

# LG showcases AI-driven home solutions at InnoFest 2026 APAC

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LG Electronics has unveiled its latest innovation and growth strategy for the Asia-Pacific region at LG InnoFest 2026 APAC, highlighting region-specific home solutions and its vision for AI-powered living.

Held in Busan, South Korea, from April 7 to 10, the event marked the finale of LG's 2026 InnoFest series, bringing together more than 200 partners and media representatives from around 20 countries.

Under the theme "Innovation, Forward Together," LG presented a range of products tailored to Asian consumers, focusing on laundry, kitchen and built-in solutions suited to diverse housing conditions.

In the laundry segment, LG showcased an expanded WashTower lineup, including a new 25-inch model alongside existing variants, designed for

space efficiency. It also introduced top-load washers equipped with Artificial Intelligence Direct Drive technology to optimise washing performance.

The company highlighted its WashCombo all-in-one washer-dryer, powered by Inverter HeatPump technology, offering improved energy efficiency. Commercial laundry solutions for high-frequency use were also presented, with plans for global expansion.

In the kitchen segment, LG introduced refrigerators with its Fit & Max design, enabling seamless installation in compact spaces, along with multiple ice-making options. Its latest dishwasher features a one-hour wash-and-dry cycle with enhanced cleaning and drying performance.

LG also unveiled a built-in kitchen lineup for Southeast Asia, including a Camera Oven that can identify ingredients and recommend cooking modes.



**Jaeseung Kim, regional CEO for Asia-Pacific at LG Electronics, attends the launch of the company's latest innovation and growth strategy for the Asia-Pacific region at LG InnoFest 2026 APAC in Busan, South Korea recently.** PHOTO: LG ELECTRONICS



**Anwar Hossain Chowdhury, managing director of SME Foundation, and ANM Mahfuz, additional managing director of Bank Asia PLC, pose for a photograph during the signing ceremony of the agreements in Dhaka recently.** PHOTO: BANK ASIA

## Bank Asia signs deals with SME Foundation to ease financing

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Bank Asia PLC has signed two agreements with SME Foundation to provide small and medium enterprise (SME) entrepreneurs with easier access to financing on affordable terms.

ANM Mahfuz, additional managing director of Bank Asia PLC, and Anwar Hossain Chowdhury, managing director of SME Foundation, signed the agreements in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Under the SME Foundation's refinance fund through the Credit Wholesaling

Programme, entrepreneurs will be able to avail loans at an interest rate of 8 percent.

Under another programme supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency through Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Limited, SME entrepreneurs will be able to access loans at an interest rate of 9 percent.

Khandakar Abdul Mukhtar, minister for industries, commerce, and textiles and jute, attended the event as the chief guest. Md Obaidur Rahman, chairman of SME Foundation and secretary of the Ministry of Industries, presided over the programme.

## Sakib Ahmed elected chairman of Shahjalal Islami Bank Securities

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Khandaker Sakib Ahmed has been elected chairman of Shahjalal Islami Bank Securities Limited.

The election took place at the company's 92nd board meeting held in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Ahmed is one of the sponsors and directors of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC. He is also the chairman of Own the World Company Limited, Own the World Hajj & Umrah Limited and Intech Limited. With more than three decades of business experience, he serves as a director of AQUA Consultants & Associates Ltd, a shareholder of Millennium Information Solution Limited, and a partner of Innovio IT. He completed his MBA degree.

At the same meeting, Mohiuddin Ahmed was re-elected and Md Jafar Sadeq was elected as vice-chairman.

Mohiuddin is the proprietor of Rupsha Trading Corporation and Mohiuddin Auto House, and chairman of Pacific Automobiles. He is also the vice-chairman of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC and a sponsor shareholder of Islami Insurance Bangladesh Ltd.

He previously served as vice-chairman and a member of the governing body of Southeast University, and as a director of the Bangladesh Chamber of Industries.

Jafar Sadeq, the other vice-chairman, has been serving as deputy managing director and chief financial officer of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC. He is a fellow chartered accountant (FCA) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh.

He began his career in 2002 with Hoda Vasi Chowdhury, Chartered Accountants, and later joined ONE Bank PLC before moving to Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC in 2006.

With over 20 years of experience in the banking sector, Sadeq is regarded as a seasoned finance professional.



**Khandaker Sakib Ahmed**

## BRAC Bank's branch distribution network logs Tk 2,100cr deposit growth in Q1



**Tareq Refat Ullah Khan, managing director and CEO of BRAC Bank PLC, inaugurates a celebration marking the bank's net current account and savings account deposit growth of Tk 2,100 crore in the first quarter of 2026 at its head office in Dhaka recently.** PHOTO: BRAC BANK

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BRAC Bank's branch distribution network has reported a net current account and savings account (CASA) deposit growth of Tk 2,100 crore in the first quarter of 2026 – one of the strongest deposit performances in this segment in the bank's history.

This achievement reflects sustained customer confidence, deep-rooted client relationships, and the bank's continued focus on building a resilient, diversified funding base, according to a press release.

Driven by the dedication of its nationwide branch network – spanning 310 branches and sub-branches – and complemented by seamless digital channels, the growth underscores the bank's ability to mobilise stable, low-cost deposits at scale.

This strong deposit momentum enhances the bank's capacity to extend financing across key sectors, supporting industrialisation, entrepreneurship, and overall economic development in Bangladesh.



**Mohammad Mustafa Haider, managing director of Samuda Group, and Faisal Rahman, additional managing director of Prime Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing a cash management agreement at the bank's corporate office in Gulshan, Dhaka recently.** PHOTO: PRIME BANK

## Pubali Bank launches co-branded credit cards with InterContinental Dhaka

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Pubali Bank PLC and InterContinental Dhaka have launched co-branded credit cards at the latter's office in the capital recently.

Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman Bhuiyan, managing director of Bangladesh Services Ltd – owner of InterContinental Dhaka, and Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of the bank, jointly inaugurated the cards, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, all employees of InterContinental Dhaka will receive co-branded credit cards bearing the logos of both organisations.

Mohammad Mozammel Hoque, company secretary of Bangladesh Services Ltd, and Olivier Claude Loreaux, director of food and beverage at InterContinental Dhaka, attended



**Mohammad Ali, managing director and CEO of Pubali Bank PLC, and Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman Bhuiyan, managing director of Bangladesh Services Ltd, which owns InterContinental Dhaka, attend the launch of co-branded credit cards at the hotel in the capital recently.**

strengthening professional communities, and expanding inclusive, customer-focused to delivering tailored financial solutions, banking services, the release added.

## Transaction-based

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According to the central bank, these rates will be calculated using a volume-weighted mean method so that larger transactions carry greater weight in the final figure.

This means if one bank borrows Tk 100 crore and another borrows Tk 5 crore, the larger deal will have a proportionately bigger influence on the average rate.

To prevent unusual deals from skewing the outcome, the BB will apply statistical techniques to filter out outliers.

For example, an exceptionally high lending rate on a single transaction

would not be allowed to distort the benchmark. Similarly, if trading is thin on a particular day, the calculation will draw on data from recent working days to ensure stability.

The central bank expects the new framework to provide a dependable benchmark for pricing loans, bonds and floating rate instruments, and to support the development of new investment products.

Officials said the rates have been tested on a trial basis since March. They added that the system will be refined through regular monitoring and annual reviews.

| BANGLADESH KRISHI BANK<br>83-85 Motijheel C/A<br>Head Office, Dhaka.  |   |
|---|---|
| Invitation for Enlistment   |   |
| 01. Ministry/ Division  | Ministry of Finance/Bank & Financial Institute Division.  |
| 02. Agency  | Bangladesh Krishi Bank  |
| 03. Procuring Entity Name   | Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Estate & Engineering Department.  |
| 04. Procuring Entity District   | Dhaka   |
| 05. Invitation for Enlistment Category-1 General Category   | Enlistment Category: (for 2026-2027)<br>1. Civil works.<br>2. Electrical works.<br>3. Mechanical works.<br>4. Supply of Electrical Goods.   |
| 06. Category-2 Social Procurement Category (Only For Micro & Small Enterprise, Woman Owned Enterprise & New Enterprise)   | Enlistment Category: (for 2026-2027)<br>1. Civil works.<br>2. Electrical works.<br>3. Mechanical works.<br>4. Supply of Electrical Goods.   |
| 07. Invitation Ref No.  | HO/EEED-24(I)/2025-2026/926   |
| 08. Invitation for Enlistment No. & Date  | 08/2025-2026, 09-04-2026  |
| KEY INFORMATION   |   |
| 09. Procurement Method: Enlistment for Limited Tendering Method   |   |
| PARTICULAR INFORMATION  |   |
| 10. Application Closing Date and Time   | Date: 03-05-2026 Time: 11:30 - AM   |
| 11. Application Opening Date and Time   | 03-05-2026 12:30 - PM   |
| 12. Name & Address of the Office (s)  | Address   |
| -Application form Availability  | Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Estate & Engineering Department (8th floor), Head Office, 83-85 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.   |
| -Receiving Application Form   | Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Estate & Engineering Department (8th floor), Head Office, 83-85 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.   |
| INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT   |   |
| 13. (1.1) Eligibility of Applicant (Both Category)  | a. Must have valid & updated Trade License.<br>b. Must have valid e-TIN Certificate.<br>c. Must have Updated Income Tax Certificate.<br>d. Must have valid VAT Registration Certificate.<br>e. Affidavit/Article of Association of the firm for the new applicant of Enlistment.<br>f. Must have up to dated ABC/BC/C category contractor & supervisory license (For Electrical works only) from electricity License. |
| 13.2) Eligibility For General Category (Category-1)   | a. Minimum 2 (Two) Years Experience in respective field.<br>b. Other documents detailed in Application Form for Enlistment.   |
| 13.3) Eligibility For Social Procurement Category (Category-2)  | a. Enterprise must have contract/contracts not more than 01 crore over the preceding three years (Micro & Small Enterprise).<br>b. Enterprise owned by a woman (Woman owned enterprise).<br>c. Must have trade license first issued within last two years from publication of IFE (New Enterprise).<br>d. Other documents detailed in Application Form for Enlistment.  |
| 14. Price of Application Form   | 500/-+vat (Non refundable).   |
| ENLISTMENT /RENEWAL FEE   |   |
| 15. (1.1) Enlistment /Renewal Fee (Category-1) (In the form of Payment Order/Demand Draft in favour of Bangladesh Krishi Bank at the time of Submission of the enlistment application.) | a. Tk. 5000/- (Five Thousand) only for each Category. (For New Enlistment) (Non refundable).<br>b. Tk. 2000/- (Two thousand) only for each Category (For Renewal) (Non refundable).   |
| 15.2) Enlistment /Renewal Fee (Category-2) (In the form of Payment Order/Demand Draft in favour of Bangladesh Krishi Bank at the time of Submission of the enlistment application.)     | a. Tk. 5000/- (Five Thousand) only for New enlistment and Tk.2000/- (Two thousand) only for Renewal which will be applicable for (1) Micro and small enterprise & (2) New enterprise Category. ((Non refundable).<br>b. Tk. 3000/- (Three Thousand) only for new enlistment & 1500/- (One Thousand Five Hundred) for Renewal for Woman-owned enterprise (Non refundable).   |
| PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS  |   |
| 16. Name of Official Inviting Application   | Md. Anowarul Azim Khan  |
| 17. Designation of Official Inviting Application  | Deputy General Manager  |
| 18. Contract details of Official Inviting Application   | Tel: 02/223384539<br>Email: dgengineering@krishibank.org.bd   |
| 19. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept/reject all applications.  |   |

**ওয়েস্ট জোন পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড (ওজোপাডিকো)**  
**WEST ZONE POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED**  
(An enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)  
Office of the Superintending Engineer, Procurement & Store, WZPDCL, Khulna.  
www.wzpdcl.gov.bd, e-mail: wz.procurement@gmail.com

Memo No: 27.22.4785.007.74.008.25.625 Date: 12/04/2026

**e-Tender Notice (ICT)**

E-Tender for the office of the Superintending Engineer (P&S) invites in the National e-GP system Portal of Bangladesh (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following Goods:

| Sl | Tender ID | Name of Tender  |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1  | 1164182   | Supply and Delivery of 06 Nos insulating oil testing set (to be supplied to the central store of WZPDCL in Khulna). |

This is an Online Tender, Where only e-tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration required in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd).

(Engr. Md. Shafiqul Islam)  
Superintending Engineer (P&S), WZPDCL, Khulna.