

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY
▲ 0.26%	▲ 0.12%	\$1,238.84 (per ounce)	\$44.52 (per barrel)	▼ 0.58%	▼ 0.64%	▼ 0.11%	▲ 0.19%	BUY TK 77.50	89.83	115.58	0.65
4,969.73	9,240.99			27,425.73	17,087.71	3,341.07	3,235.30	SELL TK 78.50	93.83	119.58	0.68

জীবনে ধরোজেন আরো বেশি স্বাস্থ্য
 সর্বাধুনিক প্রযুক্তি সম্বলিত ব্যাংকিং সেবায় মাসিক আয়ের সাথে বাড়তি আয় যোগ করুন আর জীবন করুন সুস্বাস্থ্য।

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Star BUSINESS

DHAKA WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14, 2015, e-mail:business@thedailystar.net

Bandwidth export deal with India this month

ABDULLAH MAMUN

Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company plans to sign a deal with an Indian firm this month to export 10 gigabits per second bandwidth to Tripura, a northeastern state in India.

A team will go to India to sign the deal tentatively on January 27 with state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd or BSNL.

BSNL will purchase 10 Gbps initially and will increase the amount gradually, said Monwar Hossain, managing director of Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company, a state-owned entity.

A 22-kilometre optical fibre cable link from Brahmanbaria to Akhaura boarder will be developed in four months to transport the bandwidth.

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Realtors cut apartment prices to boost sales



SUMAN SAHA

Realtors slashed apartment prices by about 11 percent year-on-year on average to reinvigorate the depressed property market.

They are now selling each square foot of a flat at Tk 9,091 on average, down from Tk 10,182 in Dhaka in 2014, according to a recent study of Sheltech, a leading real estate company.

Now is the right time to buy apartments as the sector has gone through a major price correction in the last three years, said Toufiq M Seraj, managing director of Sheltech.

Apartment prices in Dhaka are 25.92 percent cheaper now than three years ago, when they were at their peak.

In 2012, each square foot of a flat in Dhaka sold for Tk 12,273 on average. It came down to Tk 11,136 in 2013 and Tk 10,182 in 2014, according to the study.

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Govt to import another 30-50MW power from India

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government plans to buy 30-50 megawatts of electricity from NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd (NVVN) from private parties to meet the shortfall in power imports from India.

A proposal from the power ministry will be sent to the cabinet committee on purchase today for approval, officials of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and the ministry said.

Since October 2013, the country has been importing 500MW of electricity from India through grid interconnectivity between Bohorompur in India and Bheramara in Bangladesh.

Under the deal, Bangladesh got 250MW of electricity through NVVN and the remaining 250MW from Power Trading Company India Ltd (PTC).

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Lower oil prices to boost Asia-Pacific economies: survey

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Economic growth in the Asia-Pacific developing countries will pick up moderately in 2015 if the current downward trend in the global oil prices continues and much-needed structural reforms are introduced, a UN agency has said in a survey.

Developing countries in Asia and the Pacific are forecasted to grow at an average of 5.8 percent this year, up from 5.6 percent in 2014. The higher growth will be driven by improved economic performances in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea and Thailand, the survey said.

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) released the survey report in Bangkok yesterday. The report also highlighted that growth in the region remains below pre-crisis levels.

"Structural reforms in India and Indonesia are projected to help increase their growth to 6.4 percent and 5.6 percent from 5.5 percent and 5.2 percent respectively in 2014," according to the survey.

Growth in China is expected to hover around 7 percent in 2015, consistent with the ongoing economic rebalancing.

A decrease in regional inflation this year to 3.5 percent from 3.9 percent in 2014 offers room in some regional economies to loosen monetary policies to support growth, according to the yearend update. The report was unveiled by United Nations Under-Secretary-General and UNESCAP Executive Secretary Shamshad Akhtar.

"Despite improved prospects, many developing economies in the region face structural constraints, which have kept them from realising their growth potential. Infrastructure shortages remain acute and growth has not translated into enough decent jobs," Akhtarsaid at the launch of the report.

The steep decline in oil prices in recent months may be the start of a longer-term trend and will have a significant, yet varying impact across the region.

The report estimates that for energy-importing countries, a \$10 per barrel fall in the oil price in 2015 would translate into an increase in GDP growth of up to 0.5 percentage point.

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