

star

BUSINESS



## BB buys \$2.5b from banks so far

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Bangladesh Bank has purchased a total of \$2.51 billion from commercial banks so far in the fiscal year (FY) 2025-2026 as part of efforts to ensure stability in the exchange rate and keep reserves at a comfortable level to meet external payment needs.

In its latest purchase, the banking regulator bought \$202 million yesterday from 13 banks at rates between Tk 122.27 and Tk 122.29.

A senior BB official said the purchases aim to calm the forex market, as sharp swings either way are unhealthy.

Over the past three years until FY25, the central bank sold more than \$25 billion from its dollar stocks to pay for imports of fuel, fertiliser and food.

After the fall of the Awami League government in August last year in a mass uprising, the central bank suspended dollar support for government imports because reserves had sunk to a worryingly low level.

The political changeover brought a larger-than-usual flow of remittances and stronger export earnings, which gave the interim government some breathing space.

Since early July this year, the taka has strengthened against the dollar on the back of buoyant remittances. On July 2, the greenback traded at Tk 122.85, but yesterday it sold for Tk 122.25 to Tk 122.30.

The rise came as remittance and export inflows increased while import growth slowed.

With the recent purchases, the country's reserves stood at \$26.81 billion on December 4, up from \$18.84 billion a year earlier, according to central bank data.

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## IPDC ডিপোজিট | ১৬৫৯৯

## Rules on bonuses for bankers tightened

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh Bank (BB) has moved to impose stricter conditions on incentive bonuses for bank officials and employees, saying bonuses cannot be paid from accrued or unrealised income amid the sector's ongoing crisis.

The central bank issued a circular in this regard yesterday, stating that banks must ensure bonuses are awarded only when actual, realised profits are generated in a financial year.

Banks have also been barred from paying bonuses from retained earnings, while institutions with regulatory capital shortfalls or provision shortfalls will not be allowed to issue any incentive payments, according to the notice.

Any deferment facility granted on provisioning cannot be counted while calculating profits, it said.

The BB further instructed that banks must evaluate improvements in key performance indicators and demonstrate adequate progress in recovering classified or written-off loans before deciding on any incentive payments.

For state-owned banks, the newly approved Incentive Bonus Guidelines 2025 will apply, covering state-owned commercial banks, specialised banks, and non-scheduled specialised institutions.

## NBR targets 1 lakh new businesses as VAT week begins

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has set a target of bringing 100,000 new businesses under the value-added tax (VAT) net this month to mark VAT Day and VAT Week beginning today.

The initiative is part of a broader push to strengthen revenue collection, said NBR Chairman Md Abdur Rahman Khan at a press conference at the NBR headquarters in Dhaka.

Presently, Bangladesh has 6.44 lakh VAT-registered entities.

"Compared to the volume of business in the country, our VAT collection remains very low. We are working to recover the revenue that has been lost," he said.

Khan said tax collection this year has been affected by instability in the banking sector, which has weakened corporate tax receipts. Additionally, a cutback in the development budget has led to lower-than-expected revenue.

Tax collection might grow 16 percent in the first five months of the fiscal year 2025-26, he added.

The NBR chief also said the long-awaited automated VAT refund system is now at its final stage. Once operational, it is expected to reduce delays and ensure greater transparency for businesses seeking refunds.

The revenue board is also preparing to launch a one-click e-VAT return system, so that small businesses can file returns on their own without intermediaries.

He further said amendments to the VAT law are underway to simplify procedures and advance the ongoing automation drive.

# Bangladesh's debt repayments jump 617%, fastest in S Asia

### With exports failing to keep up, rising repayments have crossed IMF risk thresholds and now squeeze the national budget

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and AHSAN HABIB

External debt repayments by both the public and private sectors in Bangladesh have increased far more sharply than in any other South Asian country over the past 15 years, even though the country's export earnings have not kept pace.

Across South Asia, countries together paid \$95 billion in 2024 to repay foreign loans and the interest on them. This was 253 percent higher than it had been 15 years earlier, according to the World Bank's (WB) International Debt Report 2025, released on Sunday.

Bangladesh's repayments grew the fastest in the region. In 2024, the country paid \$7.3 billion in total, a 617 percent jump from 2010. No other country in the region saw an increase on this scale.

Of the total repayment last year, \$4.9 billion went towards paying back the original loan amounts, a mountainous jump from \$821 million in 2010. Meanwhile, interest payments rose to \$2.4 billion, compared to just \$203 million in 2010.

According to WB data, Pakistan recorded the second-highest increase at 251 percent to \$13.82 billion, followed by India at 246 percent to \$82.06 billion and Sri Lanka at 211 percent to \$4.17 billion last year.

**IMF WARNING LEVEL CROSSED**

Zahid Hussain, former lead economist at the WB's Dhaka office, said such rapid growth in repayment obligations squeezes the government's ability to plan the national budget.

As more money must be set aside for repayments, the economist said, the government has less room to respond to urgent spending needs.

Bangladesh's external debt compared to its export earnings has also crossed the warning level maintained by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The IMF considers a country at risk when its external debt reaches more than 180 percent of its annual export income. Bangladesh's ratio is now 192 percent.

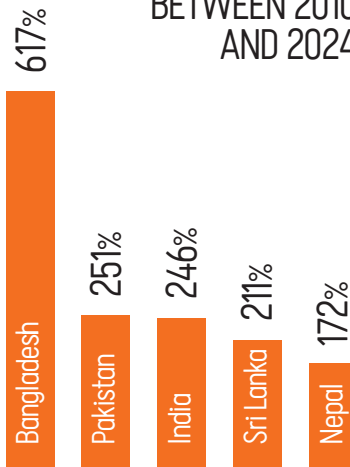
The rise in external loans without a matching increase in exports also prompted

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## EXTERNAL DEBT: BANGLADESH AND ITS NEIGHBOURS

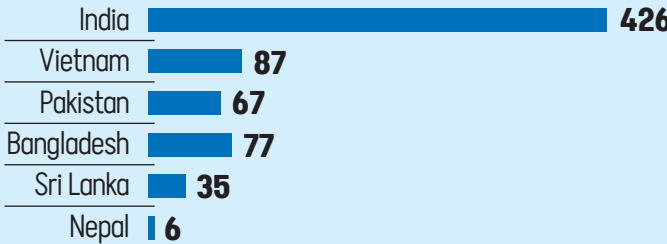


GROWTH OF DEBT SERVICING COST BETWEEN 2010 AND 2024

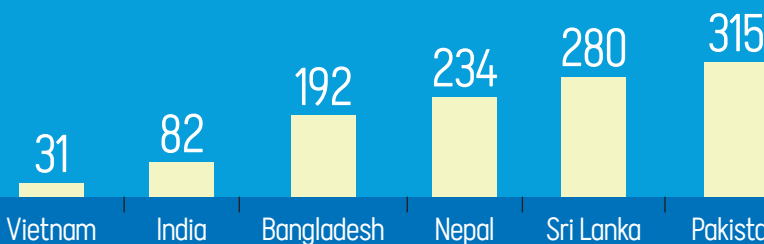


GROWTH OF DEBT STOCK BETWEEN 2010 AND 2024

(In billion \$)



DEBT STOCK AS % OF EXPORTS



SOURCE: INTERNATIONAL DEBT REPORT 2025, WORLD BANK

# Onion prices start to fall after govt allows imports



Onion prices have started to drop after the government allowed imports of the kitchen staple to contain the spiral.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

SUKANTA HALDER and MOHAMMAD SUMAN

Onion prices have started to decline after the government allowed imports, giving relief to consumers struggling with persistent inflation, particularly high food inflation.

Retailers in Dhaka and Chattogram said onion prices have dropped by Tk 25-Tk 30 per kg since the government announcement.

They, however, added that supply has not increased significantly in wholesale markets, resulting in less decrease in prices than expected.

Last week, retail onion prices surged by Tk 30-Tk 40, reaching Tk 150 per kg. In response, the agriculture ministry announced on Saturday that imports would be allowed.

In the past three days, the government has allowed the import of 4,500 tonnes of onions, said Boni Amin Khan, additional deputy director for import at the Plant Quarantine Wing of the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), which issues phytosanitary certificates needed to import any plant into the country. "Of this, 510 tonnes have already arrived."

He added that all imported onions came from India.

Mohammad Ratul, a retail seller from Tejguri Bazar in Farmgate, Dhaka, said prices of onion dropped to Tk 140 per kg yesterday. Four days ago, I sold onions at Tk 170 per kg, he added.

"Onions are still not available in wholesale markets according to demand," he said.

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# Govt approves 12 solar power projects worth Tk 39,862cr

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government has approved 12 new solar power plant projects with a combined capacity of 918 megawatts (MW) across several districts, at an estimated cost of around Tk 39,862 crore.

The Advisory Committee on Government Purchase, chaired by Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed, gave the green light to the plants at a meeting yesterday.

Unlike earlier projects under the Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provisions) Act, 2010, which were granted without competitive bidding, these plants were awarded through a competitive process.

Previously, electricity tariffs for such projects often crossed Tk 13 per kilowatt-hour, but the new process has reduced the rate to below Tk 10 per kilowatt-hour.

The power ministry said this is expected to save the government Tk 1,169 crore annually.

The projects will be developed under the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) as part of the government's broader strategy to diversify the energy mix and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

Key projects include a 200 MW solar plant in Fatikchhari, Chattogram, awarded to Confidence Power Holdings at a tariff of Tk 9.45 per kilowatt-hour, and a 150 MW project in Pabna given to a joint venture of Paramount Textile PLC and Paramount Holdings at Tk 9.62 per kilowatt-hour.

In Noakhali, a 10 MW project in Sudharampur went to a joint venture of Maheen and Vidullanka at Tk 8.99 per kilowatt-hour. Hathazari, Chattogram, will host an 18 MW plant managed by FGL, FHL and GBB, Dhaka, at Tk 9.98 per kilowatt-hour, while Moulvibazar will see a 25 MW project awarded to Paramount Holdings and Paramount Textile at Tk 9.192 per kilowatt-hour.

Other major projects include a 45 MW plant in Fatikchhari assigned to the Karnaphuli-Infracore Consortium at Tk 9.32 per kilowatt-hour; a 100

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LOAN AGAINST SALARY

*Life happens & we finance it.*

- Tenure: 1 to 5 years
- Loan amount up to BDT 1-20 Lac

\*Conditions Apply

Trust Bank PLC.

To Know More

## VAT break on metro rail tickets likely to continue

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government may extend the six-month value-added tax (VAT) exemption on metro rail tickets until June next year, a service that has gained significant popularity since the beginning of its operations.

Commuters of the metro rail are currently enjoying a VAT exemption on their fares, which is scheduled to end on December 31 this year.

Besides, the government has already decided to withdraw the Tk 5,000 excise duty on air tickets for Hajj pilgrims for their outbound and return flights from next year.

**Commuters of the metro rail are currently enjoying a VAT exemption on fares, which is scheduled to end this year**

Md Bodruzzaman Munshi, second secretary of VAT Policy at the National Board of Revenue (NBR), confirmed this to The Daily Star yesterday.

"A note has been sent to the advisory councils for approval on the metro rail, while the cabinet has already passed the excise duty exemption for Hajj pilgrims," he said.

The much-talked-about Dhaka metro rail began commercial operations at the end of December 2022 and has since become hugely popular among commuters, especially office-goers and students who now have an escape from travelling on chaotic buses.



# NCC Bank Securities signs loan deal with ICB

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NCC Bank Securities and Financial Services Limited (NCCB Securities), a subsidiary of NCC Bank PLC, has recently signed a loan agreement with the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB).

Under the agreement, ICB has approved a loan of Tk 2,500 crore for NCCB Securities to invest in its own portfolio.

Niranjan Chandra Debnath, managing director of the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB), and M Shamsul Arefin, managing director of NCC Bank PLC and director of NCCB Securities, signed the agreement at a ceremony held at ICB's head office in Motijheel, Dhaka, according to a press release.

Speaking at the ceremony, Debnath said, "This agreement is not just a financial transaction; it is a symbol of mutual trust, cooperation, and our joint commitment to building a stronger and more sustainable capital market."

Arefin remarked, "We highly value our long-term relationship with ICB, which has been playing a significant role in the development and stability of the country's capital market."

"Today's collaboration is an expression of mutual trust and a joint commitment



M Shamsul Arefin, managing director of NCC Bank PLC and director of NCCB Securities, and Niranjan Chandra Debnath, managing director of the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement at the latter's head office in Motijheel, Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: NCC BANK

to responsibly strengthening and stabilising the capital market."

"NCC Bank is committed to financial transparency and corporate governance. This agreement will not only further

strengthen our relationship but also pave the way for new strategic collaborations with ICB in the future," he added.

Md Nurul Huda, deputy managing director of ICB; Md Habib Ullah, general

manager; Babul Chandra Debnath, deputy general manager; Ahsanul Arefin, chief executive officer of NCCB Securities; and Mohammad Delwar Hossain, first assistant vice-president, were also present.



ANM Moinul Kabir, director of the Department of Off-Site Supervision (DOS) at Bangladesh Bank, poses for a group photograph with participants of the "Annual Risk Conference 2025", organised by Eastern Bank PLC, at the latter's head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

## Eastern Bank organises annual risk conference

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) recently organised its "Annual Risk Conference 2025" under the theme "Transforming Risk Culture Within and Beyond" at its head office in Dhaka.

ANM Moinul Kabir, director of the Department of Off-Site Supervision (DOS) at Bangladesh Bank, attended the conference as the chief guest, according to a press release.

Ali Reza Iftikhar, managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, presided over the programme, where Surabhi Ghosh, additional director of the DOS at the

central bank, was present as the special guest.

During the event, participants reviewed key areas of risk, including liquidity, market, operational, credit, and other core risks, and discussed the way forward for strengthening the bank's overall risk management framework, the release added.

Mahdiar Rahman, chairman of the executive risk management committee of EBL, was also present, along with deputy managing directors, the risk management division, division heads, senior executives, and senior managers from across the country.

# Mutual Trust Bank hosts '5th Annual Risk Conference 2025'

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mutual Trust Bank PLC (MTB) recently organised its "5th Annual Risk Conference 2025", underscoring the bank's commitment to fostering a robust risk management culture and aligning with regulatory expectations.

The event brought together over 425 participants, including branch managers, branch operations managers, customer service officers, and executives involved in managing risks at both branch and head-office levels.

This year's conference theme, "Adaptive Risk Strategies: Balancing Regulation, Innovation, and Sustainability", reflected the bank's proactive approach to addressing emerging challenges.

ANM Moinul Kabir, director of the Department of Off-site Supervision (Division 2) at Bangladesh Bank, attended the conference at MTB Tower on III Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue in Dhaka.

Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director and CEO of Mutual Trust Bank PLC, presided over the event.



PHOTO: MUTUAL TRUST BANK

ANM Moinul Kabir, director of the Department of Off-site Supervision (Division-2) at Bangladesh Bank, and Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director and CEO of Mutual Trust Bank PLC, pose for a group photograph with participants of MTB's "5th Annual Risk Conference 2025" at MTB Tower in Dhaka recently.

# Mercantile Bank hold anti-money laundering training in Sylhet



Khaled Ahmed, executive director of Bangladesh Bank, poses for a group photograph with participants of a training programme on "Prevention of Money Laundering & Combating Financing of Terrorism" in Sylhet recently.

PHOTO: MERCANTILE BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mercantile Bank PLC recently organised a training programme on "Prevention of Money Laundering & Combating Financing of Terrorism" in Sylhet, aimed at strengthening awareness and capacity among banking and financial professionals in the region.

A total of 50 participants from the Sylhet region attended the event.

Khaled Ahmed, executive director of Bangladesh Bank, attended the programme as the chief guest, according to a press release.

Shamim Ahmed, deputy managing director and chief anti-money laundering compliance officer of Mercantile Bank PLC, was present as the special guest.

The speakers emphasised the importance of continuous training in preventing financial crimes and ensuring regulatory compliance.

## Bitcoin's 2025

FROM PAGE B4

Saylor, speaking to Reuters last week, said his company could survive a 95 percent fall in the price of bitcoin.

Those April and October plunges highlighted the growing correlation between bitcoin and equities, and in particular, artificial intelligence stocks, which share similar attributes and have been hit

by worries that valuations are in bubble territory.

Historically, bitcoin and stocks did not move in tandem because crypto was seen as an alternative investment. But with broader crypto adoption by traditional retail investors and some institutions, the correlation looks to be strengthening, analysts said.

## Trump says US will allow sale

FROM PAGE B4

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun did not directly confirm the agreement when asked, but said that "China has always advocated for mutual benefit and win-win outcomes through cooperation between China and the United States."

Under Biden-era restrictions, the H200 and

similar advanced chips were blocked from export to China.

"We applaud President Trump's decision to allow America's chip industry to compete to support high paying jobs and manufacturing in America," an Nvidia spokesperson told AFP.

"Offering H200 to approved commercial

customers, vetted by the Department of Commerce, strikes a thoughtful balance that is great for America."

Trump emphasized that Nvidia's most advanced chips — the Blackwell series and forthcoming Rubin processors — are not included in the agreement and remain available only to US customers.

# bKash redefines 'Amar bKash' icon based on customer needs

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The country's leading mobile financial service (MFS) provider, bKash, recently redefined its app to make it simpler and more efficient, tailoring its features to each customer's usage patterns and needs.

The new presentation of the 'My bKash (Amar bKash)' icon now gives users an instant snapshot of their daily financial transactions.

By consolidating all transaction details into one customised space, overall financial management has become easier and more effective, according to a press release.

The interfaces of 'My bKash' and 'My Offers' have also been redesigned in a cleaner and more organised way.

Along with this, new themes have been added, bringing significant changes to the overall look of the widely used app.

Additionally, the latest version of the bKash app includes features such as bonus points, the option to purchase insurance policies directly from the app, coupons, rewards, and more.

## Dollar steady

REUTERS, Singapore/London

The dollar held steady on Tuesday ahead of an expected rate cut from the Federal Reserve, while the Aussie dollar was firmer after its central bank ruled out more easing.

Markets are anticipating a rate cut from the Fed, and preparing for several more central bank decisions before the weekend.

"The Fed is tomorrow so market participants probably aren't really looking for repositioning ahead of this," said Michael Pfister, FX analyst at Commerzbank.

The US dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, slipped 0.1 percent to 98.977.

Traders are also looking ahead to the US NFIB's small business optimism index for November as well as the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) for October due later in the session.

Bond investors are dialling back expectations of rate cuts in 2026 as scepticism mounts that Kevin Hassett, the frontrunner to succeed Jerome Powell, whose eight-year term as Fed chair ends in May, will prove as dovish as hoped by US President Donald Trump.

"গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ এর অঞ্চলয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।"

"বিনিয়োগ ও স্থানীয় নিরপত্তা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার।"

**বাংলাদেশ গ্যাস ফিল্ডস কোম্পানী লিমিটেড**  
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানি)  
**Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd.**  
(A Company of Petrobangla)

**INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE**

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/ Energy & Mineral Resources Division
2	Agency	Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd. (BGFCL), A Company of Petrobangla
3	Procuring Entity	Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd. (BGFCL)
4	Procuring Entity Code	-----
5	Procuring Entity District	Brahmanbaria
6	Invitation Reference No.	Tender Ref. No. BGFCL/GOODS(FP)/235 Dated December 09, 2025
7	Invitation for	Procurement of Spare Parts of Waukesha Engine; Engine Model: 16V275GL+
8	Procurement Method	One stage two envelope tendering (International Competitive tendering)
9	Budget & Source of Fund	Own Fund of BGFCL
10	Tender Publication Date	December 10, 2025
11	Tender Selling Date & Time	a) Tender documents will be available between 09:00 hrs & 15:00 hrs (BST) on all working days (Sunday to Thursday) from December 10, 2025 to January 21, 2026. No extension in closing date for selling of tender documents will be allowed. b) Place: BGFCL's Liaison office at Petrocentre (14th Floor), 3 Kawan Bazar C/A, Dhaka. c) Price of Tender Document: Tender documents will be sold on payment of USD 20.00 or BDT 2,500.00 (Non-refundable)
12	Tender Closing Date & Time	a) Date & time: January 22, 2026 up to 11:15 hrs (BST). b) Place: BGFCL, Head Office, Meeting room at 2nd floor, Birashar, Brahmanbaria - 3400.
13	Tender Opening Date & Time	a) Date & time: January 22, 2026 at 11:30 hrs (BST) in presence of the Tenderer's representatives, if any. b) Place: BGFCL Head Office, Meeting Room at 2nd floor, Birashar, Brahmanbaria-3400.
14	Date, Time & Place for Pre-Tender meeting	Not Applicable
15	Eligibility of Tenderer	Reputed firms, manufacturers and suppliers from all countries except Israel with the following international experience: (a) Tenderer must have overall minimum 05 (five) years experience. (b) If the tenderer is not the manufacturer himself, the tenderer must submit Authorization Letter from the manufacturer or manufacturer's authorized distributor to prove the quoted materials are genuine. (c) Tenderer shall have experience in supplying similar materials to other than the Tenderer's own country. (d) Manufacturer shall have minimum 10 (ten) years experience in manufacturing the offered products. (e) Manufacturer shall have valid ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & OHSAS 18001 certificates as well as tenderer shall have valid ISO 9001 certificate.
16	Description of Goods	Spare Parts of Waukesha Engine; Engine Model: 16V275GL+
17	Tender Security Amount	USD 4,750.00 or BDT 5,60,000.00 In the form of Bank Guarantee only
18	Delivery Time	120 days from the date of L/C opening
19	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Engr. M. K. Masuk
20	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	General Manager (Technical Services)
21	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd. (BGFCL), Head Office, Birashar, Brahmanbaria - 3400, Bangladesh, Telephone no. +8801730 093679, E-mail: prb@bgfcl@gmail.com, bgfcl@bgfcl.org.bd
22	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.	
<b>Special Information</b>		i. Tenders must remain valid for 120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of closing of the tender. ii. The tender security must remain valid for 148 (one hundred forty eight) days from the date of closing of the tender. iii. In case of any unavoidable circumstances such as strike, civil commotion, Govt. declared holiday, etc. tender will be received and opened on the following working day. iv. Tender(s) submitted after the deadline for receiving of tenders will be rejected and returned unopened to the tenderer. v. Tender submitted by e-mail will be rejected. Likewise photocopy of e-mailed tenders will also be rejected. vi. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject any or all tenders or annul the tendering process at any stage without assigning any reason whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected tenderers. vii. This tender will be conducted as per the Public Procurement Act 2006 and the Public Procurement Rule 2025. The aforesaid notice is also available at and BPPA website @ www.cptu.gov.bd, Petrobangla website @ www.petrobangla.org.bd and BGFCL website @ www.bgfcl.gov.bd.

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(10"×3)

GD-2700

Engr. M. K. Masuk  
General Manager (Technical Services)



**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
 Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD  
 Kishoreganj Road Division  
 E-mail: eekis@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No: 35.01.4849.782.42.001.21-1959
Dated: 02.12.2025

**Corregandum-1**

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal for the following works:

Tender ID	1176105
Name of Tender	Periodic Maintenance Programme by Repairing and providing DBS Wearing Course and other ancillary works at Ch.32+665 (Mothkhola) to 45+114 (Katiadi) of Itakhola-Mothkhola-Kotiadi Road (R-211) under Kishoreganj Road Division, Kishoreganj during the year 2025-2026. Package No-01/e-GP/KRD/PMP Road/2025-2026;

**Corrigendum / Amendment No: 1**

Field Name	Old Value	New Value
Document last selling date & time	21/12/2025 17:00	04/01/2026 17:00
Opening Date & Time	22/12/2025 12:00	05/01/2026 12:00
Last date & time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	22/12/2025 11:30	05/01/2026 11:30
Closing Date & Time	22/12/2025 12:00	05/01/2026 12:00
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
A. General	5.13	5.13
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
B. e-Tender Document (e-TD)	8.2	8.2
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
C. Qualification Criteria (Experience Criteria-General experience)	13.1(a)	13.1(a)
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
C. Qualification Criteria (specific experience)	13.1(b)	13.1(b)
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
C. Qualification Criteria (Financial Criteria- Average annual construction turnover)	14.1(b)	14.1(b)
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
C. Qualification Criteria (Financial Criteria- Minimum Tender Capacity)	14.1(d)	14.1(d)
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
C. Qualification Criteria (Personnel Capacity- minimum level of personnel capacity)	15.1	15.1
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
C. Qualification Criteria (Equipment Capacity)	16.1	16.1
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
D Tender Preparation (Reports on the Financial Standing)	31.1(i)	31.1(i)
TDS/PDS	Stated in ITT Clause	Stated in ITT Clause
G. Contract Award	71.1	71.1

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline hard copy will be accepted. To submit please register on e-GP system. (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details please contact e-gp help desk, ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov))

  
 (Sakil Mohammad Faysal)  
 I.D. No.-602216  
 Executive Engineer (C.C), RHD  
 Kishoreganj Road Division.

GD-2702



# New bank coming for small entrepreneurs

# EU launches antitrust probe into Google's data use for AI

"AI is bringing remarkable innovation

The draft of the Microcredit Bank Ordinance proposes a board of directors with eight members. Borrower shareholders will nominate three directors, and other shareholders will nominate another three. These six will elect a chairperson. The managing director will sit on the board as well.

A director may serve for up to three years and may serve two consecutive terms. A three-fourths majority of the full board may cancel any nomination.

In such cases, the managing director will not hold voting rights. The board may increase paid-up capital from time to time, provided it notifies the regulatory authority in advance.

Under the draft, the bank may offer loans with or without collateral, either in cash or other forms, for a wide range of economic activities. Priority will be given to new entrepreneurs.

The focus will be on self-employment, poverty reduction and helping people improve their quality of life. The bank will offer technical and administrative support to

new entrepreneurs, sometimes for a fee, and will undertake income-generating projects on their behalf.

Borrowers will qualify for insurance benefits under existing laws. Support will include business management, marketing and technical guidance, along with help to start or expand ventures.

For operational purposes, the bank will accept deposits from borrowers and other individuals. It may also receive local or foreign assistance and grants if these comply with the law. The bank may take out loans using its assets or other collateral. It may buy shares of statutory organisations and invest in government securities.

The draft says the bank will invest part of its deposits in government-backed instruments, subject to approval from the licensing authority, to ensure financial stability.

It will conduct audits through the listed auditors in line with existing standards. The audited report must also state whether adequate measures were taken to protect the interests of borrowers, as required in the draft.

Pakistan nearly defaulted on its massive debt in 2023 before securing the IMF bailout, called the Extended Fund Facility, that is to total \$7 billion in the coming years.

# Trump says US will allow sale of Nvidia AI chips to China

READ MORE ON B2

“Crypto reacting to broader equities has been a consistent theme in 2025,” said Jasper De Maere, desk strategist at crypto algorithmic trading firm Wintermute.

# Bitcoin's 2025 rollercoaster may end on a low



PHOTO: REUTERS

the market plunged again when Trump announced a new tariff on Chinese imports and threatened export controls on critical software. That sparked more than \$19 billion worth of liquidations across leveraged crypto market positions.

In a change of tune, Strategy CEO Phong Le warned on a podcast last month of a possible “bitcoin winter.” In October Standard Chartered forecast bitcoin would fall below \$100,000 but said that may be the last time it will hit that low, according to media reports.

*The writer worked as a senior executive at global banks in Bangladesh and Singapore*

