Square Pharma director to buy Tk 38cr shares

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Square Pharmaceuticals Director Ratna Patra plans to buy 17.50 lakh shares of the company within the next 30 working days.

The purchase would be worth Tk 38.34 crore at Monday's closing price of Tk 219.10 per share.

Ratna intends to buy the shares at the prevailing market price through the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), according to a disclosure published on the exchange's website yesterday.

The shares will be purchased through both the public market, where shares are traded in the usual way, and the block market, which handles large-volume transactions. Shares of Square Pharmaceuticals rose 0.09 percent to Tk 219.30 at the DSE yesterday.

The company's profit grew 15 percent in FY2025-26, which ended on June 30, 2026.

Earnings per share (EPS) rose to Tk 31.24 from Tk 27.04 in the previous fiscal year.

The board of directors recommended a 130 percent cash dividend for FY2025-26, up from 120 percent in the previous year.

The board also approved Tk 725 crore for balancing, modernisation, rehabilitation and expansion, as well as capital machinery and land for future expansion. Sponsor-directors held 44.15 percent of the company's shares as of October 31, 2026, according to DSE data. Institutional investors, foreign shareholders and the general public held the remaining shares.

A-challan compulsory for non-judicial stamp duties from July 2027

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government has made the Automated Challan System (A-challan) mandatory for paying all non-judicial stamp duties from July 1, 2027, aiming to curb forgery and boost revenue collection. Non-judicial stamp duties apply to documents used outside court proceedings. The Internal Resources Division (IRD) said people could use A-challan or follow the existing payment system until June 30, 2027.

Under the new arrangement, all payments must be made through the A-challan system (www.achallan.gov.bd), regardless of the amount, the IRD said in a press release yesterday.

The IRD, a division of the Ministry of Finance, said deeds submitted for registration must be prepared on cartridge paper once the new system takes effect.

A printed copy of the A-challan receipt, serving as proof of payment, must be attached when a deed is submitted to the sub-registrar for registration. The challan number must also appear on the first page of the deed.

The notification also sets requirements for bulk A-challan payments made on behalf of multiple individuals or organisations. The name and identification number of each individual or organisation must be included.

Acceptable identification numbers include the Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), National Identity (NID) number, Business Identification Number (BIN) and trade licence number, where applicable.

Explaining the move, the IRD said automating non-judicial stamp duty payments through A-challan would save the government substantial amounts spent on printing, storing and distributing impressed (pre-printed) and adhesive (stick-on) stamps, as well as paying commissions on them.

The move would also eliminate opportunities to sell counterfeit stamps and help increase government revenue, it added.



Shafiuzzaman

Shafiuzzaman made AMD of Al-Arafah Islami Bank

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Al-Arafah Islami Bank (AIB) PLC has appointed Shafiuzzaman as its additional managing director (AMD).

Shafiuzzaman has approximately 31 years of experience in local and multinational banks and financial institutions, with expertise in corporate banking, relationship management, investment risk management, investment administration and recovery operations.

He began his professional career in 1994 as an executive at the erstwhile United Leasing Company Limited (now United Finance PLC).

During his career, he also served at ONE Bank PLC and Bank Asia PLC, contributing significantly to business development, institutional growth and operational excellence.

Shafiuzzaman obtained a master of business administration (MBA) degree from the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) at the University of Dhaka.



Md Wahiduzzaman, managing director and CEO of Starpath Holdings Ltd, and Mamur Ahmed, senior executive vice-president and head of distribution at Prime Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing a memorandum of understanding at Prime View on Gulshan Avenue in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: PRIME BANK

Prime Bank clients to get benefits on Starpath flat purchases

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Starpath Holdings Ltd, a real estate company in Dhaka, to offer exclusive benefits to the bank's customers and employees when purchasing apartments.

Mamur Ahmed, senior executive vice-president and head of distribution at the bank, and Md Wahiduzzaman, managing director and CEO of the real estate company, signed the MoU at Prime View on Gulshan Avenue in Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, Starpath Holdings Ltd will offer special prices to Prime Bank PLC customers and employees purchasing apartments.

The initiative aims to enhance customer benefits and provide greater value to the bank's customers and employees.

The signing ceremony was also attended by Joarder Tanvir Faisal, executive vice-president and head of consumer assets and cards; Takiyan Chowdhury, executive vice-president and head of secured consumer financing and embedded payments; Shafiquzzaman Bhuiyan, senior manager of the real estate company; and Md Rezaul Islam, senior assistant manager, along with other senior officials from both organisations.

BRAC Bank's profit rises 38% in first nine months of 2026

STAR BUSINESS DESK

BRAC Bank PLC reported a 38 percent year-on-year increase in consolidated net profit after tax (NPAT) to Tk 2,121 crore in the first nine months of 2026, driven by its diversified businesses, strong governance and customer-focused strategy.

The profit stood at Tk 1,536 crore in the corresponding period of 2025, according to a press release.

The bank disclosed this information at a virtual earnings event on Monday, attended by local and international investors, research analysts, portfolio managers and capital market professionals.

On a standalone basis, NPAT rose 50 percent year-on-year to Tk 1,584 crore from Tk 1,055 crore a year earlier. Despite a challenging macroeconomic and industry environment, BRAC Bank continued to outperform the market, delivering strong balance sheet growth.

Compared with December 2025, customer deposits increased 16 percent, while loans and advances grew 7 percent.

The bank also improved its operational efficiency, reducing its cost-to-income ratio to 41 percent at the end of September 2026 from 46 percent in the corresponding period of 2025, reflecting its focus on productivity, cost discipline and digital transformation.

Commenting on the financial results, Tareq Refat Ullah Khan, managing director and CEO of the bank, said, "Our third-quarter performance reflects the strength of our business model, prudent governance and disciplined execution."

"Continued customer confidence has enabled us to deliver growth well above the market while maintaining one of the industry's strongest asset quality indicators."



Tareq Refat Ullah Khan, managing director and CEO of BRAC Bank PLC, attends the bank's virtual earnings event on Monday. PHOTO: BRAC BANK



German Ambassador to Bangladesh Rüdiger Lotz poses for a photograph with founding trustees and members of the German-Bangladeshi business community at the third annual general meeting of the German Business Council Trust (GBC) at The Westin Dhaka on Saturday. PHOTO: GERMAN BUSINESS COUNCIL TRUST

German envoy sees scope for stronger business ties

STAR BUSINESS DESK

German Ambassador to Bangladesh Rüdiger Lotz has highlighted growing commercial opportunities between the two countries, particularly in sustainability, trade expansion and private sector investment.

He made the remarks at the third annual general meeting (AGM) of the German Business Council Trust (GBC), held at The Westin Dhaka on Saturday, according to a press release.

The council also hosted a business networking dinner alongside the AGM, bringing together founding trustees and members of the German-Bangladeshi business community to review organisational progress and strengthen bilateral economic cooperation.

At the meeting, GBC Chairman Md Zahidul Islam presented an overview of the council's operational achievements over the past year, statutory compliance updates and future initiatives to strengthen trade relations between Germany and Bangladesh.

Members also took part in an open question-and-answer session, discussing business strategies, trust frameworks and potential industry partnerships.

Welcoming the ambassador, board of trustees and other guests, the GBC chairman reaffirmed the council's commitment to serving as a key platform for German businesses and local corporate stakeholders.

Auditor doubts

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physically verify the assets because they were not identified by tag numbers in the fixed asset register.

The company also failed to provide the original land deed, saying it was held by Janata Bank, preventing the auditor from verifying ownership of the property.

The company has also failed to pay its listing fees to the DSE and fees to the Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd (CDBL), exposing it to possible regulatory action, including penalties, suspension of trading privileges or delisting from the stock exchange.

According to the auditor, the reported loan balances had remained unchanged since June 2022, with no loan instalments repaid or provisions made for interest expenses.

The auditor sought confirmation of the loan balances from the bank but received no response by October 11, 2026. The management also failed to provide an update on the loans.

As a result, the auditor could neither verify the outstanding balances nor determine their current and long-term portions.

The Daily Star tried to reach Central Pharmaceuticals Company Secretary Md Tajul Islam by phone, but he did not respond.

Shares of the drugmaker rose slightly to Tk 8.70 at the DSE yesterday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
Barguna
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No: 46.02.0400.000.14.001.26-2425 Date: 09/11/2026

e-Tender Notice No-22/2026-27

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

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of Works	e-Tender ID	Procurement Method	Tender/ Proposal Document Last Selling/ downloading Date and Time	Last Date and Time for Tender/ Proposal Security Submission	Tender/ Proposal Closing Date and Time
1.	CAFDRIRP/ BARGUNA/ UZR/W-39/ER/2026-27	Rehabilitation of Amtali HQ-Taltali HQ-Sonakata Sea Beach Road (Taltali Part) Road from Ch.5510m -9680m under Taltali Upazila, Dist: Barguna. [ROAD ID 504872003] [TALTALI]	1354264	OTM	25-Nov-2026 17:00	26-Nov-2026 11:00	26-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 an 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 online at any branches of the registered Banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from the e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

09.11.26
Executive Engineer
LGED, Barguna.
Tel: 02479930954
e-mail: xen.barguna@lged.gov.bd

GD-2726

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Jail Superintendent, Joypurhat District jail
www.prison.joypurhat.gov.bd

Memo no.44.07.3800.133.008.26-4914 Date-09.11.2026

e-Tender Notice

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

SL No	Tender ID	Name of work	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
1.	1368663	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Protein Items Categories-3 to Schedule-KA Package-1 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
2.	1368664	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Protein Items Categories-3 to Schedule-KA Package-2 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 10:30	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
3.	1368665	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Protein Items Categories-3 to Schedule-KA Package-3 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
4.	1368666	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Protein Items Categories-3 to Schedule-KA Package-4 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
5.	1368667	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of vegetable Items Categories-3 to Schedule-KHA Package-1 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
6.	1368668	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of vegetable Items Categories-3 to Schedule-KHA Package-2 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
7.	1368669	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of vegetable Items Categories-3 to Schedule-KHA Package-3 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
8.	1368670	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Oil Items Categories-3 to Schedule-GA Package-1 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
9.	1368671	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Spices, Food Ingredients and Miscellaneous Items Categories-3 to Schedule-GA Package-2 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
10.	1368672	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Spices, Food Ingredients and Miscellaneous Items Categories-3 to Schedule-GA Package-3 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
11.	1368673	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Spices, Food Ingredients and Miscellaneous Items Categories-3 to Schedule-GA Package-4 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027.	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
12.	1368674	Procurement of Supply of Various Types of Fire Wood and Transport Items Categories-3 to Schedule-GA Package-5 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00
13.	1368675	Procurement of Supply of Cigarettes, bidis, and various types of rice Items Categories-3 to Schedule-GA Package-6 for the Period from January/2027 to July/2027	23-Nov-2026 11:00	23-Nov-2026 12:00	23-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. 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 of Bangladesh. Further e-GP information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

09/11/2026
Umme Salma
Jail Super
Joypurhat District Jail
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GD-2727