

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

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.

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 Chattogram City Corporation, pose for photographs after signing the memorandum of understanding in Chattogram recently.

PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

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

Shahadat Hossain, mayor of the Chattogram City Corporation, and Ahmed Shaheen, additional managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, signed the MoU in Chattogram 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

<div><div></div><div>Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Home Affairs Bangladesh Coast Guard</div></div>	
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.
KEY INFORMATION	
7	Procurement Method OpenTender Method
FUNDING INFORMATION	
8	Budget and Source of Funds Government of Bangladesh.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
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 Selling Address
20	Tender Receiving Address
21	Tender Opening Address
21	Pre- Tender Meeting 08 October 2025, 1100 AM. Place: Coastguard Headquarters Conference Room
INFORMATION FOR TENDER	
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 Equipments: 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 Repairing Bench; at Gazaria, Munshiganj. Lot-4 Supply and Installation of ICE Workshop Equipments: 1. Air Compressor, 2. Electric Blower Fan, 3. High Pressure Steam Jet Cleaning Machine, 4. Non-Skid Painting Machine, 5. Hydraulic Torque Wrench (400-600Bar), Electric Ratchet Rechargeable Set (Various Size) & 7. Multi Torque Spanner Set (Various Size); 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.
Description of Items	
26	Lot No Identification of Lot Location Tender Security Amount (Tk.) Completion time in Months
	Three GD-32 Dhaka TK 24,00,000.00 (Taka Twenty-Four lacs Only). 06 Months after signing the contract.
26	Four GD-32 Dhaka TK 17,50,000.00 (Taka Seventeen lacs Fifty Thousand Only). 06 Months after signing the contract.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS	
27	Name of Official Inviting Tender 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.
28	Designation Official Inviting Tender
29	Address of Official Inviting Tender
30	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender Tel No: 02-41025605, Fax No: 8181278 E- mail: cg_dockyard@coastguard.gov.bd
31	Special instructions: 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.
Project Director "Establishment of Logistics and Fleet Maintenance Facilities for Bangladesh Coast Guard" Titled Project	
GD-2144	

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

FROM PAGE B4

"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 H1-B 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.