

## City Bank signs MoU with National Pension Authority

STAR BUSINESS DESK

City Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the National Pension Authority (NPA) as the first private commercial bank to promote universal pension schemes.

Kabirul Ezdani Khan, executive chairman of the NPA, and Mashrur Arefin, managing director and CEO of the bank, penned the MoU at the InterContinental Dhaka yesterday, the bank said in a press release.

Under the MoU, the bank will promote the opening of new schemes by individuals at home and abroad and also facilitate their monthly instalment payments digitally and through other means.

Any resident of the country can open a scheme by going to Citytouch and Citylive digital bank apps of the bank. Even non-resident Bangladeshis can also

open and manage the schemes using the CityRemit app which they use for sending money home.

The bank will specifically focus on the Malaysian market where it has a money remittance subsidiary with 15 branches spread across that country.

The lender will work as a partner of the NPA by promoting all the schemes under universal pension through its branches, sub-branches and agent banking network.

Among others, Md Khairuzzaman Mozumder, secretary of the ministry of finance, Golam Mostafa, additional secretary and member of the NPA, Sheikh Mohammad Maroof, additional managing director and chief business officer of the bank, Tahsin Haq, head of corporate cash management, and Saidur Rahman Farazi, CEO of CBL Money Transfer Malaysia Sdn Bhd, were also present.



Kabirul Ezdani Khan, executive chairman of the National Pension Authority, and Mashrur Arefin, managing director and CEO of City Bank, pose for photographs during a signing ceremony of a memorandum of understanding at the InterContinental Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: CITY BANK

## Brac Bank to use Gates Foundation grant for women, small businesses

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has approved a grant for Brac Bank to leverage the digitalisation of banking products and services to cater to a significant number of cottage, micro and small enterprises (CMEs) and women.

The foundation has extended the grant to facilitate a set of milestones towards greater financial inclusion in Bangladesh, the bank said in a press release.

"This grant from a globally renowned foundation will help us expand the inclusive initiatives and reach the grassroots level," said Selim RF Hussain, managing director and CEO of the bank.

**The foundation has extended the grant to facilitate a set of milestones towards greater financial inclusion in Bangladesh**

"This strategic project will empower micro-entrepreneurs and women to imprint their digital footprints and shape the digital financial inclusion landscape of the country," he said.

"We will leverage on our extensive network, comprehensive Women Banking Segment TARA and digital banking capabilities to best utilise the fund," said Syed Abdul Momen, deputy managing director and head of SME banking of the bank.

"... (This will) bring more grassroots women and CMEs into banking and strengthen their digital presence," he said.

A major goal of this programme is to provide digital lending solutions to the CMEs with small amounts of emergency funds, which are unsecured and low cost and which require lesser documentation, through digital lending application Shalollo.

Besides, marginalised women will be empowered through customised formal banking products and services of agent banking and various market linkage and capacity development programmes.



Shabbir Ahmed, managing director (current charge) of Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC, and Liza Fahmida, director of the financial sector support and strategic planning department of Bangladesh Bank, exchange signed documents of an agreement at the central bank headquarters in Motijheel, Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: AL-ARAFAH ISLAMI BANK

## Abul Khair Steel holds conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Abul Khair Steel, a steel manufacturing company and a subsidiary of Abul Khair Group, recently organised a conference styled "EngineeringXcellence" at Sheraton Dhaka in Banani.

Md Aminul Islam, professor of materials and metallurgical engineering of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet), presented a keynote at the conference, the company said in a press release.

Islam highlighted the critical link

between earthquake resistance and refining of steel at the event.

From his presentation, attendees gained insights into cutting-edge techniques, material science advancements, and global best practices.

The event will serve as a cornerstone in advancing engineering practices for a safer and sturdier future, the press release said.

Engineers from different government and non-government organisations across the country took part in the daylong conference.



Md Aminul Islam, professor of materials and metallurgical engineering at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, presents a keynote at a conference, styled "EngineeringXcellence", organised by Abul Khair Steel at Sheraton Dhaka in Banani recently.

PHOTO: ABUL KHAIR GROUP

## Jamuna Bank unveils new logo

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Jamuna Bank has unveiled its new logo at a programme held at Sheraton Dhaka in Banani.

Md Saidul Islam, chairman of the bank, inaugurated the logo, the bank said in a press release.

"In line with the ever-changing world, Jamuna Bank is constantly moving forward with the trust and confidence of its customers. A new chapter has begun with the unveiling of a fresh logo, with a promise of more advanced and smart banking solutions, marked by prosperity and innovation," said Islam.

Mirza Elias Uddin Ahmed, managing director and CEO of the bank, along with executives and senior officials were also present.



Md Saidul Islam, chairman of Jamuna Bank, poses for photographs with management team, executives and senior officials of the bank at the logo unveiling ceremony at Sheraton Dhaka in Banani yesterday.

PHOTO: JAMUNA BANK

## China facing 'challenges' in reviving economy

AFP, Beijing

China is confronting "difficulties and challenges" to its recovery, Beijing's leadership said, according to state media Tuesday, as the world's second-largest economy charts an uneven rebound from the pandemic.

The annual closed-door meeting of Beijing's top decision-makers -- dubbed the Central Economic Work Conference -- comes as China's economy battles headwinds on multiple fronts, from waning consumer demand to a debt crisis in its property sector.

"China still has to overcome some difficulties and challenges to further revive the economy," top leaders, including President Xi Jinping, noted at the meeting, state news agency Xinhua reported.

At the Monday to Tuesday meeting, top officials "decided priorities for the economic work in 2024" and Xi gave a speech, Xinhua said.

### Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Sciences University

Khulshi, Chattogram-4225

Memo No. CVASU/EO/ESC/23-24/IFT-2

Date: 12/12/2023

#### e-Tender Notice

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

Tender ID No.	Package No.	Package name	Tender closing date	Tender notice publication date
921668	CVASU/EO/ESC/PW-5/23-24	Residual Works of Post-graduate Student Hall (Female) at Research and Farm Based Campus, Hathazari under ESC project of CVASU.	31-Dec-2023 12:30	13-Dec-2023 10:00
922350	CVASU/EO/ESC/PW-6/23-24	Construction of Garage (2 Nos.) at Research and Farm Based Campus, Hathazari under ESC Project of CVASU.	01-Jan-2024 14:00	
921641	CVASU/EO/ESC/PG-1/23-24	Procurement of Scientific Machinery and Other Equipment for Faculty of Fisheries under Establishment of Second Campus Project of CVASU.	04-Jan-2024 14:00	

This is an 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. The fees for last downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to date & time (31-Dec-2023 12:30 for Tender ID 921668, 01-Jan-2024 12:30 for Tender ID 922350, 04-Jan-2024 12:30 for Tender ID 921641).

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)).

Signed/-  
**Chief Engineer**  
Engineering Office  
Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Sciences University

GD-1944

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Upazila Engineer  
Sadar, Rangpur  
[www.lged.gov.bd](http://www.lged.gov.bd)

Memo No. 46.02.8549.000.07.001.23-1031

Date: 12.12.2023

#### Invitation for Tender (Works)

#### e-Tender Notice No. 08/2023-2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works, details are given below:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Description of works	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender closing/opening (date & time)
1.	918371 (NOTM)	e-Tender/PEDP4/RNP/SAD/2022-23/W15.0831	Construction of Head Teacher's Room with attached toilet of HAZEE TOMIZ UDDIN Govt. Primary School under PEDP4 at Rangpur Sadar Upazila, District: Rangpur.	02-01-2024 (16.00)	03-01-2024 (13.00)

This is an 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. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 02 January 2024 at 16.00. 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)) of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

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