

Mercantile Bank wins AmCham CSR Excellence Award

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mercantile Bank Ltd has been awarded the "AmCham CSR Excellence Award" by the American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh (AmCham) for its contribution to society.

The chamber recognised a few of its members for their CSR activities to mark its 25th anniversary celebration recently, according to a press release.

Shamim Ahmed, deputy managing director of Mercantile Bank, received a certificate from Salman F Rahman, private industry and investment adviser to the prime minister, at a local hotel in Dhaka.

Farooq Sobhan, chairman of the CSR Centre, Earl R Millar, ambassador of the United States to Bangladesh, Syed Ershad Ahmed, president of the AmCham, and Syed Mohammad Kamal, vice-president, were present.



Salman F Rahman, private industry and investment adviser to the prime minister, hands over an award to Shamim Ahmed, deputy managing director of Mercantile Bank, at the AmCham CSR Excellence Award programme at a hotel in Dhaka recently.



CROWN CEMENT

Mohammed Jahangir Alam, chairman of MI Cement Factory Ltd, popularly known as Crown Cement, virtually presides over the company's 27th annual general meeting recently. The company approved 20 per cent cash dividend for 2020-21. Md Alamgir Kabir, vice-chairman of the cement company, Mollah Mohammad Majnu, managing director, Md Mizanur Rahman Mollah, additional managing director, Md Almas Shimul, director, Zakir Ahmed Khan and M Abu Eusuf, independent directors, Masud Khan, chief adviser of the board, Md Mukter Hossain Talukder, chief executive officer, Md Ashrafuzzaman, sponsor-shareholder, Mohammad Ahasan Ullah, chief financial officer, and Md Mozharul Islam, company secretary, were present.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Directorate General of Family Planning
Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre
and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital
Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.

Ref.no. 59.11.0000.651.07.02.2021-577 Dated: 18/12/2021

Invitation for Tenders(Goods) (2021-2022)

Sealed tenders are hereby invited as per "PPR-2008" from the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender document for the under mentioned Goods as per terms and conditions stated below:

1	Ministry/Division:	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare				
2	Agency:	Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, DGFP				
3	Procuring Entity Name:	Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, DGFP				
4	Procuring Entity Code:	N/A				
5	Procuring Entity District:	Dhaka				
6	Invitation For:	1. Supply of MSR (lot-1) under package 1 2. Supply of Consumable Stores (lot-1) under package 2 3. Supply of Bedding (lot-1) under package 3				
7	Invitation Ref No.:	No. 577				
8	Date:	18-December-2021				
9	Procurement Method:	OTM				
10	Budget and Source of Funds:	Development Budget (GOB) as per released fund.				
11	Development Partner:	N/A				
12	Project/Programme Code:	N/A				
13	Project/Programme Name:	MC-RAH under HPNSP				
14	Tender Package No.:	1. DGFP/MFSTC/mchdev/2/2021-22/ 2. DGFP/MFSTC/mchdev/3/2021-22/ 3. DGFP/MFSTC/mchdev/1/2021-22/				
15	Tender Package Name:	1. Supply of MSR (lot-1) under package 1 2. Supply of Consumable Stores (lot-1) under package 2 3. Supply of Bedding (lot-1) under package 3				
16	Tender Publication Date:	18-December-2021				
17	Tender Last Selling Date:	18-January-2022				
18	Tender Closing Date and Time:	19-January-2022 at 1:00 PM				
19	Tender Opening Date and Time:	19-January-2022 at 1:45 PM				
20	Name & Addresses of the Offices:	Selling & Receiving Tender Document: 1. At the office of the Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207. 2. At the office of the Line Director, CCSDP Unit (12th floor), Directorate General of Family Planning, 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. Opening Tender Document: 1. At the office of the Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.				
21	Brief Eligibility & qualification of Tenderer:	The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 5 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. The Tenderer shall have successfully completed minimum 1 (one) number of supply contract of similar goods and related services within last 3 (three) years. i.e years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the news paper and also as described in Tender Document.				
22	Brief Description of Goods:	1. Supply of MSR (lot-1) under package 1 and 2. Supply of Consumable Stores (lot-1) under package 2 3. Supply of Bedding (lot-1) under package 3 (Detailed in Tender Schedule)				
23	Brief Description of Related Services:	1 (one) year warranty of goods as described in Tender Document.				
24	Price of Tender Document:	Tk. 2000/- (Tk. Two Thousand) for each tender (Per Package) should be paid in Bangladesh Bank through Treasury Challan in code no. 1-2781-0000-2366 in favour of Director General, DGFP, 6, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. and on line verification copy must be submitted.				
25	Pkg. No.	Identification	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk.)	Completion Time in weeks	Remarks
1.	DGFP/MFSTC/mch dev/2/ 2021-2022/	1. Supply of MSR (lot-1) under package 1	AT MFSTC, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.	40,000/- (Forty thousand) per lot	4 weeks after the signing of the contract	* N.B. Tender security for each lot should be submitted in the form of Bank Draft/Pay order from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh
2.	DGFP/MFSTC/mch dev/3/ 2021-22/	2. Supply of consumable stores (lot-1) under package 2	AT MFSTC, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.	10,000/- (Ten thousand) per lot	4 weeks after the signing of the contract	in favour of Director, Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207.
3.	DGFP/MFSTC/mch dev/1/ 2021-22/	3. Supply of Bedding (lot-1) under package 3	AT MFSTC, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.	10,000/- (Ten thousand) per lot	4 weeks after the signing of the contract	
26	Name of Official Inviting Tender:	Dr. Md. Muniruzzaman Siddiqui				
27	Designation of Official Inviting Tender:	Director				
28	Address of Official Inviting Tender:	Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre and 100 Bedded MCH Hospital, Aurangzeb Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207				
29	Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender:	Phone: 48119621, 48116557				
30	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever. If schedule submission and opening is interrupted due to unavoidable circumstances, it will duly be conducted in the next working day. All other terms and conditions will remain same.					

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Muniruzzaman Siddiqui
Dr. Md. Muniruzzaman Siddiqui
Director, MFSTC

Singer offers 50pc off on special refrigerators to mark 50 years of victory

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Singer Bangladesh Ltd has launched an offer to celebrate Bangladesh's 50 years of independence with 50 per cent off on its special edition refrigerators.

The refrigerators have unique designs inspired by the Liberation War and celebration of victory, according to a press release.

"Singer Bangladesh introduced two special edition refrigerator models that have been designed using colours related to our freedom, independence and celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of independence," said MHM Fairoz, managing director of Singer Bangladesh.

"To make the celebration of Bangladesh's 50 years of victory more rewarding for our customers, we are giving a lucrative offer on our special edition refrigerators that have been designed with a patriotic theme," said Chandana Samarasinghe, marketing director of Singer Bangladesh.

Customers can avail this exclusive offer from any Singer outlet in the country.

Introducing a pro-taxpayer revenue regime

FROM PAGE B4

Every tax system distorts economic decisions and leads to less economic activity than otherwise would occur, resulting in what economists call "deadweight loss." A sound tax system should be designed to minimise these losses. It should impose the smallest possible compliance costs on taxpayers otherwise people will not be encouraged to pay tax; rather they will be inclined to evade tax.

Every tax system imposes direct costs on taxpayers in terms of time devoted to tax preparation or money to buy the services of certified public accountants. Ultimately, every tax system diverts a portion of tax revenues raised by the taxmen to pay for the cost of administering and collecting the tax and enforcing its provisions.

A sound tax system would minimise these costs. A nation's tax system is often a reflection of its communal values or the values of those in power. To create a system of taxation, a nation must make choices regarding the distribution of the tax burden—who will pay taxes and how much they will pay—and how the taxes collected will be spent.

In democratic nations where the public elects those in charge of establishing the tax system, these choices reflect the type of community that the public wishes to create. In countries where the public does not have a significant amount of influence over the system of taxation, that system may be more of a reflection on the values of those in power.

Debates about taxes usually devolve into "the wealthy can afford it" or "it is unfair to be taxed so harshly." Neither argument has merit. Tax the wealthy too harshly, they will stop creating wealth. Tax them too leniently, either society will be unable to govern itself, or the rest of society will be so harshly taxed that it will rebel.

It is entirely a matter of practicality. Fairness never enters into it. As pundits of the past have put it, "If you know the position a person takes on taxes, you can tell their whole philosophy. The tax code, once you get to know it, embodies all the essence of life: greed, politics, power, goodness, and charity."

A sound tax system should be embedded with four principles. Pay what you owe: an economically neutral tax is unbiased across the spectrum of economic activities. Removing complexity and limiting the collection points for taxation also makes the system more transparent, making the public more certain that everyone is paying what they owe, and more comfortable with the fairness of the system.

Transparency: A tax system is transparent to the taxpayers if it is clear how much the government is costing them (and who is paying for what). Without transparency, the public isn't able to accurately assess how their money is being spent and thus isn't able to hold their representatives appropriately responsible.

Equal treatment under the law: Equality of opportunity should be the linchpin to our tax system, not equality of outcomes. The tax system shouldn't be manipulated into an instrument of wealth redistribution, social engineering, or political vengeance.

Simplicity: A tax system shouldn't be gratuitously complicated beyond what is required. Simplicity is the best sort of medicine for the tax-inflicted headache.

To be sure, the most visible, fluid tax systems are the most neutral and simple. Just a little bit effort by the citizens should be required in paying taxes. This is a necessary evil. Otherwise, the government could do and take whatever it wanted. Citizen-voters have a minimal responsibility, if not civic duty, to participate in this, a fundamental component of democratic society.

The author is a former secretary of the government and former chairman of the National Board of Revenue. He can be reached at mazid.muhammad@gmail.com

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
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Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Centre
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Ref.no. 59.11.0000.651.07.03.2021-578 Dated: 18 /12/2021

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4	Procuring Entity Code:	N/A				
5	Procuring Entity District:	Dhaka				
6	Invitation For:	1. Supply of MSR (lot-1) under package 1				
7	Invitation Ref No.:	No. 578				
8	Date:	18-December-2021				
9	Procurement Method:	OTM				
10	Budget and Source of Funds:	Development Budget (GOB) as per released fund.				
11	Development Partner:	N/A				
12	Project/Programme Code:	N/A				
13	Project/Programme Name:	CCSDP under HPNSP				
14	Tender Package No.:	1. DGFP/MFSTC/ccdev/1/2021-2022/				
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26	Name of Official Inviting Tender:	Dr. Md. Muniruzzaman Siddiqui				
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Muniruzzaman Siddiqui
Dr. Md. Muniruzzaman Siddiqui
Director, MFSTC