



The entrance of Patenga Container Terminal near the Karnaphuli estuary. Situated on over 32 acres of land with three jetties of a total length of 600 meters, the terminal has the capacity to handle five lakh TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) of containers annually. PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Saudi company to operate Patenga Container Terminal

Deal signing expected next week

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg

Red Sea Gateway Terminal International (RSGTI) has been finally nominated by the government to operate the newly built Patenga Container Terminal (PCT) of the Chattogram port for 22 years.

The RSGTI is a sister concern of Red Sea Gateway Terminal (RSGT), operator of Saudi Arabia's largest terminal facility at Jeddah Islamic Port.

The Ministry of Investment of Saudi Arabia recently proposed that the Bangladesh government nominate the RSGTI instead of the RSGT, which was previously selected, said sources. The Shipping Ministry of Bangladesh subsequently accepted the proposal, they said. Senior port officials said they finalised negotiations with the company and sent a draft agreement to the shipping ministry for approval.

They hope for the agreement to be signed by next week upon getting approval from the cabinet committee on economic affairs.

Hailing the development, the port's users said the PCT needs to be made operational as soon as possible for the enhancement of the port's capacity.

According to sources, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Investment and Bangladesh's Public Private Partnership Authority on October 28, 2021.

Later at a meeting on February 23, 2022, Bangladesh's shipping ministry proposed a public-private partnership (PPP) model to the Saudi government for equipping, operating and maintaining the PCT.

It was at that time that the Saudi government nominated the RSGT.

On March 11 this year, Bangladesh's shipping ministry and the RSGT signed a framework agreement on mutual cooperation.

On June 12, Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) sent a request through the PPP Authority asking the RSGT to submit their proposal in 45 days.

Though technical and financial proposals were submitted to the CPA on July 24, it was under the name of the RSGTI, which created some confusion.

The new terminal can be made operational within four months of signing the agreement, informed a senior CPA official

The confusion was cleared when the Saudi government informed of having nominated the RSGTI. The technical and financial proposals were provided a second time by the firm to the CPA on October 29.

Both the RSGT and the RSGTI are owned by the Saudi government and have almost the same shareholders, said CPA Chairman Rear Admiral Mohammad Sohail.

"The government of Saudi Arabia is the authority to select the company for operating the PCT and they finally selected the RSGTI," he said.

"...while our government selected the CPA to get the agreement signed for operating the terminal under a PPP model through a government-to-government (G2G) partnership," he said.

Guidelines of the PPP Authority are being followed every step of the way, pointed out the port chairman.

He hopes for an agreement to be signed with the RSGTI within the middle of this month.

The new terminal can be made operational within four months of signing the agreement, informed a senior CPA official.

Initially, small container handling equipment like mobile cranes, forklifts, reach stackers etc can be installed by the operator, he said.

The firm will get two years to purchase and install heavy equipment like quayside gantry cranes and rubber-tyred gantry cranes and only then the terminal will be fully operational, he said.

"The firm would be appointed to run PCT for 22 years. The initial two years is for installing the heavy equipment and these heavy machineries usually have a (economic) lifetime of 20 years," he informed.

After over 14 and a half years of building the last New Mooring Container Terminal in December 2007, the port authority completed construction of the PCT nearer to the Karnaphuli estuary in June last year.

The aim was to cope with increasing demand for the transport of containerised cargo.

The PCT, situated on over 32 acres of land with three jetties of a total length of 600 meters, has the capacity to handle an additional five lakh TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) of containers annually.

Three vessels with 11 metre draft will be able to berth at a time in the terminal, that too at the shortest possible time for its close proximity to the Karnaphuli estuary.

Wage growth

FROM PAGE B1

"It will be difficult to fight the current inflation in the country by raising the interest rate. Supply management will be crucial.

"It is also important to remember that as there has not been a one-off devaluation of the domestic currency, rather the exchange rate is depreciating continuously. As long as this continues, domestic prices of imported goods will continue to rise. So, we are not likely to see a notable decline in inflation soon."

He suggested restoring macroeconomic stability as quickly as possible and expanding the coverage of social safety nets.

Talking to The Daily

Star, Mustafizur Rahman, a distinguished fellow of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), said the government's failure in market management was one of the key factors behind the elevated level of inflation for the past one-and-a-half years.

Rahman said the agriculture ministry regularly publishes the production cost of 15 products, including potatoes, rice and jute.

It shows that the price of products increases at least four-fold and as much as 15-fold by the time it reaches the retail market.

"This kind of monopoly market system does not exist anywhere else in the world."

Meghna Group

FROM PAGE B1

cars from Japan, brand-new cars now hold around 18 percent of the market share, according to market insiders.

Just five years ago, brand-new cars held at best a five per cent share, they added.

According to data from the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), an average of 22,000 to 24,000 passenger cars, including SUVs, were sold per year since 2014.

Sales of SUVs and luxury cars have been increasing for the past five to six years alongside rising income levels. Another reason for the rise is that SUVs are more suitable for long drives given the condition of roads in Bangladesh, according to

market players.

Having observed this situation, Kia decided to assemble in Bangladesh SUVs to grab a share of the growing market, Choudhury said.

According to market players, sales of passenger cars have been in the slow lane recently as demand for high-end automobiles has fallen significantly amid the ongoing economic crisis due to the impacts of the Russia-Ukraine war.

Given that backdrop, Kia also aims to improve the knowledge and skills of automotive professionals in Bangladesh.

In this regard, Kia Corporation, South Korea, and Meghna Automobiles Ltd signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) at

Le Méridien Dhaka yesterday to establish a training centre in Bangladesh.

Among those present were Park Young-Sik, ambassador of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Bangladesh, Rashidur Rahman Mahin, director of Meghna Automobiles, Md Abul Kalam Azad, managing director of Pragoti Industries Limited, Dato Samson Anand George, vice-president of Kia Asia Pacific (APAC) and Jay Park, coordinating director of Kia APAC.

Under the MoU, Kia Corporation will provide support to establish a training centre in Bangladesh and provide specific vehicle models for training purposes, Choudhury said.

Local airlines feel

FROM PAGE B1

"This is a severe blow to airlines business as we are counting huge losses every day."

Novoair operates 38 flights daily on six domestic routes.

Kamrul Islam, manager for public relations at US-Bangla Airlines, said the load factor usually ranges from 75 percent to 80 percent.

"But the load factor has now come down to 60 to 65 percent due to blockade and hartals."

The load factor, which measures the percentage of available seating capacity that has been filled with passengers, of the flights to tourist destinations such as Cox's Bazar and Sylhet is lower than in other regions.

"The present situation reminds us of the sorry state operators witnessed during the Covid-19 pandemic when domestic airports looked like barren fields," Islam said.

US-Bangla operates 70 flights daily on all seven domestic destinations of the country.

A top official of Air Astra says the number of passengers has dropped significantly as tourists are not travelling. Only some business travelers are using air routes.

"If the situation does not return to normalcy, the airlines industry will be affected seriously."

Air Astra runs nine flights on Cox's Bazar, Saidpur and Chattogram routes daily.

China's exports extend slump

AFP, Beijing

China's exports fell at a faster pace than predicted in October, data showed Tuesday, as the world's second-largest economy is buffeted by faltering global demand and a sluggish domestic recovery.

Beijing has sought to boost business activity in a country grappling with a major property crisis and weaker consumption since officials abolished their strict zero-Covid policy at the end of last year.

Exports -- long a key driver of the growth -- sank 6.4 percent year-on-year last month, according to the General Administration of Customs.

The reading was much worse than the 3.5 percent drop forecast in a Bloomberg survey of economists and slightly heavier than September.

Apart from a brief rebound in March and April, exports have been in constant decline since last October.

"Export growth remained sluggish as the economic momentum in the United States and Europe slowed," said Zhang Zhiwei of Pinpoint Asset Management, adding that external demand was likely to

remain weak in coming months.

Imports, however, rose 3.0 percent, bucking a forecast drop of 5.0 percent and notching the first month of on-year growth since late last year.

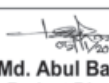
The rise in imports could be a signal that domestic demand in China is recovering from months of weakness.

But Zhang told AFP that the October "positive surprise" in imports alone is not sufficient to determine whether domestic demand is improving, pointing to other indicators such as retail sales.

"Nonetheless as fiscal policy has turned more proactive, a recovery in domestic demand is likely in coming months," said Zhang.

China recorded moderate growth in the third quarter as Beijing looks to achieve its official goal of "around five percent" expansion for 2023 -- one of its lowest targets in years.

Beijing said last month it would issue one trillion yuan (\$137 billion) of sovereign bonds to boost infrastructure spending, and it has also introduced targeted stimulus for various sectors -- particularly the ailing property market.

 Barishal City Corporation Nagar Bhaban, Barishal www.barishalcity.gov.bd		Invitation for Bids (IFB)				
Memo No. BCC/CCAUD/292/2023		Date: 15/11/2023				
1	Ministry/Division	Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives Ministry/ Local Government Division.				
2	Agency	Barishal City Corporation				
3	Procuring entity/purchaser name	Barishal City Corporation/SI. No. 13.1				
4	Procuring entity	Barishal City Corporation				
5	Tender Invitation No. and date	BCC/CCAUD/292/2023, Date: 05.11.2023				
KEY INFORMATION						
6	Procurement method	OTM, National Competitive Bidding (NCB).				
FUNDING INFORMATION						
7	Budget and source of funds	GOB (Government of Bangladesh) & KfW (German Development Bank) (The Government of Bangladesh has agreed to receive financing from the KfW toward the cost of the project: CCAUD-Barishal Component- Phase I via BMZ ID: 2014 67 984 & 2150 10 301).				
PARTICULAR INFORMATION						
8	Project name (if applicable)	Climate Change Adapted Urban Development (CCAUD) Programme for Barishal Component Phase-1				
9	Tender publication date	07.11.2023				
10	Tender last selling date	06.12.2023	17.00 hrs			
11	Tender closing date and time	07.12.2023	14.00 hrs			
12	Tender opening date and time	07.12.2023	15.00 hrs			
13	Name and address of the office(s)	Address:				
I-Selling tender document		Barishal City Corporation (BCC), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Barishal and Divisional Commissioner Office, Barishal.				
II- Receiving tender document		PD Office, Barishal City Corporation (BCC), Nagar Bhaban, Barishal, Bangladesh.				
III- Opening tender document		PD Office, Barishal City Corporation (BCC), Nagar Bhaban, Barishal, Bangladesh.				
14	Date and time of pre-bid meeting	20.11.2023 at 15:30 hrs.				
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER						
15	Eligibility of tenderer and others information	- Tenderers shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract under the Applicable Law of the Government. - Tenderers shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organisations registered in Bangladesh; and - Tenderers shall have fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh. - Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure as specified in the KfW's "Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Plant, Goods and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries of January 2019" (refer to www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de "Procurement Guidelines"), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. - A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be acquired by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address of the Purchase below. The document will be sent by Mail or can be picked up at BCC. - Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. - Minutes of Bid Opening will be distributed to all Bidders after one (1) day of the bid opening. - All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of BDT as CD/BD/PO in favour of Mayor, Barishal City Corporation. - Special terms & conditions are the part of the schedule. - Other eligibility requirements are mentioned in Tender Document.				
16	Qualification of tenderer	Similar work experience and qualification as defined in the tender document.				
17	Brief description of works					
	Sl. No.	Tender Package No./ Ref No.	Price of tender document (Tk.)			
		Name of the work	Location of works			
		Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in days			
	1	BCC-CCAUD-NCB-10 Project Component 4: Kala Potty Slum Raising of low-lying houses and improvement of basic infrastructure. W24 (a): Drainage W24 (c and d): Secondary water connection & piped water supply	3,000/=	Barishal City Corporation area of Bangladesh	2,00,000/=	250 calendar days
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS						
18	Name of official inviting tender		Md. Abul Bashar.			
19	Designation of official inviting tender		Project Director.			
20	Address of official inviting tender		PD Office, BCC, Nagar Bhaban, Barishal, Bangladesh.			
21	Contact details of official inviting tender		Phone: 880-0431-64248 e-mail: dpd1.ccaudp.bcc@gmail.com			
22	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceeding without assigning any reason whatsoever.					
 Md. Abul Bashar Project Director CCAUD Programme Barishal City Corporation Nagar Bhaban, Barishal, Bangladesh Phone: 880-0431-64248 Electronic mail address: dpd1.ccaudp.bcc@gmail.com						
GD-1716						



বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল

২০৩, শহীদ সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম সরণী
পুরাতন ৮৬ বিজয়নগর, ঢাকা-১০০০।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি



ডাঃ এ. বি. এম. সফিউল্লাহ করিম

সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ডাঃ এ. বি. এম. সফিউল্লাহ করিম, সিনিয়র কন্সালটেন্ট, ইন্টারনাল মেডিসিন, ল্যাবরেটরি পেশাদারীজ্ঞ হাসপাতাল, বাড়ী নং: ০৬, রোড নং: ০৪, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা। উক্ত চিকিৎসক এর বিরুদ্ধে অভিযোগকারী রাসেদা হোসেন, ইন্টার্ন রোসেদা টাওয়ার, ৯৮, বড় মণিঝার, রমনা, ঢাকা তাহার স্বামী মোশারফ হোসেন সুফেল ধানমন্ডি ৩৮ ল্যাব এইড পেশাদারীজ্ঞ হাসপাতালে করোনা টেস্ট পরীক্ষায় রিপোর্ট পত্রটিতে হওয়ায় ভর্তি হয়। ভর্তি পরবর্তী চিকিৎসক রোগীর প্রতি চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদানে তাহার যথেষ্ট অবহেলা পরিলক্ষিত হয় বিধায় পরবর্তীতে রোগীর মৃত্যু হয়। এই মর্মে মৃত মোশারফ হোসেন সুফেল এর স্ত্রী রাসেদা হোসেন বত্র কাউন্সিলে অভিযোগ দাখিল করেন। উক্ত অভিযোগের প্রেক্ষিতে কাউন্সিল অভিযোগকারী এবং চিকিৎসক উভয়ের সাাক্ষ্যকার গ্রহণ ও কাউন্সিল কর্তৃক গঠিত তদন্ত প্রমিত হয় যে, চিকিৎসা কার্যে চিকিৎসকের যথেষ্ট গাফিলতি ও অবহেলা ছিল, তাহা প্রমানিত হয়।

এমতাবস্থায় বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল আইন, ২০১০(৬১ নং আইন) এর ২৩(১) ধারায় প্রদত্ত ক্ষমতাবলে বিক্রমপ্রতিষ্ঠান হইতে প্রদত্ত আপনার রেজিস্ট্রেশন (A-16644, Date of Registration: 07.04.1988) ৬ (ছয়) মাসের জন্য স্থগিত করা হইল যাহা ০৮/১১/২০২৩ইং তারিখ হইতে কার্যকর হইবে।

উল্লিখিত সময়ে বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল আইন, ২০১০ (৬১ নং আইন) এর ধারা ২২(১) অনুযায়ী আপনার রেজিস্ট্রেশন স্থগিতকালীন সময়ে আপনি চিকিৎসক হিসাবে কোথাও কোন প্রকার চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদান করিতে পারিবেন না। এমনকি উক্ত সময়ে আপনি নিজেকে চিকিৎসক হিসাবে পরিচয় দিতে পারিবেন না।

ডাঃ মোঃ আনোয়ারুল হক ফরাজী
রেজিস্ট্রার (দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত)
বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউন্সিল