

ACI Motors partners with EcoFlow to launch portable power solutions

STAR BUSINESS DESK

ACI Motors Limited, an automobile enterprise and a subsidiary of ACI Limited, has recently signed a strategic partnership deal with the Chinese technology firm EcoFlow to introduce a new line of portable energy solutions tailored for the Bangladeshi market.

FH Ansarey, managing director of ACI Motors, and Sharon Li, regional marketing director for Southeast Asia at EcoFlow, inaugurated the launch of these innovative energy solutions at the ACI Centre in the capital's Tejgaon, according to a press release.

Commenting on the initiative, Ansarey stated: "The demand for alternative energy systems is rapidly growing in Bangladesh. Through EcoFlow's globally acclaimed technology and ACI Motors' extensive market insight, this collaboration promises

to drive sustainable transformation within the energy sector."

Li remarked, "We are honoured to commence our journey in Bangladesh. Our commitment lies in delivering affordable, sophisticated energy solutions to the people of this country."

EcoFlow's product portfolio encompasses portable power stations, solar panels, and an array of advanced energy solutions designed to address the power needs of remote regions and provide critical backup during emergencies across Bangladesh.

"With EcoFlow's cutting-edge technology coupled with ACI Motors' deep-rooted expertise, we are well-positioned to spearhead innovation and sustainability in Bangladesh's energy landscape," added Subrata Ranjan Das, deputy managing director of ACI Motors Limited.



PHOTO: ACI MOTORS

FH Ansarey, managing director of ACI Motors, and Sharon Li, regional marketing director for Southeast Asia at EcoFlow, pose for photographs during the launch of innovative energy solutions at the ACI Centre in the capital's Tejgaon recently.

bKash presents fridges, TVs to top remittance recipients

STAR BUSINESS DESK

bKash, a leading mobile financial services (MFS) provider, has presented 14 individuals with Hisense deep freezers and 43-inch Hisense smart TVs for receiving the highest amount of remittance through its platform during the first week of a special campaign ahead of Eid-ul-Azha.

JM Taslim Kabir, group head of marketing at Fair Group, and Mohammad Zahidul Ahasan, head of remittance at bKash, handed over the prizes at a ceremony held at the latter's head office in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Each customer is eligible to receive either a fridge or a TV and a discount coupon only once during the campaign period.

Winners' coupons, including those for daily fridge and TV recipients, are automatically credited to their bKash accounts.

Prime Bank, DX New Energy team up to empower women



PHOTO: PRIME BANK

Dewan Karon, founder and chief executive officer of DX Group, and Md Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of Prime Bank PLC, pose for photographs after signing a memorandum of understanding at a ceremony in Dhaka recently.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC has recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with DX New Energy Industries Limited, with the objective of providing complimentary training on riding motorcycle to the bank's "Neera" customers at the latter's training centres across the country.

Md Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of the bank, and Dewan Karon, founder and chief executive officer of DX Group, signed the MoU at a ceremony held in Dhaka, according to a press release.

This strategic collaboration represents a significant stride towards advancing women's mobility and autonomy, thereby contributing meaningfully to their socio-economic empowerment.

By equipping women with the ability and confidence to independently traverse their daily routes, Prime Bank is nurturing a culture of self-reliance and expanded opportunity.

As part of the wider initiative, Neera customers will also have access to personal loans under simplified conditions, designed to support their ambitions and cater to a range of individual needs with enhanced financial flexibility.



PHOTO: CITIZENS BANK

Md Mostafizur Rahman, managing director (current charge) of Citizens Bank PLC, inaugurates the Chowdhuryhat branch of the bank in Chattogram's Hathazari on Monday. Md Abdul Latif, deputy managing director of the bank, and Borhan Uddin Chowdhury, manager of Agrabad branch, were also present.

Mastercard, ShopUp join forces to empower women-led small businesses

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth, in partnership with commerce platform ShopUp, has launched an initiative titled Porshi, aimed at equipping women-led small businesses in Bangladesh with the digital tools and skills necessary to flourish in the modern economy.

Supported by the Gates Foundation, the programme seeks to upskill 1,600 female small business owners and enhance their access to a broader range of fast-moving consumer goods. Approximately 40 percent of these entrepreneurs are expected to consistently utilise ShopUp's app to streamline last-mile delivery services.

"Small businesses play a vital role in building strong and resilient communities," said Subhashini Chandran, senior vice-president, social impact at the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth. "This initiative will enhance the revenue streams of women entrepreneurs and empower them to become more resilient, competitive, and successful in today's digital economy," she added.



PHOTO: MASTERCARD

Subhashini Chandran, senior vice-president of Social Impact at Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth, Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager for Bangladesh at Mastercard, and Mamun Rashid, president of ShopUp, pose for group photographs with participants of the programme at BRAC Learning Centre in Dinajpur recently.

Pubali Bank, ACI ink deal for cashless solutions

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Pubali Bank PLC has entered into a strategic partnership agreement with Advanced Chemical Industries (ACI) PLC and ACI Logistics Limited (Shwapno) offering its digital banking services.

Mohammad Esha, deputy managing director of the bank, and Md Abu Hasan Zaman, director of treasury at ACI PLC, signed the agreement at a ceremony in Dhaka recently, the bank said in a press release.

Under the agreement, ACI PLC will benefit from Pubali Bank's advanced digital banking

services directly from its corporate premises, eliminating the need for in-branch visits.

Additionally, Pubali Bank will deploy its POS terminals and Bangla QR solutions across more than 600 Shwapno outlets nationwide, enabling customers to enjoy seamless, cashless transactions using debit and credit cards, as well as other banking applications.

Md Shahnewaz Khan, Deputy Managing Director of the bank, also attended the signing ceremony.

Md Helal Uddin, general manager and head of ICTOD at the bank; Endra Mohan Sutradhar, general manager and head of SDD and CTO; Shahin Shahria, general manager and head of Mohakhali corporate branch; and Md Rabiul Alam, deputy general manager and head of ADC division; were present.

Md Shamsul Alam, assistant general manager of ADC division at the bank; and Sabrina Rahman, corporate treasury manager of ACI PLC; and Masud Ali Kazi, manager of treasury; along with other senior officials from both the organisations, were also present.



PHOTO: PUBALI BANK

Md Abu Hasan Zaman, director of treasury at Advanced Chemical Industries PLC, and Mohammad Esha, deputy managing director of Pubali Bank PLC, shake hands and exchange signed documents of an agreement in Dhaka recently.

Mercantile Bank celebrates 26th anniversary

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mercantile Bank PLC celebrated its 26th founding anniversary on Monday in an event at its head office in Dhaka.

Md Anwarul Haque, chairman of the bank, inaugurated the programme as the chief guest, according to a press release issued by the bank.



In his remarks, Haque noted, "Mercantile Bank has made commendable progress across all indicators. Through sustained effort over the past 26 years, it has established itself as a sustainable, reliable, and customer-centric financial institution."

He further emphasised the need to enhance technology-driven and customer-friendly banking services while upholding corporate governance in the years ahead. Mati Ul Hasan, managing director of the bank, stated that the recovery of classified loans will be a key priority for the current fiscal year.



PHOTO: MERCANTILE BANK

Md Anwarul Haque, chairman of Mercantile Bank PLC, inaugurates the bank's 26th founding anniversary at the bank's head office in Dhaka on Monday. Mati Ul Hasan, managing director of the bank, was present.

 Bangladesh Shipping Corporation BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram-4100		
Memo No. 18.16.0000.000.362.14.0001.22		Date: 03-06-2025
<u>Invitation for International Tenders</u>		
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh		
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Shipping (MoS);
2	Agency	Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC);
3	Procuring entity name	Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC);
4	Procuring entity code	Not applicable;
5	Procuring entity district	Chattogram;
6	Invitation for	Procurement of 02 Bulk Carriers of 55,000-66,000 DWT each including supply of necessary spare parts, tools, accessories and related services;
7	Invitation Ref No.	BSC/18.16.0000.362.14.001.22.
8	Date	03-06-2025;
Key Information		
9	Procurement method	One Stage Two Envelope Tendering Method (OSTETM);
Funding Information		
10	Budget and source of funds	BSC's own fund;
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable;
Particular Information		
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable;
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable;
14	Tender Package No.	2025/01;
15	Tender package name	Tender for Procurement of 02 Bulk Carriers of 55,000-66,000 DWT each including supply of necessary spare parts, tools, accessories and related services;
16	Tender publication date	04-06-2025;
17	Tender last selling date	15-07-2025;
18	Tender submission date and time	16-07-2025 @ 1200 hrs;
19	Tender opening date and time	16-07-2025 @ 1400 hrs;
20	Name & address of the office(s)	
	- Selling tender document (principal)	Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh, (Cash Section);
	- Selling tender document (others)	Office of the General Manager (Marketing), BSC Regional Office, Dhaka, BSC Tower (22nd Floor), Rajuk Avenue, Plot No. 2 & 3, Dainik Banglar Morh, Dhaka-1000. Cell: +88 01711-908578, E-mail: gm-dhk@bsc.gov.bd
	- Receiving tender document	Office of the General Manager (Marketing), BSC Regional Office, Dhaka, BSC Tower (22nd Floor), Rajuk Avenue, Plot No. 2 & 3, Dainik Banglar Morh, Dhaka-1000. Cell: +88 01711-908578, E-mail: gm-dhk@bsc.gov.bd
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Conference Room, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh; Date/time: 22-06-2025@1200 hrs.
Information for Applicant		
22	Eligibility of tenderer	All tenderers regardless of whether enlisted or not enlisted with the Employer may submit tenders provided that they are otherwise qualified. Eligibility criteria in respect of legal, technical, financial and other are described in the TDS (Tender Data Sheet) of tender document (As per PPR-2008).
23	Brief description of goods	02 Bulk Carriers of 55,000-66,000 DWT each including necessary spare parts, tools and accessories;
24	Brief description of related services	Related after sale services;
25	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk 1,00,000/- (one lac) only;
Procuring Entity Details		
26	Name of official inviting tender	Capt. Jamal Hossain Talukder;
27	Designation of official inviting tender	General Manager (Planning);
28	Address of official inviting tender	BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram;
29	Contact details of official inviting tender	Mobile/Cell: +8801894-509983, E-mail: gm-fnp1@bsc.gov.bd, gm-plan@bsc.gov.bd
30	The procuring entity (BSC) reserves the right to accept or reject all the tenders without showing any reason whatsoever. This tender notice will also be available at 1) Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), Website: https://bsc.portal.gov.bd/ and 2) BPPA Website: www.cptu.gov.bd . If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received/opened on the next working day at the same time and same venue.	
<div> Capt. Md. Mozibur Rahman General Manager (Planning)-R.C Mobile/Cell: +8801894-509983 BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram</div>		
GD-1368		