

Shakib Khan unites with Remark and Herlan

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Health and beauty care brand Remark and cosmetics brand Herlan has announced Film actor Shakib Khan as its director at a programme held at a hotel in Dhaka.

Sonia Akter, vice-chairman of Remark HB, and Ashrafal Ambia, managing director, introduced Khan to the media, read a press release.

Reflecting on the initiative, Shakib Khan said: "In our pursuit to care for the largest organ of our body, skin, we often turn to various brightening creams and color cosmetics."

"With the public's well-being in mind, I have taken the initiative to introduce authentic cosmetic products through Remark to the country's market. I am also thrilled to be associated with Herlan, the country's largest authentic retail

cosmetics chain," he added.

Remark collaborates with over 50 skincare and cosmetic brands, including Herlan, Siodil, Nior, Lily, and Blaze O' Skin, which have already captured the attention of discerning consumers.

"We are proud to be part of Superstar Shakib Khan's visionary initiative, and we believe his grand plan will be widely appreciated globally," said Amdadul Haque Sarkar, chief executive officer of Herlan.

"Shakib Khan, South Asia's biggest superstar, will be able to deliver his exclusive products to consumers across the country through the country's biggest cosmetic retail chain, Herlan," he added.

Among others, Shahriar Alam Shuvo, Fariha Alam Prova, Alisa Nawar and Abul Bashar Howlader, directors of Herlan, and Mamnun Hasan Emon, an actor, were present.



Ashrafal Ambia, managing director of Remark HB, introduces film actor Shakib Khan as a director of health and beauty care brand Remark and cosmetics brand Herlan in Bangladesh at a programme held at a hotel in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: REMARK HB



PHOTO: ISLAMI BANK BANGLADESH

Tanveer Ahmad, vice-chairman of Islami Bank Bangladesh, inaugurates a "Business Development Conference" of the bank at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka yesterday.

Islami Bank arranges business development conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Islami Bank Bangladesh organised a two-day "Business Development Conference" which started at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka yesterday.

Tanveer Ahmad, vice-chairman of the bank, inaugurated the conference as chief guest, said a press release.

"Islami Bank secured the top position in all indicators of the country's banking sector. Islami Bank is the trusted bank of 23 million customers. Through modern digital products and services, Islami Bank puts more emphasis on the formation of a cashless society envisioned by the government. As a result, transactions are made easier and customer friendly," he said.

Mohammed Monirul Moula, managing director and CEO of the bank, presided over the event, where head of 16 zones and

head of 394 branches of the bank along with directors, and senior management teams attended the programme.

"The contribution of Islami Bank to the economic development of the country is remarkable. In 2023, Islami Bank kept the top position in all business indicators. The Bank holds the highest deposits in the country's banking sector with an amount of Tk 1 lakh 53 thousand crores with more than 12 thousand crore taking fresh deposits last year," he said.

"This bank has provided small investments to 17 lakh families in 33 thousand villages to alleviate poverty and women empowerment. 92 percent of whom are women. Islami Bank contributed to employment generation for around 10 million people. About 8 crore people of the country are directly or indirectly involved with Islami banks."

Standard Bank holds annual business conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Standard Bank organised its "Annual Business Conference-2024" at Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden in the capital yesterday.

Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed, chairman of the bank, inaugurated the conference as chief guest, while Mohammad Manjur Alam, vice-chairman of the bank, attended the event, said a press release.

In his address, Ahmed expressed his satisfaction and congratulated all employees for the remarkable success achieved by the bank in 2023.

With the aim to contribute to economic development and build a

Smart Bangladesh, he called upon all for performing collaboratively to keep up the progress of the bank by complying with Shariah and providing best services using state-of-the-art technology.

Md Habibur Rahman, managing director and CEO of the bank, chaired the conference, where Kamal Mostafa Chowdhury, Ashok Kumar Saha, Ferozur Rahman, SAM Hossain, Mohammed Abdul Aziz, Mohammed Shamsul Alam, Gulzar Ahmed, Md Zahedul Hoque, Ferdous Ali Khan, Kazi Khurram Ahmed, AKM Abdul Alim and Md Abul Hossain, directors of the bank, and Najmul Huq Chaudhury, Golam Hafiz Ahmed and AKM Delwer Hussain, independent directors, were present.



Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed, chairman of Standard Bank, attends "Annual Business Conference-2024" of the bank at Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden in the capital yesterday. PHOTO: STANDARD BANK



Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman, chairman of NRB Bank, poses for photographs with participants of "Annual Business Conference-2024" at the bank's corporate head office in Gulshan on Friday. PHOTO: NRB BANK

NRB Bank holds annual business conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NRB Bank organised "Annual Business Conference 2024" at the bank's corporate head office in Gulshan on Friday.

Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman, chairman of the bank, inaugurated the conference as chief guest, the bank said in a press release.

Mamun Mahmood Shah, managing director and CEO of the bank, presided over the conference, where Golam Kabir and Mohammed Jamil Iqbal, vice chairmen of the bank, were in attendance.



Mohammad Jainul Bari, chairman of the Insurance Development & Regulatory Authority (IDRA), poses for photographs after inaugurating a mobile sales app, named "MyLife" designed by MetLife for its agents across the country in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: METLIFE BANGLADESH

Global Islami Bank organises business review meeting

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Global Islami Bank arranged its "Annual Business Review Meeting 2024" at Sheraton Dhaka in Banani yesterday.

Syed Habib Hasnat, managing director of the bank, inaugurated and presided over the conference as chief guest, read a press release.

The main purpose of the

conference was to review the current business position of its branches and to analyse opportunities for future growth through proper utilisation of human resources, it added.

Among others, Md Golam Sarwar and Kazi Mashiur Rahman Jayhad, additional managing directors of the bank, and Ataus Samad and Sami Karim, deputy managing directors, were present.



Md Sheikh Shadi, chairman and founder of Assure Group, cuts a cake to celebrate the company's 18th years of operation in the country's real estate sector at its corporate office in Gulshan on Friday. PHOTO: ASSURE GROUP

Assure Group celebrates 18th year of operations

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Assure Group, a real estate developer in Bangladesh, stepped into the 18th year of operations in the country's real estate sector.

On the occasion, the company arranged a programme at its corporate office in Gulshan, Dhaka on Friday, while Md Sheikh Shadi, chairman and founder of the realtor, attended the event as chief guest,

said a press release.

Shadi expressed gratitude for the collective efforts of all that contributed to Assure Group's success.

"As the Group celebrates its 18th-year milestone, the occasion highlighted a commitment to growth, innovation, and shared values," he said.

Among others, Jashia Afrin, a director of Assure Group, was present.

Woori Bank gets new country manager for Bangladesh

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Woori Bank, a bank of South Korea, has appointed an official to the post of country manager for Woori Bank Bangladesh.

The official, Jin Hur, will play the role of the general manager and the country manager, the bank said in a press release.

He embarked on his journey with Woori Bank in 1998.

Hur is an experienced professional banker with over 25 years of experience working in all business lines and multiple functions, especially in corporate banking, retail banking, trade banking, global business promotion, business strategy, treasury management, and operations in South Korea, Cambodia and Bahrain.

As a general manager and country manager, he will lead Woori Bank in Bangladesh for business, operation, and governance in the country by developing strong relationships with clients, regulators, government institutions, and other stakeholders.

'German economy needs reforms'

AFP, Davos

Germany has not become the sick man of Europe but a tired one that needs structural reforms, Finance Minister Christian Lindner said Friday as he sought to assuage fears of a prolonged downturn in the eurozone's largest economy.

German output contracted in 2023 by 0.3 percent year-on-year according to official preliminary figures released Monday.

PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS IN DHAKA CITY			
	PRICE (JAN 20, 2024)	% CHANGES FROM A MONTH AGO	% CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO
Fine rice (kg)	Tk 62-Tk 75	5.38 ↑	3.01 ↑
Coarse rice (kg)	Tk 50-Tk 52	4.08 ↑	4.08 ↑
Loose flour (kg)	Tk 45-Tk 50	0	-19.49 ↓
Lentil (kg)	Tk 105-Tk 110	0	4.88 ↑
Soybean (litre)	Tk 155-Tk 160	0	-6.80 ↓
Potato (kg)	Tk 40-Tk 50	-25.00 ↓	100.00 ↑
Onion (kg)	Tk 70-Tk 80	-28.57 ↓	87.50 ↑
Egg (4 pcs)	Tk 42-Tk 45	-1.14 ↓	2.35 ↑

SOURCE: TCB



Syed Habib Hasnat, managing director of Global Islami Bank, inaugurates "Annual Business Review Meeting- 2024" of the bank at Sheraton Dhaka in Banani yesterday. PHOTO: GLOBAL ISLAMI BANK

MetLife launches insurance sales app for agents

STAR BUSINESS DESK

MetLife Bangladesh has recently launched a mobile sales app, named "MyLife", tailored exclusively to agents of the life insurer.

Mohammad Jainul Bari, chairman of the Insurance Development & Regulatory Authority (IDRA), inaugurated the app in Dhaka, the insurer said in a press release.

MyLife integrates advanced

digital technology to assist agents in their daily tasks, including offering tailored product recommendations and presentations to customers, and managing after-sales services directly from their mobile devices.

This app is set to revolutionise the way MetLife's agents interact with both new and existing customers, ensuring a faster and more efficient insurance purchase and service experience.

What does Red Sea

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subject in her news conference after next Thursday's rate-setting meeting.

The main reason is probably that the global economy as a whole is still performing below par, which means there is plenty of slack in the system.

Take oil prices, the most obvious channel through which Middle East troubles could hit economies in Europe and beyond. They haven't taken off yet because, as International Energy Agency executive director Fatih Birol told Reuters this week, supplies are solid and demand growth is slowing. "I don't expect a major change

in the oil price because we have an ample amount of oil coming in the market," he said.

German logistics giant DHL said it still had available air freight capacity - not an option for everyone - because the global economy was "not really pumping yet"

This subdued economic picture also makes it harder for companies to pass onto consumers any increases in costs they are encountering, for example by having to re-route around Africa. Many of them have rebuilt margins in the past year and accept they might simply have to suck this one up.