

Gold prices cut by Tk 1,038 per bhoori

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Jewellers yesterday cut gold prices by Tk 1,038 per bhoori thanks to a drop in the rates of pure gold prices in the local market.

From today, the price of each bhoori (11.664 grammes) of 22-carat gold ornaments will be Tk 162,176, down from Tk 163,214.

The Bangladesh Jewellers Association took the decision to decrease gold prices in a meeting, the association said in a press release.

Gold, for which Bangladesh is highly dependent on foreign sources, has seen a steady rise in prices for over a year, influenced by hikes in the international market and volatility in domestic supply.

In July 2023, the price of gold surpassed Tk 100,000 for the first time in Bangladesh.

Although Bangladesh does not import any significant quantity of gold, its prices are linked with international trends.

The country requires between 20 to 40 tonnes of gold annually, with about 80 percent of the demand being met through smuggling.



Shoppers browse new clothing at a fashion store at Afmi Plaza of port city Chattogram on Saturday ahead of Pahela Baishakh celebrations. Retailers say shopper footfall is up compared to last year, with sales during the Bangla New Year making up nearly a quarter of the annual apparel business.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

ACI director to buy company shares worth Tk 15.60cr

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Shusmita Anis, a director of Advanced Chemical Industries (ACI) Ltd, has expressed her intention to purchase 7.75 lakh of the company's shares.

The transaction will be carried out through the block market at the prevailing market price by April 30, according to a disclosure by ACI to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

Based on ACI's closing price of Tk 201.30 per share yesterday, the value of the shares to be purchased stands at Tk 15.60 crore.

This move follows her acquisition of 15.15 lakh shares on January 15.

In recent months, ACI directors have been increasing their stakes in the company.

Earlier this year, ACI Chairman M Anis Ud Dowla bought 16 lakh shares while Managing Director Arif Dowla purchased 31 lakh shares of the well-known business house, which operates across diversified sectors.

As of June 2024, ACI Chairman M Anis Ud Dowla held 19.87 percent of the company's shares. Arif Dowla held 4.98 percent and Shusmita Anis held 1.94 percent.

The shareholding of ACI directors has increased since then. At the end of March this year, company directors held 43.16 percent of the shares, up from 36.07 percent as of June 30, 2024.

Go all out to remove trade barriers with US

FROM PAGE B1 (LFMEAB), described the US not only as a vital export destination but also as a key driver of growth, being a consumer driven market.

He said that the National Board of Revenue (NBR) is currently reviewing tariffs on 20 low-revenue items worth around \$100 million while also addressing non-tariff barriers.

Despite the tariff challenges, he remained optimistic, citing a crucial meeting with the USTR scheduled for April 21.

Manzur said that without clear direction during the 90-day pause, coinciding with peak holiday order cycles, Bangladesh risked losing seasonal business, potentially affecting factory operations.

He proposed the formation of a weekly progress tracker, led by senior officials and supported by the private sector, to seize short-

term opportunities and monitor key importables.

"A plan is needed to offset a possible 37 percent tariff, as competitors are already preparing," said the business leader.

Mohammad Belal Hossain Chowdhury, NBR member (VAT implementation & IT), said that a draft legislation for a central bonded warehouse is underway to facilitate cotton imports from the US.

He said the upcoming legislation will expand bonded warehousing to additional sectors, supported by a trained workforce to handle unconventional cargo.

Chowdhury added that the Bangladesh Single Window bond system is now operational, and he called for closer collaboration to explore US markets and invoicing systems.

The Bangladesh Single Window

(BSW) is a single online platform which is designed to streamline trade processes by enabling importers and exporters to submit documentation and data requirements for import, export, and transit of goods.

Garment exporters at the dialogue said that the average lead time for Bangladesh's readymade garments is 95 days, higher than Vietnam's 60 days and China's 32.

They argued that reducing logistics costs by just 1 percent could increase export demand by 7 percent.

While the recent 90-day pause on Trump's tariffs brought temporary relief, exporters said the authorities need to act fast.

At present, Bangladesh imports around 18 lakh bales of cotton from China, compared to only 4 lakh bales from the US. A shift towards US cotton, they said,

could affect RMG export pricing and would require careful cost assessment.

AmCham President Syed Ershad Ahmed described the US as Bangladesh's top export destination and a major investor, bringing capital, technology and expertise to sectors such as insurance, hospitality and information technology.

Reflecting on more than 50 years of bilateral relations, he called for reciprocal tariff adjustments and a formal bilateral agreement to address trade barriers.

Ahmed acknowledged efforts by the interim government to tackle both tariff and non-tariff issues but emphasised that much work lies ahead, especially on the front of economic diplomacy.

John Fay, commercial counselor of the US embassy in Dhaka, was also present at the programme.

BB again asks banks to clear overdue LC payments

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When submitting the monthly report on overdue accepted bills, the information must be verified through the Online Import Monitoring System before submission.

All submitted bills, discrepancies (if any), and payment information at the authorised dealer branch must be preserved and sent to the relevant department at the head office on a monthly basis.

This directive will be effective immediately, the BB added.

Wheat imports may exceed 60 lakh tonnes

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commodity importer BSM Group, said 15 lakh tonnes of the grain could be imported during the remaining months of the fiscal year.

According to the USDA, approximately 60 percent of Bangladesh's wheat imports came from Russia, which offered lower prices than other competing countries. Other major suppliers included Ukraine, Canada, and Argentina.

"Bangladesh imported Brazilian wheat in February 2025 for the first time in

two years, due to its lower price," the USDA added.

It further projected that Bangladesh's wheat imports may rise to 69 lakh tonnes in the next fiscal year, assuming continued demand for wheat and wheat flour in the local market, lower international wheat prices, and smooth global supply chain logistics.

"Apart from human consumption, the use of coarse wheat flour in the feed industry is also increasing, contributing to higher overall demand for wheat," it said.



চট্টগ্রাম পানি সরবরাহ ও পয়ঃনিষ্কাশন কর্তৃপক্ষ
Chattogram Water Supply & Sewerage Authority
WASA Office Building, Dampara, Chattogram, Bangladesh

Memo No. 46.06.0000.331.35.006.2025-21

Date: 09.04.2025

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (NATIONAL)
For Selection of Senior Financial Management Consultant (Package No.: CWSIP/S15)

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) is in the process of receiving a credit/loan from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of "Chattogram Water Supply Improvement Project (CWSIP)", to be implemented by Chattogram WASA and intends to apply a part of the proceeds of this credit for the services of a **Senior Financial Management Consultant**

2. **Scope of Services:** The Scope of Services of the **Senior Financial Management Consultant** includes, but not limited to:

a) Financial Management Manual: Prepare a financial management (FM) manual that would be embodied in the Project Implementation Manual of the project. The FM manual would include authorities and responsibilities of project staff in respect of various segments of the FM function recording and processing procedures for payment fund flow arrangements.

b) Budgeting: Assist the Project Director in preparing the project budget on the basis of approved procurement plan and implementation plan in consultation with CWASA planning division and various other units involved in project implementation.

c) Chart of Account: The SFMC will develop a comprehensive Chart of Account for the Project to capture financial data under (i) GoB code of accounts (ii) WASA's heads of computerized accounting system.

d) Computerized Accounting System: The SFMC will interact with the Computerized Accounting System (CAS) for CWASA for adopting the system for the Project and will assess the adequacy of the system's needs.

e) Disbursement plan: The SFMC, with the assistance of project accounting staff and in consultation with other staff involved in project implementation, would prepare the actual and quarterly disbursement forecasts for all components of the project in line with project's procurement and implementation plan.

f) Fund Management: SFMC would assist the PD and the CWASA in obtaining quarterly fund release for GoB allocated fund and requisite government approval for use of IDA fund.

g) Replenishment of Fund: The SFMC will exercise due diligence to ensure the propriety and appropriateness of all financial information in the withdrawal application before preparing the consolidated replenishment request to IDA.

h) Internal Control: Ensure that all financial management activities are in compliance with funding source policies, procedure and requirements.

i) Books and records: The SFMC will ensure maintenance of adequate register, books and records in appropriate order to meet the statutory requirements.

j) Fixed Assets records: Ensure that the computerized fixed assets records are maintained in the PMU identifying location and user of each asset.

k) Preparation of Financial Statement and Reports: The SFMC will ensure that preparation of the annual financial statement and other monthly and quarterly report, as specified under the GoB Project Accounting Manual, and Financial Monitoring Report (FMR) as required by IDA.

l) Interface with External Auditor: The SFMC will prepare the Statement of Audit Needs (SAN) to be agreed with the FAPAD/C& AG.

m) The SFMC, in consultation with PMU/the Bank, will prepare the ToR for the engagement of a private Audit Firm, if needed.

n) Follow up action with Project Audit Review Committee (PARC): The SFMC will provide necessary co-operation to the Project Audit Review Committee (PARC) which will be constituted as per the agreement with the World Bank.

o) Training Accounting Staff: The SFMC will provide hands on training to the accounting staff on various aspects of financial management tasks under a structured training plan.

p) Contribute to drafting reports including monthly, quarterly and annual financial reports on project activities, memo, minutes of meetings etc.

q) Provide support regarding required fund proposed by the development partner through proper financial analysis and mechanism.

r) Ensure maintenance of a secure and reliable electronic financial management and IT system, if needed in addition to the existing CWASA system.

s) Provide advice to the Client on fund management.

t) Prepare periodic Account Reconciliation.

u) Coordinate with the auditors and prepare the Broad Sheet (B/S) audit reply (if any) for the financial related audit objections (if any) raised by the FAPAD or other institution.

v) Ensure the compliance of project implementation with GoB & the World Bank rules, regulation and policies and oversee the utilization of resources in activities.

w) Perform any other assignments as and when desired by the Authority.

3. **Duration:** The duration of the consultancy services is tentatively 60 (sixty) months.

4. **Required Skills and Experiences:**

The Consultant should have the following minimum credentials:

a) Master's degree or equivalent in Accounting/Business Administration, Management, Finance or relevant field of study. Member of a Professional Accountancy Organization (PAO) recognized by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) will be an advantage.

b) Minimum 10 years work experience of which at least 3 years in a managerial position in financial management in government, autonomous or semi-autonomous government agency.

c) Candidates with experience in donor-funded projects will be preferred.

d) Proven experience in working with program/project implementation.

e) Experience in facilitating inter-institutional organization and ability to work with teams.

5. Applicants are required to submit their Expressions of Interest (EoI), comprising of a CV (including employment history with duties and responsibilities) and a forwarding letter briefly describing the reasons that the applicant considers him/her self best suited to perform the assignment.

6. The attention of interested Applicants is drawn to paragraphs 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's Procurement Regulations, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

7. Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and other information will be available upon request from the address provided below either through email or in person. ToR is also available in Chattogram WASA's website (www.cicw-wasa.org.bd).

8. The consultant will be selected following the procedures for Selection of Individual Consultants as described in the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IFB Bidders, Fifth Edition, September, 2023.

9. Expression of Interest needs to be submitted (either through e-mail or in person or by mail) to the following address by 16:00 hours (BST) (GMT+6) on or before 30 April 2025. Please clearly mention "Expression of Interest (EoI) for Selection of Senior Financial Management Consultant, Package No: CWSIP/S15" in the subject line and on the top of the envelope.

10. EoIs received after the last date of submission will not be considered for short listing. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EoIs without assigning any reason, whatsoever.



(Md. Rezaul Ahsan Chowdhury)
Executive Engineer
Construction Division-2, Chattogram WASA
WASA Bhaban, Dampara, Chattogram, Bangladesh.
Phone: +88023338976
Email: rezaulhasan87@gmail.com

SPR-61
13/4/25

GD-872

No scope to cut corporate tax

FROM PAGE B1

"We need policies that increase domestic demand. Without increased demand, there's no point in producing more because it won't be profitable," he said.

The business leader also criticised the policy inconsistency between the government and private sector.

"To reduce inflation, we have been following a contractionary monetary policy. But this restricts private sector credit. Businesses are struggling, some entrepreneurs are even selling homes to stay afloat," he said.

"For the private sector, we've imposed tight monetary policies, but for the government, it's still an expansionary stance," he added, referring to the increasing size of the budget year after year.

"This inconsistency is problematic."

Mintoo urged the authorities to frame a revenue and monetary policy that works for both the government and private sector.

"If one side is getting benefits and the other is being squeezed, that's not a real policy," he said.

He also said reducing harassment of taxpayers would help boost the country's tax-GDP ratio, which is among the lowest in the world.

"The low rate of return filing in Bangladesh is largely due to taxpayers' fear of harassment as soon as they submit their documents. So please ease the burden on those who pay taxes and take action against those who don't. We will fully support that."

Echoing those sentiments, former FBCCI president Mir Nasir Hossain urged the government to pay more attention to reducing its expenditure.

Mahbubur Rahman, president of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC),

Bangladesh, urged the government to prepare for the country's graduation from the list of least developed countries (LDCs).

"This transition will also mean the loss of certain benefits, such as duty free and quota-free export privileges and relaxed conditions on development assistance. It may also potentially lead to a decline in exports," he said.

"In this context, failure to start preparing now could push our export sector out of global competition. To remain competitive in the post-LDC era, we must begin preparing our export-oriented industries and SMEs from now."

Former Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury urged the authorities to adopt a holistic approach to develop trade-facilitating infrastructure in an integrated way.

"We haven't been able to do that. This is a holistic matter. Development, trade facilitation, financial product innovation and taxation, everything must be integrated," he said.

"If we adopt an investment-centric model, we will return to the right path. Without investment, all this discussion about tax and GDP growth is meaningless. Our entire taxation model should revolve around how to attract investment."

Chowdhury added that the authorities should keep in mind where the country has comparative advantages, such as in manufacturing and other sectors.

Mohammad Hatem, president of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association, said there was scope to reduce the trade gap between Bangladesh and the US.

"Bangladesh can build a warehouse hub for cotton, which is likely to reduce lead time and distances," he suggested.



ওয়েস্ট জোন পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড (ওজোপাডিকেলিঃ)
West Zone Power Distribution Company Limited (WZPDCL)
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর, ভোলা বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ ওজোপাডিকেলিঃ, ভোলা

স্মারক নং-২৭.২২.০৯১৮.৬০২.৫৫.০০১.২৫.১০১৩

তারিখঃ ১৩-০৪-২০২৫ইং

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১।	মন্ত্রণালয়ের নাম	:	বিদ্যুৎ জ্বালানি ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়।
২।	সংস্থার নাম	:	ওয়েস্টজোন পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিঃ।
৩।	দপ্তরের নাম	:	ভোলা বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ ওজোপাডিকো, ভোলা।
৪।	কাজের নাম	:	ভোলা বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহের আওতাধীন মনপুরা বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্রের কামিস-২, ৫০০ কেভিএ ইঞ্জিনের ওভারহাউলিং কাজের মালামাল সরবরাহ ও স্থাপন কাজ।
৫।	দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	:	খোলা দরপত্র (OTM)
৬।	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	:	২৭/০৪/২০২৫ইং (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)।
৭।	দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৮/০৪/২০২৫ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা। খোলার সময় ঐ দিন বিকাল ৩.৩০ ঘটিকা
৮।	বিশেষ নির্দেশিকা	:	ক) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন দরপত্র অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল অথবা গ্রহণ করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। খ) অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী ওজোপাডিকোর ওয়েবসাইটে পাওয়া যাবে।

ফোনঃ ০১৭০০৭০৯৯৮৮

Web: www.wzpdcl.gov.bd

GD- 871



২০/০৪/২৫
মোঃ ইউসুফ
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
ভোলা বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ, ওজোপাডিকেলিঃ, ভোলা

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Bogura.
Phone/Fax: 051-66304
eebog@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No.35.01.1000.405.16.100.25.775

Date: 10/04/2025

e-Tender Notice

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Bogura for the procurement of:

Tender ID & Package No.	Package Description	Publishing Date, Closing Date
Tender ID No: 1095192, e-GP-85/EE/BRD/OTM/2024-2025	Pavement repair, Carpeting & Seal Coat work at ch. 1st(p), 3rd(p), 6th(p), 11th(p) to 12th(p) of Dhunot-Nanglu-Baliadighi-Poradah-Patchmle-Gabtolli-Pirgacha-Mokamtola (Chowkirghat) Road (Z-5072) under Road Division, Bogura during the FY 2024-2025.	07-Apr-2025 18:00:00, 21-Apr-2025 14:20:00
Tender ID No. 1095194, e-GP-87/EE/BRD/OTM/2024-2025	Construction of Rigid Pavement at Ch: 2+800 Km to 2+986 Km of Sultangoni (Litchutola)-Madla-Bagbari (Kadamtoli)-Gabtoli (Panchmle) Road (Z-5040) under Road Division, Bogura during the year 2024-2025	07-Apr-2025 18:00:00, 21-Apr-2025 14:25:00

e-Tender details can be downloaded are from as stated above on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for pursue.

e-Tenders will be accepted only up to as above date and time. Accepted tender will be opened online immediately after as stated above date and time.



(Abul Monsur Ahmed)
Identity No: 602288
Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD
Road Division, Bogura.

GD-870