



Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) Secretary Mina Masud Uzzaman and J Sinha Mahapatra Director Shapoorji Pallangi are seen signing a power purchase agreement at Biddut Bhaban in the capital on Monday.

Govt signs deals with Indian Shapoorji Pallonji to purchase costly power

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government on Monday signed a costly power purchase agreement (PPA) with Indian company Shapoorji Pallonji to meet the growing power demand. The BPDB will purchase per unit of electricity at Tk 3.19 (3.98 cent) from the 220 MW dual fuel power plant under unsolicited deal.

Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) secretary Mina Masud Uzzaman and Shapoorji Pallonji director J Sinha Mahapatra signed the deal on behalf of their respective organizations.

As per the deal, the BPDB will pay Tk 3.19 for each unit of power from the gas-fired 220MW power plant while it will pay Tk 13.57 (16.96 cent) for a unit for electricity from diesel-fired plant for a 15-year period.

The BPDB is now spending less than Tk 2.0 for per unit of electricity from gas-fired power plants, concerned sources said. Citing examples of the Shapoorji Pallonji plant, the private power plants are now claiming a similar tariff for establishing power plants under unsolicited deals, they also said.

BPDB is expected to get the Shapoorji Pallonji sponsored electricity by December 2019.

BPDB chairman Khaled Mahmood chaired the function while State minister for power and energy Nasrul Hamid, Power Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus, Petrobangla chairman Abul Mansur M Faizullah and Shapoorji Pallonji Managing Director Mukundan Srinivasan and senior official concerned attended the signing function.

State minister for power and energy Nasrul Hamid, who attended the programme as the chief guest, said that many of the giant companies across the globe have shown interest to invest in the country's power sector as the government created favourable environment for both local and foreign investors.

He said the Shapoorji Pallonji will invest 100 percent equity for implementing the combined cycle power plant at. According to the state minister, the country's electricity demand is being increased by around 2000MW every year.