

Pubali Bank holds CLS agent conference

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Pubali Bank PLC recently organised a “CLS Agent Conference 2023” at the Sky City Hotel in Dhaka.

Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of the bank, attended the conference as chief guest, read a press release.

Md Malequl Islam, deputy general manager and head of consumers credit division, presided over the event, where Md Shahnewaz Khan and Mohammad Anisuzzaman, deputy managing directors of the bank, were present as special guests.

The bank awarded the nine best performing CLS agents for the year 2022.

Various regional managers and division heads of the bank were also present.



PHOTO: PUBALI BANK

Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of Pubali Bank, poses for photographs with award-winning CLS agents and participants of a “CLS Agent Conference 2023” at the Sky City Hotel in Dhaka recently.



Mohammad Hamdur Rahaman Simon, chief executive officer of Rangs Ltd and Rangs Workshop Ltd, and Syed Zulkar Nayen, head of business of retail and SME banking of Eastern Bank, exchange signed documents of an agreement on customer benefits at the former's head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

Eastern Bank inks deal with Rangs Workshop

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Eastern Bank Ltd (EBL) and Rangs Workshop Ltd have signed an agreement on customer benefits.

Mohammad Hamdur Rahaman Simon, chief executive officer of Rangs Ltd and Rangs Workshop Ltd, and Syed Zulkar Nayen, head of business of retail and SME banking of the bank, inked the deal at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently, said a press release.

Under this arrangement, the bank's cardholders can enjoy special discounts at Mitsubishi Service Centre.

Farzana Qader, senior manager of bancassurance, student banking and retail propositions of the bank, and Mohammad Fahim Hossain, head of marketing of Rangs Ltd and Rangs Workshop Ltd, along with other officials from both the organisations were also present.

SBAC Bank arranges workshop on sustainable finance

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South Bangla Agriculture and Commerce (SBAC) Bank recently organised a day-long training workshop on sustainable finance at the SBAC Training Institute in Dhaka.

Chowdhury Liaquat Ali, director of the Sustainable Finance Department of the Bangladesh Bank, attended the workshop as chief guest, read a press release.

AKM Fazlur Rahman, principal of the SBAC Training Institute, presided over the workshop, where Md Abdul Matin, deputy managing director of the bank, and Md Abdul Mannan, executive vice-president and head of credit division, were present as discussants.

Managers, operations managers and credit officers of various branches and from the head office of the bank were also present.



Chowdhury Liaquat Ali, director of the Sustainable Finance Department of the Bangladesh Bank, poses for photographs with participants of a workshop on sustainable finance organised by the South Bangla Agriculture and Commerce (SBAC) Bank at the latter's training institute in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: SBAC BANK



PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK

Md Nurul Amin, director of the Department of Off-Site Supervision of the Bangladesh Bank, and Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director and CEO of Shahjalal Islami Bank, attend an “Annual Risk Management Conference-2023”, which was held virtually on Saturday.

Shahjalal Islami Bank organises risk management conference

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Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC organised the “Annual Risk Management Conference-2023” on Saturday.

Md Nurul Amin, director of the Department of Off-Site Supervision (DOSS) of the Bangladesh Bank, attended the conference as chief guest, read a press release.

Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director and CEO of the bank, presided over the

conference, where Md Towhidur Rahman, chairman of risk management committee and director of the bank, and Ekramul Haque and Nasir Uddin Ahmed, independent directors, were present as special guests.

Mohammed Ashfaqul Hoque, chief risk officer of the bank, presented a keynote paper on the bank's overall risk profile, risk management framework, risk mitigation methodologies, capital management and core risks management while discussing upcoming challenges.

NCC Bank offers agri materials to farmers

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NCC Bank recently distributed agricultural materials, including seeds, fertiliser and pesticides, free of cost among 800 marginal farmers of Khulna and Satkhira.

Talukder Abdul Khaleque, mayor of Khulna City Corporation, attended the programme in Khulna as chief guest, said a press release.

“Distribution of agricultural materials is a great initiative of the bank and I thank the NCC Bank's authorities for coming forward at the prime minister's call to cultivate every inch of land across the country as well as helping the farmers,” said Khaleque.

Md Monirul Alam, senior executive vice-president and company secretary of the bank, presided over the ceremony, where Khandaker Yeasir Arefin, deputy commissioner of Khulna, Kazi Jahangir Hossain, deputy director of the Department of Agricultural Extension of Khulna, and Amar Kumar Das, additional director of the Bangladesh Bank Khulna office, were present.

Md Mujibur Rahman, chairman of Debhata Upazila Parishad, inaugurated the distribution programme in Satkhira, where MA Kashem, an entrepreneur and former director of NCC Bank, Sharif Mohammad Titumir, upazila agriculture officer, and Golam Faruk Babu, chairman of Parulia union parishad, were also present.



PHOTO: NCC BANK

Talukder Abdul Khaleque, mayor of Khulna City Corporation, hands over agricultural materials to a farmer at a CSR programme organised by NCC Bank in Khulna recently as part of its corporate social responsibility.

Foreign firms race

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remains a lack of clarity on key details of the Saudi programme, the January 1 deadline is holding, the Saudi investment ministry told AFP in a written response to questions.

“Multinational companies that are part of the RHQ Program will be well positioned to bid for projects funded by the Saudi Government,” it said.

“Only multinational companies with regional headquarters in the Kingdom will be eligible for tenders and contracts floated by government entities.”

So far, 162 regional headquarters licenses have been granted in sectors including pharmaceuticals, IT and construction, “with many others being processed”, the ministry said.

The big question, analysts say, is whether participating firms are merely ticking a box to retain access to Saudi funds or genuinely embracing the government's vision of Saudi Arabia as the centre of the region.

The programme is “an early litmus test of the degree to which foreign

businesses are prepared or willing to comply with and buy into Saudi initiatives, or whether they will seek workarounds that see them retain the majority of staff in the UAE and delegate a select few to Saudi,” said Kristian Ulrichsen, a fellow at Rice University's Baker Institute.

It should also offer clues about the implementation of flagship projects such as a new airline and airport, and the \$500 billion, futuristic mega city known as NEOM, Ulrichsen said.

Riyadh defines a regional headquarters as an office that provides “strategic direction, management, and support services for company subsidiaries, branches, and affiliates in the (Middle East and North Africa) region”, the investment ministry said.

One firm, IHG Hotels & Resorts, placed its new office on the 12th floor of a skyscraper in the capital's financial district, staffing it with 25 employees from departments including revenue management, sales, marketing, design and engineering.

CIS-BCCI gets new president

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Mohammad Ali Deen has been elected president of the Commonwealth of Independent States-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CIS BCCI) for a three-year term.

Ali is the director of Runner Motors Ltd and general secretary of the Bangladesh Automobiles Assemblers and Manufacturers Association, read a press release.

Rashadul Hossain Chowdhury, vice-president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and Jadab Debnath, chairman of Jadroo Group and Blue Back Corporation Ltd, have been elected senior vice-president and vice president of the CIS-BCCI Board.



Joshoda Jibon Deb Nath, managing director of Technomedia Ltd, Dilip Kumar Agarwala, managing director of Diamond World Ltd, Lokiat Ullah, deputy managing director of Biopharma Ltd, Salma Hossain Ash, managing director of Rupoker Properties, Shafrat Haider, managing director of Ciproc Computers, Tauhida Sultana,

managing director of Advance Homes, Md Hasen Ali, managing director of Hasen Jute Industries, and Md Farukul Islam Shova, chairman of Ahmed Trade International, were elected as directors of the 17-member board of directors.

Abdul Latif Sarker, managing director of Shafiul Moznavin Construction, Md Khayer Mia, managing director of Hyacinth Group, Md Enamul Haque, executive director of Concord Real Estate & Development, Khan Md Iqbal, chairman and managing director of Alvi Group, Md Razib Pervez, proprietor of M/S Roadmap Enterprise, and Sudhir Chowdhury, managing director of Chowdhury Food & Feed Agro Industries, are the other directors on the board.

China may keep key lending rates unchanged

REUTERS, Shanghai/Singapore

China is widely expected to leave lending benchmark rates unchanged at a monthly fixing on Monday, after the central bank kept medium-term interbank rates steady and amid wider concerns about pressure on the yuan.

The loan prime rate (LPR) normally charged to banks' best clients is calculated each month after 18 designated commercial banks submit proposed rates to the People's Bank of China (PBOC).

In a poll of 26 market watchers, all participants predicted both the one-year LPR and the five-year tenor would stay unchanged. Most new and outstanding loans in the world's second-largest economy are based on the one-year LPR, which stands at 3.45 percent, while the five-year rate influences the pricing of mortgages and is 4.20 percent.