

Prime Bank honours 7 entrepreneurs ahead of World MSME Day 2026

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC yesterday honoured seven entrepreneurs from different regions of the country in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) sector marking the World MSME Day 2026.

The award recipients were Bandana Nath, proprietor of Janani Khaddo Bhandar, Chattogram; Md Toukir Ahammed, proprietor of Incredible Pvt Ltd, Dhaka; Md Monir Hossain, proprietor of Creative IT Institute, Dhaka; Md Khalil Mia, proprietor of M/s Khalil Textile, Narsingdi; Sukumar Saha, proprietor of M/s Sukumar Bhandar, Faridpur; Md Tamiz Uddin, proprietor of Sujon Metal Industries, Jatrabari; and Sirajum Monira, proprietor of Sutar Kabya, Dinajpur.

Anwar Hossain Chowdhury, managing director of SME Foundation, attended the programme as the chief guest and presented the awards to the entrepreneurs at the "Prime Bank SME Entrepreneurs' Conference and Award Ceremony 2026", held at a hotel in Dhaka, according to a press release.

More than 100 entrepreneurs from across the country attended the event, where Prime Bank reaffirmed its commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and supporting the growth



Anwar Hossain Chowdhury, managing director of SME Foundation, poses for a group photograph with award-winning MSME entrepreneurs at the "Prime Bank SME Entrepreneurs' Conference and Award Ceremony 2026", organised by Prime Bank PLC, at a hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK

of the MSME sector. The bank presented special awards to seven outstanding SME entrepreneurs selected from among its SME borrowers.

The entrepreneurs were selected based on a range of criteria, including product diversity, annual revenue, employment generation, entrepreneur profile, and the nature of their

enterprises.

Speaking at the event, Faisal Rahman, chief executive officer of the bank, said, "MSMEs form the backbone of our economy by generating employment, fostering innovation, supporting local industries, and driving inclusive growth."

PM invites China firms

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"Let us move forward from this forum with a shared determination to transform the opportunities in this region towards a long-term sustainable growth, economic development and mutual prosperity for both Bangladesh and China," he said.

"Come to Bangladesh. Invest in Bangladesh. Let us prosper together in a true partnership of equals," he added.

The prime minister said Bangladesh is undergoing a monumental economic and governance transformation.

"We are at a critical point of our journey, and I can clearly say that Bangladesh is open for business, ready for the future, and keen to work with China, one of our longstanding and trusted friends," he said.

China is moving up the global value chain, with its companies becoming leaders in advanced manufacturing, high-value infrastructure and clean energy, he said. As parts of its manufacturing ecosystem seek new, competitive and trusted locations, Bangladesh can be one of them, he added.

"This is a complementary, practical and win-win relationship," he said.

Tarique Rahman said his government has adopted a rigorous 180-Day Action Plan to overhaul

institutions dealing with international capital.

"Through this plan, we are targeting bureaucratic inertia head-on. We are improving long-term policy continuity, reducing overlapping regulatory processes, and digitalising government services to improve transparency, predictability and speed," he said.

Foreign investors can expect non-discriminatory treatment, repatriation of capital and dividends in line with the country's laws and regulations, and robust legal protection, he said.

"We are developing dedicated industrial landing points for Chinese investors, including the Chinese Economic and Industrial Zone in Anwara and a second economic zone in Mongla," said the premier.

These locations provide logistics, port connectivity, utilities, workers, suppliers and a long-term ecosystem, he added.

"We are also working with China to upgrade our bilateral investment treaty so that investors can have stronger confidence, clearer protection and a more modern framework for investment," he said.

He also mentioned that Bida now has a dedicated relationship management desk for Chinese investors, and that there is also a dedicated website for

Chinese investors so that sector opportunities, incentives and processes can be accessed more easily.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman announced that Bangladesh would soon open its first "Investment Office" in China.

"The government is about to start a new licensing approval process, which will allow new businesses to start operations in Bangladesh in less than 15 days," said the prime minister.

Bida Executive Chairman Ashik Chowdhury delivered a presentation on the investment opportunities and incentives available in Bangladesh to Chinese business leaders.

A total of 125 Chinese business representatives participated in the conference.

Water Resources Minister Md Shahiduddin Chowdhury, Anee, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism M Rashiduzzaman Millat, State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Aninda Islam Amit, Prime Minister's Finance and Planning Adviser Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir, Foreign Affairs Adviser Humaiun Kobir, Prime Minister's Adviser and PMO spokesman Mahdi Amin, and Deputy Press Secretary Atikur Rahman Ruman, among others, were also present.

ADP spending

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half of the allocated amounts.

The implementation rate stood at 49.3 percent for foreign-funded projects and 46.7 percent for government-funded projects, according to the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division.

"The recent implementation slowdown reflects a combination of factors, including insufficient project readiness at the approval stage, delays in procurement and land acquisition, weak coordination between executing and implementing agencies, cost revisions and design changes, and cash-planning constraints," said the Finance Division in the Medium-Term Macroeconomic Policy Statement (MTMPS) FY2026-27 to FY2028-29, published this month.

The political transition in August 2024, along with the economic and political uncertainty that followed and fiscal constraints, affected the implementation of development programmes.

The Finance Division said a tighter macro-fiscal environment has also led to greater scrutiny of low-priority projects.

"While such scrutiny is necessary to improve expenditure quality and fiscal discipline, it may reduce the implementation rate in the short run when the development project pipeline contains a large number of slow-moving

projects," it added.

IMED data showed that six of the 15 ministries and divisions receiving the largest allocations failed to spend even half of their allocations.

The Health Services Division recorded the lowest implementation rate at 26 percent during the period, followed by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education at 35 percent and the Ministry of Railways at 42.4 percent.

The Technical and Madrasah Education Division, the Roads and Highways Division, and the Secondary and Higher Education Division also recorded implementation rates below 50 percent of their revised ADP allocations, according to data released yesterday by the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division under the Planning Ministry.

The Ministry of Science and Technology recorded the highest implementation rate at 83.3 percent, followed by the Energy and Mineral Resources Division at 79.4 percent and the Ministry of Agriculture at 69 percent.

The Finance Division said improving implementation will require a stronger project-gate system that permits only mature projects into the ADP, along with realistic annual work plans, early procurement preparation, stronger contract management, and regular monitoring of large and strategically important projects.



Office of the Director, Planning, Development & Works
Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University
Dinajpur

Memo No: HSTU/PDW/2025-2026/89 Date: 24.06.2026

e-Tender Notice-12/2025-2026

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

Tender ID No.	Name of Works	Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time	Tender Opening Date & Time
1299322	Supplying of ICT Apparatus at HSTU, Dinajpur	16-Jun-2026 21:40	28-Jun-2026 11:00	28-Jun-2026 11:00
1300438	Providing, Installation & Commissioning of Electrical Accessories for HSTU, Dinajpur	16-Jun-2026 22:45	28-Jun-2026 12:00	28-Jun-2026 12:00
1300551	Providing, Fitting & Fixing of 11 KV HT Cable for Substation-2 and VCB for Substation -1 at HSTU Campus, Dinajpur.	22-Jun-2026 20:15	05-Jul-2026 11:30	05-Jul-2026 11:30
1303342	Repairing and Maintenance of Non-residential Building at HSTU, Dinajpur	23-Jun-2026 15:30	01-Jul-2026 12:00	01-Jul-2026 12:00
1303499	Supply and fixing Electrical & Mechanical items for Lift at HSTU, Dinajpur	24-Jun-2026 12:30	02-Jul-2026 20:03	02-Jul-2026 20:03
1303042	Supplying of Leverise (dress) for the Employees of HSTU, Dinajpur	24-Jun-2026 12:30	05-Jul-2026 12:00	05-Jul-2026 12:00
1303760	Supplying of Laboratory Equipments (2nd phase) at HSTU, Dinajpur	24-Jun-2026 20:30	05-Jul-2026 12:30	05-Jul-2026 12:30

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 e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. All the other information of the tender is in Tender Document Sheet (TDS). Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

Sd-
(Professor Dr. Md. Maniruzzaman Bahadur)
Director
Planning, Development & Works
HSTU, Dinajpur

GD-1640

MetLife settles Tk 669cr claims in Q1 2026

STAR BUSINESS DESK

MetLife Bangladesh settled more than Tk 669 crore in insurance claims during the January-March quarter of 2026, the highest among all life insurance companies in the country for the period.

The achievement reinforces MetLife Bangladesh's position as the country's leading life insurer in claims settlement, according to a press release.

The insurer's claim payments support customers during critical moments, including medical emergencies, loss of life and policy maturity.

Commenting on the achievement, Ala Ahmad, chief executive officer of the life insurer, said, "Paying claims is the



most important promise an insurance company makes. We are proud that MetLife Bangladesh continues to set the benchmark for claims settlement in the industry."

According to data from the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (Idra), MetLife Bangladesh consistently led the industry in claims settlement, paying Tk 2,853 crore in claims in 2025, the highest amount in Bangladesh. During the period, the company also maintained a claims settlement ratio of more than 98 percent, the press release added.



Shib Pada Dey, chief financial officer of Transcom Electronics Limited, and Helal Ahmed, chief of branch business and head of operations at IFIC Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing a memorandum of understanding at IFIC Tower in Dhaka on Wednesday.

PHOTO: IFIC BANK

IFIC Bank clients to get benefits on Transcom Electronics products

STAR BUSINESS DESK

IFIC Bank PLC on Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Transcom Electronics Limited, an electronics manufacturer, distributor and multi-brand retailer in Bangladesh, to offer discounts and other benefits on Transcom Electronics products to its customers.

Helal Ahmed, chief of branch business and head of operations at the bank, and Shib Pada Dey, chief financial officer of the electronics company, signed the MoU at

IFIC Tower in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, IFIC Bank credit cardholders will be able to enjoy equated monthly instalment (EMI) facilities of up to 36 months on all products of Transcom Electronics Limited.

The facility will allow customers to purchase electronics and home appliances through easy and convenient instalment options. Md Rafiqul Islam, deputy managing director and chief credit officer of the bank, attended the signing ceremony.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh		
"GEF Support to the 2026 UNCCD National Reporting Process – Bangladesh"		
Department of Environment		
E/ 16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207		
Invitation for Tenders		
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
2	Agency	Department of Environment
3	Procuring Entity Name	Reporting Officer, GEF Support to the 2026 UNCCD National Reporting Process – Bangladesh
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	PS 1: Rental Vehicle
7	Invitation Ref No	22.02.0000.045.26.03.2026-55
8	Date	25 June 2026
KEY INFORMATION		
9	Procurement Method	OTM
FUNDING INFORMATION		
10	Budget and Source of Funds	GEF through UNEP
11	Development Partners	UNEP
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12	Project / Programme Code (if applicable)	N/A
13	Project / Programme Name (if applicable)	GEF Support to the 2026 UNCCD National Reporting Process – Bangladesh
14	Tender Package No.	PS-1
15	Tender Package Name	Rental Vehicle
16	Tender Publication Date	26 June 2026
17	Tender Last Selling Date	15 July 2026 (2.00 P.M)
18	Tender Closing Date and Time	16 July 2026 at 12.00 PM
19	Tender Opening Date and Time	16 July 2026 at 12.30 PM
20	Name & Address of selling tender	Office of the Reporting Officer, GEF Support to the 2026 UNCCD National Reporting Process – Bangladesh, Paribesh Bhaban, E/16, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207 (9th floor of New Building).
21	Place/ Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	N/A
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
22	Brief Eligibility of Tenderer	a) The minimum number of years of general experience of the Tenderer in contracting industries in public sector as Prime Contractor/Subcontractor/Management Contractor shall be 5 years. b) The minimum specific experience as a Prime Contractor in providing vehicle rental service of at least ONE contract of similar nature, complexity and methods/technology completed over a period of last three (03) years each with a value of at least Tk. 10,00,000/- (Ten Lac) only shall be required c) The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. credit line(s) of the Tenderer shall be Tk. 10,00,000/- (Ten Lac) taka only.
23	Brief Description of Goods	PS-1: Rental Vehicle- 01 Nos (07-Seat 01 Microbus)
24	Brief Description of Related Services	Mentioned in Tender Document
25	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	BDT 500.00 (Five Hundred) Taka only
26	Tender Security (Tk)	BDT 30,000.00 (Thirty Thousand) in favor of Reporting Officer, GEF Support to the 2026 UNCCD National Reporting Process – Bangladesh,
27	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Farhana Mustari
28	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Deputy Director, Natural Resources Management Wing, Department of Environment, Head Quarter, Dhaka and Reporting Officer
29	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Room-903, 9th Floor, Head Officer, Department of Environment
30	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone: +880223375065, e-mail address: farhanamustari@gmail.com
31	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings	

F-25.6.2026

Farhana Mustari
Reporting Officer