

Jamuna Bank launches financial product ‘Short Note’

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Jamuna Bank PLC recently launched a new financial product, styled “Jamuna Bank Short Note”, at a function in Dhaka.

The product is a short-term, interest-bearing money market debt instrument with flexible maturity options of 91, 182, and 364 days.

It provides attractive interest rates tailored for different holding periods, ensuring optimal returns for investors while maintaining liquidity.

Robin Razon Sakhawat, chairman of the bank, inaugurated the product, according to a press release.

Commenting on the launch, Sakhawat said, “The introduction of the Jamuna Bank Short Note aligns with our vision of empowering our clients with secure, high-return investment opportunities while ensuring financial flexibility and growth.”

This innovative financial instrument aims to offer secure and flexible investment opportunities to individual, corporate, and NRB clients, he said.



Robin Razon Sakhawat, chairman of Jamuna Bank, poses for photographs during the launch of the new financial product, styled “Jamuna Bank Short Note,” at a function in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: JAMUNA BANK

US to tighten trade rules to hit low-cost China shipments

AFP, Washington

The United States unveiled a new rule Friday to tighten an exemption allowing low-value imports to enter the country duty-free, taking aim at Chinese shipments that might be benefiting from it.

The proposal disqualifies certain products from the low-value, or “de minimis,” exemption, which allows goods valued at \$800 or below to come into the United States without paying duties or certain taxes.

“Both the volume and combined worth of low-value, or de minimis, shipments to the United States have risen significantly over the past ten years,” said Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas in a statement.

He added that the exemption has “undermined American businesses and workers” while allowing foreign products to flood US ports of entry, making it harder to screen the goods for security risks.

“The actions announced today to tighten this exemption will strengthen America’s economic and national security,” he said.

The number of shipments claiming the exemption rose from about 139 million in fiscal year 2015 to more than a billion in 2023.

US officials have pointed to the growth of Chinese-founded online retailers Shein and Temu – known for selling items at low prices – as a key factor behind this increase.

National Economic Advisor Lael Brainard accused Chinese-founded e-commerce platforms of trying to “gain an unfair trade advantage” by using the rules.

With the new proposed rule, products subject to tariffs imposed under Section 301 of the Trade Act, for example, would not qualify for duty-free treatment under the de minimis exemption.

BDBL organises managers’ conference



Ahmed Ismet, chairman of Bangladesh Development Bank, attends the “Managers Conference-2025” at the bank’s head office in the capital on Saturday.

PHOTO: BANGLADESH DEVELOPMENT BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bangladesh Development Bank PLC (BDBL) organised the “Managers Conference-2025” at the bank’s head office in the capital on Saturday.

Ahmed Ismet, chairman of the bank, attended the conference as the chief guest, the bank said in a press release.

Md Jashim Uddin, managing director and CEO of the bank, presided over the meeting, where Md Abu Hanif Khan, KM Tariqul Islam and Md Abdul Mojib, directors of the lender, were present. Shachindra Nath Samadder, deputy managing director of the bank, along with managers and senior executives of the bank, was also present.

NRB Bank arranges annual business conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NRB Bank PLC arranged the “Annual Business Conference-2025” with the slogan “Horizon of Unlimited Possibilities” at the bank’s corporate head office in the capital’s Gulshan on Saturday.

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

Tarek Reaz Khan, managing director of the bank, presided over the event, where Golam Kabir, vice-chairman of the bank and chairman of the risk management committee, Mohammed Jahed Iqbal, chairman of the executive committee, Syed Rafiqul Haq, chairman of the audit committee, and Motior Rahman, Kazi Towhidul Alam, Abdul Halim Chowdhury, and Shah Mohammad Moinuddin, independent directors, were present.

During the conference, the bank’s performance over the past year was reviewed, and strategic action plans for achieving the 2025 targets were discussed and adopted.

Mohammed Jamil Iqbal, vice chairman of the bank; Bayzun Nahar Chowdhury, Ali Ahmed, and Khandokar Ruhul Amin, directors; and Md Shaheen Howlader, Md Ali Akbar Faraji, and Anwar Uddin, deputy managing directors; along with the senior management team and all branch managers and division or department heads, were also present.



Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman, chairman of NRB Bank, attends the “Annual Business Conference-2025” at the bank’s corporate head office in the capital’s Gulshan yesterday.

PHOTO: NRB BANK

PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS IN DHAKA CITY			
	PRICE (JAN 19, 2024)	% CHANGES FROM A MONTH AGO	% CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO
Fine rice (kg)	Tk 70-Tk 84	4.05 ↑	12.41 ↑
Coarse rice (kg)	Tk 52-Tk 58	4.76 ↑	7.84 ↑
Loose flour (kg)	Tk 40-Tk 45	0	-10.53 ↓
Lentil (kg)	Tk 105-Tk 110	0	0
Soybean (litre)	Tk 165-Tk 170	2.13 ↑	6.35 ↑
Potato (kg)	Tk 30-Tk 40	-50.00 ↓	-22.22 ↓
Onion (kg)	Tk 50-Tk 65	-42.50 ↓	-23.33 ↓
Egg (4 pcs)	Tk 45-Tk 50	0	9.20 ↑

SOURCE: TCB

Southeast Bank holds business policy and planning conference



MA Kashem, chairman of Southeast Bank, attends the daylong “Business Policy and Planning Conference-2025” at the InterContinental Dhaka on Saturday.

PHOTO: SOUTHEAST BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Southeast Bank PLC organised the “Business Policy and Planning Conference-2025” for divisional heads, branch managers, along with heads of sub-branches and offshore banking units.

MA Kashem, chairman of the bank, attended the daylong conference as the chief guest, held at the InterContinental Dhaka on Saturday, according to a press release.

During the conference, Kashem emphasised that the unwavering dedication, sincerity, and love of all employees have enabled the bank

to achieve sustainable development despite numerous challenges.

He praised the contributions of the staff and called on them to continue working with love and dedication for the bank. The bank’s chairman expressed optimism that with collective effort, unity, and hard work, Southeast Bank would one day overcome all the challenges and establish itself as the leading bank in the country.

While presiding over the event, Nuruddin Md Sadeque Hossain, managing director, expressed gratitude to employees and customers for their steadfast support and loyalty as the bank approaches its

30th anniversary in 2025.

He highlighted 2025 as a year to solidify the bank’s position and drive growth by leveraging its three decades of experience.

Rehana Rahman, vice chairperson of the bank; Azim Uddin Ahmed, Jusna Ara Kashem, Duluma Ahmed, Md Akikur Rahman, and Nasir Uddin Ahmed, directors; Md Rafiqul Islam, representing Asia Insurance Limited; Mohammad Delwar Husain and M Moyeen Alam Firozee, independent directors; and Md Nurul Islam, representing Single Click IT Solution Private Limited, among others, participated in the conference.

কৃষি গবেষণা
বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা ইনস্টিটিউট
ভূমি ও ইমারত শাখা
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute
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Web: www.bari.gov.bd

Memo no. 12.21.0000.010.41.468.20.981

Date: 16.01.2025

e-TENDER NOTICE

Tender is invited Through National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of following works:

Sl no	Tender ID No.	Tendering Method	Description of works	Online (e-GP system) tender publication date & time	Online (e-GP system) tender closing date & time
1.	Re-Tender 1063624	OTM	Construction of vertical Extension of Research Security wall at RARS, BARI, Jamalpur.	15-Jan-2025 16:45	26-Jan-2025 12:00
2	1059070	OTM	(1) Construction of Research Security Wall and (2) Land Development at OFRD, BARI, Sylhet.	15-Jan-2025 16:55	06-Feb-2025 12:00

This is online tender, only e-Tender will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. Registration is essential to submit e-Tender.

Fees have to be deposited for downloading the tender documents from e-GP Portal through any registered bank. For further information please contact e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Name of Program: Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience in Bangladesh (PARNER, P176374)-BARI Part

16.01.2025

Engr. Md. Ferozur Rahman
Superintending Engineer (In-charge)

GD- 193

ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

EDCL invited **Two Envelop System** International Tender for Supply of Pharmaceutical Chemical Reference Substance(CRS) for Gopalganj Plant on C&F© Dhaka By Air and Chittagong by Sea Basis :-

S.L No.	Tender No. & Date	Name of the Items	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & Opening
01.	IMP/CRS/SEM/42/ 2024-2025 dated 19/01/2025	Supply for Chemical Reference Substance (CRS) for Gopalganj Plant : (List of items, Quantity & Specification as per schedule)	Tk. 750.00/set Equivalent to US\$ 6.00 Non-refundable	Closing : 18/02/2025 at 11.00 AM Opening: 18/02/2025 at 11.15 AM

Tender Schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays).

No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The tender will be accompanied by an amount of Earnest Money in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Bank Guarantee from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of “Essential Drugs Co.Ltd” without which the tender will be considered as non-responsive.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

NB: This information is also available at our Website: www.edcl.gov.bd

(SIZE: 6 inch 4 Column)

**General Manager
Procurement (CC)
For: Managing Director.**