

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	USD	EUR	GBP	JPY
▲ 0.01%	▼ 0.04%	\$1,305.60 (per ounce)	\$49.69 (per barrel)	▼ 0.07%	▲ 1.96%	▼ 0.49%	▼ 0.18%	BUY TK 80.95	96.05	108.85	0.71
6,236.58	11,713.54			32,402.37	20,299.38	3,225.95	3,356.65	SELL TK 81.95	99.65	112.45	0.74

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

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Star BUSINESS

DHAKA WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2017, ASHWIN 5, 1424 BS

Govt eyes to earn Tk 11,000cr from 4G auction

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

The government has targeted to earn Tk 11,000 crore by selling spectrum at the upcoming 4G technology auction that will allow mobile phone operators to offer high-speed data service.

Industry experts, however, cautioned that the government should not be too much focused on making a huge amount of money from the auction because high prices might leave the spectrum unsold like it happened in case of 3G.

Top three mobile phone operators – Grameenphone, Robi and Banglalink -- yesterday also wrote to the government, expressing concerns about "higher" floor prices.

Last week Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who also heads the telecom ministry, approved the 4G guideline.

According to the guideline, the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) will put 36.4 megahertz of spectrum in three bands up for auction.

Some 25 MHz in 2100 band, 18 MHz in 1800 band and 3.4 MHz in 900 band spectrums will be available at the auction.

The government has set a floor price of \$27 million per MHz in 2100 band and \$30 million per MHz in both 1800 and 900 bands.

If the spectrums are sold at the floor price, the government will earn Tk 11,000 crore.

The government will also have the scope to earn \$7.5 million as each MHz spectrum's technological neutrality charge in 1800 and 900 bands that mobile operators are currently using.

The Posts and Telecommunication Division will hold a media briefing in the ministry today to announce the government's plan on 4G rollout and auction.

Abu Saeed Khan, senior fellow of LIRNEasia, a Colombo-based ICT think tank, said because of higher prices, operators will not buy as much spectrum as they need.

"As the government wants to make quick bucks from the auction to boost domestic revenue mobilisation, public interest will not be protected," he said.

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Seungwon Youn, managing director of Samsung Electronics Bangladesh, attends the inauguration ceremony of its flagship premium lineup of QLED TVs along with the rest of the 2017 lineup at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka yesterday.

Samsung showcases flagship products

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Samsung Electronics Bangladesh yesterday showcased its flagship premium line-up of QLED TVs along with the rest of its offerings for 2017, all of which, the South Korean tech giant said, will redefine the future of home entertainment.

"At Samsung we are constantly striving to bring groundbreaking innovations within the reach of our valued customers," said Seungwon Youn, managing director of the company.

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Petrobangla, Gunvor Singapore sign MoU on LNG supply

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The government yesterday signed an initial agreement with Gunvor Singapore to buy liquefied natural gas (LNG) as the country seeks to ride out widening energy shortages.

Syed Ashfaquzzaman, secretary of Petrobangla, and Luc Speelveld, head of LNG for Asia of Gunvor Singapore PTE Ltd, signed the memorandum of understanding at a programme at the former's headquarters in Dhaka.

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Transaction limit raised for agent banking

BB issues new guideline to promote operations

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh Bank has bumped up the daily cash deposit limit for agent banking accounts to Tk 6 lakh from Tk 1 lakh with the view to promoting banking services across the country.

The change was made in the new guideline for agent banking operations, which was issued on Monday.

Agent banking is a system of providing banking and financial services on a limited scale to the underserved population of Bangladesh by way of agents under an agreement rather than a teller.

The central bank has decided to promote this complimentary channel to reach out to the unbanked and underserved segments of the society as well as existing bank customers with a

range of banking services, especially to geographically dispersed locations.

In the new guideline, the cash withdrawal limit for business accounts has been set at Tk 5 lakh and fund transfer limit Tk 15 lakh.

The minimum capital of agents must be Tk 2 lakh and that an agent cannot enter into contract with more than one bank.

Moreover, defaulters, bankrupts, convicts or anyone being investigated on criminal charges cannot provide agent banking service.

"This will accelerate agent banking operations across the country," said Arfan Ali, president and managing director of Bank Asia.

He said the guideline has set criteria for the agents, helping banks shape the service.

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First submarine cable to remain shut for 3 days

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The country's first international submarine cable (SEA-ME-WE-4) connection will remain shut for three days from October 6 for the first time of the cable's 12-year history due to maintenance works under the Bay of Bengal, said a top official of the company.

If the second cable, which was launched last week, fails to provide adequate bandwidth, it may lead to disruption in internet services.

Internet users may feel some sort of disruption due to the maintenance work, said Monwar Hossain, managing director of Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited, adding that not everyone will get slower data speed.

The BSCCL has started using the second submarine cable named SEA-ME-WE-5 commercially from this month.

The capacity of the cable is about 1,500 Gigabits per second but the state-owned company can use only 200 Gbps of it at present.

"We are trying to shift all our connectivity with the second cable."

Currently, BSCCL is supplying about 250 Gbps bandwidth and there will be a shortage of about 50 Gbps bandwidth during the maintenance period.

"We are trying to purchase another 50 Gbps from some international companies for one month to tackle the situation," Hossain added.

Bangladesh uses about 450 Gbps bandwidth, meaning about 200 Gbps is imported from India.

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7th HSBC EXPORT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

At HSBC, we believe that growing businesses are at the heart of Bangladesh's prosperous future. As we continue to support future growth, we proudly announce nominations for the Export Excellence Awards are now open in the following categories.

Exporters of the year - Ready Made Garments
 Exporter of the year - Supply Chain and Backward Linkage : Apparel
 Exporter of the year - Traditional and Emerging Sectors
 Exporter of the year - SMEs

Nominations close 5 October 2017.

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