

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

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Dhaka Bank PLC has signed an agreement with MetLife Bangladesh to provide its employees with comprehensive life insurance coverage.

This partnership will ensure that more than 1,980 employees of the bank are protected against critical illnesses, accidents, disabilities, and loss of life.

Sheikh Mohammad Maroof, managing director of the bank, and Ala Ahmad, chief executive officer of the life insurer, signed the agreement at the bank’s head office in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

“By providing MetLife’s insurance to our employees and their families, we are demonstrating our commitment to the people who passionately contribute to the success of our organisation,” said Maroof.

“We would like to congratulate Dhaka Bank for prioritising employee well-being. MetLife remains committed to supporting organisations in creating a secure and resilient future,” said Ahmad.

Insurance coverage for employees plays a critical role in fostering a sense of security and loyalty among the workforce. It mitigates financial burdens during crises and underscores an organisation’s dedication to the well-being of its team.

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 Ahsanul Bari, directors; and ANM Manzoor Murshed, 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

Islami Bank wins award for remittance collection

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC has been awarded the “Top Ten Remittance Gold Award 2025” by non-profit research organisation the Centre for NRB over its remittance collections.

Ahsan H Mansur, governor of Bangladesh Bank, presented the award to Mohammed Monirul Moula, managing director of the bank, at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka in the capital yesterday, according to a press release. Md Touhid Hossain, adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, attended the event.

MS Shekil Chowdhury, chairperson of the Centre for NRB, presided over the ceremony, which was also attended by Saif Uddin Khaled, a Bangladeshi-British citizen and speaker of Tower Hamlets, the United Kingdom, as a special guest.

Local dignitaries and expatriates from various countries were also present at the event.



PHOTO: ISLAMI BANK BANGLADESH

Mohammed Monirul Moula, managing director of Islami Bank Bangladesh, receives an award from Ahsan H Mansur, governor of Bangladesh Bank, at a ceremony in Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka in the capital yesterday. Md Touhid Hossain, adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was present.

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 Shariah 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

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 Ul Hasan, managing director of the bank, provided the participating officials with significant



PHOTO: MERCANTILE BANK

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.

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 NTS\$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.

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 ↑	14.07 ↑
Coarse rice (kg)	Tk 54-Tk 58	6.67 ↑	14.29 ↑
Loose flour (kg)	Tk 40-Tk 45	0	-10.53 ↓
Lentil (kg)	Tk 105-Tk 110	0	0
Soybean (litre)	Tk 163-Tk 165	-1.50 ↓	4.13 ↑
Potato (kg)	Tk 35-Tk 50	-41.38 ↓	-26.09 ↓
Onion (kg)	Tk 50-Tk 70	-50.00 ↓	-33.33 ↓
Egg (4 pcs)	Tk 45-Tk 50	0	9.20 ↑

SOURCE: TCB

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