

## BB recognises City Bank as best sustainable bank in 2024

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

City Bank PLC has been recognised as the best sustainable bank among the 10 leading sustainable banks of 2024 in the country by the Bangladesh Bank (BB).

This marks the fifth consecutive year that City Bank has been honoured as one of the top 10 sustainable banks in Bangladesh.

Ahsan H Mansur, governor of Bangladesh Bank, presented the certification and crest to Mashrur Arefin, managing director and CEO of City Bank PLC, at the "Sustainability Rating 2024" ceremony held at the central bank's headquarters in the capital's Motijheel on Wednesday, according to a press release.

Commenting on the achievement, Arefin said: "Financial sustainability of banks, to me, is more important

right now in our country than even environmental sustainability."

"Since the rating accounts for both, it effectively becomes the Best Bank rating accorded by our main regulator. That is what makes us all happy and proud; our board of directors, our management, our customers, and all other stakeholders alike."

He added that the board has mandated City Bank's management to transform the institution into a financial entity that "behaves and serves the entire population as a fintech company with a banking licence."

"We are progressing towards that vision," he noted.

However, for the first time, the central bank has officially announced the rankings, placing City Bank PLC at the very top in its rating for the previous year.



**Mashrur Arefin, managing director and CEO of City Bank PLC, receives the certificate from Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, at the central bank's headquarters in the capital's Motijheel on Wednesday.**

PHOTO: CITY BANK

## Pubali Bank honoured for excellence in sustainable finance

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Pubali Bank PLC has been recognised as one of the top 10 sustainable banks of 2024 in the country by Bangladesh Bank (BB), in acknowledgment of the bank's leadership in sustainable finance.

Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, presented the certification to Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of Pubali Bank PLC, at the "Sustainability Rating 2024" held at the BB headquarters in the capital's Motijheel on Wednesday, according to a press release.

Nurun Nahar, deputy governor of the central bank, and Mohammad Esha, deputy managing director of Pubali Bank PLC, along with senior officials of BB and Pubali Bank PLC, were also present.



**Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of Pubali Bank PLC, receives the certificate from Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, at a ceremony held at the BB headquarters in the capital's Motijheel on Wednesday.**

## Eastern Bank recognised by BB at Sustainability Rating 2024

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has been honoured as one of the top 10 sustainable banks of 2024 by the Bangladesh Bank (BB), in recognition of its strong commitment to sustainability, green finance and responsible banking practices.

Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, presented the certification to Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, at the "Sustainability Rating 24" held at the BB headquarters in the capital's Motijheel on Wednesday, according to a press release.

Expressing his gratitude, Iftekhar said: "This recognition will inspire us to further promote green financing, strengthen climate risk management, and advance eco-efficient banking practices, reinforcing our commitment to building a low-carbon and inclusive future for Bangladesh."

Nurun Nahar, deputy governor of the central bank, and Chowdhury Liakat Ali, director of the Sustainable

Finance Department, along with other senior officials from the BB and the EBL, were also present.



**Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, receives the certificate from Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the Bangladesh Bank, at a ceremony at the BB headquarters in the capital's Motijheel on Wednesday.**

## Shwapno opens self-checkout counters

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shwapno, the largest retail chain in Bangladesh, has launched a new service, "Self-Checkout Counters," at its Gulshan-1 outlet in the capital on Wednesday.

With the self-checkout counters, shoppers can now enjoy a seamless and independent shopping experience -- scanning products, bagging items, and making instant payments using contactless cards or digital wallets, all without queuing.

The core technology was developed in-house at Shwapno, while strategic partners supported its implementation. Mastercard facilitated the initiative by connecting Shwapno with Sunmi, which supplied the advanced checkout devices, and Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) provided secure payment gateway solutions.

Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager for Bangladesh at Mastercard, inaugurated the service as the chief guest, according to a press release.

Commenting on the initiative, Nasir said: "The launch of self-checkout counters, developed by our brilliant young technology team, is a landmark step in our journey to bring world-class convenience to our customers. We are proud to be the first in the country to introduce this service, and grateful to Mastercard, Sunmi, and EBL for their support

in making it possible."

The service has initially been introduced in Gulshan-1, with plans for phased expansion across the country, the press release added.

To mark the launch, Mastercard will reward customers with eco-friendly, sustainable shopping bags at the Gulshan-1 outlet when they make transactions of Tk 1,000 or more using any Mastercard at the self-checkout kiosk.

Paul Frost, commercial counsellor of the US Commercial Service at the Embassy of the United States of America, and Sabbir Hasan Nasir, managing director of Shwapno, attended the event.

Among others, Rukaiya Rafa, product manager of Shwapno; Md Saniul Zadid, country head of Bangladesh Team, MEA at Shanghai Sunmi Technology Group Co Limited; M Khorshed Anowar, deputy managing director and head of retail and SME banking at Eastern Bank PLC; and Miraz Anik, software developer, were also present.



**Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager for Bangladesh at Mastercard, inaugurates new service, "Self-Checkout Counters", at the Gulshan-1 outlet of Shwapno on Wednesday.**

## Fed officials more concerned with inflation risk than jobs

AFP, Washington

A majority of Federal Reserve officials found that risks surrounding US inflation outweighed those to employment, minutes of a recent policy meeting showed -- underscoring a central bank divide over the effects of President Donald Trump's tariffs.

Attendees of the late July meeting saw challenges to both sides of the Fed's dual mandate of maintaining stable prices and maximum employment, as they mulled the right time for changes to interest rates, according to the minutes released Wednesday.

But "a majority of participants judged the upside risk to inflation as the greater of these two," the report added.

Only "a couple of participants considered downside risk to employment the more salient" one.

This points to differences in the central bank's rate setting Federal Open Market Committee, which saw two dissents in July from Fed governors Christopher Waller and Michelle Bowman.

Overall, policymakers voted to keep interest rates unchanged at a range between 4.25 percent and 4.50 percent, despite Trump's repeated calls for the independent central bank to slash rates.

But Waller and Bowman favored a cut of 25 basis points, with Bowman flagging a preference to hedge against further weakening in the economy and "the risk of damage to the labor market."

### Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer  
PWD Division, Noakhali  
Phone & Fax: 0312334491026  
Email: ee\_noakh@pwd.gov.bd

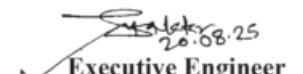
Memo No. 2633

Dated: 20/08/2025

### 1st (Amendment) Corrigendum Notice

It is hereby notified to all concern that the following amendment have been made to the invitation of work "Construction of 10-Storied Hospital Building with 10-Storied Foundation including Single Basement for Noakhali Medical College Under the Project of Establishment of 500-Bedded Hospital & Ancillary Buildings in Jessore, Cox's Bazar, Pabna and Noakhali. (1st revised)" Tender ID: 1130979 vide Memo No. 2360/36 dated: 29/07/2025 due to unavoidable circumstance and the amendments shall be as follows.

Tender Notice field name	As mentioned in original Tender Notice	To be Replaces
Document last selling date & time	27/08/2025 17:00	01/09/2025 17:00
Opening date & time	28/08/2025 15:00	02/09/2025 15:00
Last date & time for Tender/ Proposal Security Submission	28/08/2025 14:00	02/09/2025 14:00
Closing date & time	28/08/2025 15:00	02/09/2025 15:00

  
Executive Engineer  
Noakhali PWD Division

GD-1837

## Gold prices little changed

REUTERS

Gold was little changed on Thursday as investors awaited cues on the Federal Reserve's policy outlook ahead of its annual Jackson Hole symposium, which starts later in the day.

Spot gold was down 0.2 percent at \$3,338.89 per ounce, as of 0603 GMT. US gold futures for December delivery also lost 0.2 percent to \$3,381.20. The US dollar index rose 0.1 percent, making greenback-backed gold expensive for overseas buyers.

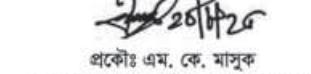
Fed Chair Jerome Powell is expected to speak on Friday at the August 21-23 event, with investors watching whether he backs measures to bolster the labor market or focuses on curbing inflation.

"We don't think gold prices are going to rise significantly and believe they are consolidating at the moment," said Brian Lan, managing director, GoldSilver Central.

"Even if interest rates are cut slightly, we might see a slight uptick in gold prices, and...the \$3,400 mark is possible. If not, then prices may continue to consolidate or possibly notch a little lower, closer to \$3,300," Lan added.

১৮.১০.১২১৩.৮১৮.০৭.০০২৭.২৫ (টিএস)

৩

  
Md. Asifur Rahman  
Executive Engineer  
Noakhali PWD Division