



## Helal Ahmed Chowdhury joins Bank Asia as independent director

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Helal Ahmed Chowdhury has recently joined Bank Asia as an independent director, the bank said in a statement yesterday.

A seasoned banker with around four and a half decades of banking experience, Chowdhury started his career with Pubali Bank in 1977 as an officer.

He later took helm of the bank as managing director and CEO in 2006 and retired from the post in 2014, according to the statement.

Under his leadership, Pubali won the "Best Financial Institution" award given by DHL and The Daily Star in 2009.

Chowdhury is an MA and a Diplomaed Associate of IBB. He was an independent director of Islami Bank Bangladesh and also the chairman of audit and risk management committees of the bank.

He was a supernumerary professor of Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management, a board member and vice chairman of Association of Bankers, Bangladesh and a board member of BIBM.

## Two new realme smartphones and a watch hit market

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Chinese technology brand realme has recently launched two new smartphones and a watch for the Bangladesh market.

The first set Realme C11—the company's latest addition to the C series—comes with nightscape mode dual artificial intelligence run camera. The device equipped with a 5,000 mAh battery and a 6.5-inch display bears a price tag of Tk 8,990.

Equipped with MediaTek's 12nm Helio G35 SoC, the set has a 2gb RAM and 32gb of internal storage. It is made available in mint green and pepper grey on e-commerce platform Daraz from July 23 with a special offer price of Tk 8,490.

The second one, realme 6, will have a 64MP AI quad camera along with 8gb RAM and 128gb ROM. The set has the capacity for 30W VOOC flash charge and it has Helio G90T processor and 90 Hz ultra-smooth display.

Realme 6 that will be made available

in two vibrant colours—comet white and comet blue—is priced at Tk 22,990. The smartphone is found in Daraz since July 25 with a special price of Tk 21,990.

And the last one, realme Watch, will be available in the market very soon with a large 1.4-inch 320x320 pixel TFT-LCD, blood oxygen monitor, real-time heart monitor and 14 sports mode.

The products were launched online and the event was broadcasted live through realme's Facebook page on July 22, hosted by model Peiya Jannatul.

"Trendsetting design is one of realme's main strength in the contemporary smartphone market and both realme C11 and realme 6 has unique design along with stunning features, which will enrich the user experience of the tech-trendy youth," said Neon Xie, branding director of realme Bangladesh.

Realme C11 is found at smartphone stores nationwide from July 24 and the realme 6 from July 26.



## Facebook ad boycott organizers ask European firms to join campaign

REUTERS

Organizers of a Facebook Inc advertising boycott said on Thursday the campaign would "not go away" until their concerns were addressed and they would ask advertisers in Europe to join their cause.

The campaign, set up in June by U.S. civil rights groups, aims to pressure the world's largest social media company to take concrete steps to block hate speech and misinformation from its platform in the wake of George Floyd's death in May.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has not

yet taken the "type of meaningful action that we want to see", the "Stop Hate for Profit" campaign said in a press release, adding that many companies were not ready to return to the platform. "The global campaign, which includes paid media, will be asking advertisers in Europe to stand with the 1,100 advertisers in the U.S. in the fight against hate and disinformation on Facebook," a campaign spokesperson said.

It comes as Facebook, and other big tech giants, came under fire on Wednesday at a U.S. congressional hearing for the alleged abuse of market power.



Standard Bank Chairman Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed presides over the 21st annual general meeting of the bank organised through a digital platform yesterday. The company approved 5 per cent stock and 5 per cent cash dividends for the year 2019. Managing Director and CEO Khondoker Rashed Maqsood also took part in the event.

## MetLife Foundation, Spreeha Bangladesh to provide protective equipment for Covid-19

STAR BUSINESS DESK

MetLife Foundation has recently teamed up with Spreeha Bangladesh, a non-profit organisation, to help healthcare workers tackle Covid-19.

The collaboration will ensure that the frontline healthcare professionals and hospitals are equipped with the appropriate protective equipment, as well as lifesaving ventilators to help treat critically ill patients.

Through a donation of \$90,000 from MetLife Foundation, approximately 1,500 frontline healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses and support staff, will be benefited from the protective equipment, and around 5,000 patients will receive ventilation support for critical situation from 30 portable ventilators provided at selected hospitals.

Spreeha Bangladesh Foundation will select the Covid-19 treating hospitals based on a comprehensive need analysis by taking into consideration a number of important factors, including the number

of healthcare service providers, current status of personal protective equipment and other equipment, existing number of ventilators and capacity of treating critical patients.

"We want to stand beside medical professionals who are helping patients return to health," said Syed Hammadul Karim, general manager of MetLife Bangladesh.

"Through the partnership, we will also strengthen the capabilities of select hospitals to treat critically ill patients with ventilator machines which will increase the chance of patient survival."

As more people return to health, they can resume their daily working life and contribute to the overall economic recovery, he said.

"We thank MetLife Foundation for their generous support towards Spreeha's efforts to ensure access to healthcare for all and safety of the frontline health workers during the Covid-19 pandemic," said Tazin Shadid, founder and CEO of Spreeha Bangladesh Foundation.

## Renault hit by historic loss

AFP, Paris

French automaker Renault reported its biggest half-year loss ever on Thursday, with revenue slashed by a third as dealerships worldwide were emptied by the coronavirus crisis.

The dire results underscored the challenges facing CEO Luca de Meo, who was brought in this month to revamp a company reeling from strategic missteps and the ousting of former boss Carlos Ghosn last year on financial misconduct charges. Net losses reached 7.3 billion euros (\$8.6 billion), compared with a profit of 970 million euros in the same period last year.



## Monzurur Rahman, new chairman of Pubali Bank

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Monzurur Rahman has been elected as the chairman of Pubali Bank.

He has been unanimously elected in the bank's 1,247th board meeting, the bank said in a statement yesterday.

Earlier, he was a member of the board of directors and chairman of executive committee of the bank, according to the statement.

Rahman is also the chairman of Rema Tea Company Ltd and an independent director of LafargeHolcim Bangladesh Ltd. He was an elected member of the executive committee of Bangladesh Association of Publicly Listed Companies. He has 53 years of experience in banking, insurance and tea business.



ABM Mokammel Hoque Chowdhury, managing director of Union Bank, opens the bank's Borodighir Par branch in Chattogram through a video conference from the head office in Dhaka on July 29.



Zaman Ara Begum, director of Padma Islami Life Insurance Ltd, opens the Wireless Mor sub-branch of Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd (IBBL) under the Mouchak branch in Dhaka on July 27. Md Altaf Hossain, senior executive vice president and head of Dhaka central zone of IBBL, was also present.

## Uber keeps Asia HQ in Singapore, ditching Hong Kong move

AFP, Singapore

Uber will keep its Asian headquarters in Singapore for now, the ride-hailing giant said Thursday, blaming regulatory uncertainty for thwarting a mooted shift to Hong Kong.

The decision came weeks after China imposed a controversial national security law on Hong Kong -- although Uber did not mention the legislation in its announcement.

The company announced massive layoffs in May due to the coronavirus, and said it was ready to move its regional base to the semi-autonomous Chinese city if there was progress on regulation there. Uber has been operating in Hong Kong for several years despite not being

legal there and facing strong resistance from the local taxi industry.

Announcing its decision, Uber said in a statement it had "seen strong public support for reform (in Hong Kong), but not the level of certainty from the government that we need". "We have decided to keep Singapore as a regional hub for the medium term," the statement added.

Its Asian headquarters will remain in Singapore until the end of 2022, at the earliest. Its office in the city-state has about 90 employees.

The San Francisco-based company has not operated ride-hailing or food delivery services in Singapore since 2018, when it sold its Southeast Asian businesses to rival Grab.

In May, Uber Hong Kong general manager

Estyn Chung said that "regulatory certainty is key" to shifting its Asian base, the South China Morning Post newspaper reported. "It's time for the government to regulate ride-sharing so we can bring jobs and investment to Hong Kong," he said. The national security law tightens China's control over Hong Kong dramatically.

Beijing argues it is needed to restore peace after mass protests last year, but Western governments, including the United States, have denounced it for eroding the city's freedoms.

There have been concerns that heightened legal uncertainty will scare away foreign investors, although some businesses have welcomed the prospect of greater stability.

## Pubali Bank Chairman M Azizul Huq presides over the bank's 37th annual general meeting organised through a digital platform yesterday. The bank approved 10 per cent cash dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2019.



PUBALI BANK

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পূর্ব) এর কার্যালয়  
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে  
সিআরবি, চট্টগ্রাম-৪০০০  
ই-জিপি টেন্ডার নোটিশ

ফোনঃ +৮৮০৩১২৮৬৩১৬২, ই-মেইলঃ [cee@railway.gov.bd](mailto:cee@railway.gov.bd)  
নং-সি/ই/ই-জিপি/০২/২০১৯-২০; তারিখঃ ৩০.০৭.২০২০খ্রিঃ

প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পূর্ব), বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, কর্তৃক National Electronic Government Procurement Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) এ নিম্নলিখিত পরামর্শ আহ্বান করা হয়েছে:

ক্রঃ নং	টেন্ডার বেদনাসেল নং	Tender আইডি নং	ক্রয়ের ধরন ও কাজের নাম	দরপত্র পদ্ধতি	দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও শেষ সময়
১.	xenpne/least-tender/20-21/03	482108	Works: At SSAE/Works/BCI section: Raising of Platform No. 1 from existing level to equal 2'-3" height from rail top by RCC works at NRC station as per drawing.	OTM (NCT)	27-Aug-2020 12:00pm
২.	xenpne/least-tender/20-21/04	482112	Works: At NRC Railway Station: Extension of passenger platform Shed No. 2 size 62m x 9.67m towards DA end as per approved drawing.	OTM (NCT)	27-Aug-2020 12:05pm

বিঃদ্রঃ  
১. শুধুমাত্র ই-জিপি সিস্টেমে নির্ধারিত eligibility শর্তাবলী পূরণকারী সরলতাপন সরকারি অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন।  
২. দরপত্র অংশগ্রহণের জন্য দরপত্র দাখিল ও দরপত্র জামানত বাবদ অর্থ নির্ধারিত ব্যাংকে জমা করতে হবে।

মোঃ হুমায়ুন ইসলাম  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী (পি এড ডি) (পূর্ব) (অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব)  
প্রধান-প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পূর্ব)  
বাংলাদেশ রেলওয়ে, চট্টগ্রাম

S(20)/163)  
GD-1212