

Prime Bank launches 'Diversity & Inclusion' team

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Prime Bank yesterday launched a "Diversity & Inclusion" team in a bid to create a more diverse and inclusive workplace.

The inauguration ceremony at Prime Tower, located at Nikunja-2, featured a panel discussion introducing the new "Diversity and Inclusion" team to employees, said a press release.

Hassan O Rashid, managing director and CEO of the bank, Faisal Rahman, additional managing director, and Mahbuba Ashraf, executive vice-president and head of diversity & inclusion, along with other officials participated in the session as panelists.

"We are fully focused on moving forward with a progressive mindset that will entail all necessary measures and actions required for the growth and development of the organisation," said Rashid.

The bank also unveiled its diversity and inclusion policy guidelines for all employees, further solidifying their commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive work environment.



Hassan O Rashid, managing director of Prime Bank, Faisal Rahman, additional managing director, and Mahbuba Ashraf, executive vice-president and head of the Diversity & Inclusion, pose for photographs after unveiling a "Diversity & Inclusion" team at Prime Tower in Nikunja-2, Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK

Four senior MTB officials become DMD

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Mutual Trust Bank Ltd promoted four of its senior executive vice-presidents to the post of deputy managing director (DMD) with effect from September 1.

The promotees are Md Bakhteyar Hossain, Md Shamsul Islam, Usman Rashed Mueen and Md Shafquat Hossain, said a press release.

Bakhteyar Hossain, who is a seasoned banker with over 28 years of banking experience with a specialisation in International Trade, is currently playing the role of chief operating officer.

He obtained his master's degree in geography and environmental science from the University of Dhaka before completing his MBA in Australia.

Shamsul Islam, who has also been serving the bank as head of treasury, started his career with IFC Bank as a probationary officer in 1996 and later worked for Southeast Bank and National Bank.

Islam joined Mutual Trust Bank in 2013. He attained his master's degree from the University of Dhaka and did an MBA from National Louis University in UK.

Rashed Mueen, who has also been serving as the head of credit risk management, began his career with Southeast Bank as a probationary officer in 1996 and later worked for Dhaka Bank and Eastern Bank.

He obtained his honour's and master's in finance from the University of Dhaka and completed his MBA at North South University.

Shafquat Hossain, who has also been serving as head of retail banking, joined the bank as the head of SME and retail banking division and senior executive vice-president.

He embarked on his career as a management trainee at the erstwhile ANZ Grindlays Bank in 1997 and later worked for HSBC Bangladesh, Standard Chartered Bangladesh and Dhaka Bank.

Akikur made Southeast Bank' vice-chairman

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Md Akikur Rahman was elected as vice-chairman of the board of directors and chairman of the executive committee of Southeast Bank Ltd in its 707th board meeting recently.

Rahman has been associated with Southeast Bank Ltd since its inception as a sponsor director, said a press release. He is the chairman of

RAR Investment Ltd in the United Kingdom. He is also the chairman of the Dorking Muslim Community Association in the United Kingdom and managing director of RAR Holding Ltd.



Md Abul Bashar, chairman of NCC Bank, Sohela Hossain, vice-chairman, and Mohammad Mamdudur Rashid, managing director and CEO, launch a prepaid card at the bank's head office in Dhaka on Tuesday.

PHOTO: NCC BANK

NCC Bank brings reloadable Visa prepaid card

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NCC Bank launched a reloadable Visa consumer prepaid card on Tuesday.

Md Abul Bashar, chairman of the bank, Sohela Hossain, vice-chairman, and Mohammad Mamdudur Rashid, managing director and CEO, launched the prepaid card at the bank's head office in Dhaka, said a press release.

"This is a dual currency card promoting financial inclusivity and advancing the vision of fostering a cashless economy in Bangladesh," said Bashar.

"The card offers a comprehensive financial solution to help the cardholders manage their money more efficiently," said Rashid.

Soumya Basu, country manager for Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan at Visa, and M Shamsul Arefin, additional managing director, along with other senior team members of the bank and high officials of Visa and IT Consultants Ltd were present.

United Ayyaz LPG inks deal with Singer

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United Ayyaz LPG Ltd, a concern of United Group, has signed an agreement with Singer Bangladesh to offer special discount benefits for the latter's distributors, retailers and delivery personnel.

Ahmet Ercument Polat, chief executive officer of the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) company, and MHM Fairoz, managing director and CEO of the electronics company, inked the deal at the United Group's head office in Dhaka on Wednesday, said a press release.

"This agreement stands as a testament to the admirable ethos upheld by United Ayyaz LPG, which exemplifies their unwavering commitment to their valued stakeholders, including distributors, retailers and delivery personnel," said Fairoz.

"This initiative marks a groundbreaking milestone in the LPG industry as it focuses on considering the well-being of all individuals involved in our value chain, not just our employees. We view this partnership as a responsibility as it enables us to safeguard the welfare of individuals across various sectors," said Polat.



Ahmet Ercument Polat, chief executive officer of United Ayyaz LPG, and MHM Fairoz, managing director of Singer Bangladesh, exchange signed documents of an agreement on discount benefits at the United Group's head office in Dhaka on Wednesday.

PHOTO: UNITED GROUP



Abdur Rouf Talukder, president of the Institute of Bankers, Bangladesh (IBB) and governor of the Bangladesh Bank, presides over the institute's 50th annual general meeting at the IBB office in Dhaka on Tuesday. Kazi Sayedur Rahman, AKM Sajedur Rahman Khan, Abu Farah Md Nasser and Nurun Nahar, deputy governors of the BB, and Laila Bilkis Ara, secretary general of the IBB, along with chief executives of member banks and financial institutions, were present.

PHOTO: THE INSTITUTE OF BANKERS, BANGLADESH

Hilsa price rises

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Hilsa trader Abubakar admitted that the price of hilsa had suddenly increased from Tk 1,300 per kg to Tk 1,500 per kg.

On Thursday afternoon, large quantities of hilsa were being packed for export in the wholesale hilsa market in Barisal's Port Road.

Consumer Association of Bangladesh, Barishal unit secretary Ranjit Dutta said that the increasing price was due to a collusion between traders. He added that if prices continued to increase, hilsa would go beyond the reach of common people.

While hilsa is prevalent in

rivers that run through Bhola and Patharghata, lesser numbers are being spotted in coastal areas such as Alipur and Mohipur, said Fazlu Gazi, a hilsa trader from Mohipur.

The ministry of fisheries has said that a 22 day government ban on catching, selling, hoarding and transporting hilsa would come into effect from October 12 to save mother hilsa during peak breeding season.

As such, exports of hilsa must be completed by October 11.

Bangladesh sent the first consignment of 45.8 tonnes of hilsa fish to India through Benapole

port yesterday afternoon, our correspondent from Benapole added.

The export price of per kilogramme of hilsa was \$10.

After completing the customs and port formalities, the hilsa consignment in 12 trucks was sent to the Petrapole port in India.

The Bangladeshi exporters were Mahima Enterprises, Tanisa Enterprises, Seven Star Fish Processing, Ripa Enterprises and Pacific Sea Food while the Indian importers were SR International, Naz Impex Private Limited, Bimal Roy and Barkha Bikas Fees Agency.



Md Mahub Ali, state minister for civil aviation and tourism, poses for photographs with award-winners in the "ShareTrip-Monitor Airline of the Year 2023" awards at the InterContinental Dhaka on Wednesday.

PHOTO: SHARETRIP

Airlines recognised for service excellence

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Emirates was named "Airline of the Year" while US Bangla Airlines was named "Best Domestic Airline" in the "ShareTrip-Monitor Airline of the Year 2023" awards.

Qatar Airways and IndiGo emerged as "Cargo Airline of the Year" and "Best Budget Airline" respectively, whereas Vistara was adjudged "Best Regional Airline".

Winners were selected based on a poll of frequent flyers conducted in July and August this year. Over 3,300 frequent flyers cast their votes online, said a press release.

Md Mahub Ali, state minister for civil aviation and tourism, handed over awards to winning airlines at the InterContinental Dhaka on Wednesday.

Airlines operating in Bangladesh won gold, silver and bronze awards in 16 categories.

Japan International Cooperation Agency received a jury's special citation award for their active support and generous contribution towards development of the aviation sector in Bangladesh.

Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, Shibli Rubayat-Ul-Islam, chairman of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission and chairman of the jury, Kazi Wahidul Alam, editor of The Bangladesh Monitor, Sadia Haque, co-founder and CEO of ShareTrip, and Mohammad Saiful Hoque, chief executive officer of Sabre Bangladesh, were present.

Toshiba completes \$13.5b offer to go private

AFP, Tokyo

Japanese industrial giant Toshiba marked the end of an era as a listed company on Thursday as it announced that a private consortium had bought almost 80 percent of its shares.

Remaining shareholders will be "squeezed out" after the \$13.5-billion tender offer and Toshiba shares will be delisted after more than 70 years on the stock market, Toshiba said.

Toshiba traces its roots back to 1875 and evolved into a vast conglomerate in the 20th century synonymous with Japan's postwar economic revival and its technological innovation.

The firm became a household name in Japan and beyond, making everything from early laptop computers, elevators and nuclear power stations to microchips.

But it has lurched from crisis to crisis in recent years, including a huge accounting scandal in 2015 and billions of dollars in losses from US nuclear subsidiary Westinghouse.