

Eastern Bank, Mastercard unveil biometric metal credit card

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Global digital payment solutions provider Mastercard, in collaboration with Eastern Bank PLC (EBL), recently launched a biometric metal credit card, marking a significant leap in Bangladesh's payment technology landscape.

Ahsan H Mansur, Governor of the Bangladesh Bank, inaugurated the biometric metal card at a ceremony held at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka, according to a press release.

The launch of the card was co-powered by IDEX Biometrics, Kona I, and Infineon Technologies.

As part of the ultra-premium World Elite Mastercard portfolio, this innovative card combines cutting-edge biometric authentication with the elegance of a metal design, offering both enhanced security and a premium user experience.

Park Young Sik, the Korean ambassador to Bangladesh; Fredrik Karlsrud, chargé d'affaires at the Embassy of Norway in Bangladesh; and Zakir Hassan Chowdhury, deputy governor of the Bangladesh Bank, also attended the programme.

Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director and CEO at EBL, said, "Eastern Bank PLC is proud to lead this global milestone from Bangladesh. The launch of the world's first biometric metal credit card highlights our commitment to innovation and excellence."

Syed Mohammad Kamal, Country Manager for Bangladesh at Mastercard, remarked, "This groundbreaking innovation reaffirms Mastercard's leadership in redefining the future of payments where cutting-edge security meets sophisticated design."

The new card will enable Mastercard cardholders to



Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, unveils biometric metal credit cards launched by Eastern Bank PLC and Mastercard at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka recently. Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director and CEO of EBL, Ravi Varma Datta, senior vice-president, product and solutions for South Asia at Mastercard, and Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager for Bangladesh, were also present.

PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

authenticate in-store purchases effortlessly using only their fingerprint, eliminating the need for PINs or signatures. Leveraging advanced biometric technology, it ensures that only the authorised user can complete a transaction, safeguarding sensitive financial data and setting a new benchmark for secure, premium payment experiences.

To further enhance the offering, a 24/7 concierge service will be available to cardholders, providing

seamless assistance and effortless access to premium experiences around the globe—from last minute reservations to curated travel recommendations.

Anders Storbraten, chief executive officer of IDEX Biometrics, and Tolgahan Yildiz, head of trusted mobile Connectivity and transactions product line at Infineon Technologies, along with other senior officials from all the organisations, were also present.

City Bank signs deal with IBA to launch executive leadership training



Prof Sheikh Morshed Jahan, director (in charge) of the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) at the University of Dhaka, and Md Mahbubur Rahman, additional managing director and chief financial officer of City Bank PLC, pose for group photographs after signing the agreement on the IBA premises in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: CITY BANK

Dhaka Bank celebrates 30th anniversary

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Dhaka Bank PLC recently observed its 30th founding anniversary with a celebration held at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka.

Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, attended the event as chief guest and praised the bank's enduring contribution to the country's financial sector, according to a press release.

Abdul Hai Sarker, chairman of the bank; Mirza Abbas Uddin Ahmed, founder of the bank; ATM Hayatuzzaman Khan, founder vice-chairman; Rokksana Zaman Khan, Amir Ullah, Abdullah Al Ahsan, and Rakhi Das Gupta, directors; along with Khondoker Jamil Uddin and Altaf Hossain Sarker, former directors, were present at the commemorative ceremony.

In his speech, the bank's chairman Sarker conveyed heartfelt gratitude to the bank's clients, stakeholders, and employees, emphasising the enduring values of trust, integrity, and innovation that have guided Dhaka Bank over the past three decades.

"In the last 30 years, Dhaka Bank has



Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, Abdul Hai Sarker, chairman of Dhaka Bank PLC, and Mirza Abbas Uddin Ahmed, founder of the bank, cut a cake at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka recently to celebrate Dhaka Bank's 30th founding anniversary. PHOTO: DHAKA BANK

established itself as a leading second-generation bank in the country, earning the trust of its customers through consistent performance, superior service quality, and sustained growth with excellence," he said.

During the event, the bank honoured 18 employees who have served since its inception

on July 5, 1995. In addition, the bank also recognised clients for their continued support.

Sheikh Mohammad Maroof, managing director of the bank, along with senior management from the head office and branch managers from across the country, were also present.

Southeast Bank launches co-branded credit, prepaid cards for Khulna University



Prof Md Harunor Rashid Khan, pro-vice chancellor of Khulna University, and Md Abdus Sabur Khan, senior executive vice-president and head of cards at Southeast Bank PLC, pose for photographs after signing the memorandum of understanding at the university's administrative building in Khulna recently. PHOTO: SOUTHEAST BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Southeast Bank PLC has recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Khulna University to streamline financial and lifestyle services for faculty members, students and administrative staff of the university.

Prof Md Harunor Rashid Khan, pro-vice chancellor of the university, and Md Abdus Sabur Khan, senior executive vice-president and head of cards at the bank, signed the agreement at the university's administrative building in Khulna, according to a press release issued by the bank.

In his remarks, Prof Khan highlighted that the MoU marks a significant milestone in fostering mutual cooperation between the two institutions.

He expressed confidence that the partnership would foster greater access to technology-driven financial inclusion and modern banking solutions for the university community.

Adil Chowdhury made MD of National Bank

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Adil Chowdhury was appointed as managing director of National Bank PLC yesterday.

Prior to taking over the role, Chowdhury served at Bank Asia PLC as president and managing director, concurrently, the bank said in a press release.

He spent over 15 years abroad in various leadership roles before joining Bank Asia as a deputy managing director upon returning to Bangladesh in 2020.

With over 25 years of experience across both domestic and international banking institutions, he brings to his new position a proven track record of leadership, transformation, and a strong sense of purpose.

His appointment marks a defining moment for National Bank PLC, the country's first private sector bank fully owned by Bangladeshi nationals, as it aims to restore financial stability and regain public trust.

Chowdhury previously served as a director at The Bank of Nova Scotia in both Hong Kong and Singapore, overseeing strategic initiatives across the Asia-Pacific and the Middle East.



Adil Chowdhury

Alamgir Hossain appointed MD of Citizens Bank

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Alamgir Hossain has recently been appointed as managing director (MD) of Citizens Bank PLC.

Prior to joining Citizens Bank, Hossain served at Bank Asia PLC as deputy managing director and head of corporate and large loan, concurrently, according to a press release.

His versatile career spanning nearly 28 years encompasses expertise in retail banking, cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), corporate banking, foreign trade, and banking operations.

He began his career at Eastern Bank PLC as a probationary officer in 1997, and later joined Bank Asia PLC, where he held various key positions in branches, business divisions, and the senior management team at the corporate office.

In addition, Hossain led and transformed the corporate banking business of Bank Asia, contributing significantly to the bank's growth and development.

He completed his post-graduation in English from the University of Dhaka.



Alamgir Hossain

PASHCHIMANCHAL GAS COMPANY LIMITED (PGCL)

(A Company of Petrobangla)

Head Office: Nalika, Sirajganj.

Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division.
2	Agency	Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)
3	Procuring Entity Name	Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited (PGCL), Nalika, Sirajganj.
4	Procuring Entity District	Sirajganj.
5	Invitation for	Appointment of Clearing & Forwarding Agent with Transportation of Goods including loading and unloading.
6	Invitation Ref No.	28.18.0000.000.039.40.0001.2025-26
7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
8	Budget and Source of Funds	Company's own fund.
9	Tender Publication date	08/07/2025
10	Tender Last Selling Date	29/07/2025
11	Tender Closing Date and Time	30/07/2025 at 2:30 pm (BST)
12	Tender Opening Date and Time	30/07/2025 at 2:40 pm (BST)
13	Name & Address of the office Selling Tender Document	a) Finance Division, Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited, Head Office, Nalika, Sirajganj. b) Dhaka Liaison Office (Level-13), Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited, Petrocentre, 3, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
14	Name & Address of the office Receiving Tender Document	Procurement Department, Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited, Head Office, Nalika, Sirajganj..
15	Name & Address of the office of the Opening Tender Document	Procurement Department, Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited, Head Office, Nalika, Sirajganj..
16	Eligibility of Tenderer	a) The Tenderers must have at least 05 (five) years of specific experience for Clearing imported goods from Chittagong Sea Port within the period of experience claimed by the Tenderer, including government/semi-government/autonomous and other established companies. b) The Tenderer should have at least 05 (five) years of specific experience in government/semi-government institutions/institutions or established non-government institutions to transport a minimum of 1,000 (one thousand) metric tons of goods in any one year in the past. c) Others Mentioned in the tender document.
17	Brief Description of Services	Appointment of Clearing & Forwarding with Transportation by Truck/ Tailor and related activities such as loading, unloading, stacking and storing of procured/ collected/imported linepipes, pipe fittings, various equipment and related materials from any land/seaport/airport in Bangladesh to the Company's/Project's Yard or other designated locations, including Nalika, Sirajganj and other sites across the country.
18	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	2,000/- (Two Thousand Taka) non-refundable.
19	Package No.	Identification of Package
	Single Package	Tender Security Amount (Tk)
		Duration Of Contract
20	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Shahenur Alam
21	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	General Manager (Administration)
22	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited, Head Office, Nalika, Sirajganj.
23	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Mob. 01730357237, Email: local.procurement.pgcl@gmail.com
24	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.	

PGPR-01/2025-2026

GD1532

General Manager (Administration)
Pashchimanchal Gas Company Limited
Nalika, Sirajganj.