

Mega projects will not adversely affect economy: PM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday ruled out the possibility of mega projects adversely impacting the balance of foreign currencies and the country's economy.

In reply to a query from Jatiya Party MP Fakhrul Imam, she said proper financial and economic analyses were done before the projects were undertaken.

Saying that most of the projects were undertaken with foreign loans or grants, the premier said these are soft loans with comparatively very low interest rate as well as long repayment tenure and grace period.

"Moreover, no major complexity was noticed in regards to releasing the loan funds by development agencies," she explained.

Besides, Hasina said since the projects (except Padma Multipurpose Bridge Construction and Payra Deep Sea Port Project) are being financed by foreign sources, project-related import costs would not put any adverse impact on the balance of foreign currencies.

In reply to another question from treasury bench member AKM Rahmatullah, the PM said some unscrupulous individuals are making efforts to increase



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Standing in line with her child, a woman endlessly waits to get her share of daily essentials from an OMS truck. After being there for nearly three hours, that too in the swelter, she finally managed to buy some rice. Those beside her suffered a similar fate. This photo was taken yesterday from the capital's Mohakhali.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Bangladesh Accreditation Council			
BSL Office Complex-2, (2 nd Floor)			
1 Minto Rode, Ramna, Dhaka-1000			
www.bac.gov.bd			
1 Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education/ Secondary and Higher Education Division		
2 Procuring Entity Name	Secretary, Bangladesh Accreditation Council.		
3 Procuring Entity Code	Not Used at Present		
4 Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		
5 Invitation For	Hiring of Vehicles (11 Seated 1 No. AC Microbus with Driver) from Service Provider for Bangladesh Accreditation Council.		
6 Invitation Ref No	BAC/Admin/Hiring of Vehicles/OSTETM/01/2022-2023/5512		
7 Date	13/06/2022		
KEY INFORMATION			
8 Procurement Method	One Stage Two Envelopes Tendering Method (OSTETM)		
FUNDING INFORMATION			
9 Budget and Source of Funds	Revenue		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
10 Project Name	Not Applicable		
11 Tender Publication Date	16/06/2022		
12 Tender Last Selling Date and Time	30/06/2022, 3.00pm		
13 Tender Closing Date and Time	03/07/2022, 12.00pm		
14 Tender Opening Date and Time	03/07/2022, 2.00pm		
Selling Tender Document	Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 2 nd Floor, 1 Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.		
Receiving Tender Document	Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 2 nd Floor, 1 Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.		
Opening Tender Document	Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 2 nd Floor, 1 Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.		
INFORMATION FOR SERVICE PROVIDER			
16 Eligibility of Service Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minimum number of years of general experience of the Service Provider in contracting industries in public sector as prime contractor/sub contractor/Management Contractor shall be ten (10) years. The minimum specific experience as a prime contractor in providing non-consultant Service of at least one (1) contract of similar nature, complexity and methods/technology completed over a period of last three (3) years, contract value of 8,00,000.00 (Eight lac) taka under a single Contract. Also satisfactory completion of providing minimum of 10.00 vehicles shall be required in a single or multiple contract in last five (5) years in Govt./ Semi-Govt./ Autonomous body or any other well reputed organization. Contract/Work Order for providing vehicle supply service in any Govt./ Semi-Govt./ Autonomous body or any other well reputed organization will be treated as similar nature. Type and number of vehicles: AC Microbus with Driver (11 Seated), manufacturing year 2014-2015 or above and registration year 2014-2015 or above-1 No. Vehicle registration papers, Tax token, Fitness Certificate, Route Permit papers (all are up to date) shall be submitted. Tenderers shall have the legal capacity to enter into the Contract under the Applicable Law. Tenderers shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organisation registered in Bangladesh. Tenderers shall have fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh. 		
17 Brief Description of Services	Hiring vehicle for Bangladesh Accreditation Council office purposes.		
18 Price of Tender Document (TK)	TK. 2000.00/- (Two Thousand). Non-refundable		
Serial No	Description	Location	Tender Security Amount (TK) (Pay Order/Bank Draft)
1	Hiring of Vehicles (11 Seated 1 No. AC Microbus with Driver)	Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2 (Hotel Intercontinental), 2 nd Floor, 1 Minto Road, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.	35,000.00 (Thirty Five Thousand)
PURCHASING ENTITY DETAILS			
19 Name of Official inviting Tender	Professor A. K. M. Monirul Islam		
20 Designation of Official inviting Tender	Secretary, Bangladesh Accreditation Council.		
21 Address of Official inviting Tender	Bangladesh Accreditation Council, BSL Office Complex-2, (Hotel Intercontinental), 2 nd Floor, 1 Minto Rode, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.		
22 Contact details of Official inviting Tender	Tel: +88-02-22224171, Mobile: 01121-496670.		
23	If tender opening day happens to fall on any holiday or any unavoidable circumstance such as strike, Civil Commotion, Govt. holiday etc. tenders shall be opened at the same hours on the first subsequent working day.		
24	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tenders proceeding.		
25	This Tender Notice will also be available at website of Bangladesh Accreditation Council (www.bac.gov.bd)		

12.06.2022
(Professor A. K. M. Monirul Islam)
Secretary
Bangladesh Accreditation Council



The rampant culture of victim-blaming makes it even harder for women to share these issues. No matter who the offender is, the blame will always fall on the shoulders of a woman. This makes them an easy target in cyberspace.

Monira Nazmi Jahan
Convenor of Cyber Crime Awareness Foundation

EVOLUTION OF CYBERCRIME (PART 3)

Women, the worst sufferers as usual

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

From November 16, 2021, to April 30 this year, Police Cyber Support for Woman (PCSW) wing of Police Headquarters (PHQ) has received around 4,094 cybercrime complaints.

The number was at least 12,641 from November 16, 2020, to November 16, 2021, according to the database.

A study conducted by voluntary organisation CyberLine shows that around 79 percent of social media users fall victims to cybercrime.

"We are now getting only valid complaints in the PCSW wing. Earlier, there were several false alarms. Awareness regarding the issue is also being created among internet users," said Mir Abu Touhid, assistant inspector general of PHQ, under whose supervision the PCSW wing is operating.

In an alarming number of complaints, the victims are women and children, exploited, blackmailed and bullied in cyberspace, despite the existence of multiple platforms and dedicated units of law enforcers to protect them from such crimes.

COMPLAINTS GO UNADDRESSED

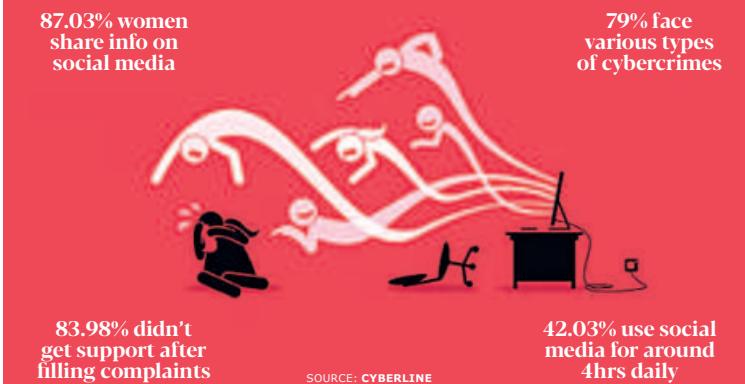
Sumaiya's (not her real name) Facebook and WhatsApp accounts were hacked in January.

The hacker sent multiple texts to her friends and family members through social media, asking for money. She immediately communicated with a local police station and filed a general diary.

She even contacted PCSW but to no avail.

"I have not received any positive support from law enforcers," she said while talking to this correspondent.

This incident is far from being isolated. A study by CyberLine



NOV 16, 2020 TO APR 31, 2022

TYPE OF COMPLAINTS	NUMBERS	PERCENTAGE
Fake ID	7,227	43%
ID Hack	1,872	11%
Blackmail	2,691	16%
Mobile harassment	1,888	11%
Objectionable content	1,380	9%
Others	1,677	10%
Total	16,735	

SOURCE: PHQ

found that complaints filed by around 83.98 percent of female cybercrime victims were left unaddressed.

The study was conducted on March 25 among 1,280 Facebook users, aged between 16 and 30 years.

Shahriar Siddique Shawon, head of survey & analysis at CyberLine, said law enforcers have a dedicated unit to address cybercrimes. "But they often take way too long to address the issues. Due to the rampant culture of victim-blaming in our society when it comes to crimes against women, even the families of the victims don't support them," he

said.

Shawon suggested ensuring quick response by law enforcers, easy access to cybercrime units and families' awareness in this regard.

Lack of victim support and expertise in cybercrimes at police stations, and fear of retaliation discourage victims from filing complaints, said Salma Ali, president of Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association.

"Law enforcers need to ensure proper monitoring and training to increase efficiency in dealing with such cases," she added.

However, AIG Mir Abu Touhid said law enforcers always address

such complaints with utmost priority even at ungodly hours.

"We are also arranging training collaborating with different stakeholders, government and NGOs to create awareness regarding cybercrimes," he said.

Touhid suggested that victims should contact the special desk for women, children and elderly people available in every police station.

VICTIMS BY FAMILY?

The entire cybercrime situation is way too horrendous for women as it seems. But the reality is a shade grimmer.

Some recent case studies reveal a new pattern. Female victims of cybercrimes are regularly harassed online by their family members.

Take 16-year-old Papia (not her real name) for instance.

In January, Papia found out that a fake Facebook account has been posting offensive edited pictures with her face on them. Due to the prevailing social stigma that works against women in such cases, her family was almost ostracised from society.

Papia's family filed complaints to the local police station and PCSW. During the investigation, PCSW found that it was a cousin of Papia who was posting the photos using a fake ID.

Nusrat Jahan Mukta, additional deputy commissioner of the cyber and special crime division, said victims should share the issues with families first and then ask for support from local police.

She also suggested that they contact specialised police units working in this regard.

MANY REMAIN UNREPORTED According to PCSW database, around 5,298 female victims took no action or stopped providing detailed information regarding their cases after a while.

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