



Finance Minister AMA Muhith speaking at a press briefing on the signing of an agreement between Gas Transmission Company Limited (A company of Petrobangla) and MAN Industries (India) Limited for supplies of pipes for Bibiyana-Dhanua transmission pipeline at a hotel in the city Monday.

## Pvt banks gearing up services abroad

*Boosting remittance inflow aimed at*

**Md Mazadul Hoque**

The country's private banks are gearing up services abroad with a view to increasing the remittance inflow, bankers said.

The bankers said as remittance is the vehicle of economic development of the country, the banks have decided to increase facilities for the expatriates.

They are doing so as the central bank has recently directed all commercial banks to expand facilities for the expatriates to enhance the inflow of remittance, the bankers said.

Social Islami Bank Ltd (SIBL) is now trying its best to expand facilities for the Bangladeshi people living in different countries.

Deputy managing director of the bank AMM Farhad told the FE that the aim of the bank management is to stand by the expatriates; that is why various kinds of opportunities would be opened up soon.

employees in the exchange houses to improve our services, Mr Farhad also said.

He said the expatriates would get the same facilities from the respective countries as they do from Bangladesh.

Only SIBL has set up a special facility for the beneficiaries namely Centralised Remittance Processing Unit (CRPU) and in future the number of such units would be raised, Mr Farhad said.

Mercantile Bank Ltd has initially started setting up exchange houses in the foreign countries.

Deputy managing director of the bank Monindra Kumar Nath told the FE: "Recently the bank has set up an exchange house in the UK mainly for the interest of the expatriates."

"Already Tk 1.0 million has been remitted from our exchange house and the response of the expatriates is very much positive," Mr Nath said.

"We are thinking of setting up more