

EBL honoured by Superbrands for 3rd time

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has been recognised as one of Bangladesh's most trusted and influential brands, receiving the Superbrands status for the third time.

The award was announced on September 20 at a gala ceremony hosted by Superbrands Bangladesh at Hotel Le Méridien in Dhaka. Winners were selected through a rigorous evaluation by a brand council comprising industry experts and marketing professionals, according to a press release.

EBL was chosen for its strong consumer trust, consistent service excellence, corporate governance, and commitment to innovation. The recognition reflects the bank's focus on delivering superior customer experiences and maintaining its leadership position in the country's financial sector.

"Being named a Superbrand for the third time is more than just recognition—it reflects the trust our customers place in us and the passion our people bring to everything we do," said Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director and CEO of EBL. "This honour belongs to every member of Team EBL and to our valued stakeholders who inspire us to raise the bar every single day."

This is the third time EBL has earned the Superbrands accolade, after earlier recognitions in 2009–2011 and 2018–2020. With the latest award, the bank joins an elite group of 49 distinguished brands shaping Bangladesh's corporate landscape.



Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, receives the crest of honour from Syed Ferhat Anwar, vice-chancellor of BRAC University, at the Superbrands award ceremony at Le Méridien in Dhaka on September 20.

PHOTO: EBL

China urges EU to avoid weaponising tariffs

ANN/CHINA DAILY

Beijing has called on Brussels to abandon the weaponization of tariffs and provide a truly level playing field for Chinese electric vehicle makers, while also welcoming European automakers into China, the Ministry of Commerce said on Thursday.

"China's EV industry has indeed been a driving force behind the broader transformation of the automotive sector toward electrification and digitalization," said He Yadong, a spokesman for the ministry, at a news conference.

"European manufacturers now have every capability to not just adapt to market competition, but also be part and parcel of this industry-wide revolution," said He.

As the European Union intensifies efforts to bolster its new energy vehicle sector, it continues to enforce countervailing duties on Chinese EVs

As the European Union intensifies efforts to bolster its new energy vehicle sector — highlighted by Volkswagen's recent unveiling of its 20,000-euro (\$23,683) model and new energy strategy rollouts from BMW, Mercedes-Benz and Renault at the 2025 Munich Motor Show — it continues to enforce countervailing duties on Chinese EVs.

He noted that the EU has groundlessly labeled Chinese automakers as "subsidized" simply due to their high cost-effectiveness, and has abused countervailing measures under the pretext of an unfounded "threat of damage".

In essence, this constitutes a market barrier and interference with free competition. Practice has proven that protectionism cannot withstand the powerful forces of the market, nor can it block the rational choices of EU consumers, the spokesman said.

"We hope that the European side will refrain from weaponizing tariffs, eliminate market barriers, encourage fair competition and follow the broader trend of industrial collaboration.

Mastercard earns Superbrands recognition as Bangladesh's most loved payment brand



PHOTO: MASTERCARD

Syed Mohammad Kamal, the country manager of Mastercard, poses with the Superbrands award trophy alongside other officials in Dhaka on September 20.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mastercard has received the Superbrands recognition in the "Payment" category for 2024–25, reaffirming its position as Bangladesh's most trusted and popular payments technology brand.

The Superbrands Award is considered one of the most respected accolades in global branding, given to organizations that demonstrate consistent excellence in quality, reliability, and customer value. Mastercard's selection underscores its standing as a trusted brand that delivers value and confidence to customers, partners, and cardholders in Bangladesh, according to a press release.

The awards ceremony was held on September 20 in Dhaka. Accepting the honor on behalf of Mastercard were Syed

Mohammad Kamal, country manager; Sohail Alim, director; and Zakia Sultana, director.

"We are honored and delighted to be recognized as a top brand in Bangladesh," said Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager, Mastercard Bangladesh. "This achievement reflects the trust and confidence our customers, partners, cardholders, and other stakeholders continue to place in Mastercard."

The recognition follows a rigorous evaluation by the Superbrands Council, which assesses brands on attributes such as quality, reliability, trust, market leadership, prestige, and consumer impact. Mastercard's inclusion highlights its commitment to excellence and ability to consistently deliver value, credibility, and assurance to stakeholders in Bangladesh.

HSBC, Bepza to set up business development office at NSEZ

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Bangladesh has signed an agreement with the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza) to establish a Business Development Office (BDO) at the National Special Economic Zone (NSEZ) in Mirsarai, Chattogram.

The office will provide banking solutions for both local and foreign investors operating in the zone, supporting trade, investment, and export financing needs. HSBC said the initiative reflects its continued commitment to facilitating Bangladesh's growth as a competitive manufacturing and export hub, according to a press release.

Designed as a one-stop access point, the BDO will offer banking and financial solutions tailored to the needs of investors in the zone. In addition to core banking services, it will provide trade finance and cash management facilities to help businesses manage cross-border transactions.

With the new NSEZ facility, HSBC will operate seven BDOs across Bangladesh's export processing zones, enabling clients to access its global network and trade expertise.

Md Ashrafur Kabir, member (investment promotion) at Bepza, and Devesh Mathur, chief operating

officer of HSBC Bangladesh, signed the agreement on behalf of their organisations. Senior officials from both sides, including Ahmad Rabiul Hasan, head of global trade solutions at HSBC Bangladesh, and Omar Sharif, head of Chattogram banking, were also present.



PHOTO: HSBC

Md Ashrafur Kabir, member (investment promotion) of Bepza, and Devesh Mathur, chief operating officer of HSBC Bangladesh, pose with the signed documents of the agreement along with other officials of both organisations at the signing ceremony held recently.



PHOTO: NCC

Mohammad Kawsar Matin, executive director of Bangladesh Bank's Mymensingh office, and Sharif Mohammad Mahsin, senior vice-president and head of SME at NCC Bank, pose for photographs along with other officials and participants, at the entrepreneurship development programme in Mymensingh recently.

NCC Bank launches entrepreneurship development programme in Mymensingh

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NCC Bank PLC, in collaboration with Bangladesh Bank, has launched a month-long entrepreneurship development programme (EDP) in Mymensingh to create new entrepreneurs and accelerate inclusive economic growth.

The initiative is part of the government's Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (SICIP), funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB),

according to a press release.

The programme was inaugurated by Mohammad Kawsar Matin, executive director of Bangladesh Bank's Mymensingh office, as chief guest. The event was presided over by Sharif Mohammad Mahsin, senior vice-president and head of SME at NCC Bank. Senior officials from Bangladesh Bank and NCC Bank, including Md Nazrul Islam, additional director and SICIP project director, and Md Ayub Ali, joint director and SICIP deputy programme director, were also present.

As the designated financial partner for Mymensingh, NCC Bank has selected 25 entrepreneurs to undergo a 100-hour structured training programme. The participants will receive practical knowledge, business management skills, and guidance on accessing financial resources to expand both new and existing ventures.

The training also aims to improve access to finance, generate employment opportunities, and bring individuals outside the formal banking system into financial inclusion.

PBIL, Zaytoon launch rural investment awareness through 'Uthan Boithok'

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank Investment PLC (PBIL), in collaboration with Zaytoon Business Solutions, has launched a community-based investment awareness programme, locally known as an "Uthan Boithok", in Sirajdikhan, Munshiganj.

The initiative, part of a strategic alliance formed between PBIL and Zaytoon in February 2025, aims to promote financial inclusion by equipping rural households with practical knowledge on safe and sustainable investment opportunities in Bangladesh's capital market.

More than 100 participants from local communities joined the session, which focused on financial literacy, responsible investment, and fraud prevention, according to a press release.

"Capital market access should not be limited to urban elites—it must reach every corner of the country," said Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and CEO of PBIL. "Through this initiative, we are empowering rural communities with the knowledge, tools, and trust needed to begin their investment journey. Small savings can become the foundation of financial security, family wellbeing, and national development."

Arfan Ali, chairman of Zaytoon Business Solutions, added: "Financial inclusion in rural Bangladesh will remain incomplete without bridging the gap between technology, awareness, and investment access. Our alliance with PBIL is designed to empower rural communities to take charge of their financial future and participate in the nation's progress."

Participants were introduced to PBIL's bank-managed investment schemes in simple terms and learned

how to convert modest savings into productive investments, manage risks, and plan for long-term needs such as children's education and household security.

The Sirajdikhan session marks the first in a series of similar programmes to be held across rural Bangladesh, reflecting PBIL and Zaytoon's commitment to inclusive growth, investor protection, and wider participation in the capital market.



PHOTO: PBIL

Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and CEO of PBIL, attends an "Uthan Boithok" in Sirajdikhan, Munshiganj, along with other officials and participants recently.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Chandpur.

Invitation for Tender (IFT)
e-Tender Notice No: 20/2025-2026/(SHED-4931).

Memo No: XEN/EED/Chandpur/e-Gp/1048
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following work, details is given below.

Sl No	Package No.	Name of Works	Procure -ment Method	Tender ID No.	Tender/Proposa Document Last Selling/ downloading Date and Time	Tender/Proposa Opening Date and Time
01.	04/4931-SHED/2024-25/XEN/EED/Cha n/2025-26	Repair And Renovation Works Including Painting, Doors, Windows And Floor Tiles of Auditorium Building At Hajigonj Model Govt. College Under Hajigonj Upozilla Chandpur District.	LTM	1154562	06-Oct-2025 15:00	07-Oct-2025 13:00
02.	05/4931-SHED/2024-25/XEN/EED/Cha n/2025-26	Construction of Boundary Wall And Repair And Renovation Works of Academic Building At Shohid Smriti Govt. Girls High School Under Kachua Upozilla Chandpur District.	LTM	1154563	06-Oct-2025 15:00	07-Oct-2025 13:00

This is an online Tender, Where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system 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 Bank branches as mentioned above. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

21.09.25

(Monzurul Alam Sharif)
Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Depart
Chandpur.

GD-2049