

Crown Cement declares 20% cash dividend

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Crown Cement PLC has approved a 20 percent cash dividend for the year that ended on June 30 this year.

The approval came at the company's 29th annual general meeting (AGM), which was held virtually yesterday, the company said in a press release.

Mohammed Jahangir Alam, chairman of the cement company, presided over the meeting, where Md Alamgir Kabir, vice chairman, Mollah Mohammad Majnu, managing director, Md Mizanur Rahman Mollah, additional managing director, Mohammed Almas Shimul, director, Prof M Abu Eusuf, independent director, and Masud Khan, chief adviser of the board of the company, were present.

Md Ashrafuzzaman and Md Abdul Ahad, sponsor shareholders, Mohammad Ahasan Ullah, chief financial officer, and Md Mozharul Islam, senior general manager and company secretary, along with other high officials of the company also joined the meeting.



Mohammed Jahangir Alam, chairman of Crown Cement PLC, presides over the company's 29th annual general meeting (AGM), which was held virtually yesterday. The company approved a 20 percent cash dividend for 2023.

PHOTO: CROWN CEMENT



M Khorshed Anowar, deputy managing director and head of retail and SME banking of Eastern Bank PLC, and Md Shahidullah, managing director of Metrocem Group, pose for photographs after signing a payroll banking agreement at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

Islami Bank awarded as one of highest taxpayers

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC has been awarded as one of the highest taxpayers in the banking sector for fiscal year 2022-23.

Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem, chairman of the National Board of Revenue (NBR), handed over the certificate to Mohammed Monirul Molla, managing director and CEO of the bank, yesterday.

The National Tax Card & Highest Taxpayer Award-2023 presentation ceremony was held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka, said a press release.

Md Khairuzzaman Mozumder, secretary to finance division, Syed Mohammad Abu Daud, member of the NBR, Md Akiz Uddin, deputy managing director of the bank, Md Farid Uddin FCA, senior vice-president and chief financial officer, were present.



Mohammed Monirul Molla, managing director and CEO of Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC, receives a crest and a certificate from NBR Chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem at a ceremony at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: ISLAMI BANK BANGLADESH

Southeast Bank now has 100 agent banking outlets

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Southeast Bank PLC recently launched eight more of its "Shagotom" agent banking outlets in rural and semi-urban areas around the country, taking the total to 100.

Nuruddin Md Sadeque Hossain, managing director, virtually inaugurated the outlets as chief guest, the bank said in a press release.

Customers can open savings, current and BO accounts, transfer funds, receive remittance and

avail debit and credit cards, micro, medium and agricultural loans and share transactions facilities.

Digital health, health insurance and utility bill payment services, cash recycler machines and Islamic banking service "Tijarah" are also available at the outlets.



PHOTO: SOUTHEAST BANK PLC

Nuruddin Md Sadeque Hossain, managing director of Southeast Bank PLC, celebrates a 100th agent outlet milestone of the bank's agent banking unit "Shagotom" at its head office in Dhaka yesterday.

MetLife Bangladesh named as a top taxpayer

STAR BUSINESS DESK

MetLife Bangladesh, a leading life insurance company in Bangladesh, has been recognised by the National Board of Revenue as one of the top taxpayers for fiscal year 2022-2023.

The life insurer won this recognition for the 13th time. Ala Ahmad, chief executive officer of the life insurer, received the award at the National Tax Card & Best Taxpayer Award-2023 ceremony held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Agargaon, Dhaka yesterday, said a press release.

MetLife Bangladesh is the only life insurance company which received this top taxpayer recognition for its significant contribution of over Tk 222 crore as tax to the country's economy.



Ala Ahmad, chief executive officer of MetLife Bangladesh, receives an award from NBR Chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem at a ceremony at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: METLIFE BANGLADESH

Metrocem Group avails Eastern Bank payroll services

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC recently signed an agreement with Metrocem Group to provide payroll banking services.

M Khorshed Anowar, deputy managing director and head of retail and SME banking, and Md Shahidullah, managing director of Metrocem Group, inked the deal at the bank's head office in Dhaka, the bank said in a press release.

Under the agreement, employees of Metrocem Group will enjoy preferential banking services, dual currency debit cards and loan facilities from the bank. Ahmed Shaheen, additional managing director and head of corporate banking of the bank, Riad Mahmud Chowdhury, deputy managing director and head of corporate business, Syed Zulkar Nayan, head of business, Nahid Farzana, head of payroll banking, and Md Rakib Ullah, director of Metrocem Group, were also present.

Toyota's Daihatsu to halt all vehicle shipments

REUTERS, Tokyo

Toyota Motor's Daihatsu unit will halt shipments of all of its vehicles, Japan's biggest automaker said on Wednesday, after a safety scandal investigation found issues involving 64 models, including almost two dozen sold under Toyota's brand.

An independent panel has been investigating Daihatsu after it said in April it had rigged side-collision safety tests carried out for 88,000 small cars, most of those sold as Toyotas.

But the latest revelations suggest the scope of the scandal is far greater and went back much further than previously thought and could potentially tarnish the automakers' reputation for quality and safety.

Daihatsu is Toyota's small-car unit and produces a number of the so-called "kei" smaller cars and trucks that are popular in Japan. The latest issues also impacted some Mazda and Subaru models sold in the domestic market and Toyota and Daihatsu models overseas, the panel found.

Holiday travel peaks in Europe

REUTERS, London/Munich

Travel within Europe in the busy holiday season is exceeding 2022 levels, despite security warnings from authorities around Europe as consumers remain determined to enjoy holidays, prolonging the post-pandemic travel boom.

Christmas markets and popular tourist sites in cities such as Munich and Paris have been bustling lately, albeit with strong security presences, as holiday travel within the European Union and including Britain was set to climb 22 percent above 2022 levels, according to travel data firm ForwardKeys.

The spike has been driven by continued post-pandemic demand, executives and analysts said, with some people only travelling to see their families for Christmas this year for the first time since the pandemic.

PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS IN DHAKA CITY			
	PRICE (DEC 20, 2023)	% CHANGES FROM A MONTH AGO	% CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO
Fine rice (kg)	Tk 60-Tk 70	-5.11 ↓	-3.70 ↓
Coarse rice (kg)	Tk 48-Tk 50	-3.92 ↓	-1.01 ↓
Loose flour (kg)	Tk 45-Tk 50	0	-20.83 ↓
Lentil (kg)	Tk 105-Tk 110	0	4.88 ↑
Soybean (litre)	Tk 155-Tk 160	3.28 ↑	-7.89 ↓
Potato (kg)	Tk 55-Tk 65	26.32 ↑	166.67 ↑
Onion (kg)	Tk 100-Tk 110	-10.64 ↓	147.06 ↑
Egg (4 pcs)	Tk 43-Tk 45	6.02 ↑	20.55 ↑

SOURCE: TCB

NRB Bank director gets tax award

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mohammed Jahed Iqbal, a director of NRB Bank Ltd and managing partner of M/S Md Jamil Iqbal, has been awarded by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) as one of highest taxpayers in the country in "firm category" for fiscal year 2022-23.

Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem, chairman of the NBR, handed over a certificate to Iqbal at a National Tax Card & Highest Taxpayer Award-2023 ceremony at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Agargaon, Dhaka yesterday.

Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal was present as chief guest, said a press release.



Mohammed Jahed Iqbal, a director of NRB Bank Ltd and managing partner of M/S Md Jamil Iqbal, receives a crest and a certificate from NBR Chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem at a ceremony at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: NRB BANK

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Executive Engineer District: Shariatpur www.lged.gov.bd				
Memo No. 46.02.8600.000.07.001.23-2939		Date: 20-12-23		
e-Tender Notice No. 35/2023-2024/Tender (OSTETM)				
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of				
Sl. No.	Tender/ Proposal ID	Name of Scheme with Package No.	Last selling date and time of tender document	Last date and time for submission tender
1	927192	CRMIDP/SRP/W-346/2023-24 Construction of 2-Storeyed Rural Market Building (With 04-Storeyed Foundation) at Gharisar Bazar, under Upazila: Naria, District: Shariatpur.	24-Jan-2024 16:00	25-Jan-2024 12:00
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 bank's branches up to 24-Jan-2024 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) and also for e-mail: xen.shariatpur@lged.gov.bd or call to: 02478815310.				
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