



A Month of Celebrating Women

bti and Dhaka Flow: Inspiring Wellness for Women

On International Women's Day this year, Dhaka Flow organized its third session of 'Inspire Her Wellness'. It was a two-day festival, designed and executed mostly by women, and was open to all.



Although focused on women, the fair had elements for people from all ages. From art therapy and meditation to music, energy healing, and engaging kids' activities, there was something for every wellness enthusiast to explore and enjoy. This year, the event featured 70 female-owned ventures. Wellness products, ranging from organic skincare to healing herbs, candles, cards, books, athleisure wear, and more, were found at their stalls. Moreover, there were stalls for pharmaceuticals and medical consultation centers too.



Raising awareness about health issues aggravating women over the age of reproduction, such as cervical cancer, was another key facet of the event. The Popular Pharmaceuticals stall offered vaccines for cervical cancer, which could truly go on to save lives.

One notable feature of this festival was its sustainability measures. The event strictly adhered to the principles of no digital displays, no PVC, no plastic waste, no animal violence, no leaflets or flyers, and no hatred.



Following the concept of 'Ahimsa,' or non-violence, the stalls only served vegetarian options for attendees. All food vendors had curated their menus with vegetarian items. Dhaka Flow witnessed a broad walk of visitors, including both locals and foreigners.

bti participated in this event as one of a few “LOTUS” sponsors, the key highlight of the event being a panel discussion with some of bti: The Daily Star Stellar Women, to talk about their lives and how they incorporate wellness practices into their hectic schedules.

Source: Dhaka Tribune



IPDC Finance and bti Sign MoU



On the 7th of March, 2024; the MD of bti, Mr. F R Khan, signed an MoU with IPDC Finance on behalf of bti. This MoU highlights the fact that customers of bti can now avail financing or home loans from IPDC Finance.

This offer seems to be a well-rounded deal, where anybody availing it will get the following perks:

- Up to 85% of the price of the apartment can be availed as part of the home loan.
- A special interest rate will be available for anybody who purchases through this special offer.
- IPDC Finance will also offer up to 25 years of loan tenure and a privileged processing fee for anybody who wishes to use this loan to buy an apartment from bti.

If anybody wants more details about this home loan, they can call **16519**.

What's New In The Sbus

Property Security & Management recently conducted fire drills at bti Celestial Heights and bti Sorrento in Dhaka and Chattogram respectively emphasizing the paramount importance of preparedness and swift response in the event of a fire emergency. During the fire drill, the residents were made aware of fire and electrical safety, earthquake preparedness, and emergency protocols. The primary objective of the drill was to educate and train all occupants and staff members regarding proper evacuation procedures, utilization of fire extinguishers, and effective communication protocols during emergencies.



What's New In Real Estate

The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) recently approved the Real Estate Investment Trust Fund Rules 2024 to create financing opportunities in the real estate sector through the capital market and to open up new investment areas.



While anyone can initiate a Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) fund, the initial stage requires a minimum investment of Tk 200 crore, which will be directed towards the real estate sector, according to the rules. REITs tend to own and manage properties used as commercial space, residential apartments, factories, warehouses, retail stores, hospitals, hotel resorts, timberlands, and many other diversified usages. Income will be generated by renting them or providing services. The valuation of assets is precisely where the significant challenge will unfold. The rules contain multiple provisions to safeguard against manipulation in the valuation process.



According to the rules, the rest will raise money through public or private offers. The figure will be Tk 300 crore for investments in real estate projects in city corporation areas. The duration of any fund is mandated to be a minimum of 15 years. At least 80% of the REITs must be directly invested in real estate. At the same time, a maximum of 20% of the REITs may be allocated for investment in government securities. The annual registration fee for the funds will be 0.05% of their total size. In the event of failure to pay the fee, the funds will have to pay Tk 50,000 per month.

According to the draft rules, the BSEC will establish a panel of valuers, from which the fund's trustee can appoint a valuer. The valuer should not be appointed for a consecutive period exceeding three years and can only be reappointed for the REIT fund once at least two years have elapsed since their last retirement. The fund manager, trustee, or any of their directors or key executives must not be considered beyond the context of financial wellness among womenfolk, the panelists engaged in conversations about barriers and challenges women face regularly. The panelists engaged in conversations about barriers and challenges women face regularly, including how each Stellar Woman is flourishing in her sector. The REIT fund will therefore essentially operate as a mutual fund. The fund can only be operated by its asset manager and the alternative investment manager.



