

# Experts call for sustainable e-waste disposal

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Electronics producers in Bangladesh need to adopt more responsible manufacturing practices by creating durable products and investing in sustainable recycling, according to experts.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, adviser to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, said meaningful change in consumer behaviour can only occur when producers take the lead in sustainable production.

She was speaking as chief guest at a seminar organised by the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Society Bangladesh, to celebrate International E-Waste Day at the Westin Dhaka in the capital's Gulshan yesterday. Rizwana highlighted the enormous

costs and energy required to operate responsible recycling industries, noting that without changes in production practices, it is unfair to place the burden solely on consumers.

She also announced her intention to review the 2021 e-waste policy, stressing that the promotion of recycling industries must be supported by government laws and policies.

Major General (Retd) Emdad Ul Bari, chairman of the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), was the special guest of the event.

He underscored the need for formal recycling systems within the telecom sector, saying that the industry generates around 300 tonnes of e-waste annually. Bari also highlighted the importance

of inducing a cultural shift in e-waste disposal practices, proposing incentives to encourage responsible e-waste disposal.

In his keynote speech, Professor Md Shahinoor Islam, head of the chemical engineering department at BUET, pointed out the harmful effects of e-waste, particularly the presence of hazardous heavy metals like lead, nickel and mercury, as well as dangerous chemicals such as polyvinyl chloride and brominated flame retardants.

He warned that improper disposal of these materials can lead to severe contamination of soil, waterways and air, posing a significant threat to both the environment and human health.

The seminar opened with a welcome speech by WEEE Society General Secretary Akter Ul Alam, who stressed the

need for formal recycling mechanisms at every step of the e-waste processing chain.

He urged for all recycling facilities to be certified, highlighting the complex nature of recycling processes and the necessity of building the capacity to manage them effectively.

The event concluded with a panel discussion, where local and international experts shared recommendations on fostering responsible recycling practices.

The discussion highlighted the vast potential for growth in the recycling sector and the need for collective efforts from all stakeholders, including the government, industry and consumers.

Sumon Sabbir Ahmed, an IT expert, said a more sustainable approach to e-waste management is needed.

# Garment exports to US fell 9.16% in Jan-Aug

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Garment exports to the USA fell by 9.16 percent year-on-year to \$4.70 billion in the January-August period of the current year because of a decline in demand for apparel items in American markets, according to data from the Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA).

The data on apparel and textile import from different countries has recently been released by the OTEXA, which undertakes industry analysis, contributes to US trade policy development, participates in trade negotiations and trade promotion and addresses trade barriers.

In combined, the textile and garment shipment from Bangladesh to the USA also fell by 8.98 percent year-on-year to \$4.84 billion in the January-August period this year, the OTEXA data showed.

# China stimulus aims at its greatest wall of debt

REUTERS, Hong Kong

Chinese policymakers trying to fire up growth in the world's second-largest economy appear intent on smashing through a wall of debt that poses a systemic financial risk and on not repeating past mistakes in delivering fiscal stimulus. That is some consolation for the fact that Beijing, so far, has mapped out only half of a plan.

At a highly anticipated press conference on Saturday, the Ministry of Finance signaled it is ready to significantly boost spending but it declined to say by how much. The lack of a concrete number will disappoint those looking for quick fixes; Chinese benchmark stock indices including the Hang Seng opened largely unmoved on Monday. To spur consumption, economists reckon the People's Republic may need to

spend up to 10 trillion yuan (\$1.42 trillion), or 7 percent of GDP.

It is another signal that Beijing won't resort to indiscriminate spending, as it did with a 4 trillion yuan package in the wake of the 2009 global financial crisis. A resulting infrastructure buildout more than a decade ago saddled local government financing vehicles (LGFVs) with debt; the International Monetary Fund pegs this pile at \$9 trillion, or 48 percent of last year's GDP. Instead, the ministry laid out what it calls its "biggest effort" to tackle this unwieldy problem, acknowledging it for the first time as a serious obstacle to growth.

Three of the four new measures announced were aimed at easing local governments' financial burden; these authorities are effectively responsible for over 80 percent of total government spending, including on basics like pensions

and healthcare.

There will be a one-time, large-scale expansion of an existing debt swap programme local governments use to issue bonds to replace LGFV debt; the central government will sell special sovereign bonds to replenish state lenders, who will most likely absorb the new local government debts; and provinces can use proceeds from special bond issues to purchase housing units or land to stabilise the property market. This crystallises a reversal of roles played in 2009. This time, the central government will borrow to take on fixed asset investments.

The ministry promises more fiscal measures will follow, though it is unclear what China will spend money on, and how it will generate revenue to fund any additional debt. For now, policymakers are focusing on fixing the economy's foundations before rushing to induce demand.

# Amid liquidity Uttara Finance spends big

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sufferings of the depositors, who are already facing trouble withdrawing money, may deepen, they said.

Apart from that, offering high deposit rates will also narrow the interest rate spread and reduce the income of the banks.

Khondaker Golam Moazzem, research director at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), said depositors should be cautious about accepting offers of high interest rates as some banks are facing huge challenges.

The central bank should look into the matter and analyse whether it is viable for banks to offer such high rates for deposits.

Moazzem said it is better for the banks to increase their deposits by recovering bad loans instead of collecting deposits by offering sky-high rates.

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On the Cox's Bazar meeting, he acknowledged that most of the directors, excluding him and a couple of others, and top officials had attended it.

"Actually, the management placed the proposal...saying this type of event will improve the image of the company. So, we have accepted the proposal," he added.

The expenditures are

unacceptable, a gross violation of corporate governance, said Toufic Ahmad Choudhury, director general of the Bangladesh Academy for Securities Markets, the academic wing of stock market regulator Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC).

The regulators should look into the matter seriously and identify the NBFI's actual financial

condition, added Choudhury, also a former director general of the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management.

Rezaul Karim, an executive director and spokesperson of the BSEC, said the regulator would examine whether the NBFI was negligent in submitting financial reports and holding annual general meetings and would take

steps soon.

# UK assets of ex-land minister

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recently deposited prime minister Sheikh Hasina, bought over 360 luxury properties in Britain worth \$250 million.

Saifuzzaman's property buying spree gained pace in 2017 when he set up companies in the UK, but it accelerated even further in 2019 when he became a minister under the Sheikh

Hasina-led Awami League government.

In December last year, The Daily Star published a report about Chowdhury's portfolio of at least 260 properties in the UK, for which he paid at least £134.76 million or Tk 1,888 crore, according to the newspaper's calculation from company filings publicly available on UK

government websites. The three-time Awami League lawmaker also has at least 537 mortgages against properties in the UK. A vast majority of these are in London.

However, his tax returns, submitted along with his affidavit to the Election Commission, state that he has no foreign income, according to The Daily Star report.

**Invitation for Tender (Local)**  
**Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board**  
**Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh**

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/ Power Division.		
2	Agency	Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board.		
3	Name of Procuring Entity & District	Superintending Engineer (Grid & Sub-Station), Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, Dhaka.		
4	Invitation For Tender Name	TURNKEY CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY, CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF 33kV BAY BREAKER EXTENSION WORKS AT CHANDINA 132/33 kV GRID SUBSTATION FOR CUMILLA PBS-1 UNDER BREB.		
5	Invitation Reference No. & Date	Memo No. 27.12.0000.173.31.383.24.924	Date:	09-10-2024
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>				
6	Procurement Method	One Stage Two Envelope Tendering Method (NCT)		
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>				
7	Budget and source of Fund	Own Fund of CUMILLA PBS-1.		
8	Development Partners (if applicable)	N/A		
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>				
9	Project / Programme Name	N/A		
10	Tender Package No.	SE(G&SS)-33kV-BB EX-Chandina-Cumilla PBS-1		
11	Tender Publication Date	15-10-2024.		
12	Tender Last Selling Date & Time.	27-10-2024 within office hour. BST.		
<b>TENDER CLOSING &amp; OPENING</b>				
13	Tender Closing Date & Time.	28-10-2024		12:00 Noon (BST)
14	Tender opening Date & Time.	28-10-2024		12:30 Noon (BST)
15	Pre-Tender Meeting: Date & Time	20-10-2024		11:00 AM (BST)
<b>16 Name &amp; Address of the Office</b>				
		<b>Address</b>		
- For Selling Tender Document		Office of the Superintending Engineer (Grid & Sub-Station)		
- For Receiving Tender Document		BREB, Executive Building (3rd floor),		
- For Opening Tender Document		Nikunja-2, Khilkhet, Dhaka-1229.		
- For Pre-Tender Meeting				
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>				
17	Eligibility of Tender	The minimum specific experience as a Prime Contractor or Subcontractor or Management Contractor (lead partner in case of JV submission) in construction works is as follows: 1. At least 01 (one) number of contract having capacity regarding engineering, design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 33/11kV or 132/33kV or higher voltage level substation/ 33kV or higher voltage level Bay Breaker extension/ 33kV or above voltage level switching station works on turn-key basis each with a minimum value of BDT 35.00 lac Taka within last 05 years, years counting backward from the date of publication of IFT in the newspaper. 2. In support of experience as mentioned in Serial no. 1 Tenderer shall submit Satisfactory Performance Certificate(s) from the end user's letter head pad. The Certificate(s) shall mention the name & commissioning date of grid sub-station, capacity & voltage level which were designed, supplied, tested and commissioned by Tenderer (lead partner in case of JV) and shall contain end-user's full mailing address, e-mail address, website address, fax number and phone number for the convenience of authentication. 3. For JV Experience, monetary value of specific experience shall be determined as per ratio of partnership share for evaluation. (Relevant documents have to be submitted for proof)		
18	Price of Tender Document (TK)	Tk 8,000/- (Taka Eight Thousand Only) Per Document.		
19	Short Description of the Package:			
	<b>Bid Package No.</b>	<b>Location / Description of Works</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Tender Security Amount in TK</b>
	SE(G&SS)-33kV-BB EX-Chandina-Cumilla PBS-1	TURNKEY CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY, CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF 33kV BAY BREAKER EXTENSION WORKS AT CHANDINA 132/33 kV GRID SUBSTATION FOR CUMILLA PBS-1 UNDER BREB.	01 (One) No.	1.50 lac
				03 (Three) Months.
20	Regarding Tender Document	Tender Document can be purchased by the interested on submission of a written application in the address below upon the payment of non-refundable Tk. 8,000/- (Taka Eight Thousand) in the form of Bank Draft/Pay order in favour of General Manager, Cumilla PBS-1, Cumilla. No Tender Document will be sent by courier or by mail.		
21	Mode of Payment	Payment will be made directly to the Tenderers in Local Currency (BDT) by Cumilla PBS-1		
22	Completion Period	Completion Period shall begin with effect from the date of handover of site/layout.		
23	Special Instruction	Tender Document can be viewed in the BREB website. www.reb.gov.bd		
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>				
24	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Mohammad Ali		
25	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Superintending engineer		
26	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Office of the Superintending engineer (Grid & Sub-Station), BREB, Dhaka.		
27	Contact details of official Inviting Tender	Tel: 8900757		
28	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.			



**বাংলাদেশ পল্লী বিদ্যুতায়ন বোর্ড**  
BANGLADESH RURAL ELECTRIFICATION BOARD  
শাখাবিভাগ/নং (২৪১০-৫১) ২০২৪-২০২৫

ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & ISO 45001 Certified

Office of the Superintending Engineer  
(Grid & Sub-Station)  
Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Executive Building,  
Nikunja-2, Khilkhet, City: Dhaka-1229,  
Country: Bangladesh.  
Tel: + 8802- 8900757  
E-mail: segridssbreb@gmail.com  
Web site: www.reb.gov.bd

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
**Ministry of Agriculture**  
**Department of Agricultural Extension**  
**Rangpur Division Agriculture and Rural Development Project (1<sup>st</sup> Revised)**  
**Front Bld. 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Khamarbari, Dhaka-1215**

**Specific Procurement Notice**  
Memo No: 12.01.0000.040.07.226.24.698  
Date: 06.10.2024  
Country: Bangladesh

Name of Project: Rangpur Division Agriculture and Rural Development Project (1<sup>st</sup> Revised)  
Development partner: Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)  
Executive Agency: Ministry of Agriculture  
Implementing Agency: Department of Agricultural Extension (Lead) & LGED  
IsDB Project number: BGD 1004  
Mode of Financing: Loan  
Procurement nature: Goods  
Contract Title: Supply of Rice Transplanter with accessories  
NCB package no. DAE/RADARDP/GD-11.  
Reference No. 12.01.0000.040.07.226.24.698

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) towards the cost of the Rangpur Division Agriculture and Rural Development Project (RADARDP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for supply of Rice Transplanter with Accessories.
- The Project Coordinating Director, RADARDP, DAE, Bangladesh now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of 440 units Rice Transplanter with Accessories. The goods shall be delivered in 39 upazilas in Rangpur Division under the above project. The delivery period of the goods is 90 (Ninety) days.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in IsDB's Guidelines: *Procurement of Goods, Works and related services under Islamic Development Bank Project Financing including Procurement, Policy and Procedures Effective April 2019 (Revised February 2023)* ("Procurement Guidelines"), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to paragraphs 1.9 setting forth IsDB's policy on conflict of interest.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from office of the Project Coordinating Director, Rangpur Division Agriculture and Rural Development Project (1<sup>st</sup> Revised), Department of Agricultural Extension, Khamarbari, Room-728 (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), Front Building, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh Telephone: +880-255028229, E-mail: [pcdradardpdae@gmail.com](mailto:pcdradardpdae@gmail.com)
- A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the office of the Project Coordinating Director, Rangpur Division Agriculture and Rural Development Project (1<sup>st</sup> Revised), Department of Agricultural Extension, Khamarbari, Room-728 (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), Front Building, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh Telephone: +880-255028229, E-mail: [pcdradardpdae@gmail.com](mailto:pcdradardpdae@gmail.com) and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of BDT:4000.00 (Four thousand only) Tk. The method of payment will be Cash. The document will be sent by air mail of courier or may be collected through authorized representatives of the bidder. Interested bidders can purchase bidding documents for the packages they wish to participate.
- The last date of selling bidding documents is 13 November 2024 till 16.00 hr. Bids must be delivered to the Project Coordinating Director, Rangpur Division Agriculture and Rural Development Project (1<sup>st</sup> Revised), Department of Agricultural Extension, Khamarbari, Room-728 (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), Front Building, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh Telephone: +880-255028229, E-mail: [pcdradardpdae@gmail.com](mailto:pcdradardpdae@gmail.com) on or before 14.11.2024 at 14.00 hr. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' authorized representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the office of the Project Coordinating Director, RADARDP, DAE Khamarbari, Room-728 (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), Front Building, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh Telephone: +880-255028229, E-mail: [pcdradardpdae@gmail.com](mailto:pcdradardpdae@gmail.com) at 14.00 hr. on 14.11.2024.
- All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of BDT 64,00,000.00 (Sixty-Four Lakh Taka) only for Package No: DAE/RADARDP/GD-11 (supply of Rice Transplanter with accessories).
- The address(es) referred to above is(are):

Project Coordinating Director, Rangpur Division Agriculture and Rural Development Project (1<sup>st</sup> Revised), Department of Agricultural Extension, Khamarbari, Room-728 (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), Front Building, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh Telephone: +880-255028229, E-mail: [pcdradardpdae@gmail.com](mailto:pcdradardpdae@gmail.com) website: [www.dae.gov.bd](http://www.dae.gov.bd)

(Abu Fattha Md. Rowshan Kabir) 06.10.2024  
Project Coordinating Director  
Phone: 02-55028229