



Alamgir Kabir, chairman of Southeast Bank Limited, inaugurates the bank's ATM booth at its corporate branch at Dilkusha in Dhaka on Thursday. Mahbul Alam, managing director, is also seen.

Prime Bank celebrates 15th anniversary

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank Limited yesterday arranged a press meeting to celebrate its 15th anniversary at Hotel Purbani International in Dhaka.

Prime Bank Managing Director M Ehsanul Haque highlighted the bank's successes in previous years, present activities and future plans.

Pointing to 2009 successes, Haque said, "In spite of the global recession, Prime Bank did very well because it diversified business."

He said this year the bank is going to set up 50 ATM booths across the country and three exchange houses in United Kingdom.

It has got the approval of setting up another exchange house in Canada, opening of which is due by the year-end, the bank's MD further said.

He also laid bare its plan of business expansion, which includes opening of 10 more branches and 10 SME centres.



Sultan Mahmood Chowdhury Social Islami Bank elects new chairman

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Social Islami Bank Ltd has elected Sultan Mahmood Chowdhury as its chairman, the bank said in a statement yesterday.

Chowdhury, a founder director of the bank, is also the chairman of Progati Group of Industries.

Sk Rabban Ali and Zohra Alam have been elected as the bank's vice chairmen, according to the statement.

Abul Awal Patwary and Kamaluddin Ahamed have been elected as executive committee chairmen, and Rezaul Haque as board audit committee chairman.

New executive body for Thakurgaon chamber

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

The Thakurgaon Chamber of Commerce and Industries elected 17 executive members, six associate members and its lone group member.

The two-yearly polls were held in the district on Friday after a five-year gap.

Of the newly elected members, 11 executive members, four associate members and the lone group member are from Raju-Alamgir-Murad panel, while six executive members and two associate members are from Salam-Bablu-Rashidul panel.

The new executive members are Md Mahmud Hasan Raju, Ahasan Habib Alamgir, Md Murad Hossain, Md Azharul Islam, Md Nur-Ashad Shajan, Md Moniruzzaman Jewel, Md Ramjan Ali, Md Motier Rahaman, Md Shariful Islam, Chowdhury Mohammad Mahabullah Abu Nur and Md Mamunur Rashid, Md Abdus Salam Hawlader, Md Habibul Islam Bablu, Sheikh Abul Kalam Azad Babul, Md Enamul Haque, Md Anwar Hossain Lal and Md Hafizur Rahaman Chunnun.

The associate members are Md Ali Akbar, Moslem Uddin, SM Wahed Hossain and Mostafizur Rahaman, Md Altafur Rahaman and Momiruddin.

Khalilur Rahaman was elected as the group member. These newly elected executive committee members will choose the president and vice-presidents of the organisation.

Meet the Press

Hotel Purbani International Dhaka April 17, 2010



Prime Bank Managing Director M Ehsanul Haque speaks at a press meet on the bank's 15th anniversary, at Hotel Purbani International in Dhaka yesterday.

Precious metals soar as dollar weakens

AFP, London

Precious metals prices hit multi-month highs last week as the dollar weakened.

Gold reached 1,170 dollars a barrel on Monday -- the highest level since the start of December.

The price of gold is set to win further support as investors shun struggling currencies, notably the dollar, metals consultancy GFMS predicted on Wednesday.

"Looking ahead, further price gains were thought likely as the investment case was still perceived as strong, with for example all the major currencies now being questioned by investors," London-based GFMS said in its latest annual survey on gold.

The consultancy added that investors were favouring the precious metal over currencies "in large measure due to high and rising levels of government indebtedness, and longer-term inflation threats still a growing issue for some."

It cautioned that "with no immediate reason for fresh investment to flood in, the rally might take a while to materialise."

Gold, for which the two main drivers are jewellery and investment buyers, had smashed a series of records last year on the back of inflationary fears and increasing moves by central banks to diversify assets away from the dollar.

The glamorous precious metal, which is traditionally viewed as a safe-

haven investment, hit a record pinnacle of 1,226.56 dollars an ounce on December 3.

By late Friday on the London Bullion Market, gold eased to 1,151.50 dollars an ounce from 1,152.50 dollars the previous week.

Silver grew to 18.34 dollars an ounce from 17.69.

On the London Platinum and Palladium Market, platinum fell to 1,708 dollars an ounce from 1,717 dollars.

Palladium jumped to 532 dollars an ounce from 511 dollars.

Base or industrial metals prices hit the highest levels for more than a year, helped by strong Chinese growth data and tight supplies.

Copper reached 8,043 dollars a tonne -- before profit-taking set in.

By Friday on the London Metal Exchange, copper for delivery in three months fell to 7,885 dollars a tonne from 7,937 dollars a week earlier.

Three-month aluminium climbed to 2,474 dollars a tonne from 2,394 dollars.

Three-month lead inched up to 2,320 dollars a tonne from 2,315 dollars.

Three-month tin grew to 19,150 dollars a tonne from 18,675 dollars.

Three-month zinc advanced to 2,472 dollars a tonne from 2,392 dollars.

Three-month nickel rose to 27,000

dollars a tonne from 25,195 dollars.

Cocoa prices were mixed.

By Friday on LIFFE, the price of cocoa for delivery in May dipped to 2,131 pounds a tonne from 2,138 pounds the previous week.

On the NYBOT, the July cocoa contract stood at 2,912 dollars a tonne compared with 2,865 dollars for the May-expired contract a week earlier.

Coffee prices dipped. By Friday on LIFFE, Robusta for delivery in July eased to 1,385 dollars a tonne from 1,389 dollars the previous week.

On the NYBOT, Arabica for May traded at 132.10 US cents a pound compared with 134.55 cents for the May-expired contract a week earlier.

Sugar prices climbed for a second week in a row.

By Friday on the New York Board of Trade (NYBOT), the price of unrefined sugar for delivery in July traded at 17.20 US cents a pound compared with 15.99 cents for the May-expired contract the previous week.

On LIFFE, London's futures exchange, the price of a tonne of white sugar for July stood at 503.70 pounds compared with 490 pounds for the May-expired contract.

Grains and soya prices rose owing to weak supplies in the United States.

By Friday on the Chicago Board of Trade, maize for delivery in May firmed to 3.59 dollars a bushel from 3.46 dollars the previous week.

Profit from Sweet Jumbo grass

BSS, Rangpur

Commercial farming of Sweet Jumbo grass in sandy char areas in the Brahmaputra basin is becoming popular by the day.

It has been a successful effort to make the char people solvent in the last three years.

The grass, an Australian hybrid variety, comes as a quick fix to the fodder crisis for cattle in rainy season.

Eighteen nongovernmental organisations under the government's Char Livelihood Programme have been assisting people in farming the grass since 2008 in 19 upazilas of Kurigram, Gaibandha, Jamalpur and Sirajganj.

Inspired by success stories, the NGOs have launched a large-scale farming programme of the grass on 1,500 acres this season.

The first harvest of the grass comes a month after sowing seeds. A grower may get eight harvests from the same land and can count a net profit of up to Tk 50,000 per acre a year.

In fiscal 2008-09, some 650 char people farmed the grass on 110 acres in Roumari,

Rajibpur and Chilmari upazilas under Kurigram. They produced 2,100 tonnes of grass and earned around Tk 40,000 per acre in the same period.

Last year, the amount of profit was Tk 50,000 for 1,150 farmers who cultivated the grass on 200 acres of sandy char lands and produced over 4,000 tonnes of grass.

Shahjahan Ali, 35, a farmer of Bozra Diarkhata in Chilmari upazila, said he sowed the grass seeds on 17 decimals of land this year.

An owner of 10 cows, Ali sold the grass for Tk 12,000 in two harvests in the last two months, after saving it up for his cattle. Ali looks to more profit as there are five harvests left.

Faridul Islam and Abdul Baten of Jadur Char in Roumari upazila and Saidur Rahman of Char Kodalkati in Rajibpur upazila said they have also earned a handsome profit by farming the grass on 20 decimals each.

Sumona Sharmeen, a trainer with nongovernmental organisation Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service, said the milk production capacity of cows increases thanks to the nutrition-rich grass.



Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Toiletries Ltd, speaks at the Meril Night, an annual event organised by the company in honour of its retailers, at Radisson Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka on Friday.

বাংলাদেশ তাঁত শিক্ষা ও প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট
বাংলাদেশ তাঁত বোর্ড
সাহেব্রতাপ, নরসিংদী।

প্রশিক্ষার্থী ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নরসিংদীস্থ বাংলাদেশ তাঁত শিক্ষা ও প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট এবং পাবনার বেড়া উপকেন্দ্রে 'SETVET' শীর্ষক প্রশিক্ষণ কর্মসূচীর আওতায় ২ মাস ও ৬ মাস মেয়াদী কোর্সে প্রশিক্ষার্থী ভর্তির জন্য আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের নিকট হতে স্ব-হস্তে লিখিত দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্র. নং	কোর্সের বিবরণ	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা	কোর্স শুরু তারিখ	প্রশিক্ষণ ভাতা	ভেন্যু/মন্তব্য
০১।	২ মাস মেয়াদী কোর্স সমূহ (ক) বয়ন ও বাজারজাত করণ (খ) এস.এ তাঁতে বয়ন (গ) জ্যাকার্ড ডিজাইন (ঘ) রক ও বাটিক প্রিন্টিং	৮ম শ্রেণী পাস	২৫-০৪-১০ ইং	দৈনিক ২০০/=	নরসিংদীস্থ বার্তাশিপ্রই
০২।	(ক) রক বয়ন (খ) বয়ন ও বাজারজাত করণ	৮ম শ্রেণী পাস	২৫-০৪-১০ ইং	দৈনিক ২০০/=	পাবনাস্থ বেড়া উপকেন্দ্রে
০৩।	৬ মাস মেয়াদী কোর্স (ক) সার্টিফিকেট অন গার্মেন্টস টেকনোলজী	এস.এস.সি পাস	০১-০৭-১০ ইং	মাসিক ১৫০০/=	নরসিংদীস্থ বার্তাশিপ্রই আবেদনের শেষ তারিখ- ১৭-০৬-১০ ইং ভর্তি পরীক্ষা- ২৩-০৬-১০ ইং ভর্তির শেষ তারিখ- ৩০-০৬-১০ ইং

২ মাস মেয়াদী কোর্সে ভর্তি সংক্রান্ত তথ্য-

- আবেদনের শেষ তারিখ- ১৯-০৪-২০১০ ইং
- ভর্তি পরীক্ষা- ২০-০৪-২০১০ ইং
- আবেদন পত্রের সাথে যা-যা সংযুক্ত করতে হবে-
(ক) ছবি-২ কপি (সত্যায়িত)।
(খ) শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সনদ- ১ কপি (সত্যায়িত)।
(গ) ভোটার আইডি কার্ড- ১ কপি (সত্যায়িত)।
(ঘ) ভাতী / ভাতী পরিবারের সদস্য সনদ-১ কপি (ভাতী সমিতি কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত)।
(ঙ) জাতীয়তা সনদ পত্র-১ কপি (ইউপি চেয়ারম্যান / পৌর মেয়র কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত)।

বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হল।

(মোঃ মতিয়ার রহমান)
অধ্যক্ষ
বাংলাদেশ তাঁত শিক্ষা ও প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট
পিডি, এসইডিইটি
সাহেব্রতাপ, নরসিংদী।
ফোন- ০২-৯৪৬২৬৯৮, ০১৯১২৮০০৫৬



Finance Minister AMA Muhith speaks at a pre-budget discussion in Dhaka yesterday. (From left) Commerce Minister Faruk Khan, President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Annisul Huq and former finance adviser to caretaker government AB Mirza Azizul Islam are also seen. (Story on B1)

Organized by:

The Trade Centre, Dhaka
Co-Chairman of Export Promotion
Ministry of Commerce, Dhaka

Supported by:

Date:
5-8 May 2010

Time:
Trade: 10.00am-3.00pm
Public: 3.00pm-8.00pm

Venue:
**Pan Pacific Sonargaon
Grand Ballroom, Dhaka**

**THAILAND
TRADE EXHIBITION
Dhaka 2010**

PRODUCT LIST:

<input type="checkbox"/> Agro	<input type="checkbox"/> Gems & Jewellery	<input type="checkbox"/> Ladies Bag & Footwear
<input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals	<input type="checkbox"/> Gift & Decorative Items	<input type="checkbox"/> Machinery
<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical product	<input type="checkbox"/> Health & Beauty	<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic
<input type="checkbox"/> Food & Beverages	<input type="checkbox"/> Household & Kitchenware	<input type="checkbox"/> Stationery & Others
<input type="checkbox"/> Garment & Fashion		

For One-to-One Business Meeting Please contact:
Tel: 8820364, 9861821, 01713-386063, Fax: 8857745
E-mail: e3@e3solutionbd.com

Company Name :

Address :

Proprietor Name :

Mobile No. :

Product of your interest :

Date : Time :