

Bangladesh Lamps declares 10% dividend

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Bangladesh Lamps PLC, the authorised manufacturer and distributor of Transtec lighting products, including smart LED bulbs, tube lights and other lighting accessories, yesterday declared a 10 percent cash dividend for the year that ended on June 30, 2025.

The declaration was made at the company's 64th annual general meeting (AGM), which was held virtually.

Shahnaz Rahman, chairperson of Bangladesh Lamps PLC, presided over the meeting, according to a press release.

Simeen Rahman, managing director and chief executive officer of the company, conducted the meeting.

The shareholders approved, among other issues, the annual report and financial statements of the company for 2025.

Shahzreh Huq, Saifur Rahman, Atiqur Rahman and Shamsur Rahman, directors of the company; Md Habibur Rahman Mollah, Mohammad Zahid Hossain and Maria Howlader, independent directors; Md Shahidul Islam, chief operating officer; Ruhul Amin, chief financial officer; and Mohammad Ruhan Miah, company secretary, along with a large number of shareholders, also joined the meeting.



Shahnaz Rahman, chairperson of Bangladesh Lamps PLC, presides over the company's 64th annual general meeting yesterday. The meeting declared a 10 percent cash dividend for 2025. Simeen Rahman, managing director and CEO of the company, was present. PHOTO: BANGLADESH LAMPS

Sadiquir Rahman made AMD of Meghna Bank

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Meghna Bank PLC has promoted Md Sadiquir Rahman to the post of additional managing director (AMD).

Prior to this promotion, Rahman was serving the bank as a deputy managing director and also held the role of managing director and chief executive officer (current charge), according to a press release.

He joined Meghna Bank PLC in 2013 and worked in different capacities before being promoted to AMD.

Rahman is a seasoned banking professional with 28 years of diversified experience in branch banking, retail and SME banking, treasury, credit, foreign exchange, ALM, treasury risk management, capital market operations and Islamic banking.

He has been a key member of the bank's MANCOM, ALCO, SMT, CRMC, RMC and Investment Committee. He has also been serving as a director and TREC holder representative of Meghna Bank Securities Ltd since its inception.

Rahman started his banking career at Sonali Bank PLC as a senior officer in 1998. He later worked at AB Bank Ltd.

He completed his MBA from the University of Dhaka and earned an MBM and DAIBB, along with multiple professional certifications such as CERM, CECM, CEAF, CIBFP, CPSME, CSAA and DIB.



Bank Asia organises AML & CFT awareness programme



Md Mofizur Rahman Khan Chowdhury, acting head of the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit, and Romo Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of Bank Asia PLC, pose for a group photograph with participants of an awareness programme at Bank Asia Tower in Karwan Bazar, Dhaka recently. PHOTO: BANK ASIA

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Bank Asia PLC recently organised an awareness programme on anti-money laundering (AML) and combating the financing of terrorism (CFT) at Bank Asia Tower in Karwan Bazar, Dhaka.

The objective of the programme was to strengthen institutional knowledge and awareness on AML and CFT.

Md Mofizur Rahman Khan Chowdhury, acting head of the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU), attended the programme as the chief guest, according to a press release.

Chowdhury facilitated an interactive session focusing on corporate governance, fostering a strong culture of compliance, and the critical roles and responsibilities of the board of directors

and senior management.

Romo Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of Bank Asia PLC, and Zakia Rouf Chowdhury, vice-chairman, attended the event.

The programme further underscored Bank Asia PLC's steadfast commitment to robust corporate governance, transparency and ethical banking practices, reinforcing its dedication to delivering the highest standards of service to its customers, the release added.

Rume A Hossain, chairman of the board executive committee of the bank, MA Baqui Khalily, chairman of the risk management and board audit committee, along with other members of the board of directors and the senior management team, were also present at the programme.

PBIL signs MoU with Bluenergy, Gtech Infrastructure to boost renewable energy

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Prime Bank Investment PLC (PBIL) recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the consortium of Bluenergy Solutions Ltd and Gtech Infrastructure Ltd, two pioneers in solar engineering and industrial clean energy development in Bangladesh.

Under the agreement, PBIL will provide a suite of investment banking services across equity and debt capital markets, corporate advisory and portfolio management – supported by robust governance, disciplined risk management and sector-driven expertise.

The consortium brings extensive technical proficiency in renewable energy engineering and project development, offering consultancy, feasibility studies, design, EPC solutions and specialised execution capabilities across solar PV projects.

Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and CEO of Prime Bank Investment PLC, and DM Abu Bakar Siddique, authorised signatory of the consortium and managing director and CEO of Gtech Infrastructure Ltd, signed the MoU in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Discussing the financial importance of the partnership, Tayub said Bangladesh's transition to clean energy requires close alignment between technical innovation and financial readiness.

"Our collaboration with the consortium positions us to play a catalytic role in bridging this infrastructure gap and advancing the country's green-growth ambitions," he added.

Siddique remarked, "Partnering with PBIL enables us to match high-quality project engineering with sophisticated financial structuring.

Together, we aim to accelerate the rollout of utility-scale solar and other



DM Abu Bakar Siddique, managing director and CEO of Gtech Infrastructure Ltd and authorised signatory of the consortium, and Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and CEO of Prime Bank Investment PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the memorandum of understanding in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: PRIME BANK INVESTMENT PLC

clean energy solutions that contribute to long-term energy security and environmental sustainability."

The partnership emphasises ESG-

aligned investment, climate-focused financial solutions and the development of bankable project pipelines that support Bangladesh's clean energy ambitions.

Oil prices ease

REUTERS, Singapore

Oil prices eased on Thursday as investors shifted focus back to Russia-Ukraine peace talks and monitored potential fallout from a US seizure of a sanctioned tanker off the coast of Venezuela.

Brent crude futures were down 50 cents, or 0.8 percent, at \$61.71 a barrel, as of 0730 GMT, while US West Texas Intermediate crude fell 46 cents, or 0.8 percent, to \$58.00 a barrel.

The benchmarks settled higher a day earlier after the US said it seized an oil tanker off the coast of Venezuela, as escalating tensions between the two countries raised concerns about supply disruptions.

"So far, the seizure has not trickled down to the market, but further escalation will impose heavy crude price volatility," said Emril Jamil, a senior oil analyst at LSEG.

"The market remains in limbo, eyeing the Russian-Ukraine peace deal progress."

On Wednesday, US President Donald Trump said "we've just seized a tanker on the coast of Venezuela, large tanker, very large, largest one ever, actually, and other things are happening."

Trump administration officials did not name the vessel. British maritime risk management group Vanguard said the tanker, Skipper, was believed to have been seized off Venezuela.



Prof M Zubaidur Rahman, chairman of Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC, attends the bank's 42nd annual general meeting at the Kurmitola Golf Club in Dhaka yesterday. PHOTO: ISLAMI BANK BANGLADESH

Islami Bank holds 42nd AGM

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Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC held its 42nd annual general meeting (AGM) at the Kurmitola Golf Club in Dhaka yesterday.

Prof M Zubaidur Rahman, chairman of Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC, presided over the meeting as the chief guest, according to a press release. In his speech, Rahman said the bank has faced many challenges in recent years.

"A group weakened the foundation of this top-tier institution. But with the new board of directors formed after August 5, 2024, and the joint efforts of the bank's employees, Islami Bank has started turning around," he said.

"The bank has already cleared all its dues with Bangladesh Bank. This was possible due to the trust of its 2.5 crore clients and the general public."

"Islami Bank stands as a symbol of trust," he said, adding that after the July Revolution, Bangladesh Bank appointed the current board to revive the institution and protect customer interests. Board members are working tirelessly to establish good governance and strengthen the financial base, he said.

StanChart, BRAC University train next-gen financial crime experts

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Standard Chartered Bangladesh and BRAC University celebrated the success of their Financial Crime and Compliance (FCC) certification programme, an initiative aimed at strengthening the country's defences against financial crime and enhancing compliance standards across the banking sector.

The event, titled "Celebrating Success: Training to Combat Financial Crime and Ensure Compliance", brought together

(BFIU), was present as special guest.

Speaking at the certificate distribution ceremony, Naser Ezz Bjoy, chief executive officer of Standard Chartered Bangladesh, said: "Together with BRAC University, we have trained four cohorts, with the fifth underway, to build the talent required to combat financial crime and develop a resilient financial ecosystem."

"My heartfelt thanks to BRAC University, BFIU and all participants for making this initiative a success," he added.

Prof Mohammad Mujibul Haque,



Md Zakir Hossain Chowdhury, deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank, attends an event, titled "Celebrating Success: Training to Combat Financial Crime and Ensure Compliance", organised by Standard Chartered Bangladesh and BRAC University, in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: STANDARD CHARTERED

BRAC Bank surpasses \$2b in remittance inflow

STAR BUSINESS DESK

BRAC Bank PLC has surpassed \$2 billion in remittance inflow in 2025, climbing from the 17th to the 4th position in the past five years.

The bank's steady growth from \$427 million in 2020 to \$1,605 million in 2024 reflects rising customer confidence, according to a press release.

To support this momentum, BRAC Bank has invested in a modern remittance ecosystem focused on speed, transparency and accessibility for Non-Resident Bangladeshis (NRBs).

Instant eKYC enabled onboarding now allows NRBs to open accounts remotely within minutes, encouraging a shift from informal networks to formal banking channels.

The bank has also strengthened its digital capabilities through the Probashi Virtual Savings Account, offering NRBs and their families seamless access to Astha, BRAC Bank's digital banking platform. Users can manage deposits, transfers, bill payments, mobile recharges, fixed deposits, DPS and secured loans from a single interface.

To further support remittance-dependent households, the bank introduced two savings products – the Probashi Poribar Savings Account and the TARA Probashi Poribar Savings Account.

senior representatives from Bangladesh Bank, BRAC University and Standard Chartered Bangladesh.

A total of 177 participants have successfully completed the programme so far. The enrolment of 55 participants in the fifth cohort signals the programme's evolution into a long-term capacity-building platform for Bangladesh's financial sector.

Md Zakir Hossain Chowdhury, deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank, attended the event as chief guest, according to a press release.

Md Mofizur Rahman Khan Chowdhury, executive director and head (current charge) of the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit

dean of BRAC Business School, highlighted the severity of financial crime in Bangladesh and expressed his gratitude to those from Standard Chartered Bangladesh, BFIU and BRAC Business School who contributed to the success of the programme.

Since its launch in early 2024, the programme has expanded significantly, growing into a sustained initiative that has now trained four full cohorts.

Prof Arshad Chowdhury, pro-vice chancellor of BRAC University, and Ariful Islam, treasurer, were also present, along with representatives from participating organisations.

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BCSIR and Nestlé Bangladesh Collaborates to Launch Nestlé PUSHTIGROW+ to Support Child Nutrition Advancement

Nestlé Bangladesh PLC, a subsidiary of the Switzerland-based global leader in nutrition and wellness, proudly announces the launch of Nestlé PUSHTIGROW+, an innovative cereal-based micronutrient fortifier developed in partnership with the Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR). The official launch event was held at Sheraton Dhaka on November 25, 2025.

The ceremony was graced by distinguished guests, including Ms. Shamina Ahmed, Chairman of BCSIR; His Excellency Mr. Reto Renggli, Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh; and His Excellency Mr. Dharmapala Weerakkody, Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Bangladesh. Over 100 key opinion leaders from government regulatory bodies, scientists, health experts, and industry leaders attended the event.

Nestlé PUSHTIGROW+ is formulated to deliver probiotics and 16 essential nutrients, addressing critical dietary gaps among children aged 5 years and above. This product reflects Nestlé's commitment to improving child nutrition in Bangladesh by leveraging government resources and scientific expertise.

"We believe this micronutrient fortifier, developed in collaboration with BCSIR, will significantly contribute to improving health outcomes and enhancing quality of life in Bangladesh," said A S M Hafizul Islam, Director-Nutrition, Nestlé Bangladesh PLC.

Mr. Deepal Abeywickrema, Chairman and Managing Director of Nestlé Bangladesh PLC, added: "At Nestlé, we strive to unlock the power of food for everyone. This collaboration with BCSIR enables us to support millions of children across Bangladesh with fortified homemade meals. This initiative continues our 30+ years of dedication to nutrition in the country."