



Mostaque named Dhaka Bank DMD

STAR BUSINESS DESK
Dhaka Bank Ltd recently promoted Md Mostaque Ahmed to deputy managing director with effect from December 1. Ahmed was serving the bank as senior executive vice-president and chief emerging market officer. He started his banking career with United Commercial Bank Ltd in Dhaka in 1993. He then joined Dhaka Bank in July 1995. Mostaque obtained his Master's degree in finance & banking from the University of Dhaka.

Customs seizes 3.2cr fake cigarette tax stamps

FROM PAGE B1
When this correspondent called the numbers provided to the customs house by Bappu Enterprise and Modhumati Associates, their phones were found switched off. Similarly, Bappu Enterprise registered its address as the 2nd floor of the GA building in Chattogram's Anderkilla but this correspondent found no trace of the organisation during a visit to area on Wednesday afternoon.



Md Anisur Rahman, chairman of MJL Bangladesh Ltd, virtually presided over the company's 23rd annual general meeting yesterday. The shareholders approved 55 per cent cash dividend. Azam J Chowdhury, managing director of the company, Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, Mohammad Tamim, Tanjil Chowdhury, and Md Gias Uddin Ansary, directors, NKA Mobin and GM Khurshid Alam, independent directors, also attended the meeting.

China's retail sales growth eases, factory output picks up

AFP, Beijing
China's retail sales grew slower than expected in November with consumers cautious as domestic coronavirus cases rose, official data showed Wednesday, but industrial output picked up after power shortages eased. A rebound in the world's second-biggest economy has been losing steam, with indicators muted last month, after the country made a swift coronavirus recovery helped by strict border controls and targeted lockdowns. Economists said a recent domestic flare-up, where virus infections hit 21 provinces and regions, likely led to more cautious consumer behaviour as containment measures kicked in, while a property market slump worsened. Retail sales rose 3.9 per cent on-year, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said, below expectations and

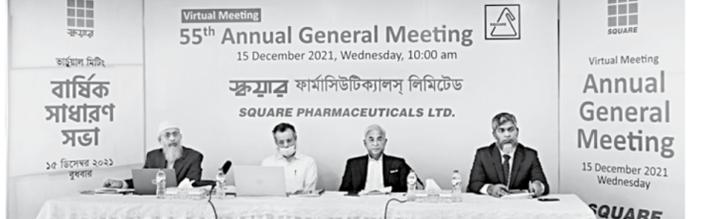
markedly slower than October's 4.9 per cent. "The international environment has become more complex and severe, and there are still many constraints on domestic economic recovery," NBS spokesman Fu Linghui told reporters. Economists Sheana Yue and Mark Williams of Capital Economics said in a research note that the pandemic "remained the key reason holding back a full recovery", causing "weakness in the labour market." The urban unemployment rate ticked up to five per cent last month, from 4.9 per cent. Williams had said earlier that passenger traffic data pointed to consumer caution, while there were other "downbeat signals" such as slowing growth in sales during the annual November 1-11 shopping festival -- China's answer to the US "Black Friday" consumer spree. But industrial production grew 3.8

per cent on-year in November, in line with expectations of a pick-up. This came as disruptions from power shortages eased. Outages in recent months linked to emission reduction targets, the surging price of coal, and supply shortages had hit some factory production. "Even though power supply shortages have eased recently, elevated input prices will linger... and sluggish domestic demand could be a longer-term drag," Moody's Analytics warned on Monday. Fixed-asset investment growth slowed to 5.2 per cent in the first 11 months, with property investment rising six per cent -- down from the January-October period -- with falling home sales and tight financing rules. "Wage arrears in property-related sectors, especially the construction sector, could also weigh on consumption," said Lu Ting, chief China economist at Nomura.

Square Pharmaceuticals declares 60pc cash dividend

STAR BUSINESS DESK
Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd declared 60 per cent cash dividend to shareholders for the 2020-21 fiscal year at the company's 55th annual general meeting, held virtually yesterday. Samuel S Chowdhury, chairman of Square Pharmaceuticals, presided over the meeting, according to a press release. The company's turnover, gross profit and net profit after tax for the year that ended on June 30 stood at Tk 5,835 crore, Tk 2,590 crore and Tk 1,474 crore respectively.

Turnover and net profit rose 10.24 per cent and 13.80 per cent respectively during the year. The company contributed an amount of Tk 1,320 crore to the public coffers. Ratna Patra, vice-chairman of Square Pharmaceuticals; Tapan Chowdhury, managing director; Kazi Iqbal Harun, director; Syed Afzal Hasan Uddin and SM Rezaur Rahman, independent directors; Md Kabir Reza, head of A&F; Md Zahangir Alam, chief financial officer; and Khandaker Habibuzzaman, company secretary, also attended the meeting.



Tapan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Pharmaceuticals, attends the company's 55th annual general meeting on Wednesday. Samuel S Chowdhury, chairman of Square Pharmaceuticals, virtually presided over the meeting.

Vision starts exporting electric kettles to Nepal

STAR BUSINESS DESK
Vision, an electronics manufacturing brand of Pran-RFL Group, has started exporting its electric kettles to Nepal. The first consignment of electric kettles has been sent from the Vision electronic factory at Palash in Narsingdi on Friday, a press release said. "We are getting the order of electric kettles from Nepal, after which we have sent our initial consignment of 8,244 electric kettles from our factory. And around one

lakh pieces of kettle will be sent in the next few months," said Kazi Rashidul Islam, chief operating officer of Vision. "We hope it will continue and many other electric and electronic items will also be exported there, including televisions, electric irons, blenders and rice cookers," he added. According to the press release, Vision is now exporting to India, Nepal, South Africa, Ghana and Fiji and has taken the initiative to export to some other countries, including Bhutan.

Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB)
153, Pioneer Road, Segunbagicha
Dhaka-1000.

TENDER NOTICE NO: 28.05.0000.231.07.101.21.2454 Date: 15.12.2021

e-TENDER NOTICE Procurement Method : OTM (NCT)

e-tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of the following goods

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of Goods	Invitation Reference No	Tender last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing/Opening Date & Time
01.	637945	Supply of Arc GIS Desktop Software with extensions and related training services	28.05.0000.231.07.015.21.1 (Re-Tender)	Date: 29.12.2021 Time: 12.00	Date: 30.12.2021 Time: 11.30
02.	639146	Supply of 52 seat staff bus for GSB and related services	28.05.0000.231.07.101.21	Date: 06.01.2022 Time: 16.30	Date: 09.01.2022 Time: 11.30

for any information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

Md. Rakibul Islam Khan
Procurement Officer
For Director General
Phone: 48314810.

GD-2326

World stocks fall ahead of US central bank meeting

REUTERS, New York
Global shares fell on Tuesday and the US dollar rose again as investors held their breath ahead of the update on monetary policy due out from the Federal Reserve on Wednesday. Wall Street ended lower and the yield on the US 10-year rose after US producer prices increased by more than expected in November, another data point to support views that inflation could remain uncomfortably high for some time. "Markets traded defensively ahead of the Fed tomorrow, with equities, bond yields, oil and gold all lower," Brian Martin, head of research at ANZ bank, wrote in a note to investors. The Federal Reserve is expected on Wednesday to announce that it is speeding up the end of its pandemic-era bond purchases and signal a turn to interest rate increases next year as a guard against surging inflation. Several central banks meet this week, starting on Tuesday when the Federal Reserve convenes for its two-day event, followed by the European Central Bank on Wednesday, the Bank of England on Thursday, and the Bank of Japan on Friday. While some investors are sitting on the sidelines, reluctant to take on new positions before year-end, others continue to be happy to "buy the dip," a strategy that has been successful throughout 2021's strong rally, said Benjamin Bowler, equity analyst at Bank of America.

UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA: Applications in prescribed form, obtainable from the Office of the Registrar, are invited from the Bangladeshi nationals for filling up 03 (three) permanent posts of Lecturer in the Department of Public Administration in the pay scale of Tk 22000-53,060/- (NPS-2015). **QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates must have minimum CGPA 3.50 out of scale 4.00 in Honours and Master's degree in Public Administration with minimum first divisions or in case of GPA 4.25 out of 5.00 in S.S.C & H.S.C Examinations. Other qualifications being equal preference may be given to those who have higher degrees. One of the approved condition of S.S.C or H.S.C Examination may be relaxed to those who obtained first position/achieved highest CGPA in Honours or Masters degree. Eight copies of application together with attested copies of certificates, testimonials, mark-sheets and proof of experience along with a Pay Order/Bank Draft of the value of Tk 750/- (seven hundred fifty) only, payable to the Registrar, should reach him on or before 12/01/2022. Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel.

GD-2329

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
"Feasibility study and detailed design for introduction of electric traction (including overhead catenary, sub-station) in between Narayanganj-Dhaka-Chattogram section of Bangladesh Railway" Project
Bangladesh Railway, CRB, Chattogram

Corrigendum of Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

EOI No. 54.01.1500.115.07.100.21 dated 18/11/2021 published by Office of The Project Director "Feasibility Study and Detailed Design for Introduction of Electric Traction (Including Overhead Catenary, Sub-Station) In Between Narayanganj-Dhaka-Chattogram Section of Bangladesh Railway" Project, Bangladesh Railway, CRB, Chattogram as hereby corrected as below:

SL. No. of EOI	As in the EOI Corrigendum date: 14.12.2021	Corrigendum
12.	EOI closing date and time: 29.12.2021 at 05.00 hours.	EOI closing date and time: 29.12.2021 at 17.00 hours.

All other parts of notice will remain unchanged.

Md. Habibur Rahman
Project Director
"Feasibility study and detailed design for introduction of electric traction (including overhead catenary, sub-station) in between Narayanganj-Dhaka-Chattogram section of Bangladesh Railway" Project
Bangladesh Railway, CRB, Chattogram

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GD-2328

Canada cuts budget deficit forecast citing strong economy

REUTERS, Toronto
The Canadian government on Tuesday cut its deficit forecast for the current fiscal year, citing higher tax revenues and less emergency aid spending, while earmarking new funds to fight the Omicron coronavirus variant. "The fall economic statement is all about addressing the problem that it's in front of us today, but there is no real articulation of a longer term economic growth plan. There are still these fundamental economic challenges that the economy is facing, and unfortunately, we're not seeing a whole lot in here to address that. I noticed in particular, looking at the growth projections...we're eventually going to kind of slip back to the same levels of economic growth below 2 per cent that we were seeing before the pandemic. And so, what is the long term plan?"

Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation
Project Management Unit (PMU), Dhaka
Website: www.bhbfc.gov.bd

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)
Consultancy Services for Need Assessment Consultant for IT system

Country: The People's Republic of Bangladesh. **Name of the Project:** Rural and Peri-Urban Housing Finance Project
Sector : Financing-construction of housing. **Consulting Services:** Need Assessment Consultant for IT System
Mode of Financing: Installment Sale Financing and OCR Loan. **IDB Project No:** BGD-1007

- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) toward the cost of the "Rural and Peri-Urban Housing Finance Project" currently which is being executed by Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation (BHBFC) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds for consultant services. The services include capacity development for setting up a robust M&E system that would provide BHBFC with an efficient management tool for tracking and reporting results. This also covers the inputs of the specialized consultancy and IT support as well as the necessary hardware that are essential for setting up the M&E system in BHBFC.
- Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation (BHBFC) as Executing Agency now invites eligible 'Consultants' (Consultants hereby means the Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) department or equivalent from Bangladeshi Universities) to express their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants must provide specific information which may demonstrate that they are fully qualified to perform the services (Brochures or Department/Unit details, description of similar assignments, experience in similar work under donor funded project, availability of appropriate skills among staff etc.).
- The short-listing criteria are:** Core business in IT sector and length of years in business/services; Relevant/specific experience; Logistical capacity and technical capability (Total number of permanent staffs in IT area of the University); Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.
- The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Paragraphs 1.23, and 1.24 of the Guidelines for Procurement of Consultant Services under IsDB Project Financing, setting forth IsDB's policy on conflict of interest addition to the detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website www.bhbfc.gov.bd.
- Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly the form of association.
- Consultants shall be selected in accordance with the criteria set at TOR following Least Cost Selection (LCS) method.
- Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 10:00 AM to 02:30 PM.
- EOI must be delivered in a written form to the address below by 02:30 PM on 26th December, 2021. Both the hard copy as well as electronic version of EOIs will be acceptable.

Md. Atikul Islam
Project Director
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GD-2330