

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY
▲ 0.10%	▲ 0.16%	\$1,256.10	\$48.99	▼ 0.16%	▲ 0.52%	▼ 0.18%	▲ 0.54%	BUY TK 80.40	93.56	103.80	0.71
5,913.59	11,082.80	(per ounce)	(per barrel)	32,273.67	20,055.89	3,320.67	3,279.54	SELL TK 81.40	97.16	107.40	0.74

রোগ নির্ণয়ে সর্বাধুনিক যন্ত্রপাতি, সর্বোচ্চ মান। প্রতিটি ডায়াগনস্টিক টেস্ট, আইসিইউ, সার্জারী ও ডায়ালাইসিসে ন্যূনতম ৩০% সঞ্চয়।

**SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center**  
(SIBL Foundation Hospital, Diagnostic & Dialysis Center)

ফার্মাট প্রজা, ৭০ গ্রিনবোর্ড, পল্লবপথ মোড়  
ফোন: +৮৮০-২-৯৬৪৯২৯৭  
Hotline: 01991150900

# Star BUSINESS

DHAKA TUESDAY AUGUST 8, 2017, SRABAN 24, 1424 BS

## Grameen Bank electoral rules may see changes

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
The government may amend the electoral rules of microcredit lender Grameen Bank so that it can pick nine directors from the borrowers by itself -- like it has done since its inception. Now the finance ministry will take opinions of the attorney general on how to amend the Grameen Bank (Election of Directors) Rules 2014, said a senior official of the finance ministry yesterday. The in-principle decision to make changes to the electoral rules came at a high-level meeting at Finance Minister AMA Muhith's official residence in Dhaka on Sunday night. Fazle Kabir, governor of the central bank; Md Eunusur Rahman, senior secretary of the

**AT A GLANCE**

3 govt-appointed directors running Grameen Bank since Feb 2015

Although rules for the election of directors were changed in 2014, no election has taken place since

banking division; Suraiya Begum, senior secretary of the Prime Minister's Office and a director of Grameen Bank; K Mozammel Haque, chairman of Grameen Bank; and Ratan Kumar Nag, acting managing director of Grameen Bank, were present at the meeting, among others. The meeting came following a letter from the Grameen Bank chairman on July 16. Haque is seeking approval to change some of the electoral provisions so that the bank can appoint one of its officials to oversee the election of directors from borrowers. "Grameen Bank should be allowed to run in the way it was allowed to run in the past," Haque told The Daily Star earlier referring to the letter.

READ MORE ON B3

## Call rate hike proposal sent back for revision

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
The telecom division yesterday sent back the proposal for voice call rate hike to the telecom regulator for revision after holding proper consultations with stakeholders. There is a concern that the cost of using telecom services will rise at the end-user level, Tarana Halim, state minister for telecom, told reporters at her office yesterday. The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission recently made a surprise move to adjust the mobile call rates, which, if implemented, would increase the consumers' call expenditure by about 15 percent. "Our main agenda is to provide better services at a low-cost -- that's why we sent it back to BTRC for revision," Tarana added. In its proposal the BTRC recommended an increase in the minimum on-net call rate to Tk 0.35 per minute from existing Tk 0.25, and cut the off-net rate down to Tk 0.45 per minute from Tk 0.60. The price adjustment would have brought the three private operators -- Grameenphone, Robi and Banglalink -- Tk 121 crore in additional monthly revenue. State-owned Teletalk though would lose Tk 4 crore a month. The private mobile operators earlier welcomed the move but now they are also seeking consultations, said a top official of an operator. "We would like to request the regulator to discuss the matter with the industry before taking any further decision," said TIM Nurul Kabir, secretary general of the Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh, yesterday. Subsequently, BTRC Chairman Shahjahan Mahmood said they will now go for further discussions on the issue and make revisions accordingly. The revised proposal might be placed at the next commission meeting, scheduled for August 16. In its commission meeting at the end of July, the telecom regulator decided to implement the proposed call rate, subject to the approval of the government, on a temporary basis and also planned to arrange a proper consultation with experts from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Wishing not to be named, a top official of the telecom regulator said the government will not go for a move like this just before an election year. The BTRC also proposed slashing the maximum voice call rate to Tk 1.5/minute from Tk 2 now, said another official.

READ MORE ON B3

## Employees sue Citycell top brass over back pay

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
A group of employees of Citycell yesterday sued five top officials and three owners, including Chairman Morshed Khan and Chief Executive Officer Mehboob Chowdhury, over unpaid salaries and allowances of Tk 1.5 crore. Five employees of the out-of-service mobile phone operator filed separate cases against them with the labour court in Dhaka as they have not been paid since September last year. The court recorded the cases and also ordered the top officials and the board members to appear before it on October 4, said Tipu Sultan, head of communications of Citycell and one of the plaintiffs. He has made a claim of Tk 31.52 lakh in unpaid salaries and other benefits for the last 11 months. Morshed Khan, a senior BNP leader and

former foreign minister, heads the board of Pacific Bangladesh Telecom Ltd, which uses Citycell as its brand name. Nasrin Khan, Khan's wife and a director, and Asghar Karim, also a director of PBTL, have been named in the cases. Officials who have been named in the cases are Chief Financial Officer Tariqul Hasan and provident fund trustees Mahfuzur Rahman, Nishat Ali and AB Sarkar. Citycell employees Tipu Sultan, Kazi Ruhul Quddus, Hasan Mahmud, Sadik Milon and AKM Ahsanul Azad filed the cases. "As we had no registered union at Citycell we needed to file cases individually," said Sultan, adding that 25 more individuals would file cases for similar reasons. The Citycell Employees' Association said at least 15 employees served legal notices over back pay a month ago but have received no response from the management.

READ MORE ON B3

## Only 20pc of Pangaon port's capacity utilised

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
Only around 20 percent of the Pangaon port's capacity could be utilised since it became operational some four years ago due to several reasons, including high shipping charges and traffic jam. The problems came to light at a meeting at the port, situated on the Buriganga river in Dhaka's Keraniganj upazila, yesterday in presence of Finance Minister AMA Muhith and Shipping Minister Shahjahan Khan. The meeting was organised with stake-

holders, including importers and exporters, on how to best use facilities at Pangaon Inland Container Terminal. Businesspersons said the port would lose appeal if the problems persist. Shipping Secretary Ashok Madhav announced that a committee would be formed to sit once a month and try to solve problems that arise. The committee will be led by a shipping ministry joint secretary and comprise representatives of government organisations concerned and stakeholders, he said.

READ MORE ON B3

## Easy rules a must to boost wheat import from Canada: study

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
Bangladesh's businessmen have to pay extra to bring wheat from Canada as they need to get confirmation from a foreign bank to open letters of credit (LCs) at first to import the grain, according to a study. LC confirmation from any bank should be good enough to make the transaction, suggested the study released last week. The study report also suggested the Canadian exporters go for enough mandatory drying of wheat before loading it into the

vessels as sometimes the imported Canadian grain dampens after arrival in Bangladesh. The wheat might have dampened because of containing higher moisture in it, said the study conducted by the Canada Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CanCham). Fumigation is mandatory for grain cargo in Bangladesh, but Canada does not do it. As a result, importers have to bear the cost and hassle of fumigation en route, according to the study.

READ MORE ON B3

## Gold prices dip

**REUTERS, London**  
Gold prices edged lower on Monday, failing to gain support from a weaker dollar as investors digested sharp losses in the previous session and worried about further U.S. rate hikes.

## Dhaka stocks end flat

**STAR BUSINESS REPORT**  
The Dhaka Stock Exchange ended flat yesterday largely because of a selling pressure as investors booked profit. The prime index DSEX gained 5.97 points to close at 5,913. The DSES and the DS30, the two other indices, however, lost 4 points and 4.99 points respectively. Although most shares declined on the day, daily turnover rose 29 percent to Tk 1,187 crore. The DSEX gained 40 points within an hour of the trading session. However, the gain subsided as selling pressure deepened, according to a market analysis of IDLC Assets Management. By the end of

the session, the broad index closed flat. Among the large cap sectors, banks, engineering, and non-banks inched up 1.30 percent, 0.17 percent and 0.15 percent respectively. A total of 154,321 trades were executed on the day. Some 102 securities gained, 202 declined and 27 remained unchanged. Banks maintained its dominant position on the top turnover list as investors showed enthusiasm about the shares after most banks posted healthy half-yearly results, said a senior executive of a merchant bank. IFIC topped the turnover list, followed by City Bank, BBS Cable, EBL and Mercantile Bank.

**PARTEX Cables** powering with safety

HOTLINE 09612-725725, EXT-19701

www.midlandbankbd.net

**MDB Nari Uddog**

INDEPENDENCE IS TRUE EMPOWERMENT

The Women of our Nation are contributing to the progress of our country. MDB Nari Uddog loan provides financial benefits to women entrepreneurs to run their business with confidence and independence.

At Midland Bank, working women share the same access to prosperity.

Contact Centre: (+88) 096 66 410 888, (+88) 096 11 410 888

**midlandbank Ltd**  
bank for inclusive growth

Pay your **DPDC BILL** through **MTB internet banking**

মিউচুয়াল ট্রাস্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড  
**Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.**  
you can bank on us

16219

**BBS CABLES** more than safety

**FR SKIN COATED CABLES**

Environment Friendly Cables

+880175559727 www.bbscables.com.bd

**1st TIME IN BANGLADESH**

**BERGER FIREGUARD**

Fire intumescent coating for structural steel

FREE CALL **08000-123456**

E-mail: coatingsolution@bergerbd.com

INTERNATIONAL QUALITY BUET TESTED INTERNATIONAL QUALITY

নিরাপদে থাকুন **২৪/৭**

৯৯.৯৯% বিশুদ্ধ কপার

১০১% কপার কন্ডাক্টিভিটি

পি ডব্লিউ ডি তালিকাভুক্ত

সি পি আর আই সার্টিফাইড

**সিসামুক্ত**

বিজলী ক্যাবলস্ এর কন্ডাক্টর তৈরি হয় ৯৯.৯৯% বিশুদ্ধ কপার দিয়ে, তাই এর কিছুপরিবাহ হয় সম্পূর্ণ বাধাহীন। আর এর উন্নতমানের ইনসুলেশন নিশ্চিত করতে পারে সর্বোচ্চ নিরাপত্তা।

**বিজলী ক্যাবলস্**  
নিরাপদ সংযোগ অমূল্য জীবন

www.rfeshop.com

**PARTEX FURNITURE** total care

**PARTEX FIRE DOOR**

DON'T LET FIRE CROSS THE LINE

UL CERTIFIED

FIRST & ONLY **UL CERTIFIED FIRE DOOR** MADE IN BANGLADESH

01770790373 Email: firedoor@psgbd.com

www.parstextargroup.com