

Bhutan envoy calls on Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bhutan's Ambassador to Dhaka Rinchen Kuentsyl yesterday met BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and discussed ways to enhance the effectiveness of SAARC. Standing Committee Member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury briefed reporters after the meeting at the party chairperson's office in Gulshan. "In the coming days, we want to expand this (SAARC operations) on a larger scale through a Free Trade Agreement between Bhutan and Bangladesh. There is good potential for this," he added. Highlighting Bhutan's proposal of exporting hydroelectric power to Bangladesh, the BNP leader said, "Bhutan has a hydroelectric power capacity of 30,000 megawatts, and we see an opportunity for collaboration in this sector."



Fishermen clean their nets in preparation for venturing out to sea. Fishing from Dublar Char in the Sundarbans is permitted for five months each year. During this period, a fisherman earns between Tk 60,000 and Tk 1,50,000 by fishing and drying fish. The photo was taken at Dublar Char in the Sundarbans yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Climate migrants in Khulna demand access to civic facilities

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Climate change has forced many residents of the southwestern region of Bangladesh to leave their homes and migrate to nearby cities, including Khulna, said speakers at a workshop yesterday. However, these displaced individuals, often referred to as climate migrants, face significant challenges in accessing essential civic facilities in their new urban environments, they said. The daylong workshop, titled "Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Adaptation in High-Risk Areas of Khulna and Satkhira", organised by Caritas Bangladesh, was held at the Caritas Auditorium in Khulna city. The speakers further noted that since these migrants are not permanent residents of the city and their voter ID cards are registered elsewhere, they are unable to access vital services provided by the city corporation or the government. Without city-based voter IDs, they are denied basic amenities such as water, electricity, and other utilities. In response to these hardships, climate migrants are urging authorities to ensure their access to civic facilities in Khulna. They are also calling for a simplified process to transfer voter registration to their new locations. Climate-induced migrants living in Khulna City Corporation areas, especially wards 9, 21, 22, and 31, attended the workshop. Albino Nath, regional director (designate) of Caritas Khulna region, and Md Abdul Karim, district relief and rehabilitation officer of Khulna, were also present.

RMG workers block Dhaka-Aricha highway Demand safe roads following death of four killings

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Workers of Graphics Textile Limited factory staged a two-hour blockade on the Dhaka-Aricha Highway in Sreerampur yesterday morning, to press home their three-point demands following a road accident in Dhamrai on Wednesday night that claimed the lives of four colleagues. The protest began at 9:20am and ended at 11:30am. Their three-point demands include a general holiday for the factory, compensation for the families of the deceased and proper medical treatment for the injured, and the introduction of a dedicated transport system for employees.

Monirul Islam, officer-in-charge of Dhamrai Police Station, said that the protesting workers left the highway and gathered in front of the factory by 11:30am. "The factory has declared today [yesterday] a general holiday, and discussions are ongoing between the police, factory authorities, and workers to address their demands," he said. The accident occurred around 9:30pm on Wednesday in the Khagurta area of Dhamrai when a truck collided with a bus carrying factory workers. Four RMG workers were killed and at least 18 injured in the incident. The workers blamed the accident on driver negligence and urged authorities to implement immediate safety measures.

BPC's fuel pricing formula needs to be revised Says CPD, deems its current profit margin unethical

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fuel prices can be reduced by Tk 10-15 per litre, if the current mechanism used by Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) is revised, according to the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). BPC has been making profits from fuel sales despite following an automated formula to fix the prices since March this year, as the

Regulatory Commission (BERC). The study says that the adopted pricing mechanism applies a financing charge of nine percent per litre, which is excessively high without adequate justification. Besides, the basis for determining other rates such as commission for letters of credit, transit loss, and crude oil processing loss is not transparent and needs thorough reviews, it also said.

BERC's regulations to fix the fuel prices for the last 12 years. "The ministry never gave the power of fixing fuel prices to BERC, which is the legal authority to fix it after holding public hearings," she added. Prof M Shamsul Alam, energy adviser to the Consumer Association of Bangladesh, said a speech of the energy adviser to the interim government created confusion that they [the ministry]


| PRICING OF FUEL (Tk per litre) | Product | Current Price | Import Cost | Total Cost | Margin Between cost and price |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| | Diesel | 105.5 | 50 | 95 | 10.5 |
| | Kerosene | 105.5 | 50 | 97.4 | 8.1 |
| | Petrol | 121 | 60.68 | 109.67 | 11.32 |
| | Furnace Oil | 86 | 42.29 | 85.29 | 0.71 |
| | | | | | |
| BPC'S PROFIT (in crore) | FY 2020 | 5065 | | | |
| | FY 2021 | 6493 | | | |
| | FY 2022 | -2705 | | | |
| | FY 2023 | 4586 | | | |
| | FY 2024 | 3500 | | | |
| | | | | | |

formula was not formed based on actual cost, it also said. "The profit margin of BPC is unethical," said CPD in their latest study titled "Market-based Fuel Pricing: Government-led Initiatives and Possible Revision", which was unveiled in a dialogue at a city hotel yesterday. In the study, the think-tank recommended revising the formula under the Bangladesh Energy

Additionally, exchange rate determination and adjustments are unclear in the formula and multi-layered taxes and duties, determined by National Board of Revenue rates, significantly increase the final price for consumers. Presenting the study's findings, Helen Mashiyat Preoty, senior research associate of CPD, said the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources didn't approve

want to keep the authority of fuel pricing to themselves. "It wouldn't happen in the new Bangladesh. BERC is the legal authority for fixing all sorts of fuel prices and BPC is simply a licensee of the commission. The government considers BPC only as a source of revenue, as they take Tk 13,000-14,000 crore per year as taxes and dividends," he added.

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বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক পিএলসি.
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(A State Owned Commercial Bank)

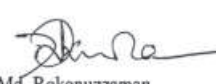
IT SYSTEM DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR TENDER

Reference: 11.3/249(ATS)/ 470 Date: 22/11/2024

Tender is invited from the reputed vendor companies for renewal of Oracle TS (Technical Support) for 2 (two) years with required installation, up-gradation, migration, training & local support (yearly basis). Necessary informations are given below:

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 01. | Procuring Entity | IT System Department, Bangladesh Development Bank PLC. (BDBL), Head Office, BDBL Bhaban (Level - 06), 8, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka - 1000. |
| 02. | Procurement Method | Through Open Tendering Method (OTM) of Public Procurement Rules, 2008 and The Public Procurement Act, 2006 |
| 03. | Invitation for Tender No. | BDBL/ITSD/OTM/2024/PSN/03 |
| 04. | Source of Funds | Bank's own Fund. |
| 05. | Brief Description of the Goods and Services | Renewal Of Oracle TS (Technical Support) For 2 (Two) Years With Required Installation, Up-Gradation, Migration, Training & Local Support (Yearly Basis). |
| 06. | Name & Address of Receiving Tender Document | IT System Department, Bangladesh Development Bank PLC. (BDBL), Head Office, BDBL Bhaban (Level- 06), 8, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka-1000. |
| 07. | Last Date and Time for Selling Tender Schedule | 07/12/2024 up to Office Hour. |
| 08. | Last Date and Time for Submission | 08/12/2024 up to 03.00PM |
| 09. | Date, Time and Place for Tender Opening | All Tenders will be opened at IT System Department, Head Office, Dhaka on 08/12/2024 at 03.30 PM (Intending Tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend at the time of opening of Tender). |
| 10. | Eligibility of Tenderer | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar services of at least 3 contract(s) successfully completed within the last 5 years, each with a value of at least 80% of the yearly basis quoted price preferably in the banking sector.The bidder must have experience on installation, commissioning of similar products i.e (Oracle Enterprise Edition and Real Application Cluster) with at least 2 (Two) bank/government/semi-government/autonomous organization within 5 years.The Bidder must have ongoing AMC of similar product with at least 3 (three) organizations preferably in bank.The Bidder must have Member Partnership with respective OEM.Supplier must have at least Four (4) Oracle Certified Expert engineer (at least one senior) on relevant product such as Oracle 19c Administrator & Oracle RAC. All engaged resources should be permanent employee of OEM and selected bidder. No contractual & outsourcing resources are acceptable.Any false information submitted by bidders will be treated as disqualified.Bidder must submit Company profile with all Certification.Up to date Income TAX paying CertificateUp to Date VAT Certificate |
| 11. | Tender Security | Tk.4,00,000.00 (Taka Four Lacs) Tender Security Money only will be required in the form of Pay Order in favor of Bangladesh Development Bank PLC., Head Office, Dhaka. |
| 12. | Price of Tender Schedule | Tk. 2,000 (Taka Two Thousand) Only in Cash. (Non-Refundable) |

Bangladesh Development Bank PLC. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender either in part or full without assigning any reason whatsoever. If occur any government holiday then the tender opening date will be shifted to next working day.




Md. Rokunuzzaman
Deputy General Manager
IT System Department
☎ : 02-223384839

GD- 1015

Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources didn't approve BERC's regulations to fix the fuel prices for the last 12 years. The ministry never gave the power of fixing fuel prices to BERC, which is the legal authority to fix it after holding public hearings.

HELEN MASHIYAT PREOTY
Senior research associate, CPD



দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কুমিল্লা সেনানিবাসে নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজ সম্পাদনের নিমিত্তে ক্যান্টনমেন্ট বোর্ড/এমইএস/সশস্ত্র বাহিনীর যে কোন প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্ত অথবা সরকারী ঠিকাদারপণের নিকট হতে নিজ ফার্মের প্যাডে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছেঃ

| ক্রমিক | কাজের বিবরণ | দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য | কার্য সম্পাদনের সময়সীমা |
|--------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ১। | সহু প্রশিক্ষণ নিশ্চিতকল্পে ৩৫ এসটি ব্যাটালিয়নের এমটি ড্রাইভিং ট্রাক নির্মাণ এবং এতদসংক্রান্ত বিবিধ প্রশিক্ষণ ব্যয় নির্বাহি ব্যবদ | ১,০০০.০০ (অফেরতযোগ্য) | কার্যাদেশ পাওয়ার ০১ (এক) মাসের মধ্যে |

ক। দরপত্র সিডিউল ও অন্যান্য তথ্যাদি সকল কার্যনিবাসে অফিস চলাকালে নির্ধারিত মূল্যে ক্রয় করা যাবে। উল্লেখিত কাজের যাবতীয় শর্তাবলী ৩৫ এসটি ব্যাটালিয়ন হতে জানা যাবে। দরপত্র আপামী ২৪ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৪ তারিখ ১০০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত গ্রহণ করা হবে এবং একই দিনে ১২০০ ঘটিকায় দরপত্র দরদাতাদের সামনে খোলা হবে।

খ। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা সমস্ত দরপত্র বাতিল করার পূর্ণ ক্ষমতা রাখেন।

গ। সরকারী বিধান মোতাবেক বিল হতে ভাট ও অন্যান্য প্রদেয় কর কর্তন করা হবে।

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