

PBIL, Korean chamber to boost investment, capital market access

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank Investment PLC (PBIL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Korea Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KBCCI) to enhance capital market access for KBCCI members and facilitate potential Korean investment inflows into Bangladesh.

Under the agreement, PBIL will offer KBCCI members a range of investment banking and capital market solutions, including advisory services, capital-raising support, portfolio management, and its PrimeInvest discretionary product suite on preferential terms.

Both organisations will also jointly explore opportunities to attract Korean foreign direct investment (FDI) into Bangladesh across priority sectors.

The collaboration will further address policy perspectives, investment climate challenges, and market development priorities, with a focus on improving investor confidence, strengthening market access, and promoting

sustainable economic growth through private sector engagement.

Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and chief executive officer of PBIL, and Shahab Uddin Khan, president of KBCCI, signed the MoU at the latter's office in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Tayub said the partnership reflects PBIL's commitment to facilitating strategic investments and delivering innovative financial solutions for both institutional and individual investors.

"We believe this collaboration will strengthen Korea-Bangladesh investment connectivity and create new avenues for foreign investment and diaspora engagement," he added.

Khan said Bangladesh offers strong long-term potential for Korean investors as the country continues to expand its industrial and economic capabilities.

"Through this partnership, we aim to build a more effective platform to connect Korean investors and KBCCI members with Bangladesh's capital market ecosystem," he said.



Shahab Uddin Khan, president of the Korea Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Syed M Omar Tayub, managing director and chief executive officer of Prime Bank Investment PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the memorandum of understanding at the chamber's office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: PBIL

Abdul Quaium made AMD of SBAC Bank

STAR BUSINESS DESK

SBAC Bank PLC has appointed Abdul Quaium Chowdhury as additional managing director (AMD).

Prior to joining SBAC Bank, Abdul Quaium served as deputy managing director (DMD) of Premier Bank PLC, according to a press release.

In 2023, he joined Premier Bank PLC as deputy managing director and carried out his responsibilities with dedication and success.

With over three decades of banking experience, he has worked at leading banks and built a strong record of leadership and professionalism.

Chowdhury began his banking career at IFIC Bank PLC as a probationary officer in 1994.

He later served in Southeast Bank PLC and worked in different capacities.

He obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in international relations from the University of Dhaka.



Abdul Quaium Chowdhury

Pubali Bank cardholders to get discounts on Novoair tickets



PHOTO: PUBALI BANK

Sohail Majid, director of marketing and sales of Novoair, and NM Firoz Kamal, deputy general manager and head of the card business division of Pubali Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the memorandum of understanding at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Pubali Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Novoair, a Dhaka-based private airline, to offer benefits to its cardholders.

NM Firoz Kamal, deputy general manager and head of the card business division of the bank, and Sohail Majid, director of marketing and sales of the private airline, signed the MoU at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, all Pubali Mastercard World credit cardholders will receive a 20 percent discount, while other Pubali cardholders will enjoy a 10 percent discount on tickets purchased through the Novoair app and sales counters.

Md Saiful Islam, senior officer for marketing and strategic alliance of the bank, was also present, along with other senior officials from both organisations.

BRAC Bank's Tara celebrates 9th anniversary

STAR BUSINESS DESK

BRAC Bank's women's banking initiative, Tara, has marked its ninth anniversary, bringing half a million women in Bangladesh under a single, purpose-driven banking proposition.

Launched in 2017, the platform has grown into a two-wing ecosystem – Tara Retail and Tara SME – now accounting for around 25 percent of the bank's retail deposit portfolio held by women.

Tara Retail serves over 350,000 customers, with deposits exceeding Tk 14,000 crore, while the SME segment supports more than 128,000 women entrepreneurs with loans of over Tk 2,600 crore.

Over the years, Tara has expanded access through products such as the Homemaker Account and digital savings solutions, while also promoting financial awareness through targeted programmes and training.

Commenting on the platform's accomplishments, Tareq Refat Ullah Khan,

managing director and CEO of the bank, said, "Tara was built on the conviction that women are not a niche to be served, but a market to be served well."

Products such as the Homemaker Account and the Tara Virtual Savings Account have improved access by removing income barriers and enabling fully digital banking.

The initiative also integrates life events such as Mother's Day and Breast Cancer Awareness Month into customer engagement programmes, while training 120 frontline staff under its Ambassador Training initiative.

It has maintained a non-performing loan ratio of 1.14 percent while expanding services beyond finance into training, market access, and digital skills.

Programmes such as Uddokta Mela, Uddokta 101, and nationwide training initiatives have reached thousands of entrepreneurs across Bangladesh, helping improve business capacity and financial inclusion.

MTB Capital opens relocated corporate office in Mohakhali

STAR BUSINESS DESK

MTB Capital PLC, a subsidiary of Mutual Trust Bank PLC (MTB), has launched its relocated corporate office at Ejab Flora Unity Tower in Mohakhali, Dhaka.

Shib Narayan Kairy, chairman of MTB Capital PLC and independent director of Mutual Trust Bank PLC, inaugurated the office as the chief guest, according to a press release.

Zareen Mahmud Hossain, vice-chairman of MTB Capital PLC and independent director of MTB, and Syed Mahbubur Rahman, director of MTB Capital PLC and managing director and CEO of MTB, were present at the programme.



Shib Narayan Kairy, chairman of MTB Capital PLC and independent director of Mutual Trust Bank PLC, inaugurates the non-bank financial institution's relocated corporate office at Ejab Flora Unity Tower in Mohakhali, Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: MUTUAL TRUST BANK

Demand for ADB financing

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Bangladesh stood at \$784.7 million as of 31 December 2024, representing 5.21 percent of ADB's total private sector portfolio.

ADB's cumulative public and private sector loan and grant disbursements to Bangladesh amount to \$27.48 billion, according to the bank.

"We are very, very active in the Bangladesh market," she said.

ADB's private sector operations include financing trade and supply chains, the microfinance programme, and energy projects.

Under the microfinance programme, ADB works through financial entities in Bangladesh,

which in turn support microfinance activities.

"So, what we do is we give them loans," she said. "In our case, it depends on demand from the banks, and it could vary, but very often these credit lines get disbursed very quickly."

But disbursement slows in the event of unexpected developments in an economy, in what she described as "a natural catastrophe or other unforeseen events."

Chatterton said demand for loans from the private sector keeps growing, and banks and microfinance institutions know that their sectors are doing very, very well.

She said ADB's microfinance

programme has helped mobilise \$800 million for microfinance institutions in Bangladesh.

The ADB, in October last year, signed a \$30 million agreement with Envoy Textiles under its sustainability-linked loans programme. Such loans are performance-based instruments tied to measurable indicators, such as rooftop solar capacity and greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

Chatterton said such initiatives are going to incentivise emissions reductions in the textile sector.

"As many of you know, Bangladesh is well known for its thriving garment manufacturing industry. We were very pleased last year to support Envoy through our engagement."

Urea supply concerns surface

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"It will not work if you think about it in a typical way. It will have to be given top priority. There is not much time. This must also be understood, as the issue of food security is linked to fertiliser," he said.

Jahangir Alam Khan, an agri economist, said the immediate shortfall is manageable, but the country needs to address structural vulnerability in fertiliser sourcing.

"We need to diversify supply sources instead of depending mainly on Gulf nations," he told The Daily Star.

Another economist, Abdul Bayes, said diplomatic engagement, including maintaining ties with Iran, may be necessary to ensure the smooth passage of fertiliser

shipments through the Hormuz.

He said that transparent and timely tendering is critical to preventing cost escalation and ensuring stable supply.

Disruptions in fertiliser, fuel and other agricultural inputs linked to Gulf tensions could pose risks to food production if not managed carefully, he added.

Officials say efforts are underway to secure supplies from countries less exposed to Middle East shipping risks.

BCIC Chairman Rahman said potential alternative sources include Malaysia, Brunei, Russia, Vietnam, Egypt and Azerbaijan, subject to commercial viability and diplomatic clearance.

Separately, BCIC has initiated

steps to import 80,000 tonnes of urea from the Middle East under a government-to-government arrangement. However, a tender to hire vessels reportedly received no response.

On condition of anonymity, a senior official at Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADCO) said that Saudi Arabia has committed to supplying two monthly shipments totalling 80,000 tonnes once conditions stabilise. A shipment from Morocco is expected in May.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), urea prices have risen by as much as 19 percent in recent weeks amid Middle East tensions. Prolonged disruption could raise import costs further and increase food prices globally.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
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রাজশাহী মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার্স
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ই-জিপি দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

স্মারক নং ৪৪.০১.০০০০.৯৮৮.৩৪.০২১.২৩.১০২ তারিখ: মে/২০২৬ খ্রি।

রাজশাহী মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ রেশন স্টোরের ২০২৬-২০২৭ অর্থ বছরের ১ম কোয়ার্টারের (জুলাই/২০২৬ হতে সেপ্টেম্বর/২০২৬) মদর ডাল, ভোজ্য তেল, পোশাও চাল, জ্বালানীকাঠ ক্রম, গম পেছাই এবং রেশন সামগ্রী পরিবহণ ও কুলি ঠিকাদার নিয়োগের জন্য পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা-২০২৫ অনুসারে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে ই-জিপি ডেতার আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ
২	সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
৩	দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রধান	পুলিশ কমিশনার, আরএমপি, রাজশাহী।
৪	কি কারণে দরপত্র আহ্বান	রেশন সামগ্রী মদর ডাল, ভোজ্য তেল, পোশাও চাল, জ্বালানীকাঠ ক্রম, গম পেছাই, পরিবহন ও কুলি ঠিকাদার নিয়োগ।
৫	দরপত্র সূত্র নং	৪৪.০১.০০০০.৯৮৮.৩৪.০২১.২৩.১০২
৬	তারিখ	০৬/০৫/২০২৬ খ্রি।
৭	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র
৮	বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত	রাজস্ব খাত
৯	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	০৬/০৫/২০২৬ খ্রি।
১০	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	২০/০৫/২০২৬ খ্রি ১৭.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত
১১	দরপত্র জমা প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২১/০৫/২০২৬ খ্রি বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত
১২	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২১/০৫/২০২৬ খ্রি বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা
১৩	দরপত্র প্যাকেজের বিবরণ :-	

আইটেমের নাম	টেন্ডার আইডি
মদর ডাল	১২৬৯০৩০
ভোজ্য তেল	১২৬৯০৪৩
গম পেছাই	১২৬৯০৫৬
পোশাও চাল	১২৬৯০৭৩
জ্বালানীকাঠ	১২৬৯০৯৫
পরিবহন ও কুলি	১২৬৯১০২

দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারীর বিবরণঃ

১৪	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	মোহাম্মদ খোরশেদ আলম, পিপিএম
১৫	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সদর)
১৬	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	রাজশাহী মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ, রাজশাহী।
১৭	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম	ফোন নং-০২৫৮৮০১৩০৫

05/05/26
মোহাম্মদ খোরশেদ আলম, পিপিএম
বিপি নং-৭৭০৫১১৯৮০
উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সদর) ও প্রশাসন
(অতিরিক্ত ডিআইজি পদে পদোন্নতিপ্রাপ্ত)
পক্ষে পুলিশ কমিশনার
রাজশাহী মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ, রাজশাহী।
ফোন-০২৫৮৮০১৩০৫ ফ্যাক্স-০২৫৮৮০১৩০২
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