

BRAC Bank rolls out Google Pay for Visa credit cards

STAR BUSINESS DESK

BRAC Bank PLC has launched Google Pay for its Visa credit cardholders, allowing customers to make fast, secure and contactless payments using Android smartphones at home and abroad.

With the launch, Visa credit card users of the bank can add their cards to Google Wallet and pay at millions of merchant outlets that support Google Pay, both locally and globally, according to a press release.

The service eliminates the need to carry physical cards for everyday transactions, offering greater convenience and

flexibility for domestic and international spending.

Google Pay, a mobile payment service, uses advanced encryption technology to



ensure that card details are never shared with merchants, while each transaction remains highly secure, making it a reliable digital payment solution.

To mark the launch, BRAC Bank is offering a 20 percent cashback on the

first Google Pay transaction and a 10 percent cashback on the second and third transactions. The campaign will remain valid for the first two months until March

31, 2026, subject to terms and conditions.

Commenting on the initiative, Tareq Refat Ullah Khan, managing director and CEO of BRAC Bank PLC, said the introduction of Google Pay for Visa credit cardholders marked another step forward in

the bank's digital transformation journey. "By combining global payment technology with our customer-first approach, we are enabling safer, faster and more convenient transactions anywhere in the world," he added.

The launch reflects BRAC Bank's continued commitment to expanding digital payment capabilities and enhancing customer experience, supporting the country's move towards a cashless economy, the release said.

In addition, City Bank PLC became the first local bank in Bangladesh to officially launch Google Pay (via Google Wallet) on June 24, 2025.

Rafiul Islam appointed DMD of Uttara Bank

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Md Rafiul Islam has recently been appointed deputy managing director (DMD) of Uttara Bank PLC.

Prior to taking up his new role, Islam was serving the bank as executive general manager, according to a press release. He started his banking career with Uttara Bank PLC as an officer in 1999. During his 26-year banking career, he worked in the ICT division, MIS department, development and support department, card department, stationery and records department, engineering department, anti-money laundering department, business promotion department and branches operation department.

Islam obtained a bachelor's degree in computer science and engineering (CSE) from Khulna University.



Md Rafiul Islam

Yen strengthens

REUTERS, London

The yen strengthened on Monday after Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's election victory, reversing six consecutive days of losses as traders bet fiscal stimulus will boost the stock market, while the US dollar eased against other major currencies.

The yen had initially pulled back slightly after Takaichi's win on Sunday, with the currency reaching its weakest in two weeks, but then strengthened as the trading day continued. The dollar was last around 0.4 percent lower against the yen at 156.56.

The yen also retraced losses against other currencies, which earlier saw it reach its weakest level on record against the Swiss franc and trade near the weakest point since the creation of the euro.



Zishan Ahammad, head of cards, ADC and internet banking of Bank Asia PLC, and Mamunur Rahman Shumon, director of sales and marketing of The Westin Dhaka, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement at the latter's office in Gulshan, Dhaka recently.

Bank Asia cardholders to enjoy Ramadan privileges at Westin Dhaka

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Bank Asia PLC has signed an agreement with The Westin Dhaka to offer Ramadan privileges for its credit cardholders.

Mamunur Rahman Shumon, director of sales and marketing of The Westin Dhaka, and Zishan Ahammad, head of cards, ADC and internet banking of Bank Asia PLC, signed the agreement at the former's office in Gulshan, Dhaka, on Sunday, according to a press release.

Under the strategic branding

agreement, the bank's cardholders will enjoy special buffet iftar offers, attractive discounts on takeaway iftar, and a range of additional benefits at The Westin Dhaka throughout the holy month of Ramadan.

The collaboration reflects Bank Asia's commitment to enhancing customer experience by offering added value and premium services during Ramadan, the release added.

Other officials from both organisations were also present.

Citizens Bank opens Aglabazar sub-branch in Nawabganj

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Citizens Bank PLC has launched a new sub-branch at Aglabazar in Nawabganj, Dhaka recently.

Alamgir Hossain, managing director of Citizens Bank PLC, inaugurated the sub-branch as the chief guest, according to a press release.

In his speech, Hossain emphasised that Citizens Bank will place a strong focus on the small and medium enterprise (SME) sector by offering tailored financing solutions, working capital support, trade finance facilities and advisory services to empower local entrepreneurs to expand their businesses and remain competitive.

He further mentioned that retail banking customers will benefit from

a wide range of deposit products, consumer loans, remittance services and modern digital banking solutions designed to meet evolving financial needs and contribute meaningfully to the socio-economic development of the communities

served by the bank.

Md Mostafizur Rahman and Md Abdul Latif, deputy managing directors, along with other senior officials of the bank, and local businesspersons from various sectors, were also present.



Alamgir Hossain, managing director of Citizens Bank PLC, inaugurates the bank's new sub-branch at Aglabazar in Nawabganj, Dhaka recently.

StanChart, Eastern Bank partner to boost export financing

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Standard Chartered Bank has signed a master receivable purchase agreement with Eastern Bank PLC to launch export receivables finance for financial institutions/banks (RFFI) in Bangladesh.

The programme uses the bank's global network and relationships with international buyer banks to support receivables financing for exporter clients of local partner banks at competitive rates.

The arrangement will help exporters of Eastern Bank receive early payments against deferred letters of credit. The solution is designed to improve liquidity and working capital by shortening the cash cycle and enabling access to funds before payment maturity.

Luthful Arefin Khan, country head of transaction banking at Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh, and Md Jabelul Alam, head of transaction banking at Eastern Bank PLC, signed the agreement in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Emphasising the significance of the partnership, Khan said, "Standard Chartered has consistently maintained a leadership position in facilitating cross-border trade flows



Md Jabelul Alam, head of transaction banking at Eastern Bank PLC, and Luthful Arefin Khan, country head of transaction banking at Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh, pose for a photograph during the agreement signing ceremony in Dhaka recently.

and correspondent banking solutions for our financial institution clients. "Through the RFFI programme, we are pleased to further strengthen our support across the export value chain as well. Eastern Bank has been a longstanding and trusted counterparty, and we appreciate their collaboration in advancing this strategic initiative," he added.

Commenting on the partnership, Alam said, "This partnership with Standard Chartered Bank reflects our commitment to delivering innovative trade finance solutions for our exporters. By improving access to timely liquidity, we aim to support sustainable business growth and strengthen Bangladesh's position in global trade."

With over 120 years of continuous presence in the country, Standard Chartered Bangladesh remains the only multinational universal bank in Bangladesh. Eastern Bank PLC is a leading private commercial bank in Bangladesh, serving retail, SME, corporate and non-resident Bangladeshi (NRB) customers.

Abandoning reforms

FROM PAGE B1

Warning of a recurring pattern in Bangladesh's political system, Adviser Ahmed said, "When one government does something, the next one labels it as bad and starts building something else. But development is cumulative. If someone has done something good, build on it."

"Our suggestion is: please consolidate some of the things we have done and move forward faster. You cannot go as slowly as before," he said.

He also highlighted the lack of

coordination across government as a major obstacle.

"It is extremely difficult to implement anything because of lack of coordination and resistance to reform," he said, recalling his tenure.

"I tell you, we tried. We had no personal agenda, no political agenda. We tried. And definitely Bangladesh is not in bad shape," said the adviser.

Also speaking at the event, KAS Murshid, former director general of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, said they have been asking

for reforms for a very long time.

"If you look at our economic history, significant reforms mostly happened only when the IMF was involved. Rarely have we independently decided that reforms were important and then implemented them."

He attributed this to political-economic constraints, saying most governments cannot handle the backlash. "Only under external pressure do we say: we have to carry these reforms through. But we need to move beyond this mindset."

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Civil Surgeon Manikganj

Email: manikganj@cs.dghs.gov.bd

Memo No. CS/manik/2026/142

Dated: 09.02.26

e-Tender Notice e-GP Tender (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP System Portal <http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>

SI No.	Tender ID & Reference No.	Name of work	Last selling date & time	Opening date & time
01	ID:1212322 Office of the Director (Health) Dt-23/9/2025 Memo No. 1096	Supply of manpower on monthly wage basis through outsourcing method for smooth operation and maintenance of the daily work of office Civil Surgeon Office Manikganj and different Upazila Health Complex Financial year 2025-2026 & 2026-2027	24-02-2026 12.00	24-02-2026 15.00

This is an online tender, where 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 have to be deposited online through and e-GP registered bank's branches within due time.

Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) or (email: www.cs.manikganj.gov.bd and call to 027710500). Interested person can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

Dr. AKM Mafakhkarul Islam
Civil Surgeon
Manikganj

GD-289

Technology Transfer Office

[HEAT Sub-Project No. 15006]

Jahangirnagar University

e-Tender Notice

The following e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of:

SI No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Reference No.	Description of goods	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
1	1211767	G-1	JU/PIN15006/TTO/G-1	Procurement of computers and ICT equipment for the TTO office: computers, projectors, printers, photocopiers, laptops, interactive flat panels, network systems, etc.	03.03.2026 & 16.00	04.03.2026 & 14.00	04.03.2026 & 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 an 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 must be deposited online through any registered bank branch.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from the e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Your Faithfully,

SPM

TTO-JU, HEAT-150006

Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka

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