

## Jamuna Bank offers Tk 800cr bond with 12.65% return

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Jamuna Bank PLC has announced that it will raise Tk 800 crore through the issuance of its fifth subordinated bond, offering investors a secure, long-term investment option with an attractive rate of return.

The seven-year bond will be redeemed in five equal annual instalments starting at the end of the third year, the bank said in a press release.

Structured in line with international standards and regulatory requirements, the bond carries a floating coupon rate.

As of November 2025, the annual return stands at 12.65 percent, making it more lucrative than many traditional

fixed-income instruments such as government treasury bonds and fixed deposits.

The bank organised a launch event inaugurated by Md Belal Hossain, chairman of Jamuna Bank PLC.

"This subordinated bond not only enhances the bank's Tier-II capital but also offers investors an opportunity to diversify their portfolio with a low-risk, stable income instrument."

It reflects our focus on innovation, customer convenience and long-term financial stability," Hossain said.

Mirza Elias Uddin Ahmed, managing director and CEO of the bank, along with directors, divisional heads and branch managers, also attended the event.



Md Belal Hossain, chairman of Jamuna Bank PLC, attends the launch of the bank's fifth subordinated bond issuance programme in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: JAMUNA BANK

## Prime Bank releases sustainability, climate reports



Chowdhury Liakat Ali, director of the Sustainable Finance Department at the Bangladesh Bank, unveils "Sustainability Report" and "Climate Action Report", released by Prime Bank PLC, at The Westin Dhaka yesterday. Hassan O Rashid, chief executive officer of Prime Bank PLC, was present.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC yesterday released its Sustainability Report and Climate Action Report, reaffirming its commitment to responsible and climate-conscious banking.

Chowdhury Liakat Ali, director of the Sustainable Finance Department at the Bangladesh Bank, inaugurated the launching programme as the chief guest at The Westin Dhaka, according to a press release.

Ali addressed the gathering, offering encouraging words, guiding the bank on its sustainability journey, and outlining the regulator's expectations for commercial banks.

At the event, Hassan O Rashid, chief executive officer of Prime Bank PLC, emphasised the bank's long-term sustainability goals and strategic alignment with global climate priorities.

"This report reflects our continued journey in embedding sustainability into our core business and our collective responsibility to support a greener future," he stated.

Prime Bank showcased its diverse CSR programmes focusing on climate resilience, underscoring its role in fostering sustainable development across communities.

Through the publication of these reports, Prime Bank demonstrates its dedication to transparency, accountability and leadership in climate action, aligning with both national and global sustainability agendas, the release added.

Faisal Rahman, additional managing director of Prime Bank, and Ziaur Rahman, deputy managing director and chief risk officer, along with senior officials from the Bangladesh Bank Sustainable Finance Department, representatives from international partners and CSR collaborators, were also present.

## Syed Mizanur Rahman appointed MD of Meghna Bank

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Syed Mizanur Rahman, a seasoned professional with almost three decades of experience in the financial services sector, has been appointed the managing director of Meghna Bank PLC, effective from December 4, 2025.

Prior to this appointment, Rahman was serving as managing director and CEO of AB Bank, according to a press release.

He started his professional career with Novartis, previously known as Ciba-Geigy (Bangladesh) Limited, in 1993, and subsequently served at Youngone and Beximco before joining the banking industry.

He has previously worked at Dhaka Bank, IPDC, Bank Al-Falah and United Commercial Bank in key positions. Over the years, Rahman has acquired extensive knowledge in different segments of the banking industry, with a distinct focus on branch banking, retail, process transformation, business development and corporate communication.

Rahman completed his MBA from the Institute of Business Administration at the University of Dhaka.



Syed Mizanur Rahman

## Dollar slips

REUTERS, New York

The U.S. dollar slipped on Friday but held within recent ranges against major currencies as traders awaited next week's Federal Reserve meeting, where policymakers are widely expected to cut interest rates.

The dollar index, which measures the currency against six peers, was down 0.1 percent at 98.994, not far from Thursday's five-week low of 98.765. For the week, the index was down 0.5 percent.

The euro was about flat at \$1.16433, not far from Thursday's three-week high of \$1.1681.

Traders are pricing a nearly 90 percent chance of a Fed rate cut next week, and potentially two more reductions next year, LSEG data showed.

"This week, some soft labor market data releases from alternative sources helped crystallize what still appears to be an overdone 90 percent probability of a cut next week," Antonio Ruggiero, FX & macro strategist at Convera, said.

Morgan Stanley said on Friday it now expects the Fed to deliver a quarter-percentage point rate cut in December, joining peers JPMorgan and BofA Global Research, following dovish remarks from central bank policymakers.

All three brokerages previously expected the Fed to hold rates steady in December.

"The dollar also continues to look overvalued relative to major peers, with the softer tone therefore fully justified," Ruggiero said.

Data on Friday that showed U.S. consumer sentiment improved in early December did little to boost the dollar.



Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, inaugurates a new service, titled "EBL Priority Next Gen", at Le Meridien Dhaka in the capital recently.

## Pubali Bank releases sustainability & impact report

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has launched a new service, titled "EBL Priority Next Gen", a bespoke banking segment created for the next generation of achievers—young visionaries poised to carry forward the values, ambition and legacy of EBL's Priority families.

Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, inaugurated the service at Le Meridien Dhaka in the capital recently, according to a press release.

Iftekhar said, "Everything we have built—every milestone—has been shaped by trust, excellence and an unwavering commitment to our customers. Today, as we welcome the next generation, we reaffirm our promise to evolve and innovate financial experiences that

match their lifestyle, ambitions and vision for the future."

EBL Priority Next Gen offers a thoughtfully curated suite of lifestyle privileges, personalised wealth solutions, wellness benefits, global conveniences and seamless travel experiences crafted to match the pace, passion and purpose of tomorrow's leaders.

From dedicated relationship support to gourmet indulgences, from premium lounges to everyday lifestyle enhancements, EBL Priority Next Gen is designed to elevate the way its members live, move and succeed.

The launching event, themed "Prive", brought together young achievers, innovators and emerging leaders, celebrating a generation that dreams differently, moves faster and embraces opportunity with confidence.

Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of Pubali Bank PLC, unveiled the report as the chief guest at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently.

The publication highlights the bank's progress across key environmental, social, and governance (ESG) indicators, outlining strategic initiatives and its contributions to community development and environmental stewardship.

This initiative further solidifies Pubali Bank's position as a leader in sustainable finance in Bangladesh, particularly following its recognition in 2024 as one of the country's most sustainable banks by Bangladesh Bank.

By adopting IFRS sustainability standards, the bank aims to provide stakeholders with high-quality, comparable, and reliable disclosures that support meaningful assessments of long-term value creation and impact.

Pubali Bank PLC, a leading private commercial bank in Bangladesh, continues to strengthen the nation's economic foundation through its focus on sustainable finance, technology-driven solutions, and strong governance practices.



Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of Pubali Bank PLC, unveils the bank's first-ever "Annual Sustainability & Impact Report 2024" at its head office in Dhaka recently.

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Pubali Bank PLC has released its first-ever "Annual Sustainability & Impact Report 2024", marking a milestone in its commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible

banking.

Carrying the tagline "Green Financing Leads to Sustainability", the report is fully aligned with the globally recognised IFRS S1 and S2 sustainability disclosure standards, according to a press release.

## Trust Bank signs deal with CG Runner BD

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Trust Bank PLC recently signed an agreement with CG Runner BD Limited, the official distributor of BYD in Bangladesh.

Ahsan Zaman Chowdhury, managing director and chief executive officer of Trust Bank PLC, and Hafizur Rahman Khan, chairman of Runner Group, signed the agreement at the latter's corporate head office in Tejgaon, Dhaka, according to a press release.

Under this agreement, BYD customers can avail themselves of Trust Bank auto loans at a special rate with a waived processing fee, along with other value-added offers.

Senior officials from both organisations were also present at the ceremony.



Hafizur Rahman Khan, chairman of Runner Group, and Ahsan Zaman Chowdhury, managing director and chief executive officer of Trust Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement at CG Runner BD's corporate office in Tejgaon, Dhaka recently. PHOTO: TRUST BANK



Md Mahbub Alam, additional managing director of Southeast Bank PLC; Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager for Bangladesh at Mastercard; Pranav Mehta, managing director of PepsiCo Bangladesh; and Sayeeful Islam, managing director of SSL Wireless, jointly inaugurate a co-branded SME credit card in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: MASTERCARD

## Mastercard launches co-branded SME credit card with Southeast Bank, SSL Commerz

### STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mastercard, in collaboration with Southeast Bank PLC and SSL Commerz, has launched a co-branded SME credit card designed exclusively for PepsiCo's distributor Transcom Beverages Limited in Bangladesh.

This marks PepsiCo's first collaboration of its kind, bringing a seamless digital payment solution to its distributors.

The new card aims to empower distributors with easy access to credit, a seamless and secure digital payment experience, and efficient financial management tools, along with up to 45 days of free credit facilities.

The card will be uniquely tailored for distributors, offering a secure credit usage policy that strengthens credit management while enhancing their purchasing power and driving greater financial inclusion.

Md Mahbub Alam, additional managing director of Southeast Bank PLC; Syed Mohammad Kamal, country manager for Bangladesh at Mastercard; Pranav Mehta, managing director of PepsiCo Bangladesh; and Sayeeful Islam, managing director of SSL Wireless, jointly inaugurate a co-branded SME credit card in Dhaka yesterday.

and Sayeeful Islam, managing director of SSL Wireless, jointly inaugurate the card in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Commenting on the collaboration, Alam said, "Southeast Bank has always been dedicated to empowering businesses through innovative financial solutions. This co-branded card will help PepsiCo distributors manage finances more efficiently while promoting digital payment adoption."

Kamal said, "By connecting businesses to our global network and digital tools, we are not just facilitating transactions; we are driving transformation in an increasingly connected economy."

At the event, Mehta said, "This co-branded SME credit card will not only provide financial convenience but also strengthen the business ecosystem by offering our partners access to modern digital financial solutions."

Islam said, "By integrating our robust digital payment infrastructure with this co-branded SME credit card, we aim to boost distributors' financial agility and help them grow with confidence."