

# Mastercard, MTB and ShebaPay launch SME companion prepaid card

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mastercard, Mutual Trust Bank PLC (MTB) and ShebaPay have jointly launched "SME Companion Prepaid Card", aimed at addressing the evolving payment needs of small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) retailers transacting on ShebaPay's business-to-business (B2B) platform.

Md Zakir Hossain Chowdhury, deputy governor of the Bangladesh Bank, inaugurated the card as the chief guest at a function held in the capital yesterday, according to a press release.

Commenting on the solution, Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director and CEO of Mutual Trust Bank PLC, said: "Through our partnership with ShebaPay and Mastercard, we are bringing

banking to the fingertips of thousands, empowering users with flexible, account-free access to modern financial services."

Adnan Intiaz Halim, chairman of ShebaPay, commented: "This co-branded card, powered by Mastercard and MTB, enables users to enjoy seamless payments, access their funds in real time, and operate confidently in a digital-first economy, without relying on traditional banking channels."

Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager for Bangladesh at Mastercard, remarked: "This country's first SME Companion Prepaid Card aligns with Mastercard's commitment to promoting digital adoption and driving financial inclusion by providing convenient and secure payment solutions that meet the evolving needs of enterprises and communities."



PHOTO: MASTERCARD

Md Zakir Hossain Chowdhury, deputy governor of the Bangladesh Bank, inaugurates the "SME Companion Prepaid Card", jointly launched by Mastercard, Mutual Trust Bank PLC (MTB) and ShebaPay, at a function in the capital yesterday.

# China seeks AI chip export relief

REUTERS

China wants the United States to ease export controls on chips critical for artificial intelligence as part of a trade deal before a possible summit between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping, the Financial Times reported on Sunday.

Chinese officials have told experts in Washington that Beijing wants the Trump administration to relax export restrictions on high-bandwidth memory chips, the newspaper reported, citing unnamed people familiar with the matter.

The White House, State Department and China's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the report.

HBM chips, which help perform data-intensive AI tasks quickly, are closely watched by investors due to their use alongside AI graphic processors, particularly Nvidia's. The FT said China is concerned because the US HBM controls hamper the ability of Chinese companies such as Huawei to develop their own AI chips.



Syed Golam Sarwar, president of the Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh (HAAB), and Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC, pose for photographs during the handover of the sponsorship cheque at the bank's corporate head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK

# Shahjalal Islami Bank sponsors HAAB's 'Hajj and Umrah Fair 2025'

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC has provided sponsorship worth Tk 20 lakh to the Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh (HAAB) to support the organisation of the "Hajj and Umrah Fair 2025".

The three-day event is scheduled to be held from August 14 to 16 at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference

Centre in the Agargaon's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, according to a press release.

Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC, handed over the sponsorship cheque to Syed Golam Sarwar, president of the Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh (HAAB), at a function held recently at the bank's corporate head office in Dhaka.

# IFIC Bank gets ISO certification for information security management

STAR BUSINESS DESK

IFIC Bank PLC has been awarded an internationally recognised ISO (International Organization for Standardization) certification for meeting global standards and requirements in information security management.

The certification was granted by the international certification body Bureau Veritas in recognition of the bank's commitment to ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of customer information through robust security management systems.

Sohel Azad, country manager of Bureau Veritas, handed over the certificate to Syed Mansur Mustafa, managing director of IFIC Bank PLC, at a certificate handover ceremony held recently at the bank's head office in the capital's Purana Paltan, according to a press release.



Syed Mansur Mustafa, managing director of IFIC Bank PLC, receives an ISO certification from Sohel Azad, country manager of Bureau Veritas, at the bank's head office in the capital's Purana Paltan recently.

PHOTO: IFIC BANK

# Al-Arafah Islami Bank organises training on SME entrepreneurship

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC has recently organised a month-long training programme on "SME Entrepreneur Development" under the SICIP project of the Special Programmes Department of the Bangladesh Bank.

A total of 25 entrepreneurs from the Cumilla region took part in the workshop, held at the Bangladesh Rural Development Academy (BARD) in Cumilla.

Md Rafat Ullah Khan, managing director (current charge) of Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC, attended the training programme as the chief guest, according to a press release.

In his remarks, Khan underscored the importance of adopting diverse strategies and technologies for entrepreneurial growth and SME business expansion.

Md Nazrul Islam, SICIP project director and additional director of the Bangladesh Bank, and Md Ayub Ali, joint director, were present as special guests.

Md Abdur Rahim Duari, principal of Al-Arafah Islami Bank Training Institute, presided over the event.

SM Abu Jafar, deputy managing director, and Saif Mohammad Zulkar Nine, course coordinator, along with other senior officials of Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC, were also present.



Md Rafat Ullah Khan, managing director (current charge) of Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC, poses for group photographs with participants of the training programme on "SME Entrepreneur Development" at the Bangladesh Rural Development Academy (BARD) in Cumilla recently.

PHOTO: AL-ARAFAH ISLAMI BANK

**Sonali Bank PLC**  
Information Technology Division  
(IT Procurement & Maintenance)  
Head Office, Dhaka

Memo No. HO/ITD (IT P&M)/purchase/ Date: 04/08/2025

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

SL No.	Tender ID No.	Name of tender	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	1136525	Procurement of MICR Scanner for Sonali Bank PLC	03-Sep-2025 12:30	03-Sep-2025 15:30

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no office/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to respective time schedule.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

Sd/-  
Deputy General Manager

GD-1753

## Gold futures

FROM PAGE B4

Investors are growing confident that President Donald Trump's constantly-changing US trade policy won't derail the surge in investment around artificial intelligence.

"Part of the relief was that the tariffs on a very important sector around the US outlook on earnings, which is tech and AI, is mostly left unaffected," said Angelo Kourkalis, senior global investment strategist at Edward Jones.

Apple, which pledged increased US investment at a White House meeting this week, won 4.2 percent, its third straight significant gains. Nvidia and Google parent Alphabet also advanced.

Gold futures shot to a new all-time intraday high at \$3,534.10 an ounce after the Financial Times reported that Washington had classified one-kilo bars, the most traded type of bullion on Comex - the world's biggest futures market, as subject to "reciprocal" tariff rates.

One-kilo bars make up the largest part of Switzerland's gold shipments to the United States. Imports from Switzerland face a 39-percent reciprocal tariff from Thursday. The FT said 100-ounce bars would also face the levy.

The levy caused "shock and confusion" in markets, said Han Tan, chief market analyst at Nemo.money trading group.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Education Engineering Department  
Faridpur.  
Web : [eed.faridpur.gov.bd](http://eed.faridpur.gov.bd)

Meme No.EE/EED/FAR/e-GP/2025-26/01 Date : 10/08/2025

**e-Tender Notice No: 01/2025-2026**

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following Goods under EED Faridpur District as mentioned below:

SL No	Tender ID	Package No	Description of Works	Tender Security Submission (Date & Time)	Tender Opening (Date & Time)
<b>Open Tendering Method (OTM)</b>					
01	1138540	FAR/FUR/MOE/GD-01	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Shaheed Muktijoddha Smrity Bidyapeeth Under Alfadanga Upazila Faridpur District.(2024-25)	27-08-2025 at 12:00	27-08-2025 at 13:00
02	1138541	FAR/FUR/MOE/GD-02	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Bir Muktijoddha Sirajul Islam Mohila College Under Alfadanga Upazila Faridpur District.(2024-25)	27-08-2025 at 12:00	27-08-2025 at 13:00
03	1138542	FAR/FUR/MOE/GD-03	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Kamargram Kanchan Academy Under Alfadanga Upazila Faridpur District.(2024-25)	27-08-2025 at 12:00	27-08-2025 at 13:00
04	1138543	FAR/FUR/MOE/GD-04	Manufacturing and Supplying of Furniture at Kazi Sirajul Islam Mohila College Under Boalmari Upazila Faridpur District.(2024-25)	27-08-2025 at 12:00	27-08-2025 at 13:00

This is an online Tender where only e-Tender will be acceptable in the National e-GP system portal and No offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender A1& A2 renewed upto FY. enlistment Category Contractor of Education Engineering Department any District who are registered in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) will be eligible.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Document from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches up to 16:00 on 26-08-2025.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason what so ever.

(Afzal Hossain)  
Executive Engineer  
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GD-1755

**সামরিক চিকিৎসা সার্ভিস মহাপরিদপ্তর**  
প্রতিরক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস

**পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

১। সমস্ত বাহিনীর জন্য দেশীয় মুদ্রায় নিম্নলিখিত চিকিৎসা সামগ্রী ক্রয় প্রক্রিয়ায় অংশগ্রহণকারী বাহিনীর/প্রদানকারী/আমদানীকারক/ইউজিন্ট্রি প্রতিনিধির নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

২। দরপত্রের সিডিউল নিম্নের ছকে উল্লেখিত তারিখ মোতাবেক প্রতি কার্যালয়ে ০৮৩০ ঘটিকা হতে ১৩৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সামরিক চিকিৎসা সার্ভিস মহাপরিদপ্তর, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস থেকে নগদ মুদ্রা (অফেরতযোগ্য) সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাবলীসহ দরপত্র সীলমোহরকৃত খামে মহাপরিদপ্তরে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বক্সে নিম্নবর্ণিত ছকে আগামী ২৪ আগস্ট ২০২৫ তারিখ ০৯:০০ ঘটিকা হতে ১৩০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত জমা দেয়া হবে এবং একই দিন ১৩০৫ ঘটিকায় দরদাতাদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র উন্মুক্ত করা হবে।

ক্রমিক নং	দ্রব্যের বিবরণ	সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ		দরপত্র জমা এবং উন্মুক্তের তারিখ	দরপত্র নম্বর
		হইতে	পর্যন্ত		
1	ICU Ventilator Adult to Pediatric	10-08-25	24-08-25	24-08-25	08/2025-2026/EM

৩। নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে আর কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে না।

৪। বর্ণিত ইলেকট্রনিক মেডিকেল ইকুইপমেন্টস এর বিস্তারিত বিবরণ, কারিগরী বিনির্দেশ ও চাহিদাকৃত বিভিন্ন তথ্যাদি/সমন্বয়পত্রের তালিকা দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকবে।

৫। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখিত আইটেমের পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধি/কমানোর এবং দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা রাখেন।

৬। পিপিএ/২০০৬ ও পিপিআর/২০০৮ মোতাবেক দরপত্রের সকল শর্তাবলী কার্যকর হবে।

৭। সামরিক চিকিৎসা সার্ভিস মহাপরিদপ্তর প্রতিরক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস জরুরি দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি তারিখ ১২ মার্চ ২০২৫ এর ক্রমিক ০৪ এর আলোকে ২০২৪-২০২৫/১৭৫/৪/এম দরপত্রের ক্রমিক ০১ ICU Ventilator Adult to Pediatric বাতিল করা হলো।

সে. কর্মকর্তা  
এক্সিকিউটিভ এমএস (স্টোর)  
সামরিক চিকিৎসা সার্ভিস মহাপরিদপ্তর  
প্রতিরক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, ঢাকা সেনানিবাস

তারিখ: আগস্ট ২০২৫  
আইএসপিআর/বিবিধ/২৫৭

GD-1757