

# NCC Bank launches green savings account 'NCC NeoX'

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NCC Bank PLC yesterday launched a fully digital, eco-friendly savings account, titled "NCC NeoX", under its retail banking portfolio.

With the slogan "Go Digital, Go Green", the initiative aims to promote sustainable banking practices while offering customers modern, convenient digital services.

Through the NCC NeoX account, customers can open accounts entirely online, complete e-KYC verification, and receive a recyclable debit card.

Funds deposited in the account will be channelled into green initiatives such as renewable energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture, according to a press release.

Md Nurun Newaz Salim, chairman of NCC Bank PLC, inaugurated the service as chief guest at the bank's annual conference in Dhaka and said the bank remains committed to advancing eco-friendly banking practices and contributing to global sustainable development goals.

"The NCC NeoX Savings Account offers customers an opportunity to engage in green financing while enjoying modern digital banking benefits and contributing to environmental protection," he said.

M Shamsul Arefin, managing director



**Md Nurun Newaz Salim, chairman of NCC Bank PLC, inaugurates the digital, eco-friendly savings account, titled "NCC NeoX", at the bank's annual conference in Dhaka yesterday.**

PHOTO: NCC BANK

of the bank, said the NCC NeoX account reflects the institution's focus on digital transformation and sustainability.

"This innovative service will not only provide customers with a seamless digital banking experience but also make them partners in long-term economic and environmental well-being," he said.

Customers will enjoy digital banking facilities, competitive interest rates,

free internet banking and SMS alerts, along with recognition as green banking partners.

Abdus Salam, vice-chairman of the bank; Amjadul Ferdous Chowdhury, director and former chairman; Tanzina Ali, director and former vice-chairman; Khairul Alam Chaklader, director and chairman of the executive committee; Syed Asif Nizamuddin, Md Moinuddin, Mohammed Sazzad Un Newaz, Shamima

Newaz, Morshedul Alam Chaklader and Nahid Banu, directors, attended the event.

Meer Sajed-Ul-Basher, independent director; Md Amirul Islam, independent director and chairman of the audit committee; MK Khurshed Alam, additional managing director; Md Habibur Rahman, deputy managing director; and SM Tanvir Hasan, head of the retail banking unit, were also present.

# China launches two probes into US trade practices

REUTERS, Beijing

China's commerce ministry has initiated two counter-probes into US practices that hamper the flow of Chinese products into the United States, it said on Friday, refraining from immediate retaliation to US measures announced earlier this month.

A trade truce between China and the US has held since US President Donald Trump met Chinese President Xi Jinping in October last year. Trump said earlier this week that he will visit Beijing in mid-May, as part of Washington's broader effort to reset relations in the Asia-Pacific region.

The two Chinese investigations - scheduled to conclude within six months, though they could be extended - are in response to two US Section 301 investigations against China, the ministry said in a statement, describing them as reciprocal.

## CHINA TO INVESTIGATE SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTION

The investigations will look into US trade practices and measures that "disrupt global supply and industrial chains" and "hinder trade in green products", the ministry said in separate statements.

These practices and measures restrict or prohibit both the entry of Chinese products to the US and US exports of high-tech products to China, it said.

The US also implemented measures that limit the exports of green products from the US and slow down the deployment of new energy projects, which might harm Chinese companies' interests, the ministry said.

Based on the findings of the investigations, China will take corresponding measures to defend its rights and interests, it said.

# BRAC Bank, Crowne Plaza partner to offer dining, lifestyle privileges

STAR BUSINESS DESK

BRAC Bank PLC has entered into a partnership agreement with Crowne Plaza Dhaka Airport hotel to offer its customers a range of premium lifestyle and dining privileges throughout the year.

Md Mahiul Islam, deputy managing director and head of retail banking at BRAC Bank PLC, and Nazmul Huda, cluster director of human resources at Crowne Plaza Dhaka Airport and InterContinental Dhaka, signed

the agreement in the capital recently, according to a press release.

As part of the collaboration, BRAC Bank cardholders can enjoy buy-one-get-one-free offers on buffet meals, including breakfast, lunch or brunch, dinner at Mosaic restaurant.

In addition, BRAC Bank customers will receive a 10 percent discount on à la carte dining at Mosaic, Connexions and House of Han, as well as 10 percent off services at the hotel's health

club, swimming pool and venue bookings.

Sujan Saha, cluster finance director of Crowne Plaza Dhaka Airport, and Md Nazrul Islam, cluster director of sales and marketing; Md Ashrafur Alam, head of alliances at the bank; AKM Shahadul Islam, head of employee banking; and Dipak Chandra Das, senior manager of merchant acquiring, were also present at the event, along with senior representatives from both organisations.



**Nazmul Huda, cluster director of human resources at Crowne Plaza Dhaka Airport and InterContinental Dhaka, and Md Mahiul Islam, deputy managing director and head of retail banking at BRAC Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement in the capital recently.**

PHOTO: BRAC BANK

# Gold demand improves in India as prices ease

REUTERS

Gold demand in India saw a slight uptick this week as softer bullion prices attracted some buyers, though many remained cautious and held off for further price drop, while premiums in China narrowed as physical demand slowed.

Bullion dealers in India offered discounts of up to \$61 per ounce over official domestic gold prices this week, down from as much as \$75 last week. These prices include 6 percent import duty and 3 percent sales tax.

Meanwhile, spot gold experienced volatile trading, flitting between \$4,100 and \$4,600 per ounce. Prices briefly touched a four-month low of \$4,097.99 on Monday, pressured by a stronger dollar and growing expectations of hawkish US monetary policy.

"Falling prices are helping revive interest in gold. However, prices remain well above levels seen last year, and many buyers are postponing purchases in hopes of a bigger fall," a Kolkata-based jeweller said.

Gold prices in India were trading around 141,000 rupees per 10 grams on Friday, after rising to 169,880 rupees earlier this month. Volatility in the rupee and global prices left jewellers sidelined, with many waiting until the financial year-end to make fresh purchases, said a Mumbai-based dealer with a private bank.



PHOTO: ALLIANCE FINANCE

**Jowher Rizvi, chairman of Alliance Finance PLC, inaugurates the celebratory programme organised by the company to mark its 8th anniversary in Dhaka recently. Kanti Kumar Saha, chief executive officer of the company, was also present.**

# Alliance Finance celebrates 8th anniversary

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Alliance Finance PLC, a joint venture finance company between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, recently celebrated its 8th anniversary, bringing together its clients, shareholders, directors, banking partners and other stakeholders.

The day marked a milestone in the company's journey in the country, reflecting its steady growth, commitment to excellence and strong partnerships over the years, according to a press release.

Jowher Rizvi, chairman of Alliance Finance PLC, inaugurated the celebratory programme organised by the company to mark its founding anniversary.

In his address, Rizvi expressed sincere appreciation to all stakeholders for their continued trust and support, while highlighting the company's achievements

and long-term vision.

Kanti Kumar Saha, chief executive officer of the non-bank financial institution, in his speech emphasised the company's strategic focus, progress and resilience in a dynamic financial landscape, as well as its commitment to delivering innovative, customer-focused solutions to build a sound portfolio.

He also outlined the company's future roadmap, focusing on sustainable growth, digital transformation and strengthening shareholder value.

Over the past eight years, Alliance Finance PLC has established itself as a reliable financial institution through its customer-centric approach, strong governance and strategic collaborations, helping it uphold its commitment to depositors as well as lenders.

Other senior officials of the company, among others, were also present.

# Ship insurers juggle war risks

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The cargo on board - from petrochemicals to containers - also requires insurance.

In addition, ships need war risk insurance - typically an annual premium - but that does not cover ships entering

the most active conflict zones, known as "listed" areas.

To do that, they must renegotiate another war risk premium.

"The annual (war risk) premium is not designed for a crisis," said Neil Roberts, head of marine

and aviation at the LMA.

## DANGER ZONES LIST

In early March, London's marine insurance market widened the "listed" areas in the Gulf region.

The system "enables underwriters to respond quickly and proportionately to areas

of increased risk", said Roberts, who sits on the committee that updates the list.

To price war risk premiums, underwriters are considering numerous factors such as the type, flag and owner of the vessel, as well as its size, speed and

cargo.

"We have seen some quotes where the underwriter has actually warranted that the vessel goes through at... full throttle," said Smith.

"That is deemed to be an improvement in the risk factor."

# What is the WTO

FROM PAGE B4

Sofia Scasserra of the Transnational Institute think tank said the moratorium has failed to bolster digital economies in developing countries, and instead entrenches dominance by US and other advanced Big Tech giants.

A United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) research paper in 2019 estimated that developing countries faced a potential tariff revenue loss of \$10 billion in 2017 from the moratorium.

However, an OECD study found the potential revenue loss could largely be offset

by value added tax or goods and services tax applied to imported digital services.

Four formal proposals have been submitted for the e-commerce moratorium at the Cameroon ministerial conference. The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group proposes extending the moratorium until the next ministerial conference. The US wants a permanent extension.

A group including Switzerland proposes a permanent extension and establishing a committee on digital trade, and a Brazil plan proposes extending until the next conference and creating a digital trade committee.

**The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd.**  
Gazipur-1703

**Local e-Tender for Supply, Installation & Data Migration of 2 (Two) Nos. Servers for SPCBL**

Local e-Tender is invited in The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd. (SPCBL)'s e-Tender site (<https://spcbltender.bb.org.bd>) for procurement of the following item for SPCBL as per e-Tender schedule. Necessary information is given below:

Sl. No.	e-Tender No.	Name of item	Date of publish	Last date & time for submission of e-Tender	Date & time for opening of e-Tender
1	21/2025-2026	Supply, Installation & Data Migration of 2 (Two) Nos. Servers for SPCBL	30/03/2026	13/04/2026 up to 11:30am	13/04/2026 at 11:45am

**For more details, Please visit/Contact the followings:**

Website: [www.spcbl.portal.gov.bd](http://www.spcbl.portal.gov.bd)  
Cell: +88-01952-665970  
Telephone: 02-2233755560-67, (Ext: 168)  
E-mail: [info@spcbl.org.bd](mailto:info@spcbl.org.bd)  
e-Tender site: <https://spcbltender.bb.org.bd>

**Md. Obaid Ullah Chowdhury**  
General Manager (Local Purchase & Sales)  
Phone: 02-223375558

GD-656

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
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Memo No. 25.36.7500.440.14/821 Dated : 29/03/2026

**Corrigendum Notice (Amendment)-1**

It is hereby notified to all concern that the following amendment have been made to the invitation of Work of Construction of 500 Bedded Hospital Building of Noakhali Medical College (10 storied Bldg. with 10 storied foundation in/c single Basement) Under the project of Establishment of 500 Bedded Hospital and Ancillary Building in Jeshore, Cox's Bazar, Pabna & Noakhali (1st Revised), Tender ID No : 1234634, Tender Package No: Nikhali.MCH/WD-01, vide Memo No 551 dated : 25/02/2026 due to unavoidable circumstances and the amendments shall be as follows.

Tender Notice field name	As Mentioned in original Tender Notice	To be Replaced
Document last selling date & time	29/03/2026 17:00	06/04/2026 17:00
Opening Date & Time	30/03/2026 17:00	07/04/2026 17:00
Last date & time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	30/03/2026 14:00	07/04/2026 14:00
Closing Date & Time	30/03/2026 17:00	07/04/2026 17:00
Brief Description of Goods, Works or Service	Construction of 10 Storied Hospital Building with 10 Storied Foundation in/c Single Basement For Noakhali Medical College, Noakhali.	Construction of 10 Storied Hospital Building with 10 Storied Foundation in/c Single Basement For Noakhali Medical College, Noakhali.

**Sayed**  
29-03-26  
Executive Engineer  
Noakhali P.W.D. Division.

GD-662