

Concerns Raised Over Tender Process for Matarbari Thermal Power Plant Coal Supply



Dhubri, Assam Oct 3, 2024 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - The Coal [Power](#) Generation Company Bangladesh Limited (CPGCBL) is currently facing scrutiny regarding its decision-making process for awarding a contract to supply coal to the Matarbari Thermal Power Plant. Allegations suggest that the company may be bypassing established tender procedures, citing a 'fuel shortage' as justification for prioritizing a particular international consortium over others.

Questions arise about the implications of this approach, especially in light of a pending High Court verdict concerning the tender. It appears that some officials within CPGCBL are advocating for a three-year work order to the Aditya Birla Consortium, despite their proposal reportedly being more expensive than those submitted by competitors. This raises important questions about the criteria being used for decision-making and the impact on public funds.

Concerns have been voiced regarding the potential for conflicts of interest, especially as it seems a group of influential figures is backing this move without a competitive bidding process. How will this affect trust in the procurement process, and what measures can be implemented to ensure fairness and transparency?

Furthermore, a local consortium has called for a review by the Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority (BPPA), urging adherence to established rules. What steps can be taken to reinforce accountability in such situations, and how can stakeholders ensure that the procurement process is free from allegations of favoritism?

Energy expert Prof. M Shamsul Alam has highlighted the need for accountability within CPGCBL to prevent further issues in the energy sector. What strategies could be employed to address past irregularities, and how can public trust be restored in the management of energy resources?

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) has emphasized the importance of following legal procedures, especially in cases that are still under judicial consideration. How can public offices improve their transparency and communication to avoid potential missteps that could lead to public distrust?

The ongoing legal proceedings and the potential financial implications for the state underscore the need for a thorough examination of the procurement process. What safeguards can be established to prevent losses and ensure that public interests are upheld in future energy projects?

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Source : Aditya Birla Consortium

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