

## 6th Bangladesh Retail Congress held

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Different organisations have been honoured through 26 winners and 14 mentions in different categories at Bangladesh Retail Congress 2021 and Bangladesh Retail Awards 2021 recently.

The sixth edition of the two-day congress started on October 23 and the Retail Awards were organised on the second day of the congress, according to a press release.

Bangladesh Brand Forum organised the shows, which were presented by Shwapno and powered by Apex.

"The pandemic has amplified different dimensions in the retail sector and as we are gradually transitioning from that space we have developed a completely new need, where organised retail and organisations who offer last mile distribution are adapting with," said Shariful Islam, founder of Bangladesh Brand Forum.

Mahadi Faisal, head of marketing of ACI Logistics Ltd, and Rajan Pillai, CEO of Apex Footwear Ltd, inaugurated the event.

AK Enamul Haque, economics professor and dean of Faculty of Business and Economics at East West University, Shweta Chopra, shopper lead for South Asia, Middle East and Africa at Nielsen, Daniel Hodges, retail technology futurist and founder at Retail Store Tours, Vach Pillutla, CEO of Al-Ikhsan Sports, Murali Prakash, chairman of Ashnip Global (Pvt) Ltd, Sri Lanka, and Smaay Global Pty Ltd, Australia, were present.



Mastercard and Brac Bank Ltd announced the launch of the Mastercard Millennium Titanium Credit Card at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently. Selim RF Hussain, managing director of Brac Bank, Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager of Mastercard, Zohad Reza Chowdhury, vocalist of the band Nemesis, and Tasnia Farin, an actress, were present.

## 29 get CFA designation this year

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CFA Society Bangladesh, local member of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute, has recently organised its sixth CFA Charter Award Ceremony in Dhaka.

A total of 29 local investment professionals this year received CFA designation, said a press release. The CFA curriculum is widely considered to be the most rigorous in the investment profession around the world. Candidates must sequentially pass three exams.

Shibli Rubayat-Ul-Islam, chairman of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, and Md Shaheen Iqbal, president of CFA Society Bangladesh, were present.

## EyHost becomes APTLD associate member

STAR BUSINESS DESK

EyHost Ltd has recently been selected as an associate member of the Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association (APTLD).

APTLD board members reviewed EyHost's application and gave their consent in a teleconference, says a press release.

APTLD deals with the exchange of information about technological and operational issues of country code domain name registries in Asia Pacific.

EyHost will benefit the APTLD community with its expertise, said Leonid Todorov, general manager of APTLD. "Becoming an APTLD member, EyHost employees can improve skills," said Imran Hossen, managing director of EyHost.

## Tax receipts treble in 3yrs

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Giving an example, he says if a taxpayer's annual income is Tk 4 lakh, including Tk 1 lakh from interest income from the investment in savings instruments, the person will have to pay a higher tax in the absence of the opportunity to adjust the interest earnings.

The individual would have paid only Tk 5,000 in tax had the NBR allowed the adjustment. In the absence of such a provision, the tax amount doubles to Tk 10,000.

The analyst called for fixing a ceiling for the smaller investors to give a relief to them from the tax burden.

Syed Iqbal Mostafa, a former president of the Dhaka Taxes Bar Association, says many families meet their regular expenses on the basis of the interest income from savings certificates.

"This is a big burden on the low-income families," he said. Syed Md Aminul Karim, a former member of income tax policy at the NBR, says the provision of the final settlement is a burden for those who do not have taxable incomes. "This is becoming a regressive tax. There should be scope for refunds for those who do not have any taxable incomes."

A regressive tax is a tax applied uniformly, taking a larger percentage of income from low-income earners than from high-income earners.

The tax authority should extend scopes to adjust incomes up to a certain threshold, said Karim, now an adjunct faculty of the banking and insurance department of the University of Dhaka.

## Munshi calls for caution in fulfilling GSP Plus conditions

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"We have to remain cautious throughout the journey. We are in 2021. The new GSP regulation kicks in January of 2024," said Munshi.

"We graduate in 2026 and EBA (Everything but Arms) ends in 2029. As per the draft of the new GSP regulation, with the major obstacle removed, we will qualify for GSP Plus," he said.

Bangladesh is set to make the United Nations status graduation from a least developed country (LDC) to a developing one in 2026.

The EBA is a part of the GSP under which all imports to the EU from the least developed countries are duty-free and quota-free, with the exception of armaments.

Bangladesh will immensely benefit from the new proposed EU GSP Plus scheme as the rules have been eased further, said Munshi.

He was addressing a virtual discussion on "Economic tie of Bangladesh & Europe: New Regulatory Regime" organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) on the sidelines of an

ongoing Bangladesh Trade & Investment Summit 2021.

DCCI President Rizwan Rahman moderated the discussion, attended by government high ups, private sector investors, diplomats, leaders of the business community and exporters.

In spite of the import threshold removal proposal, Bangladesh needs to improve in some other areas to obtain the GSP Plus status, said Rubana Huq, former president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

Apart from human and labour rights and environmental protection, the EU said it would also include political issues for eligibility of developing countries, she said.

Huq also said it was time to tell the EU that mutual benefits should be ensured as the latter always sets conditions on allowing trade benefits.

She said Bangladesh has the highest or 150 green garment factories in the world and was the lowest carbon emitter but was still cited as an

example for vulnerabilities.

Although international buyers talk about sustainability of industries, they never mention anything about sustainable prices of garment items, she said.

Prices offered for apparel items exported from the country have gone down by more than 2 per cent over the last two years, said Huq.

Grameenphone Ltd, now with 83 million subscribers, provided Tk 93,000 crore to the public exchequer since making an appearance here and Tk 8,000 crore last year, said Yasir Azman, the mobile operator's chief executive officer.

Unilever Bangladesh Limited is setting up new manufacturing plants at Mongla Export Processing Zone to meet rising demand for fast-moving consumer goods, said Zaved Akhtar, its CEO and managing director.

Naser Ezaz Bijoy CEO of Standard Chartered Bangladesh, and Momin Ud Dowlah, chairman and managing director of the Eon Group of Industries, also spoke.

## BB intensifies intervention as dollar hits new high

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Remittance, which provided a much-needed cushion to the economy battered by the pandemic, however, fell 20 per cent in September.

The exact data on the outgoing international travels is hard to come by. But thanks to the reopening of most of the economies, Bangladeshis have begun travelling abroad, fueling the demand of the US dollar.

People have resumed going abroad for business, health, education and tourism purposes, said a central banker.

The higher price of commodities, energy and food and the high cost of shipping have stoked concerns about inflationary pressures globally as well as in Bangladesh.

However, Kamal said: "Inflation is still within our target range."

KAMAL URGES INVESTORS TO INVEST WITH A FULL UNDERSTANDING

Kamal advised investors to invest in the stock market understanding the dynamics of the market.

"When you come here to make a profit, you have to keep in mind the risk factors."

The minister said the government would keep providing policy support to the market. "But if someone thinks of making a lot of profit, it might not happen."

According to Kamal, the stronger the economy was, the stronger the capital market would be.

"I don't know if there is any other factor to inflate the market. But keep in mind that the market is very sensitive."

Kamal also responded to questions about floating shares of the state-run commercial

banks. "We took the initiative, but it has not been materialised for various reasons."

The government had planned to list the state-run commercial banks in order to boost the supply of high-quality shares to the market.

But the government retreated after it found that there was no dearth of high-quality stocks in the market, Kamal said.

At the meeting yesterday, the cabinet committee sent back a proposal from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics to buy laptops for the population census, said Md Shamsul Arefin, an additional secretary of the cabinet.

In June, a tender was floated to buy 3.95 lakh tabs for the digital census, but the contract is yet to be awarded as the tender process has not been completed.

**বাংলাদেশ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ড**  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর  
নরসিংদী পণ্ডর বিভাগ  
বাপাউবো, নরসিংদী  
দুরালপানীঃ ০২-৯৪৬৩৭০০  
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**Bangladesh Water Development Board**  
Memo No. 515 Date: 26/10/2021

**Invitation for e-Tender**

Invitation Reference No.	TD/NR/502 Dt: 25/10/2021
Tender ID	622956
Name of the work	Package No: NDR-NR-Irr-1/2021-22 Repairing and Maintenance Works of Canal and Lining Work of North Irrigation Canal from km 0.000 to km 5.500, damaged North Irrigation Canal dyke in between Km 1.000 to Km 5.000, Main Irrigation Canal No. 1 from Km. 0.000 to Km. 2.170 & Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 1 from km 0.000 to km 0.670, Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 2 from km 0.000 to km 2.110, Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 3 from km 0.000 to km 2.750 to Main Irrigation Canal No. 1 and removal of water hyacinth including debris/garbage from drainage canal adjacent to Main Irrigation Canal No. 1 and Lateral Irrigation canals under North Ruppogonj Water Conservancy Project in c/w NDR Budget under Narsingdi O&M Division, BWDB, Narsingdi during the year 2021-2022.
Invitation Reference No.	TD/NR/503 Dt: 25/10/2021
Tender ID	622955
Name of the work	Package No: NDR-NR-Irr-2/2021-22 Repairing and Maintenance Works of canal and lining of South Irrigation Canal in between km 0.000 to km 8.000, damaged South Irrigation Canal dyke in between Km 0.000 to km 4.000, repairing of canal & damaged Pucca drain of Sub-lateral Irrigation Canal No. 1 in-between km 0.000 to km 1.000 and Sub-lateral Irrigation Canal No. 2 from km 0.000 to km 0.500 of South Irrigation Canal, Re-excavation of Intake canal from Km 0.000 to Km 0.100, Painting, greasing & Miscellaneous works of gates of water structures and Removal of water hyacinth including debris/garbage respectively from Drainage canal adjacent of Pump House & General Irrigation canal and drainage canal adjacent to Main Irrigation Canal No. 2 & lateral Irrigation Canal No. 3 & 4 of Main Irrigation Canal No. 2 under North Ruppogonj Water Conservancy Project (NRWCP) in c/w Non-Development Revenue Budget under Narsingdi O&M Division, BWDB, Narsingdi during the year 2021-2022.
Invitation Reference No.	TD/NR/504 Dt: 25/10/2021
Tender ID	622954
Name of the work	Package No: NDR-NR-Irr-3/2021-22 Clearing Jungles & Repairing damaged dyke of General Irrigation canal from km 0.000 to km 1.200 and Repairing & Maintenance work of Main Irrigation Canal No. 2 from km 0.000 to km 2.850, Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 1 from km 0.000 to km 0.470, Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 2 from km 0.000 to km 0.850, Re-construction of pucca drain in-between km 0.000 to km 0.110 adjacent of Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 2, repairing of Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 3 from km 0.000 to km 2.000 and Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 4 from km 0.000 to km 1.000 to Main Irrigation Canal No. 2 under North Ruppogonj Water Conservancy Project (NRWCP) in C/W Non-Development Revenue Budget under Narsingdi O&M Division, BWDB, Narsingdi during the year 2021-2022.
Invitation Reference No.	TD/NR/505 Dt: 25/10/2021
Tender ID	622953
Name of the work	Package No: NDR-NR-Irr-4/2021-22 Instant/Emergency Repairing and Maintenance Works of General Irrigation Canal Dyke, Main Irrigation Canal Dyke No. 1 & Lateral Irrigation Canal Dyke No. 1, 2, & 3 of Main Irrigation Canal No. 1; Main Irrigation Canal Dyke No. 2 & Lateral Irrigation Canal Dyke No. 1, 2, 3 & 4 of Main Irrigation Canal No. 2, North Irrigation Canal Dyke, South Irrigation Canal Dyke and Lateral Irrigation Canal No. 1 & 2 of South Irrigation canal during Irrigation Period under North Ruppogonj Water Conservancy Project in C/w Non-Development Revenue Budget under Narsingdi O&M Division, BWDB, Narsingdi during the year 2021-2022.

This is an online tender where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline and hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender please register on in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd/>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@procure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@procure.gov.bd)) (01762625528-31).

**Bejoy Indra Sanker Chakraborty**  
Executive Engineer  
Narsingdi O&M Division  
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পানি-২০১/২০২১-২০২২  
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GD-1938

## Prime Bank secures \$30m from UK dev lender

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manufacturing, readymade garments, food and agriculture, it said. "CDC's partnership with Prime Bank demonstrates our joint goal of increasing financial inclusion and providing agile counter-cyclical funding in response to the funding gap in the market," said M Rehan Rashid, CDC Group's country director for Bangladesh.

"We are thrilled to be backing a key Bangladeshi financial institution that will help accelerate capital support to local communities, boost businesses and economic opportunities."

Hassan O Rashid, managing director and chief executive officer of Prime Bank, said the partnership with CDC is indeed a very timely initiative.

This collaboration shall enable Prime Bank to address the need of corporate and SME clients in the post-Covid business environment, he said.

Furthermore, the alliance shall provide liquidity support to our international trade business and help us to migrate some of the best international practices to strengthen our corporate governance."

Robert Chatterton Dickson, British high commissioner to Bangladesh, said this new trade finance loan by the UK's bilateral investment arm, CDC, will act as a stimulus to the growth of Bangladesh's gross domestic product by providing much needed support to key economic sectors.

"It underlines the UK's commitment to accelerating economic recovery in Bangladesh by improving private sector access to finance. I wish the CDC and Prime Bank a successful partnership," Dickson said.

## Five lenders arrange Tk 167cr for first electric vehicle plant

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BAIL will also manufacture two-wheelers, three-wheelers and hatchbacks and has plans to upgrade to pickups, mini-trucks and multipurpose vehicles. "We have a strong R&D team and are also taking professional and knowhow related technical services from an experienced foreign company, Wuhan Yuanteng Automobile Technology Co Ltd, for this project," said the BAIL chairman. He expects the company's annual car sales to reach two lakh units by 2025 and 10 lakh units within the next 10 years.

## Money can be sent abroad till March 2022

FROM PAGE B1

students and conducting online classes even during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the circular read.

"To facilitate the situation, banks may affect outward remittances, on account of study abroad, under online teaching arrangements; subject to [their] receiving supporting documents with respect to such online courses and observing the required instructions," it said.

**বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক**  
ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়  
প্রধান কার্যালয়  
ঢাকা

বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর-১৩৬/২০২১ তারিখঃ ১০ কার্তিক ১৪২৮  
২৬ অক্টোবর ২০২১

**৬টি ব্যাংক ও আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে 'সহকারী প্রোগ্রামার' (২০১৯ সাল ভিত্তিক) পদে নির্বাচিত প্রার্থীদের তালিকা**

ব্যাংকার্স সিলেকশন কমিটি সচিবালয়ের তত্ত্বাবধানে ৬টি ব্যাংক ও আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে 'সহকারী প্রোগ্রামার' এর (২০১৯ সাল ভিত্তিক) ৭৬টি শূন্য পদে (সোনালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর ১৭টি, জনতা ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর ১৫টি, রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর ২৯টি, বিএইচবিএফসি এর ০৮টি, প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ব্যাংক এর ০৫টি, পল্টী সঞ্চয় ব্যাংক এর ০২টি) নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে বিগত ৩০ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২০ তারিখে প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর ১৯৫/২০২০ এর প্রেক্ষিতে ০১/০৪/২০২০ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিত লিখিত পরীক্ষায় (Standard Aptitude Test) ও পরবর্তীতে ১৫/০৯/২০২১ থেকে ২৯/০৯/২০২১ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অনুষ্ঠিত মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ প্রার্থীদের সমন্বয়ে প্রণীত প্যালেস হতে নিম্নলিখিত রোল নম্বরধারী প্রার্থীদেরকে নিয়োগের জন্য প্রাথমিকভাবে নির্বাচন করা হয়েছে।

- সোনালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেডঃ  
1065, 1222, 1349, 1408, 1535, 2597, 2610, 3407, 4065, 4706, 5287, 5433, 5603, 5643, 5911, 6138, 6654 = ১৭ জন।
- জনতা ব্যাংক লিমিটেডঃ  
1294, 2118, 2570, 2617, 3871, 4015, 4350, 4975, 4977, 5139, 5453, 6322, 6332, 6775, 7530 = ১৫ জন।
- রূপালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেডঃ  
1134, 1435, 2342, 2469, 2641, 2683, 2796, 2923, 2983, 3044, 3522, 3739, 4019, 4597, 4630, 4869, 5068, 5237, 5870, 6045, 6251, 6258, 6569, 6614, 6650, 6989, 7066, 7277, 7294 = ২৯ জন।
- বাংলাদেশ হাউজ বিল্ডিং ফাইন্যান্স কর্পোরেশনঃ  
1996, 2454, 3873, 4647, 4886, 6437, 6644, 6648 = ০৮ জন।
- প্রবাসী কল্যাণ ব্যাংকঃ  
2668, 3271, 4664, 5152, 5501 = ০৫ জন।
- পল্টী সঞ্চয় ব্যাংকঃ  
3381, 6835 = ০২ জন।

নিয়োগ সংক্রান্ত পরবর্তী সকল কার্যক্রম সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যাংক কর্তৃক সম্পাদিত হবে।

**মোঃ আজিজুল হক**  
মহাব্যবস্থাপক, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক  
ও  
সদস্য সচিব, বিএসসি

বিভিন্ন প্রকাশিত ফ্লাফলে সংশোধনের প্রয়োজন দেখা দিলে বিএসসিএস তা সংশোধনের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে।  
ডিসিপিঃ ৪৮/২০২১-৩৪১২  
তারিখঃ ২৭-১০-২০২১

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা  
কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

জিডি-১৯৩৯