

STOCKS	COMMODITIES	ASIAN MARKETS	CURRENCIES
Week-on-week DGEN 2.47% 4,431.51 CSCX 3.12% 8,611.05	As of Friday Gold ▲ \$1,773.30 (per ounce) Oil ▲ \$99.35 (per barrel)	Friday closings MUMBAI ▲ 2.46% 18,464.27 TOKYO ▲ 1.83% 9,159.39 SINGAPORE ▲ 1.33% 3,070.42 SHANGHAI ▲ 0.64% 2,123.85	BANGLADESH BANK USD 81.79 EUR 104.34 GBP 130.79 JPY 1.04 BUY TK SELL TK 81.85 104.45 130.91 1.04

star BUSINESS

DHAKA SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2012, e-mail:business@thedailystar.net

Most operators go by 10-sec pulse

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Most of the mobile operators have already complied with the 10-second-pulse directive of the telecom regulator, while two sought a few more days to implement the new service policy.

State-run Teletalk was the first to launch the service by August 15, the first deadline of the regulator, while Robi, Airtel and Citycell have also offered the service that will enable users to pay as they talk.

Grameenphone and Banglalink sought more time.

Recently Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission, the regulator, warned the operators that if they do not implement the directive by September 15, actions will be taken against them.

Robi said the 10-second pulse was effective from yesterday. This will be effective for all calls including those for "helpline" support, the operator said.

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AMRAN HOSSAIN

Volunteers distribute leaflets from a stall set up by the National Board of Revenue in front of the National Press Club in Dhaka yesterday, as part of an awareness campaign for tax on the eve of a weeklong Income Tax Fair.

360 taxpayers honoured

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The National Board of Revenue yesterday recognised 360 taxpayers from across the country in a bid to encourage people to pay tax voluntarily and help boost direct collection.

The tax administrator honoured the taxpayers in two categories -- top taxpayer and long-time taxpayer.

At a programme at Officer's Club, 95 taxpayers from Dhaka division were awarded.

The rest of the winners from city corporations and districts of other divisions got awards from field offices.

The recognition was given a day

before the beginning of the fifth version of a weeklong Income Tax Fair in seven divisional cities and 11 big districts.

Some taxpayers complained of hassles and demanded an easy way of paying tax.

"Many people don't pay tax fearing harassment by tax officials," said Khandaker Mahabub Alam, after receiving crests and certificates in 'top and long-time taxpayer' categories from Mymensing district. "Had there been no such hassles, many more would have paid tax voluntarily."

READ MORE ON B3; PARTIAL LIST OF TOP TAXPAYERS ON B3

BB finds only Tk 190cr in Destiny's frozen accounts

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Several companies of Destiny Group allegedly embezzled a huge amount of money but only Tk 190.04 crore was found in its frozen bank accounts, according to a central bank report.

Last week Bangladesh Bank (BB) sent the report on Destiny Group to the finance ministry.

The BB report said the central bank has not yet found any information about the huge amount of cash withdrawn by the directors of Destiny Group. The report found that only \$79 lakh or Tk 64 crore was siphoned off abroad.

The BB report said the money collected by the Destiny Group from the public was deposited in the accounts of the sister concerns of the directors, and later the amount was withdrawn.

Part of the amount may have been used for buying lands and flats, but the central bank did not find any information about how the remaining amount withdrawn in cash was used.

The central bank has frozen 196 bank accounts of 33 firms out of the Group's 37 firms, and 265 bank accounts of its direc-

tors and their sister concerns.

A total of Tk 132.71 crore was found in the bank accounts of 33 firms and Tk 57.33 crore in the directors' accounts.

The BB in its report said the bank accounts were frozen for one month in May for the first time under the money laundering act.

Later the time was extended thrice.

As Destiny Group filed a writ petition with the High Court against the BB order on freezing its accounts, the matter is still pending with court.

Of the 37 firms of the Group, the central bank found Tk 5,132.46 crore was deposited in 282 bank accounts of three firms -- Destiny 2000 Ltd, Destiny Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd and Destiny Tree Plantation. Later Tk 5,113.95 crore was withdrawn.

The BB report also said letters of credit (LCs) were opened for \$1.95 crore in favour of firms belonging to Destiny Group from 2006 to 2012. Through these LCs, commodities were imported from China, Malaysia, Korea, India, Hong Kong and Switzerland.

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Salim Osman's panel wins BKMEA polls



AKM Salim Osman

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Sammilito Knit Parishad yesterday won the biennial election of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), the national platform for knitters.

Parishad, a panel led by incumbent President AKM Salim Osman, won 22 posts of directors, while former president Fazlul Hoque's Progressive Knit Alliance bagged five posts.

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Delhi, Mumbai world's cheapest cities

REUTERS, Zurich

Oslo is the most expensive city in the world, ahead of Zurich and Tokyo, but the well-paid residents of the Swiss financial hub enjoy the greatest purchasing power, according to a study released on Friday. The cheapest places to live were Delhi and Mumbai.