

Md Zabdul Islam, director of the SME and Special Programmes Department of Bangladesh Bank, and Md Sadiqur Rahman, additional managing director of Meghna Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement at the central bank's headquarters in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: MEGHNA BANK

Meghna Bank joins BB's Tk 2,000cr financing scheme for leather industry

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Meghna Bank PLC has signed an agreement with Bangladesh Bank to join the central bank's Tk 2,000 crore pre-finance scheme aimed at promoting the growth and development of the leather and leather goods industry.

Under the scheme, eligible entrepreneurs in the sector will have access to financing at a concessional interest rate of 7 percent per annum.

Md Zabdul Islam, director of the SME and Special Programmes Department of Bangladesh Bank, and Md Sadiqur Rahman, additional managing director of Meghna Bank PLC, signed the agreement at the central bank's headquarters in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Through this initiative, Meghna Bank aims to support the growth of the country's leather and leather goods industry by facilitating access to affordable financing, encouraging environmentally sustainable production practices, strengthening export competitiveness and creating employment opportunities.

Meghna Bank remains committed to expanding access to affordable finance for cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises (CMSMEs) and agricultural entrepreneurs through various Bangladesh Bank refinance and pre-finance schemes, the release added.

Among others, Md Anis Ur Rahman, deputy governor of the central bank; Nahid Rahman, executive director; and Mohammad Sohel Miah, senior executive vice-president and head of the SME Banking Division at Meghna Bank PLC, were also present at the signing ceremony.

Efficient fans could

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HIGH UPFRONT COST REMAINS MAJOR BARRIER

The biggest obstacle to wider adoption is the high purchase price.

A conventional ceiling fan costs around Tk 2,000, while a 35-watt BLDC fan costs between Tk 5,000 and Tk 6,300, making it two to three times more expensive.

According to the study, around 40 percent of the country's households earn up to Tk 25,000 a month. These families pay an average electricity bill of Tk 663 during the summer.

For households in this income group, the additional cost of buying an energy-efficient fan would take 7.7 to 9.6 years to recover through electricity bill savings without financial support, the study estimates.

Bulk procurement could reduce the overall cost of the programme from $4 billion to $3 billion and bring the payback period for these households down to 4.8 years, it says.

To unlock the potential savings, IEEFA recommends a government-led programme to replace inefficient household fans with energy-efficient models.

The programme could begin with bulk purchases to bring down the price of BLDC fans. The government could then use potential revenue from carbon markets to make them more affordable for low-income households.

The study estimates that Bangladesh could earn around $259.88 million in carbon revenue by reducing more than 86 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions over 20 years.

It also proposes setting up a government-backed super Energy Service Company (ESCO) to oversee the programme, including procurement, financing, implementation and monitoring.

Under a proposed on-bill financing system, households could pay for new fans in instalments through their monthly electricity bills. The payments would be covered by the savings from lower electricity consumption.

The report also recommends introducing quality controls and a monitoring system to prevent substandard fans from entering the market.

"As Bangladesh's energy sector challenges mount, the country must prioritise measures that can provide quick relief by curbing demand growth. Energy-efficient fans are one such measure, as they reduce electricity demand as soon as they are installed," Shafiqul said.

WHAT HAPPENS TO OLD FANS?

However, the report does not explain what would happen to existing conventional fans or whether the proposed replacement programme would include arrangements to recycle or repurpose them.

Asked about this, Shafiqul said they were considering a phased replacement programme, starting with the oldest fans.

"We were thinking of scrapping those fans. But there may be ways to convert existing fans into energy-efficient ones. This would require further discussion to determine whether such conversion would affect their efficiency and whether it is technically feasible," he added.

Private sector credit growth falls to lowest on record

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Available liquidity will not automatically translate into productive investment if businesses do not see enough demand or predictable conditions to justify expansion, she said.

"The priority is to restore confidence through consistent policies, improved infrastructure and reliable energy supply," Fahmida said.

Measures to cut the cost and uncertainty of doing business, alongside stronger domestic and export demand, can encourage firms to invest, she added.

Banks should also assess viable proposals carefully so that sound businesses can obtain finance as investment demand recovers, she said.

BTRC seeks Tk 21,250cr

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WHAT CHANGED

Under the latest proposal, the renewal price for the 900MHz band is Tk 316 crore per MHz for 20 years, compared with Tk 195 crore for the previous period of 12 years and four months.

For the 1800MHz band, the price would rise to Tk 264 crore per MHz from Tk 162.8 crore, while the rate for the 2100MHz band would increase to Tk 229 crore from Tk 141.4 crore.

The increase largely reflects the longer tenure, as the annual rate per MHz remains unchanged. The previously proposed 10-30 percent discounts against the allocation prices have been retained.

The BTRC has proposed payment in 12 instalments, compared with eight under the earlier plan. The first would be payable within 30 days of the renewal notice and the second within the following 180 days, with the rest paid annually.

Operators would also continue paying the annual spectrum charge throughout the extended period. A late fee of 15 percent a year would apply to overdue instalments.

BTRC'S RATIONALE

In a letter to the Posts and Telecommunications Division last month, the BTRC said efficient use of spectrum over a longer period was important to meet growing demand for mobile services.

It said Bangladesh had high mobile traffic density and might need around 1,623MHz of spectrum by 2035. Spectrum renewal and fresh allocation would also be required almost every year over the next six and a half years, beginning with spectrum for 5G services in 2027.

OPERATORS WANT FURTHER PRICE CUTS

The Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh (AMTOB) welcomed the longer tenure but challenged the pricing methodology.

In a letter to the BTRC chairman on October 25, it said the revised prices appeared to have been calculated by proportionately extending the earlier rates rather than reassessing the cost for a longer licence period.

The association sought further cuts in base prices, 20 equal annual instalments and withdrawal of the annual spectrum charge.

Shahed Alam, chief corporate and regulatory officer of Robi, said determining the pricing through straightforward linear pro-rata scaling has no economic basis and is inconsistent with international practice. "The multiplier applied is arbitrary and departs from the findings of the consultant appointed by BTRC itself."

Maj Gen (retd) Md Emdad Ul Bari, chairman of BTRC, has defended the pricing as study-based. He said the regulator aims to sell at least 80 percent of the spectrum available for renewal, as excessive prices could leave some spectrum unsold and reduce revenue.

বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক পিএলসি.
BANGLADESH DEVELOPMENT BANK PLC.
(A State Owned Commercial Bank)
Public Relations Department

Reference: 02.1/220 Dated: 02-11-2026

Tender Notice No: BDBPLC/PRD/OTM/2026/01-02 (e-Tender)

E-Tenders have been invited in the national e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for procurement of the following Goods.

S/N	e-Tender ID	Description	Method of Procurement	Tender/ Proposal Document last selling/ downloading Date and Time	Last Date & Time for Tender/ Proposal Security Submission	Tender/ Proposal Opening Date and Time
01	**1364919**	Supply of Desk Calendar with Envelope-2027 Tender reference: BDBPLC/PRD/OTM/2026/01	(OTM)	15-11-2026 10:30 AM	15-11-2026 10:45 AM	15-11-2026 11:00 AM
02	1365027	Supply of Notebook with Box Tender reference: BDBPLC/PRD/OTM/2026/02	(OTM)	15-11-2026 10:30 AM	15-11-2026 10:45 AM	15-11-2026 11:00 AM

These are online tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' branches up to banking hours on.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) (01762625528-31). (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd).

- Sd -
(Md. Jasim Uddin Khan)
Deputy General Manager
Tel : 223387620

GD-2656

Saif Powertec

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from the terminal and settle outstanding salaries, allowances and other dues of its workers and employees upon the completion of the six-year contract.

However, the CPA's traffic department sent another letter to the company on November 1, requesting it to continue operating the terminal for three more weeks from November 2, sources said.

The letter said the extension was necessary as the process of appointing a new operator was still underway.

CPA officials said the handover to RSGTI under a public-private partnership arrangement might take more time to complete.

Saif Powertec began operating the CCT and New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) in 2007.

The CPA ended the company's contract to operate the NCT in July last year and appointed Bangladesh Navy-owned Chittagong Dry Dock Limited as an interim operator. It later signed a 15-year concession agreement with UAE-based DP World to operate and maintain the terminal.

The port authority has already decided not to renew Saif Powertec's long-term contract for the CCT.

Capital Alliance

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investors would continue to benefit from the same team, investment process and independence in decisions.

Listed on the Colombo Stock Exchange, CAL manages assets exceeding $1.2 billion across Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

After completion, the firms intend to explore expanding AFC's products, including frontier fixed income, subject to regulatory requirements.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
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e-Tender Notice

Sl No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of Works	Tender Last Selling Date and Time	Tender Closing Date and Time
01	1360546	e-GP/03/OTM/Supply/Sat/RHD/2026-2027	Supplying of Auto Machine Bricks, Local Sand (F.M-0.50) & Fire Wood at RHD Satkhira Stackyard for Repairing Roads of Road Sub-Division-1 & Road Sub-Division-2, under Road Division Satkhira [FY:2026-27]	16-Nov-2026 17:00	17-Nov-2026 12:00

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.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

(Md. Nazrul Islam)
ID No.602262
Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Satkhira.

GD-2647

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Sunamganj PWD Division, Sunamganj.
Phone: 02-996600063; Fax: 02-996600063
E-mail: ee_sunam@pwd.gov.bd

Memo No: 25.36.9000.112-12863 Dated: 01/11/26

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following works, details are given below.

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Name of work	last selling (date & time)	Closing date & Opening time)
01	1363578	Establishment of 6(six) Centers of BITAC in Gopalganj, Sunamganj, Barishal, Rangpur, Jamalpur and Jashore Districts, one at Sunamganj (Sub-head: Construction of Roof Truss over Academic Building, Cables for Machine Connection in Workshop Building and Other Works).	16-Nov-2026 11:00	16-Nov-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-Tenders, registration in the National e-GP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches up to dated (mention in Notice). Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

(Molla Rabiul Islam)
Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Sunamganj

GD-2655

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Director
Central Procurement, Engineering and Store Unit
Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229.

e-Tender Notice

e- Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following item:

Tender ID	Method	PPS No.	Description of Item	Tender Document Last Selling Date & Time	Last date & Time for Tender Security Submission	Tender Closing Date & Time	Tender Opening Date & Time
1364853	OTM	30.31.0000.000.121.07.0001.26.236 date-02.11.2026	Flight Inspection (Routine/commissioning) and Calibration of Radio Navigational, Visual and RNAV (GNSS) facilities / RNP Approach Procedure /Procedure Design Validation at different Airports of Bangladesh.	01/12/2026 11:50	01/12/2026 11:55	01/12/2026 12:00	01/12/2026 12:00

This is an Online Tendering System, 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 in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited through online to any registered Bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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তারিখঃ ০২/১১/২০২৬ খ্রি.

Md. Abdul Wadud
Executive Director, CEMSU
CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229.

GD-2657