

Bank Asia profit jumps 71% in Jan-Sept

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bank Asia PLC has posted a 71 percent year-on-year rise in net profit to Tk 351 crore for the first nine months of 2025, up from Tk 205 crore during the same period last year.

To disclose the results to shareholders, the bank held an online-based earnings disclosure for the third quarter (Q3) of 2025 at Bank Asia Tower in Karwan Bazar, Dhaka on Wednesday, according to a press release.

Sohail RK Hussain, managing director of Bank Asia PLC, along with ANM Mahfuz and Nurullah Chaudhury, additional managing directors, as well as deputy

managing directors and the chief financial officer, were present at the programme.

The bank reported that investment income nearly doubled to Tk 1,930 crore, boosting its operating profit.

Its earnings per share (EPS) rose to Tk 2.58, compared to Tk 1.44 a year earlier, while net asset value (NAV) per share reached Tk 29.28, marking a 21 percent year-on-year increase.

During the July-September quarter alone, the bank posted a net profit of approximately Tk 39.90 crore.

Bank Asia also reported a significant rise in operating cash flow, supported primarily by strong growth in customer deposits.



Sohail RK Hussain, managing director of Bank Asia PLC, attends the bank's earnings disclosure for the third quarter of 2025 at Bank Asia Tower in Karwan Bazar, Dhaka on Wednesday.

PHOTO: BANK ASIA

Pubali Bank signs deal with BMU for online OPD ticketing



Prof Md Shahinul Alam, acting vice-chancellor of Bangladesh Medical University, and Mohammad Ali, managing director and chief executive officer of Pubali Bank PLC, pose for photographs after signing the agreement in Dhaka on Wednesday.

PHOTO: PUBALI BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Pubali Bank PLC has signed an agreement with Bangladesh Medical University (BMU) to implement an online ticketing system for the university's outpatient department (OPD).

From now on, patients can purchase OPD tickets online from home without having to stand in long queues.

Md Rabiul Alam, deputy general manager and head of the ADC division at Pubali Bank PLC, and Prof Nahreen Akhtar, treasurer of Bangladesh Medical University, signed the agreement in Dhaka on Wednesday, according to a press release.

Prof Md Shahinul Alam, acting vice-chancellor of BMU, attended the signing ceremony as the chief guest, while Mohammad Ali, managing director and chief executive officer of Pubali Bank PLC, was present as the special guest.

Prof Md Abul Kalam Azad, pro-vice-chancellor (administration) of the university; Prof Md Mujibur Rahman Hawlader, pro-vice-chancellor (research and development); Prof Md Nazrul Islam, registrar; Md Shahnewaz Khan, deputy managing director of the bank; and Abu Laich Md Samsujjaman, general manager and regional manager for the Dhaka Central Zone, were also present.

Endra Mohan Sutradhar, general manager and head of SDD and CTO (TC) of the bank; Masuma Khatun, deputy general manager and head of the Shahbagh Avenue Branch; and Md Shamsul Alam, assistant general manager of the ADC division, attended the event, along with other senior officials from both organisations.

Concord begins work on 'Villa Bellanova' in Gulshan

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Concord Real Estate Limited has begun construction of Concord Villa Bellanova, a luxury residential project in Gulshan that promises elegant homes combining comfort, privacy, and modern design.

Located on Road 36, just a short walk from the Gulshan Central Mosque, the project aims to set a new benchmark for refined urban living, the company said in a press release.

Villa Bellanova will comprise only 12 apartments, each occupying an entire floor of around 2,920 square feet.

Designed to maximise natural light and ensure privacy, the north-facing building stands on a 55-foot-wide road in one of the city's most peaceful and prestigious neighbourhoods.

The ground floor will feature landscaped surroundings, mood lighting, a welcoming reception area, and interior-designed lobbies.

A rooftop swimming pool surrounded by gardens, a modern gym, a private lounge, and an open BBQ patio will complement the residents' lifestyle.

With 24-hour security, a modern firefighting system, and optional home automation, the project combines safety, comfort and luxury.

In the release, Concord said the new development adds to a remarkable year for the company, which has launched several major projects across prime locations in Dhaka as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Boeing reports \$5.4b loss in Q3

AFP, New York

Boeing on Wednesday reported a third-quarter loss of \$5.4 billion as massive added costs from the delayed certification of its 777X aircraft weighed down its results.

The aviation giant scored a 30-percent jump in revenues to \$23.3 billion following much higher commercial plane deliveries compared with the year-ago level.

But the performance was marred by a one-time charge of \$4.9 billion on the repeatedly delayed 777X program, which has faced a prolonged certification process with US authorities.

Boeing had hoped to begin the next phase of certification flights this year. But the company has pushed those back until 2027 to complete needed preparatory analysis, company officials said.

Chief Executive Kelly Ortberg pointed to the October approval by the Federal Aviation Administration of an increased monthly production rate on the 737 MAX as a sign of the company's progress.

He also noted that Boeing generated positive free cash flow during the quarter, a benchmark closely watched by Wall Street.

But Ortberg said more work was still needed to turn Boeing around after a series of safety problems, including two fatal 737 MAX crashes in 2018 and 2019 that have led to more intense FAA scrutiny over new plane certifications.

National Housing Finance signs MoU with JBS Holdings

STAR BUSINESS DESK

National Housing Finance PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with JBS Holdings Limited, a leading real estate developer in Bangladesh.

Mohammad Shamsul Islam, managing director of National Housing Finance PLC, and Abdul Huque, managing director of JBS Holdings Limited, signed the MoU at the developer's office in Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka on Wednesday, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, apartment buyers of JBS Holdings will be able to avail home loan facilities from National Housing Finance PLC on easy terms and within a short processing time.

Among others, Shital Chandra Saha, senior executive vice-president and head of operations at JBS Holdings; Mahbubur Rashid Al-Amin, vice-president and head of business; Jahangir Alam Patwary, adviser; and Md Belayet Hossain, general manager and head of sales, were also present.



Abdul Huque, managing director of JBS Holdings Limited, and Mohammad Shamsul Islam, managing director of National Housing Finance PLC, exchange signed documents of the memorandum of understanding at the developer's office in Dhaka on Wednesday.

PHOTO: NATIONAL HOUSING FINANCE

GPH Ispat holds seminar in Chattogram

STAR BUSINESS DESK

GPH Ispat Ltd, one of the country's leading steel manufacturers, recently organised a special technical seminar, titled "Design Guidelines and Code Provisions for Using Higher-Grade Rebar (B600D-R) in RCC Structures: Exploring Opportunities for Rebar Savings in the Context of Bangladesh", in Chattogram.

The seminar featured the country's top engineers and architects who discussed advanced design concepts, structural efficiency, and the use of sustainable construction materials, according to a press release.

Renowned educators and structural engineering experts such as Prof M Shamim Z Bosunia, Prof Syed Fakhru Ameen, and Prof Raquib Ahsan attended the event.

Md Saiful Islam, deputy general manager and head of TPM, also shared his expert insights on rebar applications and market innovations.



Prof M Shamim Z Bosunia delivers his speech at the seminar organised by GPH Ispat Limited in Chattogram recently.

PHOTO: GPH ISPAT

The keynote address was delivered by Abdullah Al Hossain Chowdhury (Rizvi), who presented a paper highlighting the design and economic benefits of using high-quality rebar and discussed in detail

the application of this technology in modern reinforced concrete structures.

He said, "By using high-quality rebar (B600D-R), we are not only ensuring greater structural stability

and safety but also unlocking new possibilities for cost efficiency and resource optimisation in construction. I believe this technology will pave the way for design innovation and sustainable growth in Bangladesh's construction industry."

By organising this seminar with the country's leading engineers, architects, and senior officials from both the public and private sectors, GPH Ispat once again demonstrated its commitment to advancing the nation's engineering expertise, technological innovation, and knowledge sharing to build a stronger and more sustainable Bangladesh, the release added.

Mohammed Jahangir Alam, managing director of GPH Ispat; Mohammed Almas Shimul, additional managing director; directors Abdul Ahad and Sadman Syka Sefa; and Mohammad Mamun Kabir, senior general manager (sales and marketing), also attended the event, along with other senior officials.

Community Bank unveils 'SME 360' to boost small businesses



Inspector General of Police Baharul Alam, chairman of Community Bank Bangladesh PLC, inaugurates the platform, titled "Community SME 360", at InterContinental Dhaka in the capital recently.

PHOTO: COMMUNITY BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Community Bank Bangladesh PLC has launched "Community SME 360", an all-in-one platform designed to accelerate the growth of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) across Bangladesh.

The initiative marks a major step in the country's SME banking sector by integrating access to finance, business opportunities, and professional support under a single platform, the bank said in a press release.

Inspector General of Police Baharul Alam, chairman of Community Bank, inaugurated the platform as the chief guest at InterContinental Dhaka in the capital recently.

The platform combines banking, business, and digital ecosystem solutions to help SMEs overcome common challenges through financial products, strategic guidance, market connectivity, and digital tools. Entrepreneurs will gain access to

dedicated relationship managers, vetted business models, and networking opportunities through branch-based facilities.

"The platform will enable SMEs to access finance, business models, and digital tools that foster growth and competitiveness both locally and globally," said Kimiwa Saddat, managing director of the bank.

"We believe SME 360" will redefine the SME banking experience in Bangladesh."

The platform also offers agent banking and franchise partnerships, export and import linkages, accounting and compliance support, and advanced cash management solutions.

Beyond banking services, Community SME 360" enables entrepreneurs to engage as agent banking franchisees, dealers, distributors, or vendors to large corporates, while also facilitating franchise and export opportunities for Bangladeshi SMEs in international markets.

ONE Bank receives ISO certification

STAR BUSINESS DESK

ONE Bank PLC has received an internationally recognised certification from the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) through the France-based certification authority Bureau Veritas (Bangladesh) Pvt Ltd for meeting the requirements of the ISO standard.

The ISO is a global standard that specifies the requirements for establishing, implementing, and maintaining an Information Security Management System (ISMS).

Bureau Veritas (Bangladesh) conducted an audit of the bank's IT operations, data centre, and disaster recovery site to verify compliance with the ISO/IEC standard.

Sohel Azad, country manager of Bureau Veritas (Bangladesh) Pvt Ltd, handed over the certificate to Shabbir Ahmed, managing director (current charge) of ONE Bank PLC, at the bank's corporate headquarters recently, according to a press release.

In addition, ONE Bank has been ISO certified since 2022.

John Sarkar, adviser of ONE Securities Limited -- a subsidiary of ONE Bank, Md Anwarul Islam,

deputy managing director and head of legal affairs and recovery division, along with other senior officials of ONE Bank, iota, and Bureau Veritas, were also present.



Shabbir Ahmed, managing director (current charge) of ONE Bank PLC, receives an ISO certificate from Sohel Azad, country manager of Bureau Veritas (Bangladesh) Pvt Ltd, at the bank's corporate headquarters in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: ONE BANK