



BUSINESS

DHAKA SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2017, AGRAHAYAN 5, 1424 BS



রোগ নির্ণয়ে সর্বাধিক যত্নপূর্ণ
ও সর্বোচ্চ মান।
প্রতিটি ডায়াগনস্টিক টেস্ট,
আইসিই, সার্জারী ও ডায়ালাইজেসন
মুনতম ৩০% সাময়।

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Farm lending rises 17.67pc

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Lending to the agriculture sector rose 17.67 percent year-on-year to Tk 6,204.76 crore in the first four months of 2017-18 thanks to banks' keenness to channel more funds to farms, official figures showed.

In July-October, eight state-owned commercial and specialised banks -- Sonali, Janata, Agrani, Rupali, BASIC, BDBL, Bangladesh Krishi, and Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank -- together lent Tk 2,383 crore in agriculture loans.

The amount is 24.85 percent of their combined annual farm loan lending target of Tk 9,590 crore. [READ MORE ON B3](#)

Sonia Bashir Kabir to lead Microsoft in four countries

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Base policies on credible data Economists say

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Policies framed with the support of evidence and credible data benefit the economy and the society as a whole, economists said yesterday.

They also said decisions taken on populist notions and prescriptions from donors may not bring desired results.

The views were shared at the launch of a book—Evidence based policy making in Bangladesh—penned by Sadiq Ahmed, vice-chairman of the Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh.

The book highlights the importance of research and evidence-based policymaking.

If policies are formulated in the framework of informed decision making, they are more likely to work than those that are purely politically motivated with insufficient evidence or analysis, Ahmed said at the event.

"In our experience, we have found that government has limited analytical capacity," he said, adding that the government addressed the issue in recent years by partnering with think-tanks.

Some efforts are also underway to develop in-house evidence-based policymaking capacity in key line ministries in coordination with the cabinet division.

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Tofail Ahmed, commerce minister; Alison Blake, British high commissioner in Dhaka, and Francois de Maricourt, CEO of HSBC Bangladesh, pose for photographs along with the winners of the 7th HSBC Export Excellence Awards at the Radisson hotel in the capital on Friday.

HSBC honours export heroes

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

HSBC Bangladesh has recognised five local exporters for their leadership in brightening the country's image and contributing to the nation's sustainable growth.

The winners of the 7th HSBC Export Excellence Awards are: Square Fashions, an enterprise of Square Group, won the 'Exporter of the Year' trophy in the readymade

Textiles, Seamark (BD), and Classical Handmade Products Bangladesh.

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed handed over the trophies to the companies' owners at a ceremony held at the Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden Hotel in the capital on Friday.

Square Fashions, an enterprise of Square Group, won the 'Exporter of the Year' trophy in the readymade

garment company category for annual export turnover of more than \$100 million.

The company, which began production in 2001, ships to 25 globally acclaimed brands and 75 countries.

Tapan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Group, received the award.

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On this occasion, we express our heartiest gratitude to our all supplier, our customers, fish inspection & Quality Control (Ministry of Fisheries), BSCIC Authority, Agrani Bank, BFEEA & Export Promotion Bureau (Ministry of Commerce), Hope, their support will be continued for our Export growth.

In this auspicious moment we remember our founder Late Mr. Subal Chandra Das who established the company in 1984.

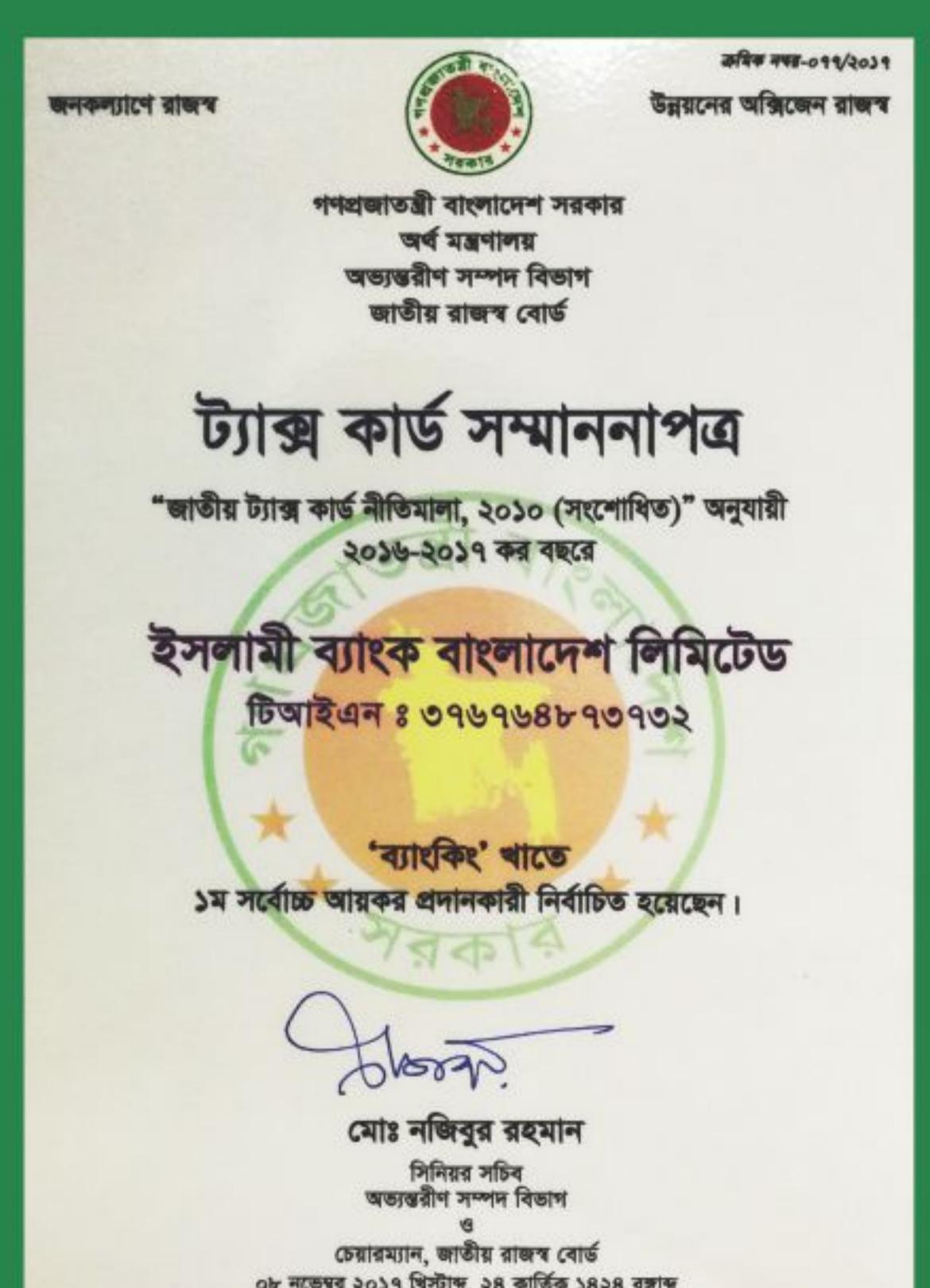
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