ASIAN MARKETS

TOKYO

MUMBAI

আপনার সংসার নলামিক কনজ্যমার ফাইন্যান্স গুছিয়ে দিচ্ছি আমরা আপনার সংসার গোছানোর আসবাবপত্র, শিক্ষ সামগ্রী, ইলেক্ট্রনিক ও অন্যান্য ভোগ্যপণ্য কেনার সুন্দর সমাধান দিচ্ছি আমরা। * ফ্রি অনলাইন সেবা যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬১২০০১১২২

DHAKA SUNDAY DECEMBER 11, 2016, AGRAHAYAN 27, 1423 BS

As of Friday

COMMODITIES

Mobile money drives financial inclusion

Says study funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

STOCKS

DSEX

Week-on-week

CSCX

............ Financial inclusion expanded 8 percentage points year-on-year in 2015, driven by growth in mobile money, according to a recent study.

About 43 percent of Bangladeshis are financially included, says the study conducted by Washington-based

Bangladesh until October this year, with only 1.38 crore active, according to the central bank. Customers transferred Tk 20,692.43

crore in 12.85 crore transactions in October this year, according to central bank statistics.

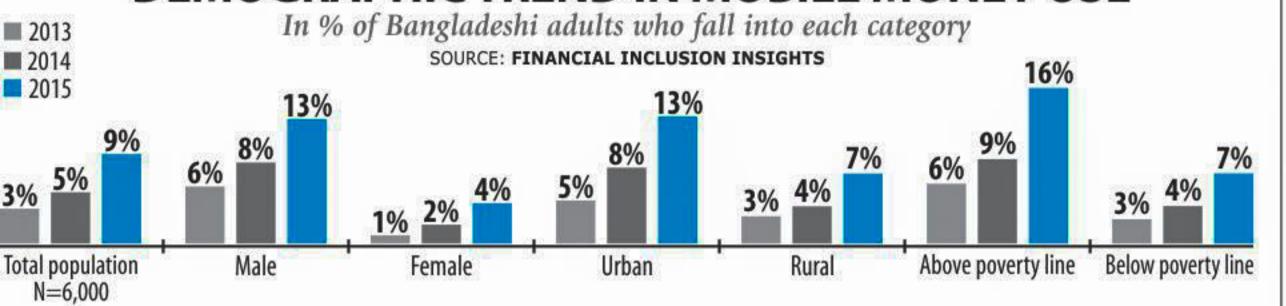
However, account access and usage remain a problem - while the number

right back into poverty, it said. The largest increases in registered

mobile money use are among male, urban and above-poverty populations. Men enjoyed three times the growth in financial inclusion than women: 13 percent of men were using MFS, while it was 4 percent for women.

In the urban segment, 13 percent of

DEMOGRAPHIC TREND IN MOBILE MONEY USE



research company InterMedia with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation based on statistics of

Of the figure, 24 percent of citizens are covered by non-bank financial inclusion and 19 percent have fullservice bank accounts. Of them, 9 percent have mobile money accounts.

There were 3.9 crore registered mobile financial service accounts in

of active mobile money account users doubled in the past year, according to the report, known as the Financial Inclusion Insights. Of active registered users, 13 percent have used at least one advanced mobile money function in a month, the study said.

Digital financial services give people a secure way to save, which allows them to build cushion against financial shocks that would otherwise pull them

citizens were using mobile money in 2015 and 7 percent in rural areas.

Financial inclusion is higher among those who are using mobile phones to send and receive text messages: 64 percent financially-included people have their own handsets, 32 percent were using mobile phones by borrowing from others and the rest 4 percent had no mobile connections, the report said.

READ MORE ON B3



10% Cash and 7% Stock Dividend i.e. total 17% dividend among others were approved by the shareholders of Paramount Textile Ltd. in its 10th AGM held at Spectra Convention Centre, Gulshan, Dhaka for the year ended 30th June, 2016. A huge number of Shareholders were present in the meeting. Mrs. Anita Haque, Chairman of the company presided over the meeting and Mr. Shakhawat Hossain, Managing Director & other Directors also attended the meeting.

A bank with a difference



Prime Bank secured 1st position for

best presented annual report 2015, best corporate governance and 3rd position for integrated reporting in the 16th ICAB National Award.

We dedicate the awards to the stakeholders for their confidence and trust.

Prime Bank

Foreign funds in stocks jump nine times

SARWAR A CHOWDHURY

CURRENCIES

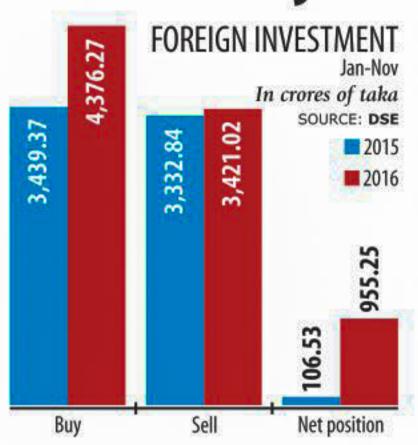
SHANGHAI

SINGAPORE

Net foreign investment in the capital market soared almost nine times in the first 11 months of the year, as overseas investors continue to pour funds into Bangladesh's stockmarket seen as a frontier and emerging market by many.

Foreign investors bought shares worth Tk 4,376.27 crore and sold shares worth Tk 3,421.02 crore to take their net investment for the January-November period to Tk 955.25 crore.

A year earlier, the net investment by



foreigners stood at Tk 106.53 crore, according to data from Dhaka Stock Exchange.

Positive macroeconomic indicators, including stable exchange rate and a steady political scenario, boosted the foreign investors' confidence, analysts said.

Also, the recent trend of pulling funds out of the neighbouring stockmarkets including India created an opportunity for Bangladesh to receive more investment as a frontier and emerging market.

READ MORE ON B3

Organic farming gains foothold

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Crop production through organic farming practices provides higher benefit in the long-term than producing foods by using chemical fertilisers and pesticides, found a recent study.

•••••

The study was conducted by the Research Initiatives, Bangladesh (RIB), a not-for-profit organisation

ensure sustainable poverty alleviation in the country, in two upazilas in Daily Star Centre yesterday. Chittagong district.

farming practices yielded positive results. The gains, although little, were encouraging, the study said.

have become fruitful," said Nilufer-Hye-Karim, project coordinator of

that supports research that could RIB, while presenting the outcome of the project at a seminar held at The

The seminar was organised by RIB The cost-benefit analysis of organic in association with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, a Berlin-based transnational alternative policy group, to share the findings of the project, 'Exploring "What we or farmers have done Alternative Farming Practices to End Hunger in Bangladesh'.

READ MORE ON B3

No proof yet that BB officials were involved in cyber heist: CID

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Criminal Investigation Department is yet to get proof nine months into its probe that any Bangladesh Bank official benefitted financially from the cyber heist in February. "Different issues such as account information of

Bangladesh Bank officials are being investigated. We have not yet got any evidence of their benefitting financially," Shah Alam, additional deputy inspector general of CID, told reporters yesterday.

Following a case filed by the central bank, the CID opened the probe into the incident on March 15 -more than a month after hackers made off with \$81 million from the central bank's reserves with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

READ MORE ON B3



