



Mohammad Ali, managing director of Pubali Bank, attended a training workshop on prevention of money-laundering and terrorist financing for the Dhaka, Narayanganj and Gazipur regions at the bank's head office in the capital on Saturday. Md Arifuzzaman, director of Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit, Muhammad Mohsin Hossaini, additional director, Md Rokon-Uz-Zaman and Mohammad Ismail Proshan, joint directors, and Mohammad Shahadat Hossain, deputy managing director of the bank, and Shyam Sundar Banik, deputy general manager, were present.

PHOTO: PUBALI BANK



Prof Nazrul Islam, former chairman of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh, was greeted with bouquets and given a key to a residential project of Sheltech Group named "Sheltech Shamatata" as a landowner, at Sheltech Tower in Dhaka recently. Tausif Iqbal Siddiqui, associate director of Sheltech Group, Md Sharif Hossain Bhuiyan, chief executive officer of Sheltech Ltd, and Shahjahan, head of operations, were present.

PHOTO: SHELTECH



Mohammad Forkanullah, managing director (current charge) of Social Islami Bank, inaugurated a hajj booth at Ashkona Hajj Camp in Uttara, Dhaka on Saturday. Among others, Joint Secretary Md Saiful Islam, director of hajj office, Md Abdul Hamid, head of Dhaka zone of the bank, Md Aminur Rahman, Wahidul Islam Chowdhury, Md Moinuddin Hossain, and ATM Shakhawat Hossain, managers, and Syed Joydul Abedin, muraqib of shariah supervisory committee secretariat, were present.

PHOTO: SOCIAL ISLAMI BANK



Khalilur Rahman, president of the Chittagong Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce & Industry, inaugurated a branch of Al-Arafah Islami Bank at Nazumia Hat of Hathazari Upazila in Chattogram yesterday. Salim Rahman, chairman of the bank, Mohammad Abdus Salam, vice-chairman of board executive committee, and Farman R Chowdhury, managing director, were present.

PHOTO: AL-ARAFAH ISLAMI BANK



Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank, inaugurates a hajj booth and a medical camp at Ashkona Hajj Camp in Uttara, Dhaka yesterday. Among others, M Akhter Hossain, additional managing director of the bank, Mohammad Abu Hanif, manager of Uttara branch, and Mohammad Habibur Rahaman, manager of Ashkona branch, were present.

PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK



Adil Raihan, deputy managing director of Mercantile Bank, poses for photographs with participants of a training programme on "Operational and Compliance Issues of Agent Banking" organised by the bank at Mercantile Bank Training Institute (MBTI) in Dhaka recently. Among others, Md Enayet Ullah, executive vice-president of the bank, Darpon Kanti Roy, head of agent banking division, and Javed Tariq, principal of MBTI, were present.

PHOTO: MERCANTILE BANK



PHOTO: PRAGATI LIFE INSURANCE

Khalilur Rahman, chairman of Pragati Life Insurance, inaugurated an "Annual Conference 2022" of the company at Long Beach Hotel in Cox's Bazar recently. Among others, Md Jalalul Azim, chief executive officer of the insurer, and Quamrul Hasan, member of the Insurance Development & Regulatory Authority, were present.

## UK unveils £1b semiconductor strategy

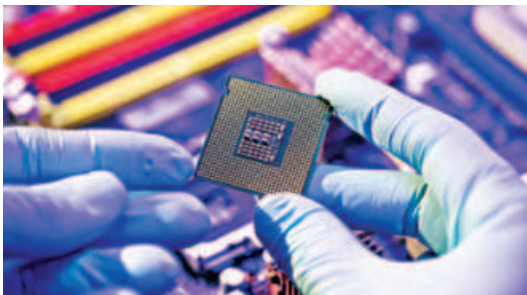
AFP, London

The British government on Friday unveiled a new £1 billion semiconductor strategy to invest in infrastructure, research and security as the UK tries to diversify its chip supply chain.

The plan would "safeguard supply chains from disruption and protect tech against national security risks", the UK government's department for business, energy and industrial strategy said in a statement.

The investment over the next decade would include up to £200 million (\$215 million) between now and 2025.

The new 20-year strategy would "boost the UK's strengths and skills in design, R&D and compound semiconductors, while helping to grow domestic chip firms across the UK", the department added.



It comes as European carmaker Stellantis has warned it could close some UK factories should the British government fail to tweak Brexit trade rules to ease the supply of batteries for electric vehicles, for which semiconductor technology is a key part.

Visiting Tokyo Thursday, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced Japanese investment of more than \$22 billion into the UK, but accepted carmakers' concern about Brexit trade rules as he confirmed talks with the European Union.

"Semiconductors underpin the devices we use every day and will be crucial to advancing the technologies of tomorrow," Sunak was quoted as saying in the statement.

"Our new strategy focuses our efforts on where our strengths lie, in areas like research and design, so we can build our competitive edge on the global stage," he added

| PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS<br>IN DHAKA CITY |                            |                                  |                                |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|   | PRICE<br>(MAY 21,<br>2023) | % CHANGES<br>FROM A<br>MONTH AGO | % CHANGE<br>FROM A<br>YEAR AGO |
| Fine rice (kg)                            | Tk 60-Tk 75                | 0                                | 7.14                           |
| Coarse rice (kg)                          | Tk 46-Tk 50                | 1.05                             | 3.23                           |
| Loose flour (kg)                          | Tk 55-Tk 60                | 1.77                             | 19.79                          |
| Lentil (kg)                               | Tk 90-Tk 100               | -2.56                            | -11.63                         |
| Soybean (litre)                           | Tk 175-Tk 185              | 4.96                             | -3.23                          |
| Potato (kg)                               | Tk 35-Tk 40                | 29.31                            | 74.42                          |
| Onion (kg)                                | Tk 70-Tk 80                | 114.29                           | 92.31                          |
| Egg (4 pcs)                               | Tk 47-Tk 50                | 11.49                            | 21.25                          |
| SOURCE: TCB                               |                            |                                  |                                |

## Be more cost-competitive

FROM PAGE B1

Kiminori then said he believes the two countries will have an even more fruitful relationship in trade and investment in the future following Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to Japan last month.

Fahmida Khatun, executive director of the CPD, said Bangladesh is currently undergoing a double transition considering the challenges posed by the fourth industrial revolution as well as its impending graduation from a least developed country.

To promote Japanese investment in Bangladesh, a dedicated economic zone is being constructed in Araihaazar, Narayanganj, with tax exemptions, income tax immunity, duty-free exports, cash incentives and bonded warehouse facilities for companies from the island nation.

Khatun emphasised on the importance of skills development and addressing climate change in Bangladesh. And although the country

has committed to reducing carbon emissions, it still needs to establish a clean and green production system.

She then mentioned that Japan has targets for clean energy investment and as such, the private sector of Bangladesh could collaborate with Japanese companies to explore sustainable solutions.

Masrur Reaz, chairman and founder of the Policy Exchange Bangladesh, said Japan has a strong interest in the country due to its long-term growth prospects, demographic dividend, and cost competitiveness.

He suggested the key areas to focus on for improving trade with Japan include moving away from ad-hoc general investment promotion practices and adopting an integrated trade and investment approach.

Yuji Ando, country representative of the Japan External Trade Organization (Jetro), said there are several important factors for Bangladesh to consider for achieving cost competitiveness and

higher exports, particularly to Japan.

He highlighted the importance of a free trade agreement or economic partnership agreement to compensate for the loss of GSP+ facilities following the country's graduation in 2026.

Ando also suggested developing platform industries and procuring raw materials domestically to reduce costs.

Tareq Rafi Bhuiyan (Jun), secretary general of the Japan-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said Japanese companies are interested in expanding their operations in Bangladesh.

However, referring to the latest Jetro survey, he said 67 per cent of respondents cited the lack of skilled labour as a major issue for investment.

He also highlighted the importance of ensuring the satisfaction of existing investors in Bangladesh by addressing issues in the country's taxation policies, foreign exchange policies, customs clearance delays and payment transfer procedures.

## Nagad's loss piles up to Tk 625cr

FROM PAGE B1

of Tk 400 crore and the rest Tk 110 crore would be utilised as working capital.

Nagad has a short-term loan of Tk 617 crore, according to the prospectus on the bond.

"This is very natural that companies, especially startups, incur losses in their growth stage. That has also happened to Nagad," said Muhammad Zahidul Islam, head of public communication at the company.

He said Nagad has secured the loan to contribute to the country's

financial inclusion drive.

"And the result is: within four years of our journey, Nagad has onboarded more than 7.5 crore customers."

Nagad is the second-largest MFS operator in a market that boasted 19.81 crore subscribers in March. More than Tk 108,467 crore were transacted in the month, Bangladesh Bank data showed.

The company plans to move to the next phase and is going to introduce new services that will contribute to transforming Bangladesh into a cashless society.

"We have already cemented our

position and we are very hopeful that within a very short time, Nagad will be a profitable company," said Islam.

Nagad expects to log a profit from the financial year of 2024-2025 and the projected profit would be Tk 28 crore. In the same year, its net revenue is forecast to grow to Tk 1,324 crore.

In 2022, Nagad's cost of services was Tk 415 crore, operating and administrative cost stood at Tk 292 crore, marketing and promotional expenses amounted to Tk 157 crore, and the interest cost was Tk 28 crore, according to the prospectus.

## Global sugar prices may go up

FROM PAGE B4

India exported a record 11.2 million tonnes of sugar during the 2021-22 season, with consignments sent to countries like Indonesia, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Sudan, Somalia and the United Arab Emirates.

The country was expected to

produce around 38.5 million tonnes in 2022-23, but this estimate was lowered to 36.8 million tonnes by the Indian Sugar Mills Association (Isma) on April 26.

These figures include sugar diverted for ethanol production, indicating that the actual production estimate

of the sweetener is only 32.8 million tonnes against an annual domestic consumption of around 27.5 million tonnes.

The fall in output is largely a result of weather-related disruptions in Maharashtra, a key sugar cane growing state.

# গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ  
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়  
মাদারীপুর

## দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০২২-২৩ অর্থ বৎসরে মাদারীপুর জেলার নিম্নলিখিত মেরামত/সংস্কার কাজ বাস্তবায়নের জন্য বাংলাদেশী প্রকৃত ঠিকাদার/নির্মাণ প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে প্রতিযোগিতামূলক রেট কোটে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

|    |  |    |  |
|----|--|----|--|
| ১  | মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ  | ৪  | স্বর্ণস্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ।   |
| ২  | সংস্থা   | ৫  | বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।  |
| ৩  | দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রধান  | ৬  | পুলিশ সুপার, মাদারীপুর।  |
| ৪  | দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী জেলা/সংস্থা                                   | ৭  | মাদারীপুর।   |
| ৫  | দরপত্রের সূত্র ও তারিখ   | ৮  | পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স স্মারক নং- ৪৪.০১.০০০০.০৪৩.১০৬-২০২২/মেরামত/মাদারীপুর জেলা/১০৭২ তারিখঃ ১৫/০৫/২০২৩ এবং পুলিশ অফিস স্মারক নং-১৯৩৫/ই তারিখঃ ২০/০৫/২০২৩  |
| ৬  | দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি  | ৯  | উন্মুক্ত।  |
| ৭  | বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত  | ১০ | রাজস্ব।  |
| ৮  | দরপত্র জারীর তারিখ   | ১১ | ২০/০৫/২০২৩   |
| ৯  | দরপত্র সিডিউল বিস্তারের শেষ তারিখ                                | ১২ | ০৪/০৬/২০২৩ অফিস চলাকালীন পর্যন্ত।  |
| ১০ | দরপত্র জমা দেওয়ার সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়                          | ১৩ | ০৫/০৬/২০২৩ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।   |
| ১১ | দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়  | ১৪ | ০৫/০৬/২০২৩ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা।   |
| ১২ | দরপত্র মূল্যায়নের তারিখ ও সময়                                  | ১৫ | ০৬/০৬/২০২৩ বেলা ১৪.০০ ঘটিকা।   |
| ১৩ | দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী অফিস ও ঠিকানা                                 | ১৬ | পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মাদারীপুর।  |
| ১৪ | দরপত্র প্রাপ্তির স্থান   | ১৭ | (ক) ডিআইজি, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ, ঢাকা রোড এর কার্যালয়, ঢাকা।<br>(খ) পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মাদারীপুর/গোপালগঞ্জ/শরীরতপুর জেলা।  |
| ১৫ | দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান   | ১৮ | (ক) পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, মাদারীপুর।  |
| ১৬ | দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা ও দরপত্রের সহিত যে সকল কাগজপত্র জমা দিতে হবে | ১৯ | হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, আয়কর সনদ, ভ্যাট নিবন্ধন সনদ, ব্যাংক স্বাক্ষরিত সনদ, Liquid Asset সনদ, নাগরিকত্ব সনদ, মালিকানাধীন এফিডেভিট, পুলিশ বিভাগের মেরামত/নির্মাণ কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ দাখিল করতে হবে। |
| ১৭ | দরপত্র আহ্বান কর্তৃপক্ষের নাম                                    | ২০ | পুলিশ সুপার, মাদারীপুর।  |
| ১৮ | দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম ও পদবী                          | ২১ | মোঃ মাসুদ আলম, বিপিএম-বার, পিপিএম, পুলিশ সুপার, মাদারীপুর।   |
| ১৯ | কাজের বিবরণী/ কাজের নামঃ   | ২২ |  |

| ক্রম নং | স্থাপনার আইডি | কাজের নাম  | সিডিউলের মূল্য | দরপত্র জামানত | কাজ সমাপ্তি সময় |
|---------|---------------|--|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| ১.      | MAD-S0087     | মাদারীপুর জেলা কালকিনি থানাধীন খাসেরহাট পুলিশ তদন্ত কেন্দ্রের সম্পূর্ণ সীমানা প্রাচীরের উচ্চতা ৬ ফুট পর্যন্ত বৃদ্ধিকরণ, কাঁটাতার স্থাপন ও রক্ষণ কাজ। | ৪০০/-          | ২৮,৫০০/-      | ৩০ দিন           |

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| ২০। | বিশেষ জ্ঞাতব্যঃ  |
| ক।  | বাকি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানের স্বত্বাধিকারীর স্বাক্ষরকৃত প্যাডে আবেদনপূর্বক অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত দরপত্র সিডিউল সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। |
| খ।  | দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন সময় কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত যেকোনো কারণে দরপত্র বাতিল/সংশোধনের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।          |
| গ।  | দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন কমিটি কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত যেকোনো দরপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।                           |

*(Signature)*

মোঃ মাসুদ আলম, বিপিএম-বার, পিপিএম

বিপি নং-৮১০৮১২১৬৯২

পুলিশ সুপার, মাদারীপুর

ফোনঃ ৬১৪৯৪, ফ্যাক্সঃ ৬১১০৮

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জিডি-৮৯৩