

BB, Bank Asia hold customer awareness week for Chattogram division

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bangladesh Bank, in association with Bank Asia PLC, recently organised "Customer Awareness Week, Chattogram-2025" in Cox's Bazar to enhance banking awareness among customers.

More than 120 officials from banks and financial institutions across the Chattogram division attended the event.

Md Niamul Kabir, executive director of Bangladesh Bank, attended the programme as the chief guest, according to a press release.

In his remarks, Kabir said customers are the lifeblood of banking services and emphasised that customer awareness, alongside bankers' responsibilities, is crucial for the proper execution of banking operations.

He urged bankers to remain vigilant in ensuring quality customer service and to take greater responsibility in raising customer awareness.

Md Mokbul Hossain, executive director of the central bank; Muhammad Mohsin Hossaini, director of the Financial Integrity and Customer Services Department; and Mirza Azhar Ahmad, deputy managing director of Bank Asia PLC, attended the event as special guests.

Munir Ahmed Chowdhury, director of the Financial Integrity and Customer Services Department at Bangladesh Bank, presided over the programme.

Bangladesh Bank said a series of awareness activities and programmes will be held throughout the week to encourage customers to practise safe and informed banking.



Md Niamul Kabir, executive director of Bangladesh Bank, poses for a group photograph with participants of "Customer Awareness Week, Chattogram-2025", organised by the central bank and Bank Asia PLC, in Cox's Bazar recently.

PHOTO: BANK ASIA

Prime Bank disburses agri loans among 288 farmers in Lalmonirhat



Rantu Poddar, upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Hatibandha, poses for a group photograph with farmers and other participants at the "Open Agri Credit Disbursement Programme" at Hatibandha Upazila Dakbangla Field in Lalmonirhat recently.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK

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Prime Bank PLC recently organised an "Open Agri Credit Disbursement Programme" at Hatibandha Upazila Dakbangla Field in Lalmonirhat.

Rantu Poddar, upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Hatibandha, attended the programme and distributed cheques among 288 farmers.

The programme highlighted various aspects of Prime Bank's agricultural loan support aimed at boosting farm output, improving farm management and strengthening farmers' financial capacity.

In recognition of regular loan utilisation and timely repayment of instalments, five farmers were awarded crests.

To ensure direct access to credit at the grassroots level, the bank has introduced specialised agricultural loan products, including Abad, Khamar and Nabanna.

In addition, Prime Bank is offering low-interest loans on easy terms to encourage the cultivation of import-substitute crops, thereby reducing dependence on imports.

Banglalink's Buse named 'CEO of the Year' at Fast Mode Awards 2025

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mobile operator Banglalink has recently won two awards at The Fast Mode Awards 2025.

Of these, the company received the "Customer Experience (CX) Champion" award in recognition of its continued progress in enhancing customer experience.

Johan Buse, chief executive officer of Banglalink, was named "CEO of the Year" (Asia Pacific Region) for his leadership excellence.

Under his guidance, the company has streamlined operations, fostered a customer-first culture, reduced unnecessary hierarchies to accelerate decision-making, and empowered frontline teams.

The Fast Mode Awards, organised by The Fast Mode, a globally acclaimed telecommunications media and research platform based in Malaysia, celebrate innovation, leadership, and meaningful industry impact.

The 2025 edition received over 300 submissions across Telco, Solution Provider, and Leadership Excellence categories, evaluated by an international panel of experts from leading research institutions, industry bodies, and analyst organisations.

Buse has also played a key role in returning Banglalink to a growth trajectory after five consecutive quarters of revenue decline.

His efforts have accelerated the company's shift toward a broader and more dynamic digital ecosystem, aligned with parent company VEON's DOI440 ambition, designed to make every moment of the customer's day easier, seamless, and more effective.

The "CX Champion" award reflects Banglalink's commitment to customer service excellence through technological innovation. The company has introduced AI-powered services, enhanced self-service options via the MyBL app, and developed a more structured customer feedback system.



Nagad enables online metro rail card recharge for commuters

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Nagad has made it easier for metro rail users to recharge their cards instantly from home using the Nagad wallet.

The system allows recharges of a minimum of Tk 100 and a maximum of Tk 5,000 at a time.

Passengers can access the recharge link through the Dhaka Transport Coordination Authority (DTCA) website.

Currently, two types of cards are used in the metro rail system – Rapid Pass and MRT Pass – and both can be recharged via Nagad.

To recharge a metro rail card, passengers must first visit the Rapid Pass website (www.rapidpass.com.bd) or app. Those not yet registered on the platform must complete the registration process by providing the required



information and card details.

After registration, users can sign in, select their card, and choose the desired recharge amount.

In the payment section, they should select the mobile banking option, choose Nagad, enter their Nagad number, and provide the OTP received via SMS. Once the password is entered, the recharge is completed.

For future transactions, users can save their Nagad wallet number for quicker recharges.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) recently held its 49th annual general meeting (AGM) virtually, according to a press release.

Prof Abu Ahmed, chairman of the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh, presided over the meeting, according to a press release.

At the AGM, shareholders approved the annual report and audited accounts for the financial year 2024-25.

No dividend was declared for the year that ended on June 30, 2025, compared with a 2 percent cash dividend paid in the previous financial year.

During the period under review, ICB made aggregate investments of Tk 3,574.34 crore in the capital market and recovered Tk 179.81 crore through dividends, margin loans, project loans and other loans and advances.



Prof Abu Ahmed, chairman of the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh, attends the corporation's 49th annual general meeting recently.

PHOTO: ICB

China's retail sales growth hits three-year low in Nov

AFP, Beijing

China's retail sales grew last month at their slowest pace in nearly three years, official data showed Monday, underlining the tough battle leaders face in kickstarting consumption in the world's number two economy.

Beijing has in recent years sought to revive sentiment in the domestic economy, which has been battered by a prolonged debt crisis in the country's vast property market.

Reversing the slump has become a top priority for leaders, who have vowed repeatedly to boost weak activity at home even as exports to the rest of the world boom.

Retail sales, a key indicator of consumption, edged up 1.3 percent year-on-year in November, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said – the weakest pace since December 2022, when stringent zero-Covid measures ended.

The reading was also well short of a Bloomberg forecast of 2.9 percent, which was the same as October's figure.

Monday's data "point to broad-based weakness in domestic activity", wrote Zichun Huang of Capital Economics in a note. "Policy support should help drive a partial recovery in the coming months, but this probably won't prevent China's growth from remaining weak across 2026 as a whole," she said.

Despite the spending slump, China's economy has been supported by robust exports, which have remained resilient in the face of this year's fierce trade war with the United States.

Midland Bank family donates Tk 10 lakh to Bengal Institute

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The Midland Bank family has provided Tk 10 lakh in financial assistance to the Bengal Institute for a comprehensive publication on the life and work of renowned architect Muzharul Islam.

Of the total amount, Tk 5 lakh was contributed from the bank's Islamic banking fund as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, while the remaining Tk 5 lakh was donated by members of the Midland Bank family.

Md Ahsan-uz Zaman, managing director and chief executive officer of Midland Bank PLC, handed over the cheques to Nusrat Sumaiya, research and design director of the Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements, at the bank's head office in Dhaka

on Sunday, according to a press release.

The Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements has undertaken the publication titled "Muzharul Islam: An Architect of Tomorrow" as part of the Architect Muzharul Islam Centenary Project, marking the 100th birth anniversary of the architect.

The centenary project includes a memorial programme, a lecture series, a commemorative video and the publication, which is scheduled to be launched in early 2026.

In recognition of the initiative, the Midland Bank family decided to extend financial support to the Bengal Institute.

Md Rashadul Anwar, head of the public relations department, and Syed Saquibuzzaman, head of the Islamic banking division of the bank, were also present.




Nusrat Sumaiya, research and design director of the Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements, receives cheques worth Tk 10 lakh from Md Ahsan-uz Zaman, managing director and chief executive officer of Midland Bank PLC, at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: MIDLAND BANK

Investment Corporation of Bangladesh holds 49th AGM

PHOTO: ICB



বাংলাদেশ পানি উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর
বাগেরহাট পানি উন্নয়ন বিভাগ, বাপাউবো, বাগেরহাট।
bwdb.bagerhat.gov.bd

Memo No.: 42.01.0100.617.44.001.24-3477

Date: 15-12-2025

e-Tender Notice-01/2025-2026
Procurement Type-NCT (OTM)

All e-tenders have been invited in the national e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of the following works.

| S/L | Tender ID | Package No. & description | Location of the Work | Tender Document Last selling date & Time | Tender Closing & Opening Date & Time |
|-----|-----------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1194915 | Bag/Rev/W-35/2025-26 Precautionary Protective Work along the right bank of Bhairab River at Chintekirhor from Km 0.000 to Km 0.100 & Km 0.200 to Km 0.300 = 200.00m in Folder No-36/1 at Bagerhat Sadar Upazilla in Bagerhat district under Bagerhat WD Division, BWDB, Bagerhat during the FY 2025-2026. | Bagerhat Sadar, Bagerhat | 30-Dec-2025 13:45 | 30-Dec-2025 14:00 |
| 2 | 1194911 | Bag/Rev/W-23/2025-26 Temporary Slope Protection work from km 7.050 to km 7.200 = 150 m & from km 7.750 to km 8.100 = 350.00 m, Total = 500.00 m at vodropara under Bemorta Subproject along the L/B of Daratana River in Bemorta Union, Bagerhat Sadar Upazilla under Bagerhat WD Division, BWDB, Bagerhat during the year 2025-2026. | Bagerhat Sadar, Bagerhat | 30-Dec-2025 13:45 | 30-Dec-2025 14:00 |
| 3 | 1194902 | Bag/Rev/W-27/2025-26 Repair of Bank Protection work from km 0.400 to km 0.530 = 130.00 m at Rahinabad along the R/B of Bhairab River in Karapara Union, Bagerhat Sadar Upazilla under Bagerhat WD Division, BWDB, Bagerhat during the year 2025-2026. | Bagerhat Sadar, Bagerhat | 30-Dec-2025 13:45 | 30-Dec-2025 14:00 |

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 & Tender Security must be deposited online through any registered Bank's branches upto 30-December-2025, Time: 13:50.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) (01762625528-31). (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd/>).

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GD-2757

Abdullah Al Mamun
15.12.2025
(Md. Abdullah Al Mamun)
Executive Engineer
Bagerhat WD Division
BWDB, Bagerhat.