**ASIAN MARKETS** 



DHAKA THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2016, ASHWIN 7, 1423 BS

COMMODITIES

#### **BB RESERVE HEIST** Muhith defers release of probe

report again

**STOCKS** 

DSEX

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STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government has once again deferred the release of the probe report on the Bangladesh Bank reserve heist for the sake of bringing back the money from the Philippines.

"We filed cases there [in the Philippines]. They will be upset if the report is made public now," Finance Minister AMA Muhith told reporters yesterday after a meeting of the cabinet committees on economic affairs and pur-

Earlier, Muhith said the report would be released before his two-week tour of a number of countries, including the US, which starts on Saturday.

"Now it will not happen in my absence. We can't say when it will be published, but it will definitely be published later," he added.

A three-member government-formed committee led by former Bangladesh Bank Governor Mohammed Farashuddin submitted the report to the finance ministry on May 30. Since then, Muhith on several occasions pledged to publish it.

On July 21, the minister told his colleagues in parliament that the probe report on the heist will be made public within the "next few days".

According to his latest public confirmation, the report was scheduled to go online on the finance ministry's website today.

Muhith said separate discussions with the law minister and the attorney general over the matter led him to decide not to publish the report for now.

In February, \$101 million was hacked from the BB's reserve account with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York Fed. Of the sum, \$81 million was siphoned off to the Philippines and \$20 million to Sri Lanka.

Bangladesh has already got back the money laundered to Sri Lanka. Of the \$81 million, the Philippines court gave an order to return \$15 million to Bangladesh and the amount would be deposited to the BB account in a few days. The finance minister yesterday said he is hopeful of

getting back almost 100 percent of the stolen money. READ MORE ON B3

# China-funded roads get green light

SINGAPORE SHANGHAI

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REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The cabinet committee on economic affairs yesterday approved the Roads and Highways Department's proposals allowing China Harbour Engineering Company to build two

mega-roads for about Tk 38,000

The projects will be carried out with Chinese soft loans and without any competitive bidding.

One of the projects involves expanding the 226km Dhaka-Sylhet

**KEY FACTS** 

PROJECT 1

Expansion of Dhaka-Sylhet

road to four-lane highway

Distance: 226km

Cost: Tk 12,665cr

**PROJECT 2** 

Sitakunda-Cox's Bazar

four-lane expressway

Distance: 160km

Cost: Tk 25,573cr

road to a four-lane highway. Some Tk 12,665 crore has been

earmarked for the project, but the proposal says the cost may go up 35 percent in the final estimate.

The Roads and Highways Department last year signed a nonbinding preliminary agreement with China Harbour, under which a feasibility study and a detailed design have been prepared. Finance Minister AMA Muhith

himself is interested about the project and has written several times to the Chinese government about it. Yesterday's cabinet committee meeting was chaired by Muhith.

China Harbour has been selected for implementation of another project, which includes construction of a marine drive and a 160km four-lane expressway and land reclamation from Sitakunda to Cox's Bazar.

READ MORE ON B3

### A decade on, but no good news for victims of Jubok scam

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Jubok clients who lost thousands of crores of taka to scams by the multilevel marketing company may not be anything about it afresh." able to recover their money, as the government does not think it is worthwhile to pursue the issue.

An inter-ministerial meeting took a decision." place at the finance ministry yesterday on the controversial issue, which has been left unresolved since 2006, preventing the conned clients from

getting back their money.

"It's a dead issue," Finance Minister AMA Muhith told reporters after the meeting. "There's no scope to do

The minister, who chaired the meeting, said: "I will now discuss the issue with the prime minister to reach

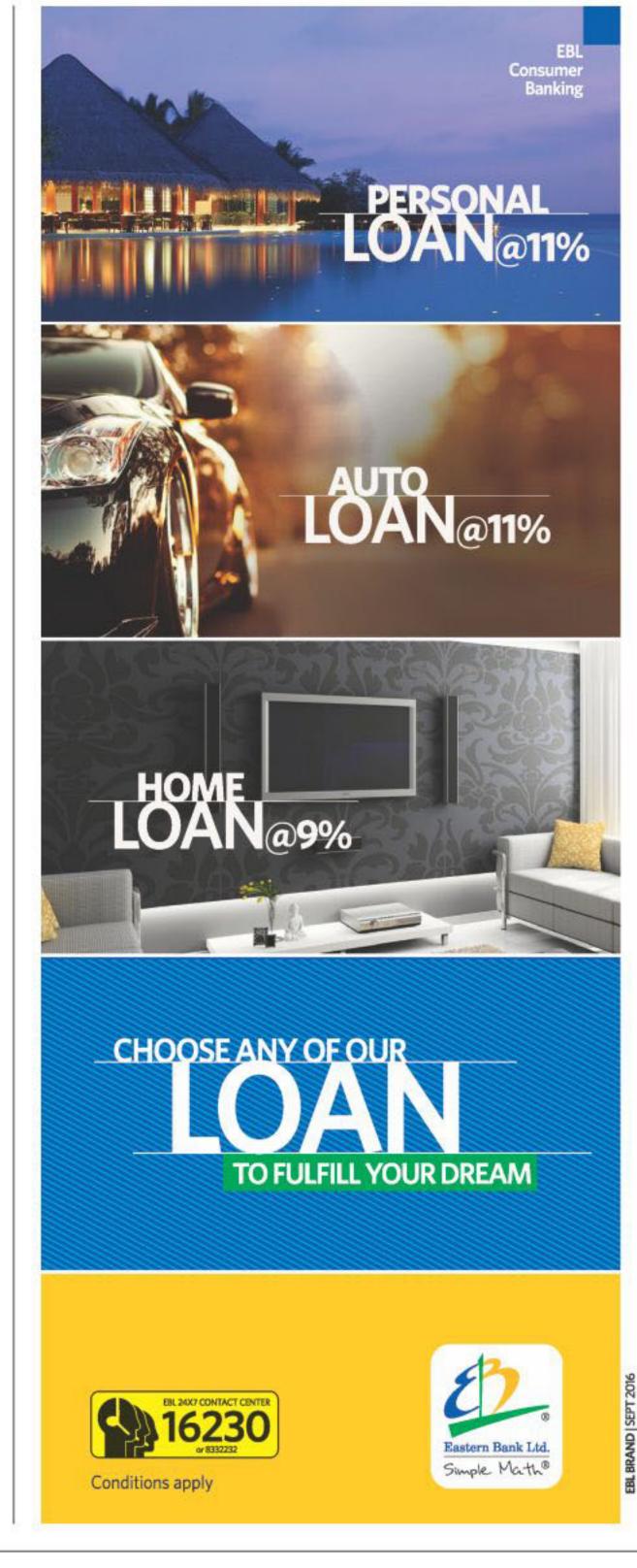
Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed said there are 98 acres of land in the name of Jubo Karmasangsthan Society or Jubok and these properties

are scattered across the country. Some of the properties have not been registered. "Everything is in a mess."

On the issue of appointing an administrator, Ahmed said: "We have discussed the issue of appointing an administrator. We will think about it later, whether it is realistic or not."

It may be that the value of the properties is negligible compared to the amount of money owed to the clients, he added.

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#### Robi launches 200 wi-fi hotspots

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Mobile operator Robi recently launched 200 wi-fi hotspots in various establishments across the country. Robi users will be able to enjoy the service free of cost at restaurants, institutes, shopping malls and airports.

However, for being eligible for the service, Robi subscribers will have to have the experience of purchasing a data pack of at least 1GB.

An official said almost all operators are struggling to ensure uninterrupted indoor network coverage and wi-fi is a solution to this problem.

The initiative is part of a bigger project the operator took in April, under which high-speed wi-fi services will be provided in 500 top restaurants and retail outlets, 100 educational institutions, 10 airports and railway stations, and more than 350 buses, taxis and trains.

In April Robi rolled out free wi-fi services in 100 buses and 100 taxicabs in a bid to provide high-speed internet to its subscribers.

"Robi is committed to implementing the government's vision of a digital Bangladesh and the availability of the internet is the prime enabler of this vision," said Supun Weerasinghe, managing director and chief executive officer of the operator.

Robi is currently on the way to merge its operations with Airtel. The High Court recently gave the green light to the much-awaited merger, paving the way for the formation of the country's second largest mobile operator.

## Citycell must pay Tk 318cr by Oct 19 to save licence

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Citycell has to pay Tk 318.42 crore of its dues to the regulator by October 19 to secure its licence, according to a certified order of the Supreme Court that was made public yesterday. And a month later, the operator

will have to pay its remaining dues of Tk 159.21 crore. Citycell's total dues are Tk 477.63 crore, which include spectrum fees,

licence, revenue and late fees, according to Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission. BTRC yesterday collected the court's certified order and forwarded

it to Citycell immediately, said a senior official of the commission. Senior officials of Citycell have acknowledged the development and

said they are also in talks with potential buyers.

One investor from China was in Dhaka recently for talks but the offer was too low, said a Citycell official asking not to be named.

Another interested party hails from Mexico and its offer was deemed acceptable by Citycell. But the transaction remains pending as the party is facing problems remitting funds to Bangladesh, he said.

Earlier on July 31, the telecom regulator asked Citycell subscribers to switch to other mobile operators by August 16. On August 16, BTRC served a notice to Citycell on why it should not cancel the operator's licence despite failing to pay dues.

The government had also planned to bring down the curtains on Citycell's operations on August 24 but the move was thwarted by a High Court bench, which asked the BTRC to wait until September 16.

### BTRC seeks support of police to track illegally registered SIMs

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

The telecom regulator has recently urged law enforcement agencies to help it find out illegally registered SIMs and take legal actions against the culprits who are selling such mobile connections.

The enforcement division of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission made the call in a letter to the inspector general of police.

ফার্স্ট সিকিউরিটি

ইসলামী ব্যাংক লি:

বিস্তারিত জানতে

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BTRC also requested police to give assistant director of BTRC. the details of the illegally registered

SIMs, which were seized by law enforcers in recent drives.

The regulator plans to fine the mobile operators \$50 for each illegal SIM, officials said.

The SIM re-registration process was successful, and only some dishonest retailers and distributors biometrically registered SIMs with duplicate fingerprints and national identity cards of other users, reads the letter signed by Md Towfiqul Alam, an

READ MORE ON B3

#### Glaxo becomes seventh female-led FTSE 100 firm

AFP, London

British drugs giant GlaxoSmithKline on Tuesday promoted its consumer healthcare head Emma Walmsley to chief executive, a move which will make her the most powerful woman on the FTSE 100.

The 47-year-old, who succeeds outgoing boss Andrew Witty, will become the seventh female chief executive of a group currently listed on London's benchmark shares index.

## ARE YOU A LEADER?

BRAC Bank Limited recorded an astounding growth of 75% in year-on-year after tax profit in the first six months of 2016. The Bank also reached the milestone of BDT 3,000 crores asset portfolio of its Retail Banking Division during this time frame. To advance this business growth to a new height with sustainable momentum, the Bank is now looking for Head of Retail Banking.

The Head of Retail Banking role in BRAC Bank Limited offers an excellent opportunity to leverage, challenge and excel your experience and skills in a multi-faced and enabling environment. Positioned with a comprehensive range of diverse products, with one of the most seasoned and diverse team of 1900+ Retail Banking employees, an extensive network of 175 branches, over 500 ATMs, 448 SME Unit offices and 1800 Remittance delivery points, BRAC Bank offers a unique and unmatched capability to establish the best Retail Banking Services in Bangladesh.

The role will report to the CEO & Managing Director of the Bank and will be part of our Management team.

#### SOME OF THE KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Plan, organize, direct and control Retail activities & resources in order to meet objectives
- Assess market conditions, define, recommend, implement and monitor retail strategy in order to gain and sustain the bank's competitive edge and results
- Contribute to the destination model for Retail Business
- Assess, analyze, define, recommend, implement and follow up market intelligence and marketing plans in order to meet Retail strategic objectives
- Collaborate closely with external and internal stakeholders
- Be accountable for the Retail Banking Business P&L

#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Minimum graduation degree in business or related field
- Any professional qualification as appropriate to market
- Minimum 20 years of experience with proven traits of winning market penetration, product segmentation, transformation into operational excellence and improvement of service quality
- Candidates with non-banking / retail marketing (e.g. FMCG) background are also welcome to apply

Only short listed candidates will be called for the interview as per recruitment process. BRAC Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason.

If you are interested to pursue this opportunity, please send your Résumé addressing Head of Human Resources of BRAC Bank Limited to our office at Anik Tower, Level 9, 220/B Tejgaon I/A, Tejgaon Link Road, Dhaka-1208 with the position applied for clearly mentioned in the subject line.

Please note that BRAC Bank offers equal employment opportunity. Any form of persuasion will disqualify the candidature.

Application Deadline: September 30, 2016



