

# Int'l yarn and fabric show begins in Dhaka

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

The 25th Dhaka International Yarn & Fabric Show (DIFS) 2026 - Winter Edition began at the International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka yesterday.

The exhibition will remain open to registered visitors every day from 10:00am to 7:00pm.

Chen Bo, deputy secretary general and director of CCPIT-TEX (Sub-Council of the Textile Industry, China), inaugurated the four-day exhibition as the chief guest, according to a press release.

Jointly organised by CEMS Global USA and CCPIT-TEX, the exhibition brings together global yarn, fabric and textile manufacturers and suppliers, showcasing products and solutions across the textile value chain.

DIFS 2026 (Winter Edition) is part of the Textile Series of Exhibitions developed by CEMS Global and held in

major textile hubs, including Bangladesh, Brazil, Morocco, Thailand and Sri Lanka. Meherun N Islam, president and group managing director of CEMS Global USA and Asia-Pacific, was present at the inauguration.

Bangladesh is one of the world's leading apparel exporters, with growing demand for quality yarns, fabrics and textile inputs. Over the years, DIFS has played a key role in connecting global suppliers with the country's garment manufacturing sector.

Among others, Song Yang, commercial counsellor of the Chinese embassy; Arifur Rahman Khan, additional secretary and director general (in-charge) of the Department of Textiles; Md Firoz Uddin, additional secretary of the Ministry of Industries; and Nafis-Ud-Doula, director of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, attended the event.



Chen Bo, deputy secretary general and director of CCPIT-TEX (Sub-Council of the Textile Industry, China), inaugurates the 25th Dhaka International Yarn & Fabric Show (DIFS) 2026 - Winter Edition at the International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka yesterday. Meherun N Islam, president and group managing director of CEMS-Global USA and Asia-Pacific, was also present.

PHOTO: CEMS-GLOBAL

# Shahjalal Islami Bank strikes remittance deal with Nagad



Md Motasem Billah, administrator of Nagad Limited, and Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the remittance disbursement agreement at the bank's corporate head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK

# Eastern Bank launches 'trade hub' at Chattogram EPZ

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has launched a dedicated "trade hub" at the Chattogram Export Processing Zone (CEPZ), Mirsharai in Chattogram recently to offer specialised trade-related banking services to clients operating in the area.

Designed to facilitate faster import- and export-related transactions, the trade hub aims to enhance efficiency and support businesses based in the Chattogram EPZ.

Riad Mahmud Chowdhury, deputy managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, inaugurated the trade hub as the chief

guest, according to a press release.

Speaking at the event, Chowdhury underscored the bank's role in supporting the country's industrial and export-oriented sectors, adding that the new facility would help strengthen partnerships with CEPZ-based enterprises and support their growth.

Sanjay Das, head of corporate business in Chattogram, and Shuvro Kanti Saha, head of Chattogram operations, along with other senior executives of the bank and representatives from various factories operating in the Chattogram EPZ, also participated in the programme.



Riad Mahmud Chowdhury, deputy managing director of Eastern Bank PLC, inaugurates the "trade hub" of the bank at Chattogram Export Processing Zone in Mirsharai recently.

PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

# Shimanto Bank signs MoU with Trust And Pay

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shimanto Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Trust And Pay Limited (TAP), a mobile financial service (MFS) app launched by Trust Axiatra Digital Limited, a subsidiary of Trust Bank PLC.

Mohammad Azizul Hoque, managing director and chief

executive officer (current charge) of Shimanto Bank PLC, and SM Akram Sayeed, chief executive officer of Trust And Pay Limited, signed the MoU at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Under the MoU, Shimanto Bank customers will be able to transfer funds from their bank accounts to Trust And Pay (TAP) accounts and vice versa.

Md Sahidul Islam, head of business at Shimanto Bank; Manzur Maswood, head of information technology; Sharif Zahirul Islam, head of cards and alternative delivery channels (ADC); and AKM Ahsan Kabir, head of information technology at Trust Bank PLC, along with other senior officials from both institutions, were also present.



SM Akram Sayeed, chief executive officer of Trust And Pay Limited, and Mohammad Azizul Hoque, managing director and chief executive officer (current charge) of Shimanto Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the memorandum of understanding at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: SHIMANTO BANK

# BRAC Bank's CSR initiatives touch 1.72 lakh lives in 2025

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

BRAC Bank PLC positively impacted 172,502 people across Bangladesh in 2025 through its corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, focusing on education, healthcare, disability inclusion, climate adaptation and humanitarian support, according to a press release.

Under the Aporajeyo TARA scholarship programme, 807 underprivileged female students continued higher education, while 348 aspiring women entrepreneurs received training through the Uddokta 101 initiative.



In Thakurgaon and Bogura, 44,545 underprivileged people benefited from free cataract surgeries, medicines and vision care. Additionally, 3,971 people received phaco surgeries, and 7,029 free kidney dialysis sessions were provided under the Sir Abed Kidney Dialysis Fund.

Commenting on the achievement, Tareq Refat Ullah Khan, managing director and CEO of BRAC Bank PLC, said the bank measures progress by the lives it transforms, with a focus on dignity, inclusion and lasting impact. To promote disability inclusion, 85 employees received specialised training, while 75 persons with disabilities were trained in IT and multimedia skills.

Another 810 individuals received limb and brace support, and 78 people with hearing and speech impairments were trained in sewing to support sustainable livelihoods.

Employment opportunities were also created through the Aporajeyo Ami Job Fair, where 46 persons with disabilities were recruited.

# MetLife settles Tk 2,853cr claims in 2025

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

MetLife Bangladesh settled insurance claims worth Tk 2,853 crore in 2025, maintaining one of the highest claim settlement ratios in the country's life insurance industry, according to a press release.

The amount includes payouts made to customers as insurance benefits, as well as claims related to loss of life and medical needs. During the year, the insurer posted a claims settlement ratio of 98 percent.



Of the total claims settled, Tk 313 crore was paid for health and medical claims, Tk 110 crore for death claims, and Tk 2,430 crore for maturity, partial maturity and other claims.

MetLife Bangladesh continues to settle the highest volume of claims among all life insurers in the country. The company paid Tk 2,895 crore in claims in 2024, Tk 2,981 crore in 2023 and Tk 2,548 crore in 2022.

Ala Ahmad, chief executive officer of MetLife Bangladesh, said the company's consistent performance reflects its strong financial position, operational excellence and transparency.

# Guardian Life settles Tk 543cr claims in 2025

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

Guardian Life Insurance Limited settled 225,254 insurance claims worth Tk 543.28 crore in 2025, underscoring its financial strength and commitment to policyholders.

Of the total payout, Tk 293.26 crore was disbursed against 113,199 death claims, offering crucial financial support to bereaved families. Health and medical claims amounted to Tk 217.69 crore across 105,524 cases, while Tk 32.33 crore was paid for policy maturities and other claims.

The figure marks a notable increase from 2024, when the life insurer settled more than 150,000 claims amounting to Tk 439 crore. In 2025, both the number of claims and the total settlement value rose sharply, reflecting higher claim volumes and payouts.

Commenting on the performance, Sheikh Rakibul Karim, chief executive officer of Guardian Life Insurance Limited, said, "Every claim we settle is a promise fulfilled. We remain committed to standing beside our customers when they need us most."



## (MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES) DIRECTOR OF WORKS & CHIEF ENGINEER (ARMY)

### INVITATION FOR TENDERS

Dated 20 January 2026

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Defence
2. Agency	Military Engineer Services
3. Procuring Entity Name	DW & CE (Army) Dhaka Cantt
4. Tender Name	Different B & R Works of Bangladesh Army for the financial year 2025-2026 (As per Ser No. 15)
5. Invitation for Tender No	22 of 2025-2026/E-6 Dated 20 January 2026
6. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
7. Source of Funds	GOB
8. Tender Publication Date	29 January 2026
9. Tender Last Selling Date	25 February 2026 upto 1430 hours.
10. Tender Submission Date & Time	26 February 2026, 1200 hours.
11. Tender Opening Date & Time	26 February 2026, 1230 hours.
12. Name & Address of the office (s)	
Selling Tender Documents	a. Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE (A) at GE (A) Central, Dhaka Cantt. b. DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt
Receiving Tender Document	Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE (A) Central, Dhaka Cantt.
Opening Tender Document	Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE (A) at GE (A) Central, Dhaka Cantt.
13. Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	25 February 2026, 1000-1100 hours.
14. Eligibility of Tenderer	For Serial No.15 (a to e): Contractors enlisted in MES Class 'A' For Serial No.15 (f): Contractors enlisted in MES Class 'A' & 'B' in other Govt/Semi-Govt/autonomous organizations in similar capacity having necessary security clearance from DGFI.
15. Description of works	Location Price of Tender Document (Non refundable) Amount of Tender Document (Taka) (In the shape of Bank Draft/ Pay order/Bank Guarantee in favor of DW & CE (Army)) Time of Completion of Wks
a Construction of 1 x SM BK Complex (6 storey with 6 storied foundation) including ancillary works for 560 Sainik of Artillery Battalion-2 at Ramu Cantt (Last Phase).	Ramu Cantt Tk.29,000.00 Tk.60,95,000.00 17 (Seventeen) Months
b Construction of 1 x 104 OR's family Qtr (14 storey with 14 storied foundation, 8 flat in each floor, other facilities in ground floor) including ancillary works for Purba area of 17 Div at Sylhet Cantt (4th Phase).	Sylhet Cantt Tk.30,000.00 Tk.63,10,000.00 17 (Seventeen) Months
c Construction of 1 x 104 OR's family Qtr (14 storey with 14 storied foundation, 8 flat in each floor, other facilities in ground floor) including ancillary works for 17 Inf Div at Sylhet Cantt (6th Phase).	Sylhet Cantt Tk.34,000.00 Tk.73,60,000.00 17 (Seventeen) Months
d Construction of 1 x Composite SMBK (05 storey with 06 storied foundation) including ancillary works for 2 Para Commando Battalion at Jalalabad Cantt (Last Phase).	Jalalabad Cantt Tk.24,000.00 Tk.50,90,000.00 17 (Seventeen) Months
e Construction of 1x20 (C/D type) Officer's Qtr (06 storey with 10 storied foundation, car parking & other facilities in ground floor) including ancillary works for HQ at Trishul Military Training area at Momenshahi Cantt (2nd Phase).	Momenshahi Cantt Tk.20,000.00 Tk.42,05,000.00 17 (Seventeen) Months
f Construction of SM BK (6 storey with 6 storied foundation) and CH/DH with Recreation room (2 storey with 2 storied fdn) including ancillary works for 2 x 210 Troops of STC&S at Jashore Cantt (Last Phase).	Jashore Cantt Tk.14,000.00 Tk.28,60,000.00 17 (Seventeen) Months
16. Contact details	Phone : 9832678, Mili: 2678, Fax : (02) 9833284 Web Site : <a href="http://www.army.mil.bd">www.army.mil.bd</a>
17. Special Instructions	a. Tenderer shall submit copy of letter of valid enlistment & security clearance with application when purchasing tender. b. Detailed requirements are mentioned in Tender Data sheet of Tender documents. c. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

DW & CE (Army)  
Dhaka Cantt

GD-210

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