



The government approved subsidies and electricity rebates for fisheries, extending support to fish farms, hatcheries and feed producers to cut costs and boost self-sufficiency and jobs.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

## Fisheries, livestock get Tk 100cr subsidy

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The interim government has approved a Tk 100 crore subsidy package for the fisheries and livestock sectors and decided to extend a 20 percent rebate on electricity bills to farmers and hatcheries, aiming to cut production costs and support agro-based industries.

The policy decision brings marginal fish farms, hatcheries, and cattle and poultry farms under the electricity rebate framework, according to a press release issued yesterday.

The rebate will apply to electricity consumption by eligible agricultural producers

and related processing units.

At present, a 20 percent electricity rebate is provided to 16 sectors under the government's electricity rebate policy to promote agricultural production, exports, and industrial growth, the release adds.

Of these, the finance wing of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock has earmarked Tk 100 crore as subsidy support for four priority subsectors: livestock and poultry feed manufacturing, fish feed production, the poultry industry, and the dairy processing industry.

Dairy processing activities eligible for

support include milk pasteurisation, powdered milk, ice cream, condensed milk, desserts, cheese, ghee, butter, chocolate, and yoghurt, among others, it mentioned.

The government anticipates that the initiative will lead to reduced input costs, encourage new investment, and improve competitiveness across the value chain.

As per the press release, the measures are also expected to contribute to greater self-sufficiency in the production of safe and quality animal protein, while supporting employment and export potential in agro-processing industries.

## Telenor shrinks Asian footprint Five organisations

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present themselves,"  
Revhaug told The Daily Star.

This marks the first time senior Telenor officials have publicly floated the possibility, however cautiously, that Grameenphone could be part of a future deal if circumstances align.

As recently as a year and a half ago, Telenor took a much firmer stance. In an interview with The Daily Star on April 3, 2024, Sigve Brekke, former president and CEO of Telenor Group, stressed the company's long term commitment to Bangladesh.

"...we're very committed (towards Bangladesh),"

involved several exits. Nearly eight years after entering India, it withdrew in 2017. In Myanmar, it entered in 2014 but left in 2022 following the military coup and new junta-imposed regulations.

After these departures, Telenor now remains in only two Asian markets: Bangladesh and Malaysia, where its role differs sharply. In Malaysia, Telenor holds a 33.1 percent stake in CelcomDigi Berhad, the country's largest mobile operator, after a merger completed in late 2022. It is a minority shareholder with limited operational control.

In Bangladesh, Telenor has a much regulatory environment, as Telenor refocused on the Nordic region following its exits from Pakistan and Thailand, Revhaug said the country must prioritise a sustainable investment climate. "Investors need long term predictability and forward-looking regulations to boost market growth and confidence," he added.

Revhaug further said, "This depends on a strong, objective regulatory framework with fair dispute resolution mechanisms based on international best practices, and streamlined consultations that rely on evidence-based input from industry stakeholders. Such rigour builds trust, ensures technical

Brekke said at the time.

His statement came as Telenor was restructuring its Asian operations in Thailand and Malaysia through local mergers, after which it emerged as a minority shareholder. At the time, the strategy appeared to be to remain in Asia while reducing direct operational exposure.

TELENOR'S JOURNEY IN ASIA

Telenor's expansion in Asia began with the launch of Grameenphone in 1997. Its success in Bangladesh became the foundation of the company's regional growth, paving the way for entries into Thailand, Malaysia, Pakistan, Myanmar, and India.

However, Telenor's journey in Asia has also

### BANGLADESH OPERATIONS

Telenor holds a 55.8% stake in Grameenphone

GP accounts for more than 45% of local mobile subscribers

Telenor says Bangladesh business could also be a future deal

stronger presence. Through Grameenphone, the telecom market leader, it owns a 55.8 percent majority stake. Grameenphone serves 45.46 percent of the country's total subscribers, generates nearly half of industry revenue, and accounts for 88 percent of sector profits. It is also the most valuable company on the country's stock market.

"Telenor has been a growth partner in Bangladesh for 28 years. We remain committed to bringing global expertise to support the country's connectivity and digital development goals," said Revhaug.

When asked about Bangladesh's long-term growth potential and

feasibility, and produces balanced outcomes that reward competition and innovation rather than narrow interests."

The Daily Star spoke with half a dozen senior executives from various telecom companies to understand industry sentiment, which was divided.

Several executives said Bangladesh remains Telenor's "golden goose"

in Asia, consistently generating strong returns over the years.

Grameenphone is not only profitable, Telenor also holds a majority stake, giving it control and strategic comfort. That makes Bangladesh fundamentally different from its other Asian markets," said one senior executive.

durability and chloride resistance and aligns with Bangladesh's climate action roadmap, Nationally Determined Contribution 3.0 and the Paris Agreement, while promoting circular economy practices in construction.

Cassetex Ltd received the energy efficiency award for establishing Bangladesh's first distributed lithium-ion battery swapping network, aimed at replacing hazardous lead-acid batteries.

The start-up's traceable, solar-powered, pay-as-you-go model addresses widespread lead pollution risks and aligns with the Renewable Energy Policy 2025.

The initiative is projected to reduce carbon emissions by 1.35 million tonnes annually. Users have reported lower energy costs and higher income levels.

Youth Action for Sustainable Future (YASF)

was recognised in the climate-smart agriculture category for introducing a climate-resilient agroecology model in Mehendiganj of Barishal. Using bamboo and plastic drum-based floating structures, the system secures fish nets during floods

and enables vegetable cultivation.

Piloted in three community ponds, the model increased fish survival rates to 78 percent and reduced losses by up to 22 percent, offering a low-cost alternative to conventional embankments.

Somoy Nature won the climate education and policy advocacy award for transforming abandoned

land into a biodiverse forest ecosystem through regenerative agriculture.

By integrating fruit trees, medicinal plants and timber with organic fertilisers and multi-layered planting, the initiative has improved soil health and achieved a high plant survival rate, positioning it as a scalable model for climate resilience and food security.

Green Delta Insurance PLC was honoured in the climate adaptation and resilience category for protecting more than 1.6 million vulnerable households through parametric insurance solutions.

Since launching the country's first weather-index crop insurance in 2015, the insurer has expanded coverage to floods, cyclones and heatwaves across 50 districts, disbursing over Tk 232 million through automated mobile payouts.

The awardees were selected through a two-stage process, with the Center for Participatory Research and Development shortlisting nominations and an independent jury assessing impact, scalability, innovation and long-term sustainability.

EBL Managing Director Ali Reza Iftekhar said the initiatives demonstrated the strength of locally driven solutions in addressing climate risks through cross-sector collaboration.

The ceremony was also addressed by EBL Chairman Md Showkat Ali Chowdhury and ambassadors from Germany, Denmark, France, Sweden and the European Union.



ARMY HEADQUARTERS  
E IN C'S BRANCH  
WORKS DIRECTORATE  
DHAKA CANTONMENT

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT FOR PREPARATION OF DETAIL ARCHITECTURAL, STRUCTURAL AND MEP DRAWING, DESIGN ETC FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR ARMY INSTITUTE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY & REHABILITATION AT SAVAR

EOI Ref. 600/15/37/2025-2026/E-6

Dated: 21 January 2026

#### MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES

1. Ministry/Division:	Ministry of Defence							
2. Agency:	Military Engineer Services							
3. Procuring Entity Name:	E in C							
4. Procuring Entity Code:	-							
5. Procuring Entity District:	Dhaka							
6. Expression of Interest for Selection of:	Consulting Firm							
7. EOI Ref No	600/15/37/2025-2026/E-6							
8. Date	21 January 2026							
9. Procurement Method:	Selection of Consultant under Quality Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method.							
10. Budget and Source of Funds:	GOB and Development Budget.							
11. Development Partners:	None							
12. Project/Programme Code	-							
13. Project/Programme Name	Infrastructure Development for Army Institute of Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation at Savar							
14. EOI Closing Date and Time:	Date	Time						
	11 February 2026	12:00 Hours						
Brief Description of Assignment:								
Appointment of Consultant for Preparation of detail Architectural, Structural and MEP drawing/design for Infrastructure Development for army Institute of Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation at Savar for following services								
a. Preparation of Architectural, Structural and MEP Drawing/Design including HVAC systems and external services etc.								
b. Preparation of detail 3D View/Animation, Master plan of the area including Digital Survey, Site layout plan, working drawing, Design Modeling, Priced Bill of quantities detail specification against the items of work including all other related services etc of following works:								
i. Construction of Dormitory (7 Storey with 11 storied foundation) Ground floor car parking), Land Development/Land Scarping, Construction of Sub Station Building (3 Storey with 3 storied foundation), Construction of Cook House building (Single storied foundation), Construction of Hospital Complex building (6 Storey with 11 storied foundation), Construction of ADL Flat (Activities of Daily Living) Building (Single storied foundation), Construction of Boundary wall with 1 x Gate, Surface Drain, RCC Road, Water Reservoir, Lines and Wires : HT line/HT Cable, LT Cable etc, Electrical Equipment : Diesel Generator, Transformer, PFI, VCB, LT Panel, BBT, Lightning Conductor, Lift, AC, CCTV, Internet, PA Equipment etc, Solar System, Firefighting System, Tele Communication, Sanitation and Water supply, Gas Line, Motor Vehicle, Medical Machinery, Computer and accessories, Furniture Lay out plan								
ii. Any Structure not listed above but required to Complete the Project.								
iii. As built drawing of all Projects as per DPP/RDPP.								
iv. Other related and services if required by the Client.								
v. Top supervision will be required as per mentioned in the TOR.								
16. Experience, Resources and Delivery Capacity Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Brochures.</li> <li>b. Background of the consulting firm.</li> <li>c. Experience of performing similar type of job.</li> <li>d. Financial capability of the consulting firm.</li> <li>e. Bio data of skilled professionals who will perform the job.</li> <li>f. General and relevant experience of the consulting firm.</li> <li>g. Experience in similar operating condition.</li> </ul>							
17. Other Details:	Consultant should fulfill the following criteria :							
a. Consultant shall have completed Architectural, Structural and MEP design/drawing, 3-D view/perspective view (Max, Sketch up, Revit etc) and other services mentioned in serial or in similar nature.								
b. Consultant shall have completed MEP design/drawing using modern design Technology etc mentioned in serial 15 (i-xii) or in similar nature.								
c. Consultant shall have at least 01 x Team leader/Medical Equipment Consultant with 05 Yrs experience, 02 x Bio Medical Engineer with 05 Yrs experience, 01 x Environment Engineer with 05 Yrs experience, 01 x B Sc. Sr Arch with 05 Yrs experience, 01 x B Sc Junior Arch with 04 Yrs experience, 01 x B Sc Civil Engineer (Foundation) with 04 Yrs experience, 01 x B Sc Engineer (Structural) with 03 Yrs experience, 01 x B Sc Engineer (Urban Planner) with 04 Yrs experience, 01 x B Sc Engineer (Plumbing & Sanitation) with 04 Yrs experience, 01 x B Sc Engineer (Electrical) with 03 Yrs experience, 01 x Mechanical Engineer/AC Mechanic/Fire Engineer B Sc Engineer/Diploma with 03-05 Yrs experience, 03 x Surveyor (Diploma) with 05 Yrs experience, 01 x Site Engineer with 05 Yrs experience, 02 x CAD (Diploma) Operator (Diploma) (Architecture) with 05 Yrs experience, 02 x CAD Operator (Electrical) with 05 Yrs experience and 02 x CAD Operator/Drafts (Diploma) (Civil) with 05 Yrs experience in Surveying when required in their related works/field and full time employee for services serial 15 (i-v).								
d. Additional experiences and qualification other than mentioned in Para 15 (i-xii) will get preference for the short listing of consultant.								
e. Consultant without having eligible criteria should not apply for EOI.								
18. Association with foreign firms is	Not Applicable							
Ref No.	Phasing of Services	Location	Indicative Start Date	Indicative Completion Date				
EOI No. 600/15/37/2025-2026/E-6 dated 21 January 2026	No Phase	Dhaka Cantonment	02 April 2026	a) 01 June 2026 (All Drawing & Documents) b) June 2026 or Completion whole of the project including Top supervision.				
19. Name of Official Inviting Expressions of Interest	Director of Works							
20. Designation of Official Inviting Expressions of Interest	Director of Works							
21. Address of Official Inviting Expressions of Interest	Army Headquarters, E in C's Branch, Works Directorate, Dhaka Cantonment Web address : <a href="http://www.army.mil.bd">www.army.mil.bd</a>							
22. Contact details of Official Inviting Expressions of Interest	Army Headquarters, E in C's Branch, Works Directorate, Dhaka Cantonment Tel No. : 9832870 Fax No : 9832906							
23. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Expressions of Interest (EOI).								

XEN B/R  
For Director of Works  
Army Headquarters  
Engineer in Chief's Branch  
Works Directorate  
Dhaka Cantonment  
Tele : 8711111 Ext 2880  
Civil: 9832880