

Premier Bank holds 'Business Conference-2025'

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Premier Bank PLC organised the "Business Conference-2025" at the Renaissance Dhaka Gulshan Hotel in the capital yesterday.

HBM Iqbal, chairman of the bank, joined the conference virtually as the chief guest, according to a press release.

In his inaugural speech, Iqbal said, "The scope of the bank's business is increasing rapidly, so we must maintain service quality with greater sincerity and identify new areas of business in our respective sectors."

He urged all involved, including branch managers, to continue the bank's progress in the coming days and work diligently to enhance its reputation.

While presiding over the event, Mohammad Abu Jafar, managing director and CEO, stated, "Premier Bank is working to advance the country through quality and inclusive investment, including in national priority sectors, with guidance from the Board of Directors and a strong management team."



HBM Iqbal, chairman of Premier Bank, virtually attends the "Business Conference-2025" of the bank at Renaissance hotel in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PREMIER BANK

Dhaka Bank, MetLife sign deal for employees' insurance coverage



Ala Ahmad, chief executive officer of MetLife Bangladesh, and Sheikh Mohammad Maroof, managing director of Dhaka Bank, pose for photographs after signing an agreement at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: DHAKA BANK

RR Imperial Electricals holds national partner conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

RR Imperial Electricals Ltd, a premier manufacturer of wires, cables, and enamel products under the brands RR Kabel and RR Shramik in Bangladesh, organised its "National Partner Conference" at the Shaheed Abu Sayed International Convention Centre in Dhaka.

The conference brought together retailers, dealers, partners, and the RR Imperial family to celebrate excellence and recognise outstanding contributions.

M Hares Ahmed, managing director of the electric cable and wire company, attended the event, according to a press release.

In his speech, Ahmed highlighted plans to expand the company's portfolio with advanced electrical and electronic products to strengthen its mission of safety and development.

Mahboob Hossain Mirdah, director and CEO of the company; Ahmed Ashfaqur Rahman and AM Ahsan Bari, directors; and ANM Manzoor Mursheed, director, who joined the event virtually, were also present.



M Hares Ahmed, managing director of RR Imperial Electricals, poses for group photographs with the company's partners who were awarded for their outstanding contributions at "National Partner Conference" at the Shaheed Abu Sayed International Convention Centre in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: RR IMPERIAL ELECTRICALS

PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS IN DHAKA CITY		
	PRICE (JAN 11, 2024)	% CHANGES FROM A MONTH AGO
		% CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO
Fine rice (kg)	Tk 70-Tk 84	4.05 ↑
Coarse rice (kg)	Tk 54-Tk 58	6.67 ↑
Loose flour (kg)	Tk 40-Tk 45	0
Lentil (kg)	Tk 105-Tk 110	0
Soybean (litre)	Tk 163-Tk 165	-1.50 ↓
Potato (kg)	Tk 35-Tk 50	-41.38 ↓
Onion (kg)	Tk 50-Tk 70	-50.00 ↓
Egg (4 pcs)	Tk 45-Tk 50	9.20 ↑

SOURCE: TCB

Mercantile Bank organises annual business conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mercantile Bank PLC organised an "Annual Business Conference-2025" at Le Meridien Dhaka yesterday.

The heads of 152 branches and 45 sub-branches, along with all division and regional heads, participated in the conference. Md Anwarul Haque, chairman of the bank, attended the event as the chief guest, the bank said in a press release.

Haque thanked the heads of branches, sub-branches, and divisions for their sincere efforts in achieving the organisation's goals.

"The banking sector has taken the lead in maintaining the country's economic stability despite challenges arising from recent political situations and the global economic downturn," the bank's chairman said.

While presiding over the programme, Mati Ullah Hasan, managing director of the bank, provided the participating officials with significant



Md Anwarul Haque, chairman of Mercantile Bank, attends "Annual Business Conference-2025" at Le Meridien Dhaka yesterday.

guidelines for achieving the annual business targets of 2025.

Hasan urged the concerned officials to focus on agriculture and SME loans to ensure the country's food security and the sustainability of the rural economy.

At the same time, the bank's MD called on his subordinates to enhance customer services and ensure smart banking through innovation and transformation.

Standard Bank hosts annual business conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Standard Bank PLC organised an "Annual Business Conference-2025" with the slogan "Year of Consolidation: Build the Future Together" at Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

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

He congratulated all employees on the bank's performance in 2024.

With the aim of contributing to the business growth and economic development of Bangladesh, he called on everyone to work collaboratively

to sustain the progress of the bank by adhering to Sharifah principles and providing the best services using modern technology.

AKM Abdul Alim, vice-chairman

of the bank, was present as the special guest.

Md Habibur Rahman, managing director and CEO of the bank, presided over the conference.



Mohammed Abdul Aziz, chairman of Standard Bank, attends the "Annual Business Conference-2025" of the bank, at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: STANDARD BANK

Meghna Bank strikes MoU with ShareTrip

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Meghna Bank PLC recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with ShareTrip Limited, an online travel agency in Bangladesh.

Moksedur Rahman, head of cards (in-charge) at the bank, and Faruque Ahmed, general manager of the travel agency, penned the MoU at the agency's corporate office in Bashundhara in Dhaka, said a press release.

Under the agreement, all the bank's cardholders, priority clients, and employees will receive exclusive discounts on flight bookings, as well as domestic hotel and resort bookings, through the agency's shops, outlets, or website.



Moksedur Rahman, head of cards (in-charge) of Meghna Bank, and Faruque Ahmed, general manager of ShareTrip, pose for photographs after signing a memorandum of understanding at the latter's corporate office in the capital's Bashundhara recently.

PHOTO: MEGHNA BANK

Taiwan chip giant TSMC's revenue rose 34% in 2024

AFP, Taipei

Taiwanese chip making giant TSMC said Friday its net sales rose by more than a third last year, beating its own forecast, as the company continued to benefit from soaring demand for AI technology.

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company controls more than half the world's output of chips used in everything from Apple's iPhones to Nvidia's cutting-edge artificial intelligence hardware.

Net revenue rose 33.9 percent to NT\$2.9 trillion (\$87.8 billion), the company said in a statement, ahead of the release of its complete earnings report next week.

The result exceeded its estimate in October for full-year revenue to increase by nearly 30 percent, underscoring expectations for sustained spending on AI infrastructure from the likes of Microsoft and Amazon.

It comes after Taiwanese AI server maker Foxconn, also known by its official name Hon Hai Precision Industry, reported strong sales.

TSMC is at the forefront of a generative AI revolution, churning out the world's most advanced microchips needed to power products made by Silicon Valley.

Its shares have more than doubled since the AI boom began in late 2022 with the debut of OpenAI's ChatGPT, Bloomberg News reported.

But TSMC is grappling with geopolitical tensions between the United States and China over technology import restrictions, trade and Taiwan.

Its headquarters -- and the bulk of its fabrication plants -- are in Taiwan, a self-ruled island that China claims as part of its territory.

The semiconductor supply chain is highly vulnerable to shocks, and concerned governments have lobbied TSMC to move more production away from Taiwan.

TSMC's new factories overseas include three planned in the United States and one that opened in Japan last year.

The United States will award TSMC up to \$6.6 billion in direct funding to help build "state-of-the-art facilities in Arizona", officials said in November, finalising the deal before Donald Trump's administration enters the White House.