

Prime Bank provides banking services to Prime College of Nursing, Dhaka

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC recently signed an agreement with Prime College of Nursing, Dhaka, to provide seamless banking services under its specialised segment, named “primeacademia”.

M Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of the bank, and Maj Gen (retd) Md Nayeem Ashfaq Chowdhury, chief executive officer of Prime Bank Foundation, signed the agreement at the bank’s corporate office in the capital, according to a press release.

Through this partnership, students, teachers, guardians, and staff of Prime College of Nursing, Dhaka, will gain access to a comprehensive suite of financial services tailored to meet their academic and institutional needs.

Under Primeacademia, Prime Bank

will offer a range of benefits, including fee collection, student-friendly loan facilities, payroll banking, advance salary drawing, attractive teachers’ accounts, student file opening, guardians’ accounts, pre-approved credit cards, and digital banking services, among others.

This initiative aims to streamline financial services and enhance the banking experience for institutions, teachers, students, and guardians.

Sujoy Kumar Biswas, chief finance officer and secretary of Prime Bank Foundation, and project director of Prime Bank Hospital PLC; Rina Rani, principal (acting) of Prime College of Nursing, Dhaka; Shaila Abedin, head of liabilities at the bank; and MM Mahbub Hasan, head of financial inclusion and school banking, along with other senior officials, were also present.



Maj Gen (retd) Md Nayeem Ashfaq Chowdhury, chief executive officer of Prime Bank Foundation, and M Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of Prime Bank, pose for photographs after signing the agreement at the bank’s corporate office in the capital recently.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK



A memorandum of understanding was signed by Southeast Bank PLC and Nexus Group at the former’s head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: SOUTHEAST BANK

Southeast Bank signs MoU with Nexus Group

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Southeast Bank PLC recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Nexus Group to provide payroll, ATM and other banking services.

Nuruddin Md Sadeque Hossain, managing director of the bank, and Rashid Ahmed Hossaini, managing director of Nexus Sweater Industries Pvt Limited, signed the agreement in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Hossain said, “This partnership highlights our commitment to providing seamless banking solutions that enhance financial efficiency and employee satisfaction.”

Under this agreement, employees of Nexus Sweater Industries Pvt Ltd, a subsidiary of Nexus Group, will receive their salaries and wages directly through Southeast Bank’s payroll banking (baton card) service.

This will ensure secure, timely, and hassle-free salary transactions while offering access to a wide range of banking facilities, including ATM cash withdrawals, point-of-sale (POS) transactions, e-commerce payments, and fund transfers.

Abdur Rahman Chowdhury and Masum Uddin Khan, deputy managing directors of the bank, along with other senior officials of both organisations, were also present.

NCC Bank holds business review meeting in Ctg



PHOTO: NCC BANK

M Shamsul Arefin, managing director of NCC Bank PLC, poses for photographs with the participants of a “Business Review Meeting” organised for officials of the bank’s Chattogram region in the port city recently.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NCC Bank PLC recently organised a “Business Review Meeting” for officials of the Chattogram region.

The heads of branches and relationship managers of 25 branches and a sub-branch of the bank participated in the event. M Shamsul Arefin, managing director of the bank, presided over the meeting, the bank said in a press release. Arefin emphasised the significance of long-term and sustainable business development.

He also engaged with the branch heads and relationship managers in discussions on strategic growth initiatives, exploring diverse potential and evolving sectors, even amid the challenges of the current year.

Md Zakir Anam and Mohammad Mizanur Rahman, deputy managing directors of the bank; Saif Uddin Ahmed, executive vice-president and head of CAD; Ali Tarek Parvez, executive vice-president and head for Chattogram region; and Sharif Mohammad Mohsin, senior vice-president and head of SME business, among others, were also present.

PRICES OF KEY ESSENTIALS IN DHAKA CITY			
	PRICE (MAR 1, 2025)	% CHANGES FROM A MONTH AGO	% CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO
Fine rice (kg)	Tk 72-Tk 85	1.29 ↑	14.60 ↑
Coarse rice (kg)	Tk 50-Tk 55	-4.55 ↓	7.14 ↑
Loose flour (kg)	Tk 40-Tk 45	0	-10.53 ↓
Lentil (kg)	Tk 105-Tk 110	0	0
Soybean (litre)	Tk 185-Tk 190	7.45 ↑	22.15 ↑
Potato (kg)	Tk 20-Tk 30	0	-16.67 ↓
Onion (kg)	Tk 40-Tk 50	-10.00 ↓	-60.87 ↓
Egg (4 pcs)	Tk 40-Tk 45	-7.61 ↓	-5.56 ↓

SOURCE: TCB

Shimanto Bank leads school banking conference in Lalmonirhat



Md Rafiqul Islam, executive director of the Bangladesh Bank, Rangpur office, attends a rally of the “School Banking Conference 2025” organised by Shimanto Bank as the lead bank in collaboration with all scheduled banks operating in Lalmonirhat recently.

PHOTO: SHIMANTO BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shimanto Bank PLC recently organised a “School Banking Conference 2025” in Lalmonirhat as the lead bank, in collaboration with all scheduled commercial banks operating in the district, aiming to educate students about banking services, instil saving habits, and enhance financial awareness from an early age.

The conference, supervised by Bangladesh Bank, was held at the district council auditorium with the participation of 22 banks, along with students and teachers from 12 educational institutions in Lalmonirhat.

Md Rafiqul Islam, executive director of the Bangladesh Bank, Rangpur office, attended the event as the chief guest, the bank said in a press release.

Md Masum Haider, joint director of the central bank, attended as the special guest.

Such initiatives are part of Bangladesh Bank’s financial inclusion and financial literacy programmes, ensuring that students across the country gain a strong foundation in financial management.

The Financial Inclusion Department of Bangladesh Bank continues to arrange these conferences in all districts to promote awareness and accessibility of banking services among young learners.

US Treasury chief urges Canada, Mexico to match tariffs on China

REUTERS, Washington

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent encouraged Canada on Friday to follow Mexico in matching US tariffs on Chinese goods as the two US neighbors sought to avoid punishing 25 percent US tariffs due on Tuesday over fentanyl trafficking.

Canadian and Mexican officials have fanned out across Washington seeking to show President Donald Trump’s administration that they were making progress in securing their US borders to curb the flow of the dangerous opioid.

Bessent, speaking in a Bloomberg Television interview, said Mexico had proposed matching the US tariffs aimed at China, but he did not specify which level. Trump on February 4 imposed a 10 percent duty on all Chinese imports, then said on Thursday he would double that, opens new tab to 20 percent from Tuesday.

“I think it would be a nice gesture if the Canadians did it also - so in a way, we could have fortress North America from the flood of Chinese imports that’s coming out of the most unbalanced economy in the history of modern times,” Bessent said.

China’s embassy in Washington said Trump’s unilateral tariff hikes would severely violate World Trade Organization rules and hurt both Chinese and US interests.

“Pressuring, coercion and threat is not the right way to deal with China. Instead, mutual respect is the basic prerequisite,” embassy spokesperson Liu Pengyu said in a statement to Reuters.

The Mexican and Canadian governments did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Bessent’s remarks.

MORE MEETINGS

Canadian Public Safety Minister David McGuinty said at the end of a four-day visit to Washington that

he continued to communicate with Trump administration that Canada was acting swiftly to secure its borders.

“Our government and indeed all of Team Canada - premiers, business leaders, community leaders - are focused on one thing.

“We’ve made some very serious adjustments, investments, improvements on the border, and we spent the entire week for four days of meetings, communicating those results, communicating those improvements to our counterparts here in Washington,” McGuinty told reporters after meeting with Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and border czar Tom Homan.

Mexican Economy Minister Marcelo Ebrard said he had a “cordial working meeting” with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer. In a post on X Ebrard said the US and Mexico “have a great future working together” but offered no details on discussions over the US tariff deadline.

Trump cited insufficient progress in reducing fentanyl overdose deaths in the US for the planned duties on more than \$900 billion worth of annual imports from Canada and Mexico.

DRUG SUSPECTS EXTRADITED

Mexico on Thursday staged its largest mass extradition of suspected drug cartel members in 10 years, including a 1980s kingpin who spent decades in prison for the murder of a US drug enforcement agent and 28 other suspects.

Rafael Caro Quintero, 72, pleaded not guilty on Friday in federal court in New York on US drug trafficking charges that could result in his execution. The other extradited suspects included younger leaders accused of moving fentanyl into the US.

ONE Bank opens sub-branch at Kafco Centre in Ctg

STAR BUSINESS DESK

ONE Bank PLC recently opened a new sub-branch at Kafco Centre under the Anowara branch in Chattogram.

Md Zahidul Islam, executive vice-president and in-charge of the operations division of the bank, inaugurated the sub-branch, according to a press release.

“We have all the ability to fulfil the needs of our valued clients, which they expect from a modern, technology-driven, and progressive bank,” Islam said.

“We are more than capable of meeting customers’ banking needs and satisfying them through our progressive banking services,” he added.

Mohammad Shahid Ul Haque, executive vice-president and head of the retail banking division of the bank; Abdus Salam, senior vice-president and head of the SME business; and Kazi Md Forkan, vice-president and in-charge of the establishment and central support division, were present.

Among others, senior executives of the bank, along with local businessmen and clients of the bank, were also present.



Md Zahidul Islam, executive vice-president and in-charge of the operations division of ONE Bank, inaugurates a sub-branch at Kafco Centre under the Anowara branch in Chattogram recently.

PHOTO: ONE BANK