Confidence Power to raise Tk 400cr

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Confidence Power and Energy PLC, a concern of Confidence Group, plans to raise Tk 400 crore through a public offering to fund two major grid-tied solar power projects and partially settle existing debts.

It has already held its IPO (initial public offering) roadshow at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka on October 18, which brought together institutional investors, capital market stakeholders and industry representatives to discuss the company's financial performance, operational footprint and future growth strategy.

For both proposed 100-megawatt (AC) solar projects, the company has already secured 20-year power supply agreements with the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), starting from their respective commercial operation dates.

Currently, it operates four conventional power plants – three located in Bogura and Rangpur in northern Bangladesh, and one in Chattogram.

The pivot towards renewable energy is part of the company's broader strategy to diversify its energy generation mix, promote cleaner power production and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

With the IPO proceeds, it will utilise Tk 230 crore for its Cox's Bazar (North) Solar Project and Tk 102 crore for the Mongla Solar Project in Bagerhat.

It will also repay loans of Tk 60 crore using the IPO proceeds, while the rest will be used for IPO expenses.

Confidence Power Chairman Imran Karim, Director Rezaul Karim and Managing Director Khalid Islam outlined the company's future prospects at the IPO roadshow.

China pulls out of Sri Lanka port logistics venture

AFP, *Colombo*

A Chinese state-owned firm has withdrawn from a $392 million joint venture to develop a major logistics hub at Sri Lanka's main seaport, the key local partner said Monday.

The Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) said China Merchants Port Holdings had decided not to proceed with the collaboration announced in 2023, but the project would continue.

"Following an assessment of the prevailing external circumstances, commercial considerations and the interests of the respective shareholders, a decision was reached not to proceed with the proposed joint venture," the SLPA said in a statement.

China Merchants was to hold 70 per cent of the proposed joint venture, while the SLPA and a Sri Lankan private construction company were each to hold 15 per cent. The SLPA said it was now seeking a new investor for the 150,000-square-metre logistics hub at Colombo Port, where China already has other investments.

LC openings

FROM PAGE B1

By the end of last month, QatarEnergy had extended force majeure notices to Bangladesh until November, according to media reports.

The country has since turned to the spot market to buy LNG at $30 per MMBtu, almost three times the price it typically paid before the war in the Middle East. The government is scrambling to secure supplies amid a prolonged gas crisis.

Energy analyst Shafiqul said the higher cost of imported LNG would also increase government subsidies.

"Subsidies for LNG will rise significantly because, if we import the same quantity of LNG this year as we did in 2025, our expenditure on LNG alone will be more than double that of the previous year," he said.

Amid rising oil import costs, the government raised prices of all four major petroleum products by Tk 20 a litre last month, passing on a large share of the higher costs to consumers.

It was the biggest increase since the record adjustment in August 2022, triggered by an energy crisis following the Russia-Ukraine war.

According to Shafiqul, persistently high prices could make it harder for the government to maintain adequate fuel supplies.

"If prices remain elevated or continue at these levels, it will be difficult for the government to ensure an adequate supply of fuel."

He added that fiscal pressure could limit the amount of fuel available to industries. "If the government cannot supply sufficient fuel to industries, it will affect GDP growth and employment."

He also noted that higher fuel import bills would put pressure on external payments and foreign currency reserves.

"The reason is that our sources of foreign currency are very limited. We have garment exports and remittances. Beyond these, there aren't many other sources," he said.

"So, if our expenditure on fuel imports increases, if it doubles or rises by 70-80 percent, that will obviously have an impact on our foreign currency position. The government may also have to take on additional debt," he said.

Meanwhile, the BPC official said petroleum supplies remain adequate, and there was no risk of a shortage.

"We have ensured the supply of oil until December," he added.

Similar to Shafiqul, Selim Raihan, executive director of the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), said higher import costs may increase fuel subsidies, strain foreign exchange reserves and weaken the taka, while pushing up inflation through higher transport, power and production costs.

"This could force the government to divert funds from development and social spending," said the economist.

He called for accelerating investment in renewable energy to reduce dependence on imported fuels, ease pressure on foreign exchange reserves and strengthen long-term energy security.

BTRC proposes

FROM PAGE B1

At Tk 170 crore per MHz, assuming operators pass on 75 percent of the cost, the annual net economic gain would be Tk 1,674 crore. After accounting for corporate tax and revenue from increased economic activity, the government's net loss would be around Tk 25 crore.

The proposal was endorsed at the Spectrum Management Committee's 110th meeting and the commission's 312th meeting.

The renewal is part of the BTRC's spectrum roadmap through 2035, which includes allocating more frequencies for 5G and renewing other bands. The regulator says efficient spectrum management is essential to meeting rising data demand, improving service quality and encouraging network investment. The proposal is awaiting final government approval.

WHAT OPERATORS AND BTRC SAY

Mobile operators have questioned the proposed renewal prices, warning that arbitrary pricing and high costs could weaken competition and discourage investment.

Shahed Alam, chief corporate and regulatory affairs officer at Robi Axiata, said the company had not received official information about the proposed rates but was concerned by media reports.

"What we have learned from media reports raises serious concerns that the pricing basis is arbitrary and discriminatory, undermining transparency and equal treatment," he said.

Shahed said the decision would determine whether the market remained competitive or moved towards a single-player market.

"We urge the government and regulator to adopt a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory pricing framework that ensures a level playing field, protects consumer choice, sustains competition and encourages long-term investment," he said.

Tanveer Mohammad, chief corporate affairs officer at Grameenphone, also said the company had received no official information from the BTRC. He added that spectrum prices in Bangladesh were much higher than in other countries.

He said the regulator had held several constructive discussions with Grameenphone and other operators on the issue.

"We believe the prices and terms set by the BTRC will be customer-friendly and supportive of the country's digital progress," he said.

BTRC Chairman Md Emdad Ul Bari said the proposed renewal prices were the first to be based on a study using specific methods.

"We have set the price suggested by a study that used certain methods," he said.

Addressing concerns that lower prices would reduce government revenue, he said the regulator aimed to sell at least 80 percent of the spectrum available for renewal. If prices were too high, some spectrum could remain unsold, further reducing revenue.

Responding to operators' criticism that the proposed rates were high and arbitrary, he said, "If you reduce the fee, they will not be satisfied either."

Asked why 900MHz spectrum was priced at Tk 237 crore per MHz, matching the price of 700MHz spectrum, Bari said lower-band frequencies such as 900MHz were highly valuable and had been priced accordingly.

Janata Bank PLC.
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Invitation for e-Tender (OTM-NCT)

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the Procurement of the following item:

Serial No.	Tender ID	Tender Reference Number	Description of Goods	Tender Publication date & Time	Tender Closing and Opening date & time
1.	1357746	PD/DGM/EM/Wall Calendar-2027/OTM	Procurement of printing and supplying 500000 (five lakh) wall calendars and 5000 (five thousand) calendar envelopes for Janata Bank PLC. for the year 2027.	19.10.2026 01:05 PM	05.11.2026 02:00 PM

This is an Online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in national e-GP portal and as per specification 03 copy paper samples of calendar page, cover page, supporting art card, calendar envelope and 03 copy of wire-o with hanger sample should be submitted in the tender box at this office within the last date of tender submission.

To submit e-tender, Registration in the national e-GP system Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

Sd/-
(Md. Ali Ashraf Siddique)
Deputy General Manager

GD-2559

Energy crisis

FROM PAGE B1

Khosru said the government has managed the global energy crisis reasonably well, although there is room for improvement. The country has incurred $7 billion in out-of-pocket expenditure because of global pressures, he said.

He added that the government is addressing the challenges, although future pressures remain uncertain.

Logistics are also improving as the government opens ports to private-sector participation, which Khosru said will reduce costs and make doing business easier.

The government is also receiving a positive response to discussions on establishing an equity fund in Hong Kong specifically for Bangladesh, he said. The capital will go towards the energy sector, bank recapitalisation and state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

FICCI President Rupali Haque Chowdhury said disruptions in global energy markets have exposed Bangladesh's vulnerability to imported fuels, raising industrial costs and disrupting production.

She stressed that energy security must go beyond managing supply to ensure reliability and affordability. She called for more domestic gas exploration, diversified liquefied natural gas (LNG) sourcing, modernised grid infrastructure, greater energy efficiency and faster investment in renewables.

She also stressed the need for regional energy cooperation and greater private-sector participation to build a resilient energy system, support export diversification and create jobs.

In the keynote address, Shafiqul Alam, lead analyst for Bangladesh Energy (South Asia) at the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), said that domestic gas reserves could be depleted by 2036 without major new discoveries.

He said declining reserves and volatile global fuel prices are putting increasing pressure on power generation costs and industrial competitiveness.

Shafiqul proposed expanding rooftop solar, promoting solar-powered irrigation, improving industrial energy efficiency and pursuing regional hydropower cooperation to reduce dependence on imports. He also called for stable policies, green financing and public-private partnerships to attract sustained investment.

Bangladesh

FROM PAGE B1

the country's scheduled graduation in 2029. Both sides have already appointed chief technical officers for the negotiations, he said.

Bangladesh has also shared a time-bound action plan with the EU outlining its preparations for a smooth transition, as the country expects to secure a three-year extension, he added.

The country is also working to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a major regional trade agreement. The RCEP has established a working group to assess Bangladesh's application to join the trade bloc.

BFTI Chief Executive Officer Mostafa Abid Khan said more than 93 percent of Bangladesh's exports would not be affected during the first two years after graduation.

Major trading partners and blocs, including Canada, Japan, the UK and the EU, which together account for more than 86 percent of Bangladesh's exports, have agreed to continue duty-free market access for three years after graduation, he said.

Abid Khan urged Bangladesh to sign trade agreements with major trading partners to preserve duty-free market access after graduation and avert a potential 26 percent fall in exports.

Bangladesh, Nepal and Lao PDR are scheduled to graduate from the LDC category on November 24 unless the UNGA grants an extension.

Bangladesh and Nepal have sought an extension of the preparatory period before graduation. Such an extension would give them more time to prepare for the loss of LDC-specific trade preferences and other support measures.

After coming to power in February this year, the BNP government sent a letter to the chair of the CDP requesting that Bangladesh's preparatory period be extended until November 24, 2029. The letter said the country needed more time to prepare for competition in international markets after graduation.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Moulvibazar
www.rhd.portal.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.01.5800.446.07.002.26-2026 Date: 19/10/2026

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

This is to notify all concern that the following tender have been published through e-GP portal.

Tender ID, Package No. & Date of Publishing	Name of Work	Procurement Method	Last selling date	Closing and Opening date & time
1355940 PMP-Minor-Goods-03/EE/MRD/OTM/2026-2027 19-10-2026	Supply of 20 mm downgraded Stone Chips, 6mm Down Graded Stone Chips, Sand FM-0.80, 1st Class Brick, Fire-Wood, geo-textile bag & Synthetic Bag for maintenance of different roads of Road Sub-Division, Kulaura under Road Division, Moulvibazar during the year 2026-2027.	OTM	03-11-2026, Up to 17:00	04-11-2026, At 13:30

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 by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Moulvibazar.
Further informations and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk: www.eprocure.gov.bd)

19.10.2026
(Jahangir Alam)
ID No.602350,
Executive Engineer (C.C.), RHD,
Road Division, Moulvibazar
☎ 02-41110075, E-mail: eemou@rhd.gov.bd

GD-2548

Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development in Bangladesh Project (LCUD)
Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA)
Level 9 & 10, Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB), Ramna, Dhaka

Expressions of Interest (EoI) for Services

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1.	Ministry/Division	Power Division	
2.	Agency	International Organization	
3.	Name of Procuring Entity	Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development (LCUD) Bangladesh	
4.	Title of Service	Individual Consultant- National Consultant - (PV and RE in Building Expert) Time Based	
5.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka	
6.	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Individual Consultant	Time - Based
7.	EoI Ref. No.	27.02.0000.000.023.14.0015.26.146	
8.	Date	15 October 2026	
	KEY INFORMATION		
9.	Procurement Sub-Method	Selection of Individual Consultants (SIC)	
	FUNDING INFORMATION		
10.	Budget and Source of funds	Development Budget	
11.	Development Partner	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), GEF	
	PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12.	Project/Programme Code	224417700	
13.	Project/Programme Name	Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development (LCUD) Bangladesh	
14.	EoI Closing Date and time	10 November 2026, Time: 12:00 (BST)	
	INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
16.	Brief Description of the Assignment	Overall management and coordination of all activities for Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development (LCUD) Bangladesh	
17.	Qualification and Experienced Required	Details is in the ToR, which is in SREDA website, (Notice Section & Project Box). SREDA website: www.sreda.gov.bd	
18.	Other Details	Details is in the SREDA website, (Notice Section & respective Project Box). SREDA website: www.sreda.gov.bd	
19.	Association with foreign firms is	Not Applicable	
	PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
20.	Name of the Official Inviting EoI	Engr. Md. Muzibur Rahman	
21.	Designation of the Official Inviting EoI	Project Director, LCUD Bangladesh	
22.	Address of the Official Inviting EoI	Level 9 & 10, IEB, Ramna, Dhaka	
23.	Contact Details of the Official Inviting EoI	02-55110343, lcud2024@gmail.com	
24.	Submission Procedure	Interested parties are requested to submit the EoI in person in the EoI Box at the SREDA office or Via email, if the EoI is submitted by email, the subject line must be clearly specified.	
	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any all EoI(s).		

Sd/-
Engr. Md. Muzibur Rahman
Project Director, LCUD

GD-2557

Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development in Bangladesh Project (LCUD)
Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA)
Level 9 & 10, Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB), Ramna, Dhaka

Expressions of Interest (EoI) for Services

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1.	Ministry/Division	Power Division	
2.	Agency	International Organization	
3.	Name of Procuring Entity	Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development (LCUD) Bangladesh	
4.	Title of Service	Individual Consultant- National Consultant, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Time Based	
5.	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka	
6.	Expression of Interest for Selection of	Individual Consultant	Time - Based
7.	EoI Ref. No.	27.02.0000.000.023.14.0018.26.143	
8.	Date	15 October 2026	
	KEY INFORMATION		
9.	Procurement Sub-Method	Selection of Individual Consultants (SIC)	
	FUNDING INFORMATION		
10.	Budget and Source of funds	Development Budget	
11.	Development Partner	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), GEF	
	PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12.	Project/Programme Code	224417700	
13.	Project/Programme Name	Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development (LCUD) Bangladesh	
14.	EoI Closing Date and time	10 November 2026, Time: 12:00 (BST)	
	INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
16.	Brief Description of the Assignment	Overall management and coordination of all activities for Promoting Energy-Related Low Carbon Urban Development (LCUD) Bangladesh	
17.	Qualification and Experienced Required	Details is in the ToR, which is in SREDA website, (Notice Section & Project Box). SREDA website: www.sreda.gov.bd	
18.	Other Details	Details is in the SREDA website, (Notice Section & respective Project Box). SREDA website: www.sreda.gov.bd	
19.	Association with foreign firms is	Not Applicable	
	PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
20.	Name of the Official Inviting EoI	Engr. Md. Muzibur Rahman	
21.	Designation of the Official Inviting EoI	Project Director, LCUD Bangladesh	
22.	Address of the Official Inviting EoI	Level 9 & 10, IEB, Ramna, Dhaka	
23.	Contact Details of the Official Inviting EoI	02-55110343, lcud2024@gmail.com	
24.	Submission Procedure	Interested parties are requested to submit the EoI in person in the EoI Box at the SREDA office or Via email, if the EoI is submitted by email, the subject line must be clearly specified.	
	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any all EoI(s).		

Sd/-
Engr. Md. Muzibur Rahman
Project Director, LCUD

GD-2556