

Star BUSINESS

DHAKA FRIDAY JUNE 10, 2016

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



* ফ্রি অনলাইন সেবা
যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬৬২০০৯৯২২

Siemens wins power network contract

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government has awarded a Tk 1,112-crore project to German industrial giant Siemens to help Bangladesh import an additional 500 megawatts of electricity from India through the existing grid network.

Under the project, Siemens will upgrade the capacity of the existing Bheramara-Baharampur grid interconnection in 24 months, according to a statement.

The first phase of the project of the existing 500MW power station was also completed by Siemens in 2013. The project was implemented under an India-Bangladesh power exchange programme funded by the Asian Development Bank.

Bangladesh now imports 600MW of power from India, with 500MW coming through Bheramara-Baharampur grid interconnection.

Ashraf Hossain, company secretary of Power Grid Company of Bangladesh, the state-run transmission company, and Wolfgang Richard Klear, senior director of Siemens, signed the deal at a programme at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka on Monday.

Power Secretary Monowar Islam and PGCB Managing Director Masum-Al-Beruni were also present.

Mobile money accounts will be verified

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

The government has now turned its attention to verifying the details on mobile financial service accounts after the completion of mobile SIM re-registration on May 31.

The development comes on the heels of recent arrests in Chittagong in connection with mobile money theft.

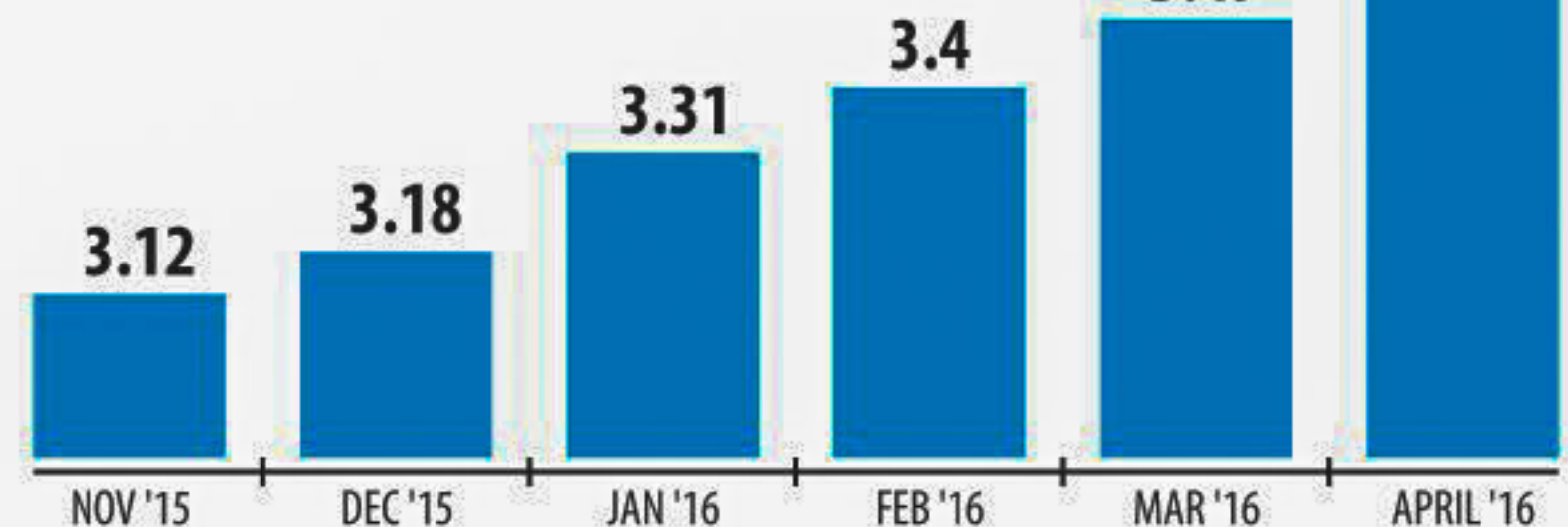
"The move will help reduce mobile financial service-related crimes," said Tarana Halim, state minister for telecom, after a meeting with law enforcement agencies and mobile operators, who made the recommendation.

The telecom division will write to

MOBILE MONEY ACCOUNTS

Numbers in crores

SOURCE: BB



Bangladesh Bank next week asking it to issue a directive for commercial banks to update their MFS customers' details in line with the re-registration of mobile numbers.

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Govt's e-purchase jumps seven times in two years

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Public procurement through electronic means rose by more than seven times in the last two years which significantly cut collusive bidding practices and transaction costs, the World Bank has said.

Four agencies of the government together invited more than 55,000 tenders online up to May 2016, up from 8,000 in June 2014, while the corresponding value rose to \$5 billion from \$700 million during the period, according to a statement of the lender.

"Bangladesh is making a transformational shift to its public procurement environment with exponential growth of electronic government procurement, known as e-GP, covering four key government agencies," the WB said.

The agencies are: Roads and Highways Department, Local Government Engineering Department, Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board, and Bangladesh Water Development Board.

The agencies, which together spend about half the country's annual development budget, also monitor procurement performance online. In addition to making public contracting more accessible, secure, efficient and transparent, electronic procurement is significantly reducing collusive bidding practices at the local levels.

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Ambitious budget must be matched with fast execution

Mohammed Farashuddin, former central bank governor, sits down with The Daily Star to discuss budget

REJAUL KARIM BYRON and MD FAZLUR RAHMAN

The ambitious budget for fiscal 2016-17 will require faster execution of development projects and boosting of revenues by widening the tax net if the government wants to implement it in earnest, said a senior economist.

"The budget would be a step forward in the economic emancipation of people," Mohammed Farashuddin, a former governor of the central bank, told The Daily Star in an interview on Wednesday.



Mohammed Farashuddin

He cited the strengthening of the social safety net as well as the 30 percent increase in allocation for education as cases in point. "The

emphasis on education will transform the manpower into human capital."

Subsequently, he called for a taskforce to ensure timely completion of projects. The taskforce will monitor the progress of the projects in every quarter and identify the problems and fix them if there is any delay.

Revenue is one of the lifelines of the budget, but when it comes to tax-to-GDP ratio, Bangladesh is only ahead of Afghanistan in South Asia, Farashuddin said.

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