

## Iran denies selling ballistic missiles to Russia

REUTERS, Dubai

Iran denied on Friday that it had provided ballistic missiles to Russia, after the United States said there would be a severe international response to any such move.

Earlier this week Reuters reported that Iran had provided Russia with a large number of powerful ballistic weapons.

"Despite no legal restrictions on ballistic missile sales, Iran is morally obligated to refrain from weapon transactions during the Russia-Ukraine conflict to prevent fueling the war," Iran's mission to the United Nations said on the X platform.

"(That) is rooted in Iran's adherence to international law and the UN Charter."



Local women stand next to their house heavily damaged by a Russian drone strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Odesa, February yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

## 15 killed in east China residential building fire

AFP, Beijing

At least 15 people have been killed and 44 injured in a fire at a residential building in eastern China's Nanjing, local authorities said yesterday. The fire broke out early Friday morning, officials said at a press conference, with a preliminary investigation suggesting the blaze started on the building's first floor, where electric bikes had been placed. The building is located in the Yuhuatai district of Nanjing, a city of more than eight million that lies about 260 kilometres (162 miles) northwest of Shanghai. By 6:00am (2200 GMT Thursday), the fire had been extinguished, and a search and rescue operation ended around 02:00pm Friday, authorities said. Twenty-five fire trucks were mobilised to fight the blaze, emergency services said. Footage circulating on Chinese social networks showed a skyscraper on fire in the middle of the night, with black smoke pouring from it. Other images show gigantic flames consuming several floors of the building, the flashing lights of emergency vehicles visible nearby in the dark. Additional footage, apparently taken later, shows white smoke pouring from several points in the building. The 44 injured people were sent to hospital for treatment, officials said, adding one was in "critical condition" while another was seriously injured. At a press conference, city mayor Chen Zhichang offered his condolences and apologies to the victims' families.

# Security deals Ukraine discussing with allies

REUTERS, Kyiv

Denmark became the latest Nato member to sign a 10-year agreement on security cooperation with Ukraine on Friday, the eve of the second anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion.

Italy and the Netherlands said they were planning to sign soon.

**WHAT ARE THESE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS?**

The Group of Seven wealthy nations signed a joint declaration at the Nato summit in Vilnius in July last year committing to establish "long-term security commitments and arrangements" with Ukraine that would be negotiated bilaterally.

The deals would promise continued provision of military and security aid, support to develop Ukraine's defence industrial base, training Ukrainian soldiers, intelligence-sharing and cooperation, and support for cyber

defence.

The sides would also immediately hold consultations with Kyiv to determine "appropriate next steps" in the event of a "future Russian armed attack".

More than 30 countries have since signed the declaration.

**WOULD THIS BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP?**

Kyiv says the arrangements should contain important and concrete security commitments, but that the agreements would in no way to replace its strategic goal of joining Nato. The Western alliance regards any attack launched on one of its 31 members as an attack on all under its Article Five clause.

"There has been speculation that by concluding enough of these agreements, we do not need membership. False. We need Nato membership," said Ihor Zhovkva, the Ukrainian president's foreign affairs adviser.

**WHO HAS SIGNED DEALS SO FAR?**

Germany and France signed agreements on security commitments with Ukraine when President Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited Berlin and Paris earlier this month.

Britain in January became the first country to sign one of the security agreements with Ukraine for a term of 10 years, by which time Kyiv hopes to be inside Nato.

London said the deal formalised a range of support that it "has been and will continue to provide for Ukraine's security, including intelligence sharing, cyber security, medical and military training, and defence industrial cooperation".

**WHICH OTHER COUNTRIES ARE SET TO SIGN DEALS?**

Ukraine has held at least two rounds of talks on the agreements with all the G7 countries, Zhovkva said.

More than 10 countries are in the active stage of talks or potentially starting soon, he added. The additional countries include

Romania, Poland and the Netherlands.

The Netherlands said on Friday it would soon sign a 10-year security deal with Ukraine for continued military support, help in reconstruction and the improvement of its cyberdefences.

"Without Western support, Ukraine as we know it will cease to exist," Foreign Minister Hanke Bruins Slot said. "The Russian threat will move closer, putting pressure on the stability and safety of our continent."

**WHAT DOES UKRAINE WANT FROM THE DEALS?**

Ukraine's Zhovkva singled out as "very important" the provision in the British deal under which consultations could be held within 24 hours to provide swift and sustained aid.

"We do not want to repeat the infamous experience of the Budapest declaration, which remained just a declaration," he said. Zhovkva said there was no need for Ukraine to rush to agree deals.

## KERALA ANIMAL ATTACKS India to build 'elephant-proof' walls

INDEPENDENT ONLINE

India's federal government has announced plans to construct elephant-proof barriers in Kerala in response to attacks by the animals, which have led to protests by residents in the southern state. Federal environment minister Bhupendra Yadav, during his visit to the region, announced plans to construct elephant-proof walls even as he criticised the state government for neglecting the issue. To avoid more elephant attacks, residents of Wayanad in Kerala are demanding solar-powered fencing, elephant-proof trenches, early warning systems, radio-collaring of wild elephants, and the creation of wildlife corridors. Earlier this month, a man was trampled to death by a radio-collared wild elephant. This marked the second such death in the district in three weeks. Six days after the first incident, a 50-year-old worker at a state-owned eco-tourism project was killed by another wild elephant while on duty in Pulpally. Residents have since then demonstrated against these animal attacks.

## RAK CERAMICS (BANGLADESH) LIMITED

CERAMICS RAK Tower (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> floor) 1/A Jasimuddin Avenue Sector-3, Uttara Model Town Dhaka-1230, Bangladesh.

### NOTICE OF THE 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 25th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 11:00 am (Bangladesh Time) at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Agargaon, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh. Pursuant to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission's Directives No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2009-193/08 dated March 10, 2021 and further BSEC Directives No. BSEC/ICAD/SRIC/2024/318/09 dated January 16, 2024; the ensuing 25th AGM of the Company will be conducted through Hybrid System in combination of physical presence of shareholders at the venue of AGM and presence or connection of shareholders by using digital platform or online platform through the following link <https://agmbd.live/RAKCERAMICS2024> to transact the following businesses:

#### AGENDA

- To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023, together with the reports of the Auditor and the Directors.
- To declare dividend for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- To elect/re-elect Director(s) of the Company.
- To appoint the Statutory Auditors of the Company for the year 2024 and fix their remuneration.
- To appoint the Compliance Auditors of the Company for the year 2024 for compliance certification on corporate governance and fix their remuneration.
- To approve of entering into contract for sale or purchase of goods and materials with Mohammed Trading amounting to 10% (ten percent) or above of the revenue for the immediate preceding financial year.

By order of the Board of Directors  
Sd/-  
**(Muhammad Shahidul Islam FCS)**  
Company Secretary

Dhaka, Bangladesh  
Date: February 25, 2024

QR code for Digital platform of AGM

**Notes:**

- The shareholders whose name appeared in the Share/Depository Register as on the "Record Date" (i.e. February 19, 2024), are eligible to participate in the 25th AGM and receive the dividend.
- The Board unanimously recommended dividend @ 10% in cash of the paid up capital of the Company for the year 2023.
- M/s A. Qasem & Co., Chartered Accountants (an independent member of ECOVIS), were the statutory auditors of the Company for previous three consecutive years including the year 2023 and shall retire at the 25th AGM and are not eligible for re-appointment, as per the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission notification dated 20 June 2018. The Company invited and received proposals from shareholders for appointment of auditors of the Company for the year 2024. The Audit Committee of the Board scrutinized the proposals and recommended to appoint M/s ACNABIN, Chartered Accountants (an independent member of BAKER TILLY INTERNATIONAL) as the statutory auditors of the Company for the year 2024.
- In order to comply with the BSEC notification No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2009-193/10/ Admin/118 dated March 22, 2021; the Board of Directors has recommended to enter into contract for sale or purchase of goods and materials with Mohammed Trading [Owner is Managing Director of RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited] amounting to 10% (ten percent) or above of the revenue for the immediate preceding financial year subject to approval of the shareholders.
- In order to comply with the BSEC Directives No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2009-193/08 dated March 10, 2021 and further BSEC Directives No. BSEC/ICAD/SRIC/2024/318/09 dated January 16, 2024; the ensuing 25th AGM of the Company will be conducted through Hybrid System in combination of Physical presence of shareholders at the venue of AGM and presence or connection of shareholders by using digital platform or online platform.
- A shareholder entitled to attend and vote at the AGM may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his/her behalf (such a proxy shall be a shareholder of the Company). The Proxy Form, duly filled, signed and stamped of BDT 20 must be sent through email to the Company at [sharedepartment.bgd@rakceramics.com](mailto:sharedepartment.bgd@rakceramics.com) not later than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting.
- Shareholders are requested to submit through mail to the Company at [sharedepartment.bgd@rakceramics.com](mailto:sharedepartment.bgd@rakceramics.com) or before March 12, 2024, their written option to receive dividend in the form available in Company's website [www.rakceramics.com/bangladesh](http://www.rakceramics.com/bangladesh). If the shareholder fails to submit such option within the stipulated time, the dividend will be paid off as deemed appropriate by the Company.
- The concern stock broker, merchant banker and portfolio manager are requested to submit through mail to the Company at [sharedepartment.bgd@rakceramics.com](mailto:sharedepartment.bgd@rakceramics.com) on or before March 12, 2024; the statement along with detail of their margin client or customer who has debit balance or margin loan, who are entitled to receive cash dividend of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2023. The statement should include shareholder's name, BO ID number, client-wise shareholding position, gross dividend receivable, applicable tax rate, net dividend receivable etc. along with the Consolidated Customers' Bank Account number, routing number and contact person.
- The shareholders will be able to submit their questions/comments and vote electronically 24 hours before commencement of the AGM and during the AGM. For logging in to the system, the shareholders need to put their 16 digit Beneficial Owner (BO) ID number and other credential as proof of their identity by visiting the link <https://agmbd.live/RAKCERAMICS2024>
- Shareholders may attend the AGM and cast his/her vote physically has to submit his/her duly filled and signed registration form to the registration counter at the AGM venue prior to the meeting start time of 11:00 am (Bangladesh Time) on 19 March 2024.
- Shareholders are requested to log in to the system prior to the meeting start time of 11:00 am (Bangladesh Time) on 19 March 2024. The webcast will start at 10:45 am on March 19, 2024. Please contact +8801730058055 and +8801730055355 for any technical difficulties in accessing the virtual meeting.
- Detail log in process has been sent through email to respective shareholder's mail ID available in their BO Account maintained with the Depository. The detailed procedures to participate in the virtual meeting along with link are also available in the Company's website [www.rakceramics.com/bangladesh](http://www.rakceramics.com/bangladesh)
- As per Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission's Notification No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/208/Admin/81 dated 20 June 2018; soft copy of Annual Report of the Company along with Attendance Slip, Proxy Form and the notice will be forwarded to all the shareholders of their respective email address available with us. These will also be available on the Company's website at [www.rakceramics.com/bangladesh](http://www.rakceramics.com/bangladesh). The shareholders may also collect the annual report of the Company from the Company's Share Department at Registered Office in person.
- In compliance with the BSEC circular No. SEC/CMRRCD/2009-193/154 dated 24 October 2013 "no benefit in cash or kind, other than in the form of cash dividend or stock dividend, shall be paid to the shareholders" at the 25th AGM of the Company.

## গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ  
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, লক্ষ্মীপুর  
<https://lakshimpur.police.gov.bd>

### উশুক দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০৬/২০২৩-২০২৪

তারিখ: ২২ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২৪

স্বাক্ষর: না-এশ/৬৪৫/২ম/৪, ২ম/লক্ষ্মী

সময়: ২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্থবছর ৪র্থ কোয়ার্টারের (৪ম/২০২৪) তারিখ হতে ৬ম/২০২৪ পর্যন্ত ০৬ (ছয়) মাসের জন্য মসুর ডাল, সয়াবিন তেল, গম পোশাইকর আটা সরবরাহ, পোশাইকর, পরিবহন, কুলি মজুরি সরবরাহ করার নিমিত্ত পাবলিক প্রাইভেটাইজেশন আইন-২০০৬ ও বিধিমালা-২০০৬ এবং তৎপরতীতে সংশ্লিষ্ট তত্ত্বাবধায়ক এবং ২০১৩ সালের Delegation of Financial Powers, Sub-Delegation of Financial Powers মোতাবেক বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী লক্ষ্মীপুর ও আড়াই প্রাকৃতিক সিক্সার/যোগানকার/সরবরাহকারী/আগমনকার প্রক্রিয়ার নিমিত্ত হতে নিম্ন বর্ণিতদের দ্বারা নিম্নলিখিতকৃত কাজে পরিচালিতকৃত উশুক দরপত্র আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে।

ক্র.সং.	কাজের বিবরণ	উশুক	সর্বোচ্চ মূল্য	সর্বনিম্ন মূল্য	সর্বোচ্চ মূল্য	সর্বনিম্ন মূল্য
১.	মসুর ডাল/বিজালা	:	২৬,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	৯০,০০০/-	৪৪১১
২.	সয়া/বিজালা	:	২৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	১,২০,০০০/-	৪৪১১
৩.	দরপত্র সম্পাদনাকারী প্রদান	:	২,২০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	৪০,০০০/-	৪৪১১
৪.	ক্রয়/পেমেন্টের স্বাক্ষরকারী প্রদান	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১
৫.	আহ্বানকৃত কাজের স্থান	:	১,০৮,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২০,০০০/-	৪৪১১
৬.	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১
৭.	বরাদ্দ/বরাদ্দকারী	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১
৮.	প্রকার/কর্মসূচির নাম	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১
৯.	দরপত্র চুক্তি/সিডিউল বিস্তারিত স্থান, শেড তারিখ ও সময়	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১
১০.	দরপত্র পরিবেশন স্থান, তারিখ ও শেড সময়	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১
১১.	দরপত্র খোলা ও মুদ্রায়নের স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১
১২.	দরপত্রকারী/যোগানকার/ সরবরাহকারীর যোগানকার:	:	১৪,০০০ কেজি	৭৪০/-	২৪,০০০/-	৪৪১১

১৩. বিদেশি পদ্ধতি

(ক) অনির্দিষ্ট কালব্যাপী নির্ধারিত দিনে বা সময়ে দরপত্র দাখিল বা গ্রহণ বা বেগন স্থান বা হলে দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্তৃক দরপত্র দাখিলের ও বেগন/গ্রহণের পুননির্ধারিত তারিখ ও সময় স্থানীয় বিজ্ঞপ্তির মাধ্যমে সর্বোচ্চ সন্তোষজনক ভাবে করা হবে। দরপত্র বেগন/গ্রহণের তারিখ যদি বেগন স্থানে অফিস বন্ধ থাকে তাহলে পরবর্তী তারিখের মধ্যে বেগন/গ্রহণ করা হবে।

(খ) মসুর ডাল ২ কেজি, ৩.৫ কেজি, ৪ কেজি ও ৫.৫ কেজি প্যাকেটজাত করে সরবরাহ করতে হবে এবং আটা ২ কেজি ও ৫ কেজি প্যাকেটজাত করে সরবরাহ করতে হবে।

(গ) পুলিশ বেগন স্থান, লক্ষ্মীপুর হতে গম বুকে নিয়ে আসার জন্য উশুক মিলে শৌখিনে এবং নিজ স্বত্ত্বের ট্রাকের বেগন স্টোরে আটা শৌখিনে দিবে।

(ঘ) দরপত্রের সাথে পুলিশ সুপার, লক্ষ্মীপুর এর অনুমতি পেয়ে কোন ডকুমেন্টের ব্যতীত অন্য কোন ডকুমেন্ট/সে-ব্যাগের মাধ্যমে বিভিন্ন নির্ধারিত স্থানে সীলন করা হবে।

(ঙ) দরপত্র উত্তোলিত হলেই আটকনের পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি অথবা কমানোর বিধে কর্তৃপক্ষের ক্ষমতা রয়েছে।

(চ) দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণে বেগন স্থান থেকে বেগন স্থান থেকে সরিয়ে রাখলে তাহলে দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী কর্তৃক দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে।

যোগাযোগ: মোহাম্মদ হারুন রশিদ, পুলিশ, লক্ষ্মীপুর  
ফোন: ০২-৩৫৪৪৪২০৩৩, ফ্যাক্স: ০২-৩৫৪৪৪৪৪৪৪  
Email: [sp.lakshimpur@police.gov.bd](mailto:sp.lakshimpur@police.gov.bd)