



Mohammad Ali, managing director of Pubali Bank, attended an “Islamic Banking Window Managers’ Conference” at the bank’s head office in Dhaka recently. Mohammad Esha, deputy managing director, and Dewan Jamil Masud, Javed Hasan, Endra Mohan Sutradhar and Ajuba Khandaker, general managers, were present.

PHOTO: PUBALI BANK



Meheriar M Hasan, director of Brac Bank, inaugurated a sub-branch at New Market City Complex in Dhaka recently. Sheikh Mohammad Ashfaque, head of branches, and senior officials of the bank’s distribution network were present.

PHOTO: BRAC BANK



Adil Hossain Nobel, fashion model and media personality, inaugurated an Infinity Mega Mall at Time Square Shopping Complex on Ring Road in Shyamoli, Dhaka yesterday. Mohammad Junaid, chairman of Infinity Group, Nazmul Haque Khan, managing director, Naimul Haque Khan, vice-chairman, Shafiul Alam Chowdhury, honorary adviser, GM Rashedul Haque Mukul, executive director, and Sajjad Hossain, managing director of Time Square Shopping Complex, were present.

PHOTO: INFINITY GROUP



Actress Bidya Sinha Saha Mim, hands over a trophy to a winning dealer at a prize giving ceremony of the “Rong Star Season-2” competition organised by Asian Paints Bangladesh recently. Some 271 dealers of the company from across the country participated in the event and the national winner received Tk 1 lakh with a Rong Star trophy. Shahed Mohammad Yousuf, head of sales and activation of the company, and Nazmul Huda Naeem, head of marketing, were present.

PHOTO: ASIAN PAINTS BANGLADESH



Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director of Mutual Trust Bank, and Md Aminur Rashid, chairman of Edison Real Estate, exchanged signed documents of an agreement at the bank’s corporate head office in Gulshan, Dhaka recently over boosting home loan sourcing and engagement in marketing campaigns. Chowdhury Akhtar Asif, additional managing director of the bank, Md Khalid Mahmood Khan, deputy managing director, Ahmed Pasha, director of the real estate company, and Sahedul Karim Munna and Masud Alam, additional directors, were present.

PHOTO: MUTUAL TRUST BANK

## First Security Islami Bank inks deal with Addie Soft

STAR BUSINESS DESK

First Security Islami Bank Limited (FSIBL) has signed an agreement with Addie Soft Limited over payment solutions.

Syed Waseque Md Ali, managing director of First Security Islami Bank, and Md Sakib Rabbani, managing director of Addie Soft, signed the agreement at the bank’s head office in Dhaka yesterday, according to a press release.

Under the deal, students of more than 300 renowned educational institutions

will be able to pay their academic fees and others through the digital banking channel of FSIBL called “Cloud” and mobile financial service “First Cash”.

Among others, Md Zahurul Haque and Md Masudur Rahman Shah, deputy managing directors of the bank, Mohammad Musudur Rahman, head of alternative delivery channel division, Md Faridur Rahman Jalal, head of marketing and business development division, and Md Mushfiqur Rahman, head of ICT division, were present.

## City Bank: a phoenix in Bangladesh’s banking

FROM PAGE B4

It stopped branch-based lending and opening of letters of credit, and commenced retail banking, credit cards, and SME business.

“The story that ensued thereafter is known to all. A problem bank completed the first full centralisation of any older bank,” Arefin said.

A new logo, Citygem Priority Banking, City Alo Women banking, small and micro-lending, supply chain finance, and the country’s most popular digital banking app Citytouch were launched.

Two landmark events have happened in the bank since 2007.

City Bank acquired the full territorial licence of American Express cards

business, which now enjoys the largest market share in both credit card issuing and acquiring business.

The bank brought in the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a wing of the World Bank Group, to its board as the single largest shareholder.

The IFC nominated a woman American banker, who held a senior position in Merrill Lynch in the past, to the board of City Bank. She sits in the bank’s risk management committee too.

“The IFC reshaped the governance culture in the bank and also how we view women at the workplace and their careers,” Arefin said.

Another big achievement for the bank has been to maintain supremacy in corporate banking: it

handles 7 per cent of the country’s export and import finance.

It has financed 22 per cent of new power generation during the tenure of the current government, which came to power in 2009.

According to Arefin, ensuring good governance has been the key to the success.

“As a result, City Bank has become a brand in the banking sector.”

“People trust us. In the last two and a half months when deposits were withdrawn from a few banks, our core deposit grew by Tk 2,500 crore.”

The bank is continuously working to strengthen its brand image focused on corporate governance. That doesn’t mean only better

credit norms.

“The board stays away from the loan sanctioning process. None of the board members has so far requested the management team for one single loan to be approved.”

Default loans in the bank stand at 3.85 per cent and Arefin says there is not a single bad loan at City Bank in disguise of a good loan.

“Rather, we have kept additional provision of Tk 308 crore as of today in view of the ongoing economic uncertainty at home and abroad.”

He also touched upon the country’s ongoing macroeconomic situation.

He said the good thing is that Bangladesh’s current account balance was a surplus of \$220 million in

January 2023.

“This gives me hope that the dollar issue will get resolved by June.”

The local currency has depreciated by 25 per cent against the American greenback in the past one year.

“To make our expert competitive and bring more remittance that will allow us to do sufficient import, I think a depreciation of the taka by another 15 per cent or so should be on the card in the coming days.”

“The Bangladesh Bank governor is actively working on arriving at a uniform exchange rate determined by the market. So, we are hopeful to resolve the ongoing stress in the foreign exchange market soon,” said Arefin.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
উপ-প্রকল্প ব্যবস্থাপকের (অধ্যক্ষ) কার্যালয়  
কলেজ এডুকেশন ডেভেলপমেন্ট প্রজেক্ট (সিইডিপি)  
সরকারি সৈয়দ হাফেজ আলী কলেজ, বরিশাল  
কলেজ কোড: ১১১০ (জাঃ বিঃ), ০২৩৪ (মাউশি), ১৮২৫ (বোর্ড)  
ই.আই.সিঃ ১০০৮৭৬, ফোনঃ ০৪৩১-৬৪৯০৮  
Website: www.gshac.gov.bd E-mail: hatemalicollegebarisal@yahoo.com  
“মারক নং-জি.এস.এইচ.এ.সি/CEDP/GHAC/1023/2022-2023/w3 তারিখঃ ২৭-০৩-২০২৩

**e-Tender Notice: 01/2022-2023 (Re-Tender)**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of works	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
01	807085	Renovation and refurbishment of classrooms, office rooms, Washrooms etc. including furniture at Govt. Syed Hatem Ali College, Barishal (Package No. w3)	10-04-2023 Time: 1:00pm (13:00)	10-04-2023 Time: 2:00pm (14:00)

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP 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 up to 9 April 2023, 14:00.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

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GD-574

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E-mail: [kmpl.edu@gmail.com](mailto:kmpl.edu@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.kmpl.gov.bd](http://www.kmpl.gov.bd)

Reference No. KMPI/Tender/2022-23-08 Date: 21-03-23

**e-Tender/Re-Tender Notice**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of goods.

SL No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of scheme	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender closing (date & time)	Tender opening (date & time)
1	804501	KMPI/Tender/22-23/GR-07	Supply and Installation of Digital Duplicator Machine	10-Apr-2023 16.00	11-Apr-2023 13.00	11-Apr-2023 13.00
2	804502	KMPI/Tender/22-23/GR-08	Supply of Raw-Materials & Spare Parts	10-Apr-2023 16.00	11-Apr-2023 13.30	11-Apr-2023 13.30
3	804503	KMPI/Tender/22-23/GR-09	Supply and Installation of Office Accessories	10-Apr-2023 16.00	11-Apr-2023 14.00	11-Apr-2023 14.00
4	804506	KMPI/Tender/22-23/GR-10	Supply and Installation of Education & Learning Materials	10-Apr-2023 16.00	11-Apr-2023 14.30	11-Apr-2023 14.30

**Re-Tender Notice**

5	804519	KMPI/Tender/22-23/GR-02	Supply and Installation of RTK GPS for Civil Technology	06-Apr-2023 16.00	09-Apr-2023 13.00	09-Apr-2023 13.00
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This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP helpdesk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

**Kazi Neamul Shaheen**  
Principal (In-charge)  
Khulna Mohila Polytechnic Institute  
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## Rupee does better than peers

REUTERS, Mumbai

The Indian rupee rose against the US currency on Monday, helped by likely dollar inflows and healthier risk, traders said.

The rupee last traded at 82.37 to the dollar, up from 82.48 in the previous session. The local currency held an 82.275 to 82.4250 range.

Meanwhile, other Asian currencies declined. The offshore Chinese yuan declined below 6.88 to the dollar and the Korean won and the Thai baht were down more than 0.5 per cent. The dollar index rose to 103.14.

“It looks like flows or expectations of flows in the last week of the fiscal year (boosted the rupee),” a trader at a private sector bank said.

“Having said that, it was a nothing kind of a session. It could simply be that after seeing near 82.05 last week, 82.40 looked good for dollar sellers.”

The rupee reached a high of 82.07 last Thursday on the back of a dovish 25 basis-point interest rate hike by the US Federal Reserve.

## 7UP unveils Ramadan campaign featuring cricketer Shakib

STAR BUSINESS DESK

American non-caffeinated soft-drink brand 7UP yesterday unveiled a Ramadan campaign featuring brand ambassador Shakib Al Hasan, marking the auspicious month of fasting for Muslims.

The film captures the spirit of Ramadan and camaraderie among people, which is accompanied by limited edition Ramadan-inspired packaging to add joy to iftar celebrations across Bangladesh, said a press release. The new television commercial (TVC) is an ode to the resilience and kindness that people share with each other as they observe fasting during the month of Ramadan.

The TVC opens with Shakib singing a refreshing jingle and ends with him returning home and reminding his brother to do just that, as they all enjoy their iftar meal over a chilled bottle of 7UP.

The ad symbolises that we should all come together to support and help each other as we practice restraint and look inwards and find happiness in the month of Ramadan.

“Our new campaign beautifully reiterates the generosity, kindness and love we share with our friends and family during Ramadan. This film is a reflection of our ‘Think Fresh’ philosophy with a thoughtful message and we are confident that it will resonate well with the audience,” said Anuj Goyal, associate marketing director for Bangladesh Region at PepsiCo.

“This year’s campaign not only encourages everyone to observe Ramadan with a pure heart, but also to think fresh and share love and kindness with one and all,” said Shakib.

“This new campaign of 7UP with Shakib Al Hasan will make our consumers happy and help them think fresh,” said Sharfuddin Bhuiyan, head of marketing of Transcom Beverage.

PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS IN DHAKA CITY			
	PRICE (MAR 27, 2023)	% CHANGES FROM A MONTH AGO	% CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO
Fine rice (kg)	Tk 60-Tk 75	0	3.85 ↑
Coarse rice (kg)	Tk 46-Tk 50	-4 ↓	3.23 ↑
Loose flour (kg)	Tk 58-Tk 60	-4.24 ↓	54.79 ↑
Lentil (kg)	Tk 95-Tk 100	0	0
Soybean (litre)	Tk 170-Tk 175	1.47 ↑	15.77 ↑
Potato (kg)	Tk 20-Tk 25	-4.26 ↓	18.42 ↑
Onion (kg)	Tk 35-Tk 45	23.08 ↑	6.67 ↑
Egg (4 pcs)	Tk 45-Tk 47	1.1 ↑	29.58 ↑
SOURCE: TCB			

গrameen Bank AIMS BANGLADESH

**GRAMEEN BANK-AIMS FIRST UNIT FUND**  
Micro-Savers Special Purpose Growth Scheme  
*Bridge For Financial Inclusion*

**GRAMEEN BANK-AIMS FIRST UNIT FUND LAUNCHED WITH TK151.88 CRORE**

The ‘Micro-Savers Special Purpose Growth Scheme’ of Grameen Bank-AIMS First Unit Fund, sponsored by Grameen Bank under management of AIMS of Bangladesh Limited, the pioneer private asset management company in Bangladesh, conveys utmost gratitude to valued investors for the successful completion of initial subscription with a collection of a whopping Tk151.88 crore. Though the initial size of the Scheme as per the Trust Deed was envisioned at Tk135 crore, including Pre-IPO Placement, Entitlement Offer and Public Subscription, in which the Sponsor’s contribution has been Tk100 crore, the Scheme has surpassed the target with spontaneous participation of all section of investors, reflecting confidence on the Asset Manager.

The Scheme was successful in collecting Tk21.30 crore through Pre-IPO Placement and Entitlements, which took the total to about 90% of the initially envisioned size of Tk135 crore. Thereafter, debunking the myth of perceived public apathy on mutual funds, the Scheme has collected further Tk30.58 crore through the IPO, countervailing the prevailing bearish market atmosphere. As such, the total Scheme size reached Tk151.88 crore. It is now open for further subscription.

The Vision of the Fund, the first open-ended Scheme under AIMS, is to achieve financial inclusion through the mutual fund vehicle by creating a reliable and affordable financial instrument for the micro-savers and middle-class cluster of the society and integrating them with the national capital market in a structured, caring and responsible way. Along with the growing risk averse retiree section of the community, institutional investors would also find the Scheme a safe sanctuary for predictable income stream and capital gains.

The maiden Net Asset Value (NAV) and Buy/Sale Price of the Scheme on the week ended on 23 March 2023 is as follows:

NAV PER UNIT IN TK (MARKET)	UNIT BUY IN TK	UNIT SALE/SURRENDER IN TK	DATE
10.42	10.45	10.35	23 March 2023

**AIMS OF BANGLADESH LIMITED**  
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