

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	USD	EUR	GBP	CNY
0.13%	0.25%	\$1,945.18	\$40.09	0.45%	1.04%	0.22%	1.86%	83.95	97.84	107.90	12.03
4,971.68	8,549.19	(per ounce)	(per barrel)	38,193.93	23,032.54	2,499.33	3,254.63	BUY TK	SELL TK	84.95	101.64
										111.70	12.65

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Banks beef up security to fend off hackers

SOHEL PARVEZ and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

Banks have beefed up security, vigilance and monitoring to prevent hackers from stealing money after the central bank and the government alerted them about the fraudulent activities of a North Korean group.

Almost all banks have recently started keeping the service of automated teller machines (ATMs) and point of sales (POS) suspended from 12:00am to 7:00am after they were alerted that a North Korean hacker group named "Beagle Boys" is trying to steal money from banks around the world through ATM booths and fake transactions.

"We are centrally monitoring the activities of the ATMs. We have alerted our security guards manning the ATMs," said Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director of Mutual Trust Bank.

Mutual Trust Bank is keeping its more than 350 ATMs shut during the eight-hour period.

Emranul Huq, managing director of Dhaka Bank, said the private commercial bank was keeping only seven ATMs – six in Dhaka and one in Chattogram – operational from mid-night to the morning out of a total of 62.

"We have beefed up both technological and physical vigilance. We have intensified monitoring."

Dhaka Bank switches off the operation of the Swift network, which facilitates transfers of funds, at night.

"We have been doing this since August 28," Huq said.

Prime Bank has kept the service of its ATM booths suspended at night since Tuesday, said Rahel Ahmed, managing director of the bank. "This is a temporary measure."

Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) got the alert from the US and European computer incident response teams (CIRTs) on August 26 and it alerted Bangladesh Bank, banks and Financial Institutions Division of the finance ministry the next morning.

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Floods wash away Tk 900cr fish

Govt is yet to extend any support to farmers

SOHEL PARVEZ

Repeated floods since the end of June have washed away Tk 510 crore worth of fishes in the central, north and southern districts, according to the Department of Fisheries (DoF).

The deluge submerged nearly 100,000 ponds and fish enclosures of 77,158 farmers.

In terms of losses, aquaculture farmers in Dhaka were the hardest hit followed by farmers in Barishal, Sylhet and Rajshahi divisions, according to data from the DoF.

This is the second time in the year that natural disaster played havoc with the aquaculture farmers. In May, the cyclone Amphan wiped away dreams of 39,000 shrimp and fresh water farmers causing losses of Tk 390 crore.

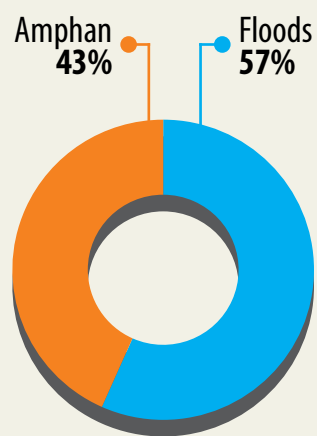
Despite a combined loss of Tk 900 crore in 2020, the government is yet to announce any support for the affected fish producers whose endeavour has enabled Bangladesh to be one of the largest farmed fish producers in the world.

READ MORE ON B2

LOSSES OF FISH FARMERS FOR FLOODS AND AMPHAN

Total loss: Tk 900 crore

SOURCE: DOF



IMPACT ON FISH FARMS

Number of affected farmers	77,158
Total affected area	18,620 hectares
Number of affected farms (ponds/enclosures)	Nearly 100,000
Affected districts	38



StanChart rolls out first blockchain remittance service

MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

Standard Chartered Bangladesh yesterday rolled out a blockchain-powered remittance service for Bangladeshis working in Malaysia to allow them to send money home on a real-time basis, without any hassle and at lower costs.

The bank has teamed up with Ant Group, one of the world's leading digital financial services providers based in Hangzhou, China; bKash, the top mobile financial service in Bangladesh,

and Valyou, a financial technology company in Malaysia, to provide the service. The service is in the final stages of commercial testing and will be available to customers in Bangladesh and Malaysia soon, said the multinational lender in a press release.

The bank is the fund settlement bank and regulatory approval-holder for the service. Ant Group's applied blockchain technology helps streamline the remittance process, radically improving the speed of delivery and information



security and enhancing the transparency of the process.

"With our partners bKash, Valyou and Ant Group, we are delighted to be able to introduce a new-generation technological solution that will make the remittance experience simple and faster, by presenting the service available 24/7, including from the convenience of the remitters' mobile phones," said Naser Ezzat Bijoy, chief executive officer of Standard Chartered Bangladesh.

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