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## **HSBC SUPPORTS LOCAL COMMUNITY IN FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19**

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) in Bangladesh is increasing its support amid the coronavirus outbreak. The bank is providing additional funds to facilitate critical medical gear purchases as well as emergency food and hygiene packs to vulnerable families during this time. These initiatives come alongside the Bank's trade support measures for its corporate customers.

HSBC has committed to support 5,000 vulnerable families by supplying them with emergency food and hygiene packs in partnership with local conglomerate City Group and NGO SAJIDA Foundation.

The Bank has also partnered with WaterAid to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and KN95 masks to medical staff in Chattogram and Dhaka. The PPE includes gloves, masks, goggles, shoe covers and gowns — critical gear for safely attending COVID-19 patients. Infection Prevention Control (IPC) training will also be delivered for medical staff as part of this initiative.

Commenting on the initiative, Md. Mahbub ur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, HSBC Bangladesh said, "We are proud to be able to make a difference by supporting vulnerable communities and frontline healthcare workers. We will continue to support our customers, communities and our employees, so that all of us come through this challenging time together."

The partnership with HSBC, City Group and SAJIDA Foundation will help to support some 5,000 underprivileged families of daily wage earners and from other adversely-affected lower income groups who are not able to earn daily wages during this time. HSBC staff also contributed to this fund.

Commenting on the partnership, Md. Hasan, Director, City Group said, "City Group is proud to partner with HSBC for this initiative to support the people in need during this unprecedented time."

The packs consist of an adequate quantity of essential food supplies to support a family of four for minimum two weeks and includes rice, lentils, potatoes, cooking oil, sugar, flour, soap for hand washing and soap for washing clothes. The pack distribution will started from 18 April in Dhaka and its outskirts with the support of partner NGO SAJIDA Foundation.

Earlier, HSBC Bangladesh announced wide-ranging support measures to provide immediate assistance to its Commercial Banking Textile and Garments customers impacted by COVID-19 and the related economic impact.

To date in Bangladesh, the Bank has already supported food and medical supplies worth more than BDT 1 crore to support for COVID-19 in collaboration with its partners, HSBC staff contributions and the bank's own donation funding. Globally, HSBC has announced a US\$25m COVID-19 charitable fund to support the international medical response, protect vulnerable people and ensure food security.

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**Note to editors:**

**The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited**

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding member of the HSBC Group. HSBC serves customers worldwide from offices in 64 countries and territories in our geographical regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America, and Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,715bn at 31 December 2019, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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