

Prime Bank clients to get BMW service benefits from Executive Motors

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC recently signed an agreement with Executive Motors Limited, the sole authorised importer and dealer of BMW automobiles in Bangladesh, to provide service facilities for its customers.

Mamur Ahmed, senior executive vice-president and head of distribution of the bank, and Ashique Un Nabi, director of operations of the automobile company, signed the agreement at a ceremony held at Forum Meghna Tower on Tejgaon-Gulshan Link Road in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Under this partnership, Prime Bank customers will enjoy service benefits and special offers from Executive Motors Limited, a concern of the Meghna Group.

The collaboration reflects Prime Bank's commitment to delivering enhanced lifestyle privileges and value-added services to its customers through strategic partnerships with leading brands, the release added.



Ashique Un Nabi, director of operations of Executive Motors Limited, and Mamur Ahmed, senior executive vice-president and head of distribution of Prime Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement at Forum Meghna Tower on Tejgaon-Gulshan Link Road in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK

Akij Ceramics opens three showrooms



Mohammad Khourshed Alam, deputy managing director of AkijBashir Group, inaugurates an Akij Ceramics showroom at Delta Gate on Karimpur Road in Chowmuhan recently.

PHOTO: AKIJ CERAMICS

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Akij Ceramics has opened three new showrooms in Noakhali, Lakshmipur and Cumilla, strengthening its nationwide retail presence.

The newly inaugurated showrooms are Sanjida Traders in Noakhali, Mohsena Mosaic & Sanitary in Lakshmipur, and Manha Tiles World in Cumilla.

Mohammad Khourshed Alam, deputy managing director of AkijBashir Group, inaugurated the showrooms as the chief guest, according to a press release.

The Noakhali and Lakshmipur showrooms were inaugurated on June 21, while the Cumilla showroom was inaugurated on June 22.

Designed with modern tile displays, contemporary interiors and advanced display solutions, the new showrooms will offer customers an enhanced product experience.

Customers will be able to explore a wide range of modern tiles and newly introduced products in a more convenient and engaging environment.

Midland Bank approves 6% dividend for 2025

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Midland Bank PLC approved a 6 percent dividend, including a 3 percent cash dividend, for the year that ended on December 31, 2025.

The approval was given at the bank's 13th annual general meeting (AGM), which was held virtually yesterday, according to a press release.

Ahsan Khan Chowdhury, chairman of the bank, presided over the meeting.

Rezaul Karim, chairman of the executive committee; Riaz Ahmed Choudhury, independent director and chairman of the audit committee; and Hafizur Rahman Sarker and Mohammed Helal Miah, directors, joined the AGM.

A large number of general and institutional shareholders attended the AGM physically, alongside participation through the digital AGM platform.



Ahsan Khan Chowdhury, chairman of Midland Bank PLC, attends the bank's 13th annual general meeting, held at BN Sagorika Hall at Naval Headquarters in Dhaka yesterday. The meeting approved a 6 percent dividend, including a 3 percent cash dividend, for 2025.

PHOTO: MIDLAND BANK

Mercantile Bank holds 27th AGM

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mercantile Bank PLC held its 27th annual general meeting (AGM) virtually yesterday.

Md Anwarul Haq, chairman of the bank, presided over the meeting, according to a press release.

In his speech, he attributed the successes achieved in 2025 to the trust of customers, the cooperation of regulatory authorities, and the collective efforts of all stakeholders, and expressed his sincere gratitude to everyone involved.

The bank's chairman highlighted the institution's achievements in leveraging advanced technology, implementing sound risk management practices, and significantly reducing non-performing loans.

support the bank's sustainable growth.

The bank reported consolidated earnings per share of Tk 1.10, net asset value per share of Tk 24.35, and net operating cash flow per share of Tk 5.95 for the year ended December 31, 2025.

Akram Hossain Humayun and Md Abdul Hannan, vice-chairman of the bank; MA Khan Belal, chairman of the executive committee; Mohammad Abdul Awal, chairman of the risk management committee; Prof Md Rezaul Kabir, chairman of the audit committee and independent director; AS M Feroz Alam, M Amanullah and Mosharref Hossain, directors; and Prof Mohammad Thoufiqul Islam and Prof Nasrin Sultana, independent directors, joined the AGM.

A number of shareholders and sponsors



Md Anwarul Haq, chairman of Mercantile Bank PLC, attends the bank's 27th annual general meeting (AGM) held virtually yesterday.

PHOTO: MERCANTILE BANK

He emphasised the bank's forward-looking policies and capital strengthening measures aimed at ensuring risk-free future growth, which would safeguard the long-term interests of shareholders.

Mati Ul Hasan, managing director of the bank, presented its overall performance in 2025 and outlined the roadmap for 2026.

He said that, alongside delivering technology-driven modern banking services, the bank remains firmly committed to reducing NPLs to a minimum in the coming years. He also highlighted the strategic initiatives undertaken to

virtually attended the meeting from across the country. They approved the balance sheet and other agenda items at the meeting.

Tapash Chandra Paul, deputy managing director and chief financial officer; Mohammad Rezaul Karim, company secretary; Md Zakir Hossain, Shamim Ahmed, Ashim Kumar Saha, Md Zahid Hossain and Shah Md Sohel Khurshid, deputy managing directors; and Mohammad Iqbal Rezwan, Md Abdul Halim and Md Abdul Awal, senior executive vice-presidents, were also present.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Office of the Superintendent of Police
Gopalganj

Invitation For Re-Tender

Ref No:2330/Part1, Date:24/06/2026

For The Financial Year 2026-2027 1st Quarter Ration (July/2026 to September/2026) e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of the following Items.

Sl.	Description	Tender ID	Procurement Method	Online Tender Publication Date & Time	Online Tender Closing Date & Time
1.	Procurement of Edible Oil for the financial year 2026-2027 (1st Quarter) at Gopalganj	1287652	OTM	24-Jun-2026 16:30 PM	01-Jul-2026 16:00 PM

This is an online re-tender, where only e-tenderer 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 (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-tender document from the national e-GP portal have to be deposited online through any branch of any registered bank within the date mentioned in the tender notice. Further information & guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

The Procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all Tenders.

(Signature)
(Md. Habibullah)
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GD-1628

AI shifts from threat

FROM PAGE B1

Senior software engineer Shadman Sakib Sorbo warned that Bangladesh's software export model still relies heavily on cost advantages in low-to-medium complexity work.

"AI is reshaping the global software industry, and Bangladesh is no exception. As someone working in this space, I see both real opportunities and real concerns," he added.

Sorbo said entry-level and repetitive coding jobs are now most at risk.

"These roles have traditionally been the entry point for fresh graduates into the software industry. If AI takes over boilerplate code and routine tasks, junior developers may find it harder to get started."

He also warned of wage pressure across the sector.

"As AI reduces the cost of basic software work globally, clients may expect more for less. If the local industry does not upskill quickly, higher-value AI-driven work could move to more advanced markets," he said.

At the same time, he said AI is creating new opportunities.

"AI is a powerful productivity tool. Developers who learn to use AI for code generation, testing and debugging can become far more competitive globally," he said.

He added that new roles are emerging, including prompt engineering, AI model fine-tuning, data

annotation and AI quality assurance.

"Our large, young and tech-focused workforce is a major advantage in this shift," he said.

Rezvanul Haque Jami, chief executive officer of Digibox Limited, said AI's impact is already visible in hiring patterns.

"In my company, I used to hire fresh software developers regularly. Now, a senior developer using AI tools like Claude can effectively do the work of two or three junior coders," he said.

"I have not hired a fresher in over a year," he added.

Jami also said that tasks such as prototyping and wireframing, which once required significant manpower, are increasingly being automated by AI tools.

ADAPT OR FALL BEHIND

Industry experts agree on one point: AI will not eliminate jobs overnight, but it is already reshaping the software industry.

The divide, they say, will increasingly be between those who adapt and those who fail to keep pace.

"AI will not eliminate Bangladeshi tech jobs overnight, but it will sharply separate those who adapt from those who do not," said Sorbo.

"The time to invest in AI literacy -- in universities, bootcamps and companies -- is now, not after the transformation fully arrives," he added.

SME Foundation

FROM PAGE B1

As part of the government's "One Village, One Product" initiative, an initial allocation of Tk 300 crore has been proposed for the development of the creative economy sector in fiscal year 2026-27.

The SME Foundation recommended that at least Tk 100 crore from this allocation be earmarked for the foundation.

It also suggested allocating at least Tk 5,000 crore specifically for the foundation.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Environment
Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project
9th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban New Building
E/16 Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
www.doe.gov.bd

Request for Expression of Interest (Re-EoI) for Selection of Consultant Firm/ Organization (National)

1.	Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
2.	Agency	: Department of Environment (DoE)
3.	Procuring Entity Name	: Project Director
4.	Procuring Entity District	: Dhaka
5.	Expression of Interest for	: Consultant Firm (National)
6.	Title of Service	: Development of Biodiversity Register for Halda Biodiversity Heritage and Morjat Baor Ecologically Critical Area (ECA)
7.	EoI Ref No	: 22.02.0000.045.14.015.25-601
8.	Date	: 24 June 2026

Key Information

9.	Procuring Method	: Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)
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Funding Information

10.	Budget and Source of Funds	: Global Environment Facility (GEF)
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Particular Information

12.	Project Code	: 223053500
13.	Project Name	: Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project
14.	EoI Closing Date and Time	: 19 July 2026, 02:00 pm

Information for Applicants:

15. Eligibility of the Consulting firm/organization:

- a) The consulting firm must have **minimum 10 years of experience** in biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, ecosystem assessment, or related areas.
- b) Experience in conducting **biodiversity assessments, biodiversity registers, or ecological studies**.
- c) Successful completion of **at least one similar assignment in the last 10 years**.
- d) Submission of audited financial report of 2023-24
- e) Submission of bank solvency certificate and financial statements.
- f) Submission of VAT registration, Tax identification certificate and updated tax payment documents.
- g) Valid trade license and registration documents.

16. Other Details (if applicable): The Terms of References (ToR) for the services including the scope of works, deliverables, team composition with educational qualifications, and experiences are available on the DoE's official website (www.doe.gov.bd). Applicants are advised to provide all the necessary information and proven documents with a cover letter. One original and two copies of the EoI must be submitted in a sealed envelope and be clearly marked the title of service for the EoI.

Procuring Entity Details

17.	Name of Official Inviting EoI	: Farhana Mustari
18.	Designation of Official Inviting EoI	: Project Director, Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh Project
19.	Address of Official Inviting EoI	: Department of Environment 8 th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban New Building E/16 Agargaon Administrative Area Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
20.	Contact details of Official Inviting EoI	: Phone: +880-2222218305, Email: fmmunni@yahoo.com
21.	Place of submission of EoI	: Office of the Project Director, Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh 8 th Floor, Room: 903, Poribesh Bhaban E/16 Agargaon Administrative Area Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

22. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EoIs.

The Department of Environment (DoE) is implementing a project titled **"Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh"**. The project aims to apply an ecosystem-based framework for managing Morjat Baor Ecologically Critical Areas (ECAs) in Jhenaidah and proposed Biodiversity Heritage Halda river in Chittagong in Bangladesh to enhance the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and support local livelihoods. The Project period is July 2024 to June 2029.

(Signature)
Project Director
Email: fmmunni@yahoo.com

GD-1625