

## Gold gains on weaker dollar

REUTERS

Gold prices rose on Friday as a weaker US dollar and ongoing geopolitical and economic uncertainty boosted demand for the safe-haven metal, while platinum prices eased after reaching their highest level since 2014.

Spot gold rose 0.4 percent to \$3,351.18 per ounce, as of 0153 p.m. EDT (1753 GMT), after falling 1.1 percent in the previous session.

US gold futures settled 0.4 percent higher at \$3,358.3.

"In the precious metals space, there are gains across the board, courtesy of a weaker dollar," said Marex analyst Edward Meir.

The dollar was down 0.3 percent, making gold cheaper for buyers holding other currencies.

"Concerns around growth in US debt and further tariff updates are likely to keep gold in focus, and for now the floor looks well supported," said Suki Cooper, Precious Metals Analyst, Global Research at Standard Chartered Bank.

On the tariff front, Indonesia is still working out the details of its new trade deal with the US, while Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen told Japan's Prime Minister a "good agreement" is possible.

Earlier this week, US President Donald Trump said he was not planning to fire Fed Chair Jerome Powell but left the option open and again criticized him for not cutting interest rates.

Market participants are anticipating two US rate cuts by the end of this year, totalling 50 basis points.

Gold thrives during economic uncertainty, and lower interest rates boost investor demand as it is a non-yielding asset.

## HSBC crowned 'Best Bank for Sustainable Finance' by Euromoney

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC) has been honoured with the awards of "Best Bank for Sustainable Finance" and "Best Bank for Large Corporates in Bangladesh" at the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2025, according to a press release.

The Best Bank for Large Corporates award underscores HSBC's strength in serving Bangladesh's leading businesses with integrated banking solutions that support growth, investment and cross-border expansion.

The Best Bank for Sustainable Finance recognition highlights the bank's pivotal role in advancing the country's sustainability agenda through innovative financing models and long-term



partnerships with clients.

Euromoney has also named HSBC the "World's Best Bank for Large Corporates and Public Sector Clients" as well as "Asia's Best Bank for Large Corporates".

Sharing his remarks on the accolades, Md Mahbub ur Rahman, chief executive officer of HSBC Bangladesh, stated: "These recognitions are powerful testaments, not only to our leadership in international connectivity and innovation, but also to the heartfelt trust and strong partnerships we have built

with our customers."

"We are profoundly honoured by this recognition, which we believe will serve as a powerful encouragement, driving us to accelerate our progress and consistently deliver exceptional solutions and service excellence," he added.

These accolades reflect HSBC's strong international connectivity and global expertise.

They are also a testament to HSBC's continued leadership in delivering best-in-class financial solutions and strategic support to clients across key sectors.

With a global network spanning more than 58 countries and territories, HSBC enables businesses in Bangladesh to grow locally and expand internationally, acting as a trusted partner in their transformation journeys.

## Eastern Bank wins Euromoney's 'Best Bank in Bangladesh' award

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has been recognised as the "Best Bank in Bangladesh" at the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2025.

The bank received the accolade for the sixth time, according to a press release.

Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director of EBL, said, "This recognition from Euromoney reflects our relentless focus on excellence, customer-centric innovation, and value creation across all segments."

"We are deeply grateful to our customers, employees, and partners who inspire us to keep moving forward," he added.

In 2024, despite global economic challenges, EBL delivered exceptional results: net profit rose by 22.8 percent

and total assets increased by 21.1 percent.

The bank's return on equity reached 18.6 percent, while maintaining a nonperforming loan ratio of just 3.34 percent.

EBL also retained the highest AAA credit rating in the country's banking sector for the third consecutive year.

The bank continued to strengthen its retail and SME portfolios. Noteworthy initiatives included the launch of the EBL High Earning Account and enhancements to its digital banking platforms, resulting in a 12 percent rise in retail loans, while preserving sound asset quality.

In the SME segment, EBL introduced EBL Shohoz, a secured lending product aimed at empowering small entrepreneurs.

The bank's payroll banking business also experienced strong growth, onboarding 361 new companies—a 37 percent increase year-on-year.

Furthering its commitment to gender-inclusive banking, EBL launched the country's first Women Payroll Suite in 2024, offering bespoke financial solutions tailored to female professionals.

Reinforcing its role as a financial innovator, EBL became the first bank in Bangladesh to receive regulatory approval to offer both life and non-life insurance products, expanding its portfolio of integrated financial services.

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## Southeast Bank, NSU launch co-branded credit, prepaid cards

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Southeast Bank PLC and North South University (NSU) have jointly launched Visa co-branded credit and prepaid cards at the university campus in Bashundhara, Dhaka.

The initiative includes co-branded credit cards for NSU faculty and staff, and co-branded prepaid cards for students.

Prof Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, vice-chancellor of NSU, and Abidur Rahman Chowdhury, managing director (current charge) of Southeast Bank PLC, jointly inaugurated the cards, according to a press release.

Faculty members and staff will enjoy a lifetime annual fee waiver on their credit cards, along with credit limits tailored to their eligibility.

Students will benefit from a first-year annual fee waiver on their prepaid cards, in addition to receiving Tk 300 cashback on their first transaction.

The prepaid cards are specially designed to support both domestic and international payments, including online transactions such as foreign university application fees—thereby promoting financial inclusion and enhancing convenience for students.

Ashish Chakraborty, director of business development for South Asia at Visa; Sabbir Ahmed, country manager for Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan; Ahmed Tazmeen, registrar of the university; and Prof Abdur Rob Khan, treasurer, attended the event.



Prof Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, vice-chancellor of North South University, and Abidur Rahman Chowdhury, managing director (current charge) of Southeast Bank PLC, pose for photographs at the launch of Visa co-branded credit and prepaid cards on the university campus in Bashundhara, Dhaka recently.

## Bangladesh Development Bank holds performance review meeting



Ahmed Ismet, chairman of Bangladesh Development Bank PLC, poses for group photographs during the "Performance Review Meeting 2025" at the bank's head office in the capital on Saturday. Md Jashim Uddin, managing director and CEO, was present.

PHOTO: BANGLADESH DEVELOPMENT BANK

chief guest, according to a press release.

Md Jashim Uddin, managing director and CEO of the bank, presided over the meeting.

KM Tariqul Islam, Md Abdul Mojid, Md Shah Alam, Sultan Mahmud Bin Zulfiqar, Md Shah

Alam Mia, Mahbubun Nahar and Md Chaynul Haque, directors of the bank, Shachindra Nath Samadder, deputy managing director, along with all general managers, managers and other senior officials of the bank, were also present.

## Guardian Life organises annual sales conference in Cox's Bazar

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Guardian Life Insurance Limited recently organised its "Annual Sales Conference 2025" under the slogan "Odommo Guardian" at Hotel Sea Palace in Cox's Bazar.

The event brought together over 800 sales leaders and financial advisors from across Bangladesh to celebrate the company's remarkable achievements over the past year.

Syed Akthar Hasan Uddin, director of the life insurer, attended the conference as the chief guest, according to a press release.

Tapan Chowdhury, co-founder and sponsor of the life insurer, joined the event virtually.

In a video message, Chowdhury stated, "This conference is not just a gathering; it is a celebration of our hard work, integrity and success. Guardian reaches every corner of Bangladesh with a message of trust and protection and has become a shining name in the insurance industry."



Syed Akthar Hasan Uddin, director of Guardian Life Insurance Limited, addresses at the life insurer's "Annual Sales Conference 2025" at Hotel Sea Palace Ltd in Cox's Bazar recently.

## Prime Bank named 'Best Bank for ESG 2025' in Bangladesh by Euromoney

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC has been recognised as the "Best Bank for ESG 2025" in Bangladesh at the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2025.

The bank earned this accolade for the third consecutive year, highlighting its unwavering commitment to sustainability, ethical conduct, and sound governance practices, according to a press release.

"We are immensely proud to be recognised by Euromoney once again," said Hassan O Rashid, chief executive officer of the bank.

"This award

reflects our deep-rooted commitment to sustainable finance, community impact, and governance excellence. We thank our dedicated team, partners, and customers who join us on this journey to build a greener, more inclusive future," he added.

By securing the award for a third successive year, Prime Bank reinforces its position as a pioneer of sustainable banking in Bangladesh.

The consecutive wins underscore the bank's sustained excellence and progressive leadership in ESG performance.

The award stands as a testament to Prime Bank's robust ESG governance—demonstrated through the implementation of transparent policies and accountability frameworks aligned with international best practices; its strong green financing efforts, which have expanded a portfolio of sustainable loans and energy transition projects across Bangladesh; and its inclusive, socially responsible programmes that promote community development, small business financing, and financial literacy among underserved populations.

Euromoney, an English-language monthly magazine focused on business and finance, evaluates institutions across nearly 100 countries each July.

The "Best Bank for ESG" award recognises outstanding leadership in embedding environmental, social, and governance principles into all aspects of banking operations.



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার					
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ					
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়					
পিলোজপুর					
<a href="http://www.police.gov.bd">www.police.gov.bd</a>					
অকেজো যানবাহন ও জনযান নিলাম বিজিতি নং ০১/২০২৫-২০২৬					
পিলোজপুরে জেলা পুলিশের মিডিলেভ শাখার নিয়ন্ত্রিত অকেজো যোগিত বিজিতি বান্দনের যানবাহন ও জনযান "যেখানে যে অবস্থা আছে" নিলামে বিজিতের সময় বালোদেশের প্রকল্প নামিক, অকেজো তেকারে নিউট থেকে সীলনাব্দুরুক্ত প্রায় ২০০০ টাকার মুদ্রাগ্রহ মুদ্রণের আকাশে করা যাইতেছে। সিডিটেলে পুর্ণিম একটি প্রকল্প আকাশে করা যাইতেছে।					
০১	মুদ্রণস্থল/ বিষয়	জেল পুলিশ, পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়	পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়
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