978 under Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources. BREB is responsible for planning, development, financing and installation of electricity distribution network throughout the rural areas of the country. It builds distribution network and hands it over to the Palli Bidyt Samities (PBSs) for electricity distribution and commercial operation as well as O&M. Currently 80 PBSs are in commercial operation. At present there are about 520,000 KM distribution lines, 1183 Nos. of 33/11 KV Sub-stations and 11,10,568 Nos. Pre-Payment meters to serve about 32 million consumers in the country. BREB has almost completed 100 percent electrification of 462 Upazilas under its jurisdiction. It is off-taking about 60% power of national demand to supply 32 million consumers which is 80% of the total consumers of the country.

2. The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a fund from the International Development Agency and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payment under the contracts for appointment of consultant for "Appointment of Consulting Firm to Conduct Study for Strengthening BREB for Sustainable Rural Electrification (RE) System". Power Cell, therefore, intends to appoint an internationally reputed consultancy firm to accomplish the mentioned services by using World Bank fund under "TA for Strengthening and Development of Sustainable Power Sector in Bangladesh" project of Power Cell, Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resource.

3. Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. The short-listing criteria are:

- General experience
- Experience of the firm in similar task
- Experience of the firm in power sector
- Resources, key experts & support services of the firm

4. A consulting firm is allowed to submit the Expression of Interest (EOI) alone if it considers itself to be fully qualified on its own for the assignment, as it is not mandatory for consultants to associate with any other firm(s), whether foreign or local. Alternatively, if consultants themselves choose to associate to enhance their qualifications and capability for the assignment, then such associations may either be as a Joint Venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible) and/or Sub-consultants (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). In case of an association, the Consultants must explain in the EOI submission (a) the rationale for forming the association and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment, to justify the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants in the association. Failure to provide the above explanation in the Expression of Interest may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment. However, the qualifications/experience of sub-consultants will not be considered by Power Cell in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting purposes.

5. Consultants are requested to submit the following supporting documents against the above mentioned criteria: (a) The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm; (b) JV agreement/letter of intent (if applicable); (c) Firm's brochure; (d) Description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/country of the services, etc.; (e) Service experience record; (f) Short Biography of Key Professional; (g) Company's Income Tax certificate/Income Tax registration certificate

6. Detail Scope of Work will be available in the Terms of Reference (TOR) which can be downloaded from the website of Power Division (www.powerdivision.gov.bd), Power Cell (www.powercell.gov.bd), BREB (www.reb.gov.bd), and CPTU website from the date of publication of EOI.

7. Applicants are requested to submit their EOI (02 hard copies) to the above mentioned address within the submission deadline of **December 13, 2021, 17:00 Hrs (BST)**. Any submission received after the confirmed submission date will not be accepted.

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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI) For Appointment of Consulting Firm for Feasibility Study for Multipurpose Use of Land for Renewable Energy Project in Bangladesh (Contract Package: S- 19)

No: 27.71.0000.005.10.084.21- 941 Date: 15/11/2021

- Bangladesh is near to achieve 100% electrification by 2021. Govt. is now concentrating on fuel diversification for electricity generation with increasing addition of clean energy. To fulfill the GOB's vision, development of Renewable Energy (RE) resources will play a vital role alongside the conventional fuel resources. So the government has emphasized generating environment-friendly electricity from Renewable Energy (RE) sources.
- Utility-scale RE projects need to be implemented in Bangladesh to achieve the RE generation target but those projects require huge area of land. Bangladesh is predominately an agricultural country. Every year almost 0.20 million people are being added to the total population and estimated annual shrinkage of agricultural land is about 0.08 million hectares due to various non-agricultural activities like constructions of houses, offices, roads, mills, factories etc. (BRRI, 2009). As Bangladesh is a land constrained country with a huge population, occupying land for the sole use of RE based power plant is difficult. Hence, multipurpose use of land for RE projects is necessary.
- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a credit from the International Development Agency (IDA) towards the cost of the Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Development II (RERED II) Project and it intends to apply a part of the proceeds of this credit to payment under the contract for the appointment of a Consulting firm for "Feasibility Study for Multipurpose Use of Land for Renewable Energy Project in Bangladesh" under "TA for Strengthening and Development of Sustainable Power Sector in Bangladesh" project.
- Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. The short-listing criteria are:
 - General Experience
 - Experience of the firm in similar task
 - Experience of the firm in Power Sector
 - Resources, key experts & support services of the firm
- A consulting firm is allowed to submit the Expression of Interest (EOI) alone if it considers itself to be fully qualified on its own for the assignment, as it is not mandatory for consultants to associate with any other firm(s), whether foreign or local. Alternatively, if consultants themselves choose to associate to enhance their qualifications and capability for the assignment, then such associations may either be as a Joint Venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible) and/or Sub-consultants (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). In case of an association, the Consultants must explain in the EOI submission (a) the rationale for forming the association and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment, to justify the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants in the association. Failure to provide the above explanation in the Expression of Interest may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment. However, the qualifications/experience of sub-consultants will not be considered by Power Cell in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting purposes.
- If shortlisted, Consultants will still have the opportunity at the subsequent proposal/Request for Proposal (RFP) preparation stage to further enhance their expertise for the assignment by associating with non-shortlisted consultants in the form of a Joint Venture or as Sub-consultants. In all such cases, a shortlisted Consultant must obtain the written approval of Power Cell prior to the submission of the Proposal, for which the shortlisted Consultant will be required to justify the rationale for associating and specify the proposed role and relevant qualifications of the proposed associate(s) for carrying out the assignment. When associating with non-shortlisted firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy, the shortlisted Consultant shall be a lead member. However, Instruction to Consultant (ITC) clauses of RFP will prevail in regards to associate with non-shortlisted firm or sub-consultant during proposal preparation stage.
- Consultants are requested to submit, but not limited to, the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:
 - The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm
 - Firm's brochures; and
 - Description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/country of the services, etc.
- Detail Scope of Work will be available in the Terms of Reference (TOR) which can be downloaded from the website of Power Division (www.powerdivision.gov.bd), Power Cell (www.powercell.gov.bd), UNDB and CPTU website from the date of publication of EOI.
- The 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" November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
- A Consultancy Firm 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 from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Except holidays).
- Applicants are requested to submit their EOI (02 hard copies) to the above mentioned address within the submission deadline of **13 December, 2021, 15:00 Hours (BST)**. Any submission received after the confirmed submission date will not be accepted.

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