

BRAC Bank organises 'EmpowerAbility 2025' seminar



Brig Gen (retd) M Sakhawat Hussain, adviser to the Ministry of Labour and Employment, delivers his speech at a seminar, titled "EmpowerAbility 2025: Powering Every Ability", jointly organised by BRAC Bank PLC and the Bangladesh Business and Disability Network, at Le Méridien Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: BRAC BANK

and social barriers, we ensure accessibility. However, to achieve true inclusion, we must empower every citizen to contribute fully. Together, we can build a nation that recognises and values every individual's ability."

The conference brought together policymakers, corporate leaders, and development partners to translate dialogue into action through policy partnerships, corporate commitments, and inclusive employment practices, according to a press release.

Supported by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Deutsche Gesellschaft

für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the event underscored the strength of cross-sector collaboration in creating equitable opportunities for all.

More than 50 organisations participated, including BRAC, Shin Shin Group, Team Group, ACI Logistics, Brand Forum, Bata, Sajida Foundation, Grameenphone, Akij Group, Mutual Trust Bank, Prime Bank, Eastern Bank, UNDP, and Save the Children—representing a cross section of Bangladesh's corporate and development ecosystem committed to inclusion.

Speaking at the event, Tareq Refat Ullah Khan, managing director and CEO of BRAC Bank PLC, said, "Inclusion is one of BRAC Bank's prime pillars, and it is not limited to financial inclusion only; it encompasses gender inclusion, disability inclusion, and broader social inclusion."

Md Sanwar Jahan Bhuiyan, secretary to the Ministry of Labour and Employment, reaffirmed the government's commitment: "The government is dedicated to promoting disability inclusion across all sectors through policy support, institutional collaboration, and enforcement."

Ardashir Kabir, chairman of the BBDN Board of Trustees; Jürgen Menze, disability inclusion specialist of ILO's Global Business and Disability Network; and Juergen Schilling, country director of GIZ Bangladesh, along with representatives from the ILO, GIZ, the Ministry of Labour and Employment, and private sector leaders, were also present.

NCC Bank signs SME loan deal with Department of Youth Development

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NCC Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Department of Youth Development (DYD) to empower the country's young generation and promote sustainable economic growth.

Under this collaboration, NCC Bank will provide SME loan facilities to young entrepreneurs trained by the DYD in potential business sectors. The initiative aims to help trained youth become self-reliant and contribute to national economic development.

Gazi Md Saifuzzaman, director general (grade-I) of the Department of Youth Development, and Md Shamsul Arefin, managing director of NCC Bank PLC, attended the signing ceremony held at the DYD's head office in Motijheel, Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

At the event, Saifuzzaman said the DYD is working tirelessly to make young people across the country self-reliant.

"Every year, about three hundred thousand young men and women receive training through the department," he said.

He thanked NCC Bank for joining hands to address the country's unemployment challenge by



M Shamsul Arefin, managing director of NCC Bank PLC, and Gazi Md Saifuzzaman, director general (grade-I) of the Department of Youth Development, pose for photographs after signing a memorandum of understanding at the DYD's head office in Motijheel, Dhaka recently.

supporting educated and trained entrepreneurs. Arefin said NCC Bank is committed to ensuring that no promising young entrepreneur is left behind due to financial constraints.

"As a responsible financial institution, we have always encouraged self-reliant initiatives

for sustainable growth," he said.

He added that the partnership will enable thousands of young entrepreneurs to become self-reliant and create employment for others, contributing significantly to the national economy.

Midland Bank, Communic-IBA of JU hold seminar on financial literacy



Prof Mohammad Kamrul Ahsan, vice-chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, and Md Ahsan-uz Zaman, managing director and CEO of Midland Bank PLC, pose for group photographs with participants of the seminar on the university campus in Savar, Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: MIDLAND BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Midland Bank PLC, in collaboration with Communic-IBA of Jahangirnagar University, organised a seminar on "Financial Literacy" aimed at enhancing financial awareness among students and future professionals, equipping them with essential knowledge to make informed financial decisions.

This initiative underscores Midland Bank's continued commitment to empowering the younger generation through financial education and inclusion.

Prof Mohammad Kamrul Ahsan, vice-chancellor of the university, attended the event as the chief guest and delivered his speech at the university campus in Savar, Dhaka, according to a press release.

Prof Ireen Akther, director of IBA of Jahangirnagar University, chaired the seminar, while Prof M Mahfuzur Rahman, pro-vice-chancellor (academic), and Prof Sohel Ahmed, pro-vice-chancellor (administration), were present.



Khwaja Shahriar, chairman of Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC, presides over the bank's 30th annual general meeting at its head office in Dhaka on Wednesday. Md Shahin Ul Islam, Md Abdul Wadud, Prof Mohammed Abu Eusuf and Mohammad Asraful Hassan, directors; Mohd Rafat Ullah Khan, managing director (acting), and Mohammad Moniruzzaman, company secretary (acting), were also present.

PHOTO: AL-ARAFAH ISLAMI BANK

Shahjalal Islami Bank signs MoU with National Pension Authority

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the National Pension Authority to facilitate the smooth implementation of registration, subscription collection, and API activities under the Universal Pension Scheme.

Under the agreement, Shahjalal Islami Bank, as a banking service provider, will be able to collect installments from pension holders of the Universal Pension Scheme through various banking channels.

Md Mahiuddin Khan, executive chairman of the National Pension Authority, and

Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC, signed the MoU at the Finance Division of the Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka on Wednesday.

Md Khairuzzaman Mozumder, secretary of the Finance Division under the Ministry of Finance, attended the programme as a chief guest.

Among others, Sirazam Munira, assistant general manager (deputy secretary) of the National Pension Authority; Md Jakir Hossain, senior assistant vice-president of the bank; and KM Harunur Rashid, head of public relations and Bank Foundation, were also present.



PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK

Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank, and Md Mahiuddin Khan, executive chairman of National Pension Authority, pose for photographs after signing the memorandum of understanding at the Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka on Wednesday.

Berger Paints, Robi Elite partner to elevate home makeover experience

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Robi Elite, the loyalty programme of Robi Axiatra PLC, has signed a strategic partnership agreement with Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited, the country's leading paint and coating solutions brand.

The collaboration aims to redefine the home makeover experience for Robi Elite members by offering exclusive discounts on Berger's premium painting and interior design services, ensuring a superior, hassle-free experience with exceptional value.

AKM Sadeque Nawaj, chief business

officer of Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited, and Shihab Ahmad, chief commercial officer of market operations at Robi Axiatra PLC, signed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) at a ceremony in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Under the MoU, Robi Elite members will enjoy up to 25 percent special discounts on Berger's premium services, including Express Painting Services (interior and exterior), FurniFab (furniture painting), Illusions (texture painting), service charges, and design consultancy from Berger Design Studio (complete interior solutions).



PHOTO: BERGER PAINTS BANGLADESH

Shihab Ahmad, chief commercial officer of market operations at Robi Axiatra PLC, and AKM Sadeque Nawaj, chief business officer of Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited, pose for photographs after signing the memorandum of understanding in Dhaka recently.

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Memo No.: 35.01.1800.409.05.001.25-2053
Dated: 13/11/2025 Eng.

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of the following works:

Tender ID	Tender No and Description	Last selling Date and Time	Closing Date and Time
1169461	e-GP/PMP Road/CHURD/01/2025-2026. Surfacing by DBS Wearing Course Work from Ch. 81+250 Km (Chaudanga Bus Terminal) to Ch. 96+801 Km(Badarganj Bazar) Total 15551.00m of Kushtia(Trimohoni)- Meherpur- Chaudanga- Jhenaidah Road (R-745) (Chaudanga Portion) under Periodic Maintenance Programme/2025-2026 (Road-Major) under Road Division, Chaudanga, during the year 2025-2026.	07-Dec-2025 17:00	08-Dec-2025 11:00

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 Member of Schedule Banks for e-GP.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd)


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Govt working

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"The government is also advancing towards full digitalisation of the labour sector, including the development of an integrated workers' database," he said.

The recently approved amendment ordinance to the Labour Act 2006 will soon be published in the gazette, paving the way for a more decent and rights-based working environment for Bangladesh's labour force, Hussain said.

He also said trade union registration will be simplified further, while ensuring workers' occupational health, decent working conditions, and safety through the introduction of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

Hussain said Bangladesh has already ratified three important ILO conventions. The instruments of ratification were signed on October 20 in the presence of Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus and will soon be handed over to the ILO director general.

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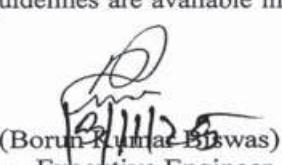
Memo No. 25.36.5900.460.27.001.20.398
Date: 13/11/2025

e-GP Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of the following work described below:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Tender ID No	Tender proposal Opening date and time
1.	Special Repair works including civil and sanitary works inside the Dholeswari Building at Munshiganj Dist Jail.	1176676	Date: 25-11-2025 Time 14:00 PM
2.	Special Repair works including civil and sanitary works inside the Meghna Building at Munshiganj Dist Jail.	1176754	Date: 25-11-2025 Time 14:00 PM

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 portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP portal and e-GP help desk: helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd.


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