

আপনার বিআরটিএ ফি এবং সকল ইউটিলিটি বিল এসআইবিএল এর যে কোন শাখার মাধ্যমে জমা দিন

* ফ্রি অনলাইন সেবা
যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬২২০০৯২২

star BUSINESS

DHAKA TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 2016

Farmers Bank hits controversy

SAJJADUR RAHMAN

Rubel Brothers and Apollo Multipurpose Agro Industries are loan defaulters of state-owned BASIC and Janata banks respectively and yet had no trouble getting fresh loans from the Farmers Bank.

The bank itself managed fake credit information bureau reports for the two clients to enable them to qualify for loans, Bangladesh Bank said in a report.

This is part of a long list of irregularities that the newly-established bank indulged in. The bad lending practices have now come out in the open after a central bank study.

The BB carried out special inspections into the bank's Gulshan, Motijheel and Shyampur branches between September and November last year and found irregularities in sanctioning loans that amount to Tk 400 crore.

The central bank had warned the bank's directors, including Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir, chairman of the lender's board and a senior leader of the ruling Awami League, on these irregularities. The BB also asked the bank to punish the corrupt officials, but they did not pay heed to the advice.

Depositors are at risk as the bank has failed to follow the rules and regulations in sanctioning and disbursing loans, SK Sur Chowdhury, deputy governor of the BB, said yesterday.

The investigation found that the bank had concealed its classified loans to inflate profits and resorted to irregularities in recruitment.

For example, the bank disbursed loans of Tk 38.26 crore to six companies -- EBL Securities, International

Tk 400cr anomalies

Motijheel branch: Tk 201cr
Gulshan branch: Tk 150cr
Shyampur branch: Tk 49cr

What are the irregularities?

Farmers Bank's anomalies include sanctioning loans to defaulters by hiding CIB reports, fund diversion, influenced loans, inadequate collateral and showing inflated profits

BB'S ACTIONS AGAINST THE BANK:

In May last year, BB issued an order to remove Mahabubul Haque Chisty, executive committee chairman of the bank, for alleged involvement in loan irregularities.

Early this month, BB slapped a Tk 10 lakh fine on the bank for showing classified loans as assets to inflate profits

Last week, BB has appointed an observer to the bank's board to discipline the lender

Multipurpose Agro Industries is a defaulted client of Janata Bank.

The client, after taking the loan, paid Tk 3.2 crore to Janata Bank to regularise the loan defaults of Apollo Multipurpose Agro Industries, according to the BB report.

The branch also issued loans of Tk 1.81 crore to Adurey Housing concealing the fact that the company was a loan defaulter.

The central bank also detected anomalies in Tk 143 crore loans given by the bank's Gulshan branch between 2014 and 2015.

The branch increased the cash credit limit of little-known Rom and Hus Enterprise to Tk 45 crore from Tk 10 crore between February 26 and June 6, 2015.

Influenced by Mahabubul Haque Chisty, chairman of the bank's executive committee, the lender sanctioned Tk 20 crore to MS International that had assets worth only Tk 1.15 crore and equity of Tk 69.56 lakh.

Chisty also gave Tk 17 crore to Emerald Foods against collateral of Tk 3.51 crore.

Shyampur branch of the bank disbursed Tk 30 crore to Laila Bonospoti taking Tk 8.15 crore as collateral securities and Tk 30 crore to Global Trading Corporation without adequate mortgage.

The branch disbursed Tk 17 crore to Al-Ferdous Re-Rolling Mills and Sami Enterprise violating the banking rules, the report said.

The companies repaid the non-performing loans of Tk 2.3 crore to Sonali Bank from the credit and diverted a big amount of the fund to other projects, said the report.

READ MORE ON B3

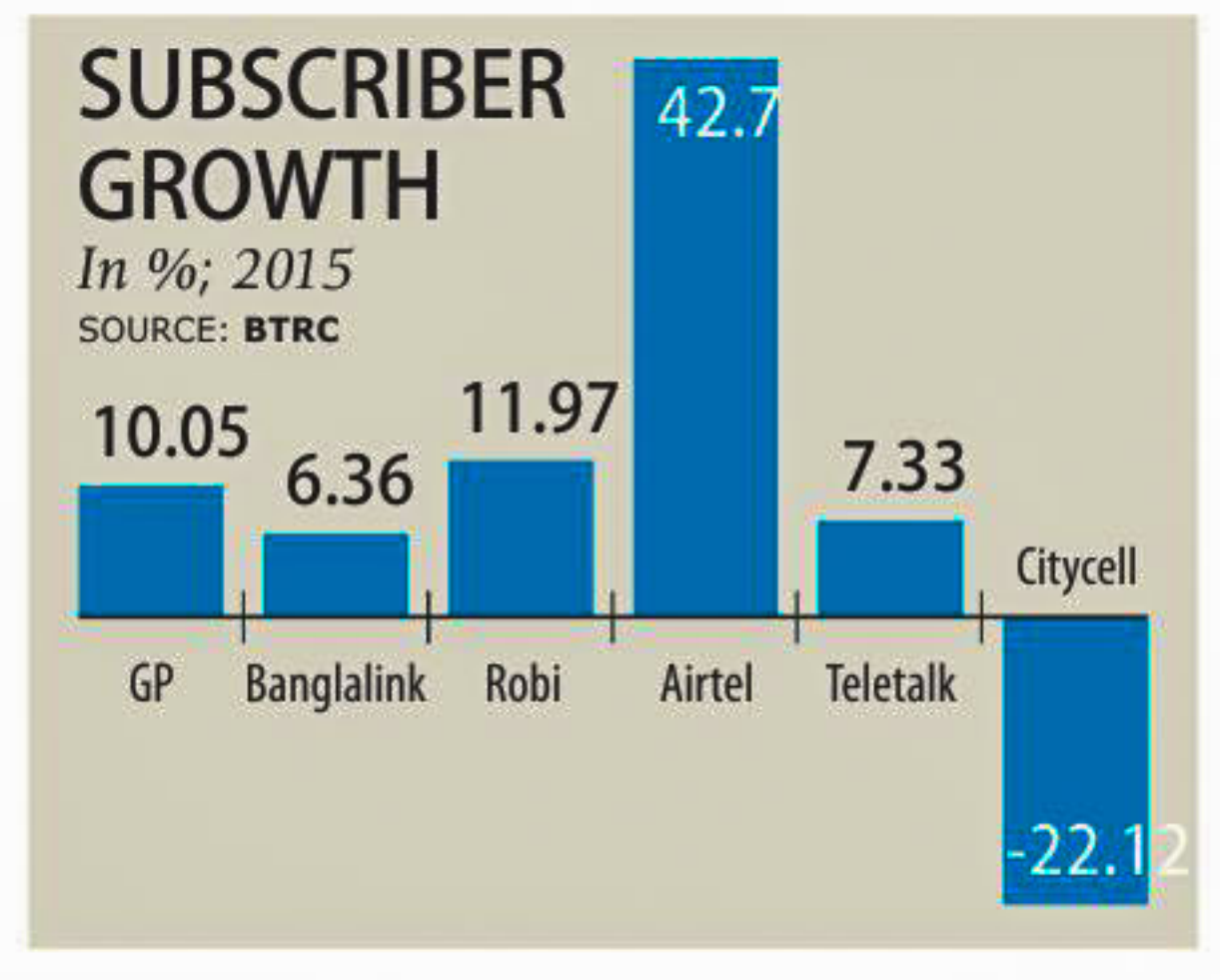
Mobile users rise 11pc in 2015

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

The number of new mobile phone connections rose 11.11 percent year-on-year in 2015, while internet subscriptions grew 24.01 percent, the telecom regulator said in a report yesterday.

All six mobile phone operators added 1.34 crore new connections in the year, and termed the growth moderate. At the end of the year, the number of active connections stood at 13.37 crore.

Some 1.05 crore new clients took internet connections in the year, most of them through mobile phones, according to Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission.



Bangladesh's total active internet connections stood at 5.41 crore at the end of the year, and 5.15 crore of those were on mobiles, BTRC said.

Both mobile operators and the telecom regulator have expressed satisfaction over last year's growth, and expect it to be higher in the future.

"The growth is moderate and as the regulator we are pleased with it," said Md Sarwar Alam, spokesperson of BTRC. The sector's performance was very well last year, compared to the previous years, which will contribute to creating a digital economy, Alam said.

In 2014, the industry added 65.66 lakh new subscribers with 5.77 percent growth, and some 78.52 lakh new internet connections, registering 21.52 percent growth.

The regulator did not mention the number of 3G subscribers the operators added last year.

READ MORE ON B3

EBL Home Loan

9.99%
This offer is valid for limited time

- > 0% processing fee for takeover loan
- > Loan amount upto BDT 12 million
- > Maximum loan tenor
- > Quickest turn around time

APPLY TODAY

16230
Conditions apply

Eastern Bank Ltd. Simple Math.



Sonia Bashir Kabir, managing director of Microsoft Bangladesh, and Kabir Bin Anwar, project director of a2i programme, pose at the signing of a deal at the Prime Minister's Office in Dhaka yesterday. Michelle Simmons, general manager of Microsoft Southeast Asia for new markets, was also present. Under the deal, women entrepreneurs from 5,273 digital centres will be trained in computer hardware and software.

Women to be trained to run digital centres better

Govt signs deal with Microsoft

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government yesterday signed an agreement with Microsoft Bangladesh to develop skills of the women working in state-run digital centres and also help them become entrepreneurs.

Sonia Bashir Kabir, managing director of Microsoft Bangladesh, and Kabir Bin Anwar, project director of the Access to Information (a2i) programme under the Prime Minister's Office, inked the memorandum of understanding.

Michelle Simmons, general manager of Microsoft Southeast Asia for new markets, was also present at the event at the PMO.

Under the agreement, women working in 5,273 digital centres will receive training on computer hardware and software use and troubleshooting. They will be linked to service centres after the training, according to a statement.

Through the Digital Literacy Training Programme, women will gain expertise on digital centre activities and be able to help local people with hardware and software support.

"Establishing a digital centre in every union with one woman entrepreneur along with a man is very important for materialising the Digital Bangladesh vision," Anwar said.

"There will be an opportunity for

rural women to get IT support if at least one woman entrepreneur is there. The Microsoft initiative will help those women entrepreneurs move forward," he said in the statement.

Sonia said: "We believe women are an integral part of our society, and it is my passion to promote women in technology."

"We look forward to promoting Bangladeshi women in technology, taking them from employability to entrepreneurship and enabling them to integrate technology in their daily and professional lives," she said.

"We will turn them into service engineers," she told The Daily Star.

READ MORE ON B3

SEATS ARE LIMITED

YELLOW by BEXIMCO presents

BANGLADESH Retail CONGRESS

Yakeen Gazi
Sr. Vice President IT & Logistics
Hypercity Retail India Ltd.

Kurnal Rawat
Creative Director
Landor Mumbai

Sandip Tarkas
President
(Customer Strategy)
& CEO (Bengal Warriors)
Future Group

Retail Experts from Shwapno, Apex, Yellow, Meenabazar, Agora, Sailor will share their insights

Information & Registration
Cell: 01755 594 961, 01787 657 818
E-mail: retail.congress@gmail.com

Date: 06 February, 2016 **Time:** 09:00 AM - 05:00 PM
Venue: Le Méridien Dhaka, Airport Road, Dhaka 1229

Supported by: The Daily Star, Apex, meena bazar, Agora, sailor, MASTHEAD PR, WebAble, Le MERIDIEN DHAKA

An Initiative of **Bangladesh BRAND FORUM**
Inspiring Brands in Bangladesh

MDB Credit Card

up to **30% discount**

SIX SEASONS HOTEL
LUXURY RESORTS
(+88) 096 66 410 888
Contact Centre: (+88) 096 11 410 888

midlandbank Ltd
bank for inclusive growth

ফার্স্ট সিকিউরিটি ইসলামী ব্যাংক লি.

৫০ প্রজন্ম
সংস্করণ ফি উইলেন গ্রীষ্ম সুবিধা
মুদারাবা শিক্ষার্থী সঞ্চয়ী হিসাব (ফুল কার্ড)

প্রারম্ভিক জমা ১০০ টাকা
ফি-এরিম কার্ড ও ডেক বই*
হিসাব রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ চার্জ নেই

বিভাগীয় মানচিত্র: ০২-৯৮৯২২২১