

PBIL, ShareTrip partner on investment-travel innovation

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank Investment PLC (PBIL) has entered into a strategic partnership agreement with ShareTrip Limited to bridge the worlds of investment and travel, making wealth management easier, smarter, and more aligned with the lifestyle goals of modern consumers.

Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and CEO of Prime Bank Investment PLC, and Sadia Haque, co-founder and chief executive officer of ShareTrip Limited, signed the agreement in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Commenting on the partnership, Tayub said: "This is a meaningful step towards integrating lifestyle with wealth management. We're not just promoting investments; we're helping people travel with purpose, backed by smart financial planning."

Haque remarked: "At ShareTrip, we believe every journey begins with a dream. Through this partnership, we're encouraging our users to dream big, save smart, and travel better."

The collaboration introduces "Ticket to Invest", a campaign designed to inspire travellers to set travel goals while building wealth through PBIL's flagship product, PrimeInvest, which offers six bank-managed schemes tailored for diverse customer segments.

As part of the initiative, ShareTrip users will enjoy exclusive travel discounts, while PBIL will waive account-opening fees for eligible investors.



Sadia Haque, co-founder and chief executive officer of ShareTrip Limited, and Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and CEO of Prime Bank Investment PLC, pose for photographs after signing the agreement in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK INVESTMENT

Eastern Bank joins hands with CCC to launch digital holding tax collection



Ahmed Shaheen, additional managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, and Shahadat Hossain, mayor of Chittagong City Corporation, pose for photographs after signing the memorandum of understanding in Chittagong recently.

PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) to enable the corporation's transition to digital holding tax collection.

Shahadat Hossain, mayor of the Chittagong City Corporation, and Ahmed Shaheen, additional managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, signed the MoU in Chittagong recently, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, EBL will act as the exclusive banking partner, tasked with implementing and operating the digitised system.

The initiative is expected to make the payment of holding taxes significantly more efficient, transparent, and user-friendly for citizens, the release added.

Trust Bank opens Gulshan North Branch

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Trust Bank PLC has opened its new Gulshan North Branch at Doreen Tower in Gulshan 2, Dhaka on Monday, as part of its continued expansion to provide modern, technology-driven banking solutions.

Equipped with modern facilities, the branch will serve both individual and corporate clients in one of the capital's most vibrant business hubs.

Maj Gen Md Hakimuzzaman, vice-chairman of Trust Bank PLC and adjutant general of the Bangladesh Army, inaugurated the branch as chief guest, according to a press release.

Speaking at the ceremony, Hakimuzzaman praised Trust Bank's progress in driving innovation in the banking sector. He noted that the bank has played a vital role in delivering reliable, customer-friendly, and digital banking services nationwide.

"With the opening of this new branch, I believe the bank will further strengthen its ability to serve people and support the economic development of Bangladesh," he added.



Maj Gen Md Hakimuzzaman, vice-chairman of Trust Bank PLC and adjutant general of the Bangladesh Army, inaugurates the Gulshan North Branch at Doreen Tower in Gulshan-2, Dhaka on Monday.

PHOTO: TRUST BANK

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh
UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A, Agargaon Administrative Area
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
www.ugc.gov.bd

Viva-voce announcement for the Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK (MS & PhD) from September/October-2026

The viva-voce of the Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the UK (MS & PhD) from September/October-2026 will be held on **06, 07 and 08 October 2025 at UGC Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka**. The applicants are requested to check the UGC website (www.ugc.gov.bd) for the purpose of finding short list(s), viva-voce date(s) with time, result(s) etc. All the relevant information and directions will be timely uploaded at the UGC website under the heading of **"Notice Board/International Collaboration, Scholarship and Fellowship Box"**. The applicants must check and collect all the information and directions from the UGC website by their own responsibilities. Any attempt of persuasion regarding the viva-voce will disqualify the applicant(s). No communication will be done with the applicant(s) from UGC side.

Director
International Collaboration Division
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

GD-2137

Trump visa

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"Either more roles will move to India, or corporations will near-shore them to Mexico or Colombia. Canada could also take advantage," said the India head of a retail GCC.

Even before Trump's hefty fee on new H-1B visa applications, and plan for a new selection process, to favour the better-paid, India was projected to host the GCCs of more than 2,200 companies by 2030, with a market size nearing \$100 billion.

"This whole 'gold rush' will only get accelerated," Ahuja said.

Others were more skeptical, preferring a "wait and watch" approach, especially as US firms could face a 25 percent tax for outsourcing work overseas if the proposed HIRE Act is passed, bringing significant disruption in India's exports of services.

"For now, we are observing and studying, and being ready for outcomes," said the India head of a US drugmaker's GCC.

Clear risk of recession if US hits Swiss pharma with 100% tariff: expert

AFP, Zurich

Wealthy Switzerland could face recession if Washington slaps its vital pharmaceutical sector with the threatened 100 percent tariff, a leading Swiss economic expert told AFP Monday.

US President Donald Trump last week said he would impose 100-percent tariffs on all branded pharmaceutical products from Wednesday, unless companies build manufacturing plants in the United States.

The announcement sparked deep concern in Switzerland, which is home to a number of pharmaceutical giants including Roche and Novartis.

Switzerland's pharmaceutical industry is the main driver of economic growth and alone generates seven to eight percent of the country's gross domestic product.

So far, the impact on it remains "unclear", according to Hans Gersbach, co-director of the KOF Swiss Economic Institute.

Donald Trump said he would impose 100% tariffs on all branded pharmaceutical products from Wednesday, unless companies build manufacturing plants in the US

In an interview with AFP, he said the scope of Trump's latest round of tariffs was "particularly vague", stressing the need to wait for details on the companies and products affected before drawing conclusions for the Swiss economy.

But "should a large proportion of the exports to the US be burdened by the tariffs in the pharmaceutical sector, and remain in place for a longer period, there's a clear risk of recession for Switzerland," he warned.

The KOF, which is linked to the prestigious Federal Institute of Technology Zurich, has created a model for swiftly calculating how trade shocks can impact the economy.

When Trump last month shocked Switzerland with a 39-percent tariff on its exports -- excluding pharmaceuticals -- the institute estimated within a matter of hours that the country's GDP would take a hit of between 0.3 and 0.6 percent.

That was "already a large shock" for the Swiss economy, Gersbach said, stressing though that it appeared that "recession is avoided".

But he warned that towering tariffs on pharmaceuticals would take a far heavier toll.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Home Affairs
Bangladesh Coast Guard

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Sealed Tender are hereby invited from the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender documents for the under mentioned Goods as per terms and conditions stated below:

1	Ministry/ Division	Ministry of Home Affairs.		
2	Agency	Bangladesh Coast Guard.		
3	Procuring Entity Name	Project Director, Establishment of Logistics and Fleet Maintenance Facilities for Bangladesh Coast Guard, Bangladesh Coast Guard Headquarters, Agargaon Administrative Area, Block#E, Plot#12/B, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.		
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.		
5	Invitation For	Supply and Installation of ICE Workshop Equipment (Lot-3 & Lot-4)		
6	Invitation Ref No & Date	44.08.2680.030.20.031.25.378 Date 01 October 2025.		
7	Procurement Method	OpenTender Method		
8	Funding Information	Government of Bangladesh.		
9	Project Code	224251800		
10	Project Name	"Establishment of Logistics and Fleet Maintenance Facilities for Bangladesh Coast Guard"		
11	Tender Package No	GD-32 (Lot-3 & Lot-4)		
12	Tender Package Name	Supply and Installation of ICE Workshop Equipment (Lot- 3 & Lot-4)		
13	Tender Publication Date	01 October 2025.		
14	Tender Selling Date	Everyday Working Hours (0800 Hrs - 1430 Hrs).		
15	Tender Last Selling Date	21 October 2025 Time: 1430 Hrs		
16	Tender Closing Date and Time	22 October 2025 Time: 1200 Hrs		
17	Tender Opening Date and Time	22 October 2025 Time: 1230 Hrs		
18	Name & Address of the Office:	Office of the Project Director, Bangladesh Coast Guard Headquarters, Agargaon Administrative Area, Block#E, Plot#12/B, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.		
19	Tender Receiving Address			
20	Tender Opening Address			
21	Pre-Tender Meeting	08 October 2025, 1100 AM. Place: Coastguard Headquarters Conference Room		
22	Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer	As per Tender Data Sheet (TDS).		
23	Brief Description of Works	Lot-3 Supply and Installation of ICE Workshop Equipment: 1. Valve Seat Grinding Machine, 2. Valve Spring tester Machine, 3. Bench Grinding Machine, 4. Cylinder Head Water Pressure Test Machine, 5. Valve Seat lapping Tools (Power), 6. POP Tester, 7. EFI Injector Test Machine, 8. Crankshaft Grinding Machine, 9. Universal Fule Pump Test Bench, 10. Crank Shaft Deflection Indicator & 11. Nozzle Reparing Bench; at Gazaria, Munshiganj.		
24	Brief Description of Physical services	As per Tender Data Sheet (TDS).		
25	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	Lot-3 Tk 4000.00 (Taka Four thousand only) - Non Refundable. Lot-4 Tk 4000.00 (Taka Four thousand only) - Non Refundable.		
26	Description of Items	Lot No Identification of Lot Location Tender Security Amount (Tk.) Completion time in Months		
27	Three	GD-32	Dhaka	TK 24,00,000.00 (Taka Twenty-Four lacs Only). 06 Months after signing the contract.
28	Four	GD-32	Dhaka	TK 17,50,000.00 (Taka Seventeen lacs Fifty Thousand Only). 06 Months after signing the contract.
29	PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
30	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director, Eastiblition of Logistics and Fleet Maintenance Facilities for Bangladesh Coast Guard, Bangladesh Coast Guard Headquarters, Agargaon Administrative Area, Block#E, Plot#12/B, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.		
31	Designation Official Inviting Tender	Administrative Area, Block#E, Plot#12/B, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.		
32	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Administrative Area, Block#E, Plot#12/B, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.		
33	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Tell No: 02-4125605, Fax No: 8181276 E-mail: cg_dockyard@coastguard.gov.bd		
34	Special Instructions:			
35	a. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceedings. b. If the date of selling, receiving, and opening of tender is disturbed under any unavoidable circumstances, the next working day will be applicable for the same. c. The Tenderer shall follow ITT-41 for submission of tender documents. d. If any confusion arises due to printing mistake or other reasons, 'The Public Procurement Regulations 2008' will govern.			
36	Project Director Establishment of Logistics and Fleet Maintenance Facilities for Bangladesh Coast Guard' Titled Project			

GD-2144