

আপনার সংসার গুছিয়ে দিচ্ছি আমরা
 এসআইবিএল ইসলামিক কনজুমার ফাইন্যান্স
 আপনার সংসার সাজানোর আসবাবপত্র, পিছা সামগ্রী, ইলেক্ট্রনিক ও অন্যান্য কোম্পানি কেনার সুন্দর সমাধান দিচ্ছি আমরা।
 * ফ্রি অনলাইন সেবা
 যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬৯২০০৯৯২



Leading Indian companies unite to launch social businesses

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
 Yunus Social Business in India and Tata Trusts have jointly rolled out an initiative—Indian Corporate Action Tank (ICAT)—in Mumbai to create corporate social businesses in a bid to address social issues such as nutrition, healthcare, sanitation and housing.



YUNUS CENTRE
 Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus along with the CEOs of Tata companies poses after a meeting in Mumbai. They discussed how the Tata companies can get involved in creating social businesses through each company.

The ICAT will also drive innovation for the poor, Yunus Centre said in a statement yesterday.

Sudhir Mungantiwar, finance minister of Maharashtra; Deepak Vasant Kesarkar, state minister for planning of the state, chief executives and senior officials of leading corporations of India also took part in the India Social Business Forum.

The companies that have so far publicly announced their decisions to have joined the ICAT are Tata Trust, Tata Steel, RPG Group, and Danone India.

Another 10 companies have signed up and are waiting to complete their organisational procedure to be able to announce their participation in the collective initiative, according to the statement.

The ICAT will be India's first platform for large corporations to create in-house corporate social businesses that leverage their core business skills to address social problems in a financially sustainable way.

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NBR names 141 top taxpayers

SOHEL PARVEZ
 The government yesterday released a list of 141 tax-card recipients for fiscal 2015-16 for their exemplary compliance.

The list has been expanded this year under the amended, comprehensive tax card policy after many taxpayers were left out of the recognition despite regularly furnishing the state coffers with sizeable sums.

Of the 141 names, 76 are individuals, including Transcom Group Chairman Latifur Rahman and Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal, who are getting the tax cards as senior citizens, according to the notice issued by the Internal Resources Division of the finance ministry.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, will be

JOURNALISTS

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star
Mohammad Abdul Malek, editor of Dainik Azadi, Chittagong
Matiur Rahman, editor of Prothom Alo
Md Abdul Ahad Chowdhury Tuhin, Barisal
Md Zahidur Rahman, senior correspondent, Ntv, Savar

PRINT AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Mediastar Ltd (owner of Prothom Alo)
Transcraft Ltd (printer of The Daily Star, Prothom Alo)
East West Media Group Ltd (owner of Kaler Kantho, Daily Sun)
Mediaworld Ltd (owner of The Daily Star)

honoured for paying the highest amount of taxes among journalists, followed by MA Malek, editor of the Dainik Azadi of Chittagong and Matiur Rahman, editor and publisher of the Prothom Alo.

In media category, The Daily Star's owning company

Mediaworld Ltd, its printer Transcraft Ltd and Prothom Alo's owner Mediastar have been selected for the tax cards.

East West Media Group Ltd is also going to be honoured with the tax card in the media category. The tax cards will be handed

out at a programme on November 24, said Abdur Razzaque, member of tax administration at the National Board of Revenue.

Individuals in 18 categories, companies in 14 categories, and firms and other taxpayers in four categories will be honoured.

In the category of war-wounded freedom fighters, Md Nasir Uddin Mridha has become the top taxpayer, while Akram Mahmud will take home the tax card in the physically challenged person category.

Husne Ara Hussain will be awarded as the largest taxpayer in women's category. Nafiz Sikder topped the list of individual taxpayers under the age 40.

The NBR also made the list of top taxpayers based on their professions or sources of income.

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BB warns nine new banks on bad loans

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
 The central bank yesterday cautioned nine new banks over aggressive lending and rising nonperforming loans.

Bangladesh Bank Governor Fazle Kabir chaired the meeting attended by the chief executives of these banks, which came into the market in 2013.

"We have asked these banks to strictly follow the risk management guidelines to improve their performance," said Abu Hena Mohammad Razeeq Hassan, deputy governor of BB.

The loans of these nine banks are concentrated on the textile and garment sector in Dhaka and Chittagong, which need to be diversified, he added.

"Also, these banks have been asked to reduce their NPL."

The NPL of the nine banks, referred to as the fourth generation lenders, increased by over 43 percent to Tk 561 crore at the end of September, from Tk 392 crore three months ago. At the end of December last year, the NPL of these banks was less than Tk 45 crore.

Furthermore, the NPL of two new banks has grown significantly in recent months -- it was 7.24 percent for Farmers Bank and 4.14 percent for NRB Commercial -- in the July-September quarter, according to an official of the central bank.

The NPL for the banking industry overall reached 10.34 percent in September, up from 10.06 percent a quarter ago; it was around 25 percent for the four state banks.

"Bangladesh Bank has asked us to be compliant about NPL," Nurul Amin, managing director of Meghna Bank, told The Daily Star after the meeting. The bank's NPL had crossed 3 percent in the same time.

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BTRC receives 7,561 complaints

Public hearing to be held today

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
 The telecom regulator received a total of 7,561 complaints in the last six months, 28.92 percent of which were for unsatisfactory service quality.

Between the months of May and October, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission received 2,187 complaints from subscribers only about the quality of service of the five mobile operators.

In this backdrop, the regulator is set to hold a public hearing today at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh for the first time, in an effort to improve the services of the operators with the customer feedback.

Mobile operators opposed the initiative, calling it an exercise of the BTRC to harass them.

Some 420 dissatisfied customers were invited to attend the hearing out of the 1,050 who signed up for it. "Most of the customers' complaints are the same, so we invited a select number of users," said an official who is related with the issue.

In the two-hour session, which will be attended by representatives of the operators and the BTRC, customers can share their experiences and opinions on call drops, voice calls as well as internet packages and prices.

BTRC officials said most of the user complaints were about call drop, poor network coverage, call generation failure and duration of the various data packages

and their prices.

They, however, said the number of complaints the users lodge with the mobile companies is much higher than the allegations received by the regulator.

Although the commission asked the mobile phone companies several times to compensate for call drops, they disregarded the order with a claim that their call drop rate was lower than the BTRC benchmark.

The BTRC's approved allowable call drop limit is 2 to 3 percent.

In July this year, the mobile operators agreed to provide call drop compensation within their own network following BTRC's pressure, but only one is providing the facility as a promotional offer.

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ADB approves \$167m for energy infrastructure

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
 The Asian Development Bank yesterday said it would lend \$167 million to Bangladesh to improve production efficiency at the Titas gas field and expand transmission infrastructure.

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank or AIIB is expected to lend an additional \$60 million, which will be managed by the ADB. It will be the second project to be co-financed by the ADB and the AIIB.

The project will install seven wellhead gas compressors to increase pumping

pressure and ensure steady extraction at Titas gas field, Bangladesh's largest gas field, Manila-based ADB said in a statement yesterday. The project will also boost gas transmission by building 181 kilometres of transmission pipeline from Chittagong to Bakhrabad, southeast of Dhaka.

The \$453 million project is expected to be completed in 2021. It will substitute the use of other fossil fuels, thereby reducing over 700,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission a year over the ensuing 10 years. The Bangladesh government will

provide \$226 million for the project.

"The project will help the government address the country's energy crisis by making available additional clean energy, particularly imported natural gas, through the transmission network," said Hongwei Zhang, finance specialist for energy at ADB's South Asia Department.

"By addressing gas supply constraints and transmission bottlenecks, the project will increase the energy sector's contribution to sustainable economic growth in Bangladesh."

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Clean chit from intelligence agencies must for telecom licences now

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM
 The telecom regulator has decided to seek more involvement of the intelligence agencies for its licensing, spectrum allocation and share transfer processes to ensure adequate due diligence.

In October, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission decided in a meeting to go for security vetting from the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence before authorising licences, spectrums and share transfers.

The move comes after the telecom regulator observed some loopholes in its different verification processes.

There were instances in the past when politically powerful entities took out licences using fake addresses; they now owe the BTRC hundreds of crores of taka, said an official of the regulatory body.

The BTRC is owed around Tk 1,000 crore by different international gateway operators, most of which are politically backed. They are currently blocked and facing legal actions.

"Some of the companies even used fake addresses and transferred shares to the other people's names," said another official of the BTRC's legal and licensing division.

The telecom watchdog also halted its auction on mobile number portability, which was scheduled for the last week of September, after intelligence agencies' report on the owners of the aspirants companies, officials also said.

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BGMEA to seek review of verdict for building demolition

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
 Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association will file a review petition with the court to reconsider the verdict on demolishing BGMEA Complex, said Siddiqur Rahman, president of the trade body.

"We will file the review petition in the first week of next month. I hope the court will reconsider our plea as the contribution of the garment sector to national exports is more than 80 percent," Rahman said.

The Supreme Court, in a full verdict


released on November 8, ordered BGMEA to immediately demolish the 15-storey building at its own cost, which was constructed illegally on the Begunbari canal and Hatirjheel lake in the heart of the capital.

Otherwise, Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha or Rajuk will do it within 90 days of receiving the order and realise the cost from BGMEA, it added.

Amicus curiae advocate Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star that BGMEA can move a petition in 30 days, seeking a review of the verdict.

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