

আপনার কৃতজ্ঞিত সঞ্চয়ের
সর্বাধিক নিরাপত্তা ও সর্বোচ্চ মুনাফার জন্য
 এসআইবিএল-এ আমানত রাখুন।

০৯৬২২০০৯২২২
 ফটলাইন: ৯৬৪৯৯
 www.sibibd.com

SIBL
 ঐক্যের সৌন্দর্য

আমরা দিচ্ছি শরীআ'হ ভিত্তিক সর্বাধিক ব্যাংকিং সেবার প্রতিশ্রুতি

Star BUSINESS

City

DHAKA TUESDAY MARCH 13, 2018, FALGUN 29, 1424 BS • starbusiness@thedailystar.net

Lending disrupted for a week for BB server crash

Server functioning since last evening

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Banks' lending activities ground to a halt for a week until last evening due to the abrupt collapse of the central bank's Credit Information Bureau server on March 6.

The CIB report, which informs on the clients' credit status, must be collected from the central bank's server to sanction, extend or renew any loan.

Banks are not allowed to provide any loan if the CIB report, which was put up online in July 2011, informs that the clients are defaulters.

The CIB server was brought to order last evening, said Debashish Chakraborty, spokesperson of the Bangladesh Bank.


The BB server and some other segments of the central bank's data centre had collapsed on March 6 due to failure of the cooling system.

It took the central bank nearly a week to resolve the technical problem as the repairs needed were done step by step, said another BB official.

"We have been forced to stop our credit activities largely in the last few days. We failed to sanction fresh loans and extend or renew the existing ones," said Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director of Dhaka Bank.

Rahman, also the chairman of the Association of Banks, Bangladesh, a forum of banks' chief executive officers, said that the central bank had not even informed the banks about the server breakdown.

AT A GLANCE



The central bank's Credit Information Bureau server collapsed on March 6

It took BB nearly a week to resolve the technical problem as the repairs were done step by step, says an official

"We were forced to stop our credit activities. We failed to sanction fresh loans and extend or renew the existing ones," says Syed Mahbubur Rahman, managing director of Dhaka Bank

"We could not sanction any credit since last Tuesday," said a senior executive of a private commercial bank.

It is unprecedented that the central bank's key server has been out of service for nearly a week and without any notice, he added.

Reforms needed to curb default loans: economists

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Noted economists yesterday called for institutional reforms to curb a banking sector culture of defaulting on loans and ensure proper use of development funds.

They said there should be a provision for punishment for delays in project implementation.

They made the observations at a pre-budget meeting with Finance Minister AMA Muhith at the auditorium of National Economic Council in Dhaka.

Prof Rehman Sobhan, chairman of think-tank the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), said when an election approaches many get their loans rescheduled. He cautioned the government to remain alert about it.

In response, Muhith said, "I am assuring you that it will definitely not happen."

READ MORE ON B3

Muhith unhappy with DSE for its role in market

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday expressed dissatisfaction with Dhaka Stock Exchange's (DSE) role in the capital market, including the selection of a strategic partner in the demutualisation process.

"Regarding capital market, some are trying to catch fish in troubled waters. The DSE's role at this moment is not right," he said while presenting his closing speech at a pre-budget discussion with economists at the National Economic Council auditorium.

He said though Bangladesh Bank relaxed the timeframe for banks to bring down the advance-deposit ratio from June to December this year, there was no reflection of the message in the market.

After the meeting, he told journalists that the share market was a serious issue.

READ MORE ON B3

Apparel exports to new markets on the rise



REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Garment exports to non-traditional markets rose 3.77 percent year-on-year to \$2.56 billion in the July-January period of the current fiscal year thanks to preferential trade benefit and fiscal incentive.

Apparel shipments fetched \$2.47 billion in the same period last fiscal year, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau.

In 2008, garment exports to the emerging markets stood at only \$800 million. Since then it started climbing and rose five times to \$3.90 billion in 2015-16.

Bangladesh considers all countries as

non-traditional markets except for its key destinations such as the European Union, the US, and Canada.

India, China, Russia, Japan, South Africa, Turkey, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, South Korea, Malaysia, Australia, and New Zealand are among the major non-traditional markets for the garment sector.

Shipments to the emerging markets are rising on the back of zero-duty benefit granted to Bangladesh, opening of retail stores by global brands, market diversification by local exporters, and the government's fiscal incentives.

READ MORE ON B3

ICC elects new top officials

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

John WH Denton and Paul Polman have unanimously been elected as new secretary-general and first vice-chair respectively of International Chamber of Commerce.

They were elected at ICC's extraordinary world council held in Tokyo on March 8, the Bangladesh chapter of the globe's largest business organisation said in a statement yesterday.

Denton is the CEO of Australia's leading law firm Corrs Chambers Westgarth and Polman is the CEO of Unilever.

Denton will replace John Danilovich while Polman will succeed current ICC Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal, who will take the position of honorary chairman of the Paris-based organisation.

More than 50 chairmen, vice-chairmen or secretary generals of the ICC national committees from different countries attended the council.

ICC Bangladesh President Mahbubur Rahman, Vice President Latifur Rahman and Secretary General Ataur Rahman attended the event.

READ MORE ON B3

Two projects dropped from Indian credit

JAGARAN CHAKMA

The government has dropped two projects from the Indian line of credit list and instead will use its own funds to implement them due to complexities in the terms and conditions for the loan from the neighbouring country.

The projects are: the expansion of cancer treatment facilities in Bangladesh and setting up the campus of Rangamati Medical College and Hospital.

As per the conditions of the \$2 billion Indian LoC deal signed in March 2016, at least 65 percent of procurement for the projects would have to be done from the neighbouring country.

A review found that the quality of the medical equipment manufactured in India is not world-class.

So to avoid purchasing sub-par equipment the government decided to drop the projects from the list, said an official of the health and family welfare ministry, adding that equipment will now be imported from the EU or the US.

The decision was taken at a review meeting on sub-regional cooperation held at the Prime Minister's Office in the first

week of February.

"It was just a proposal to implement the two projects under the Indian LoC," said Md Muhiuddin Osmani, joint chief of the health and family welfare ministry, who was present at the meeting.

But now, the government will implement them with its own funds, he added.

About Rangamati Medical College Hospital, an official said the project would also not be implemented under the Indian assistance due to complexities in land acquisition.

The authorities could not identify the site of the project in the last four years although the first batch of students was enrolled in 2014, he said.

The college is currently running at a temporary campus on the premises of Rangamati General Hospital.

At the meeting in February, the health and family welfare ministry said it is not willing to use the Indian money for the project. The Indian fund allocated for the two projects would be diverted elsewhere, said officials of the Economic Relations Division.

The government has not discussed the dropping of the projects with the Exim Bank of India yet.

Stocks falling on tussle over DSE strategic partner

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Stocks continued to fall yesterday because of weak investor confidence and the prevailing liquidity crisis in the financial sector.

DSEX, the benchmark index of the premier bourse, fell 67.79 points or 1.17 percent before finishing the day at 5,705.57.

"The risk-averse investors continued their selling spree amid the wary market trend and ongoing liquidity crisis coupled

with ambiguity over the DSE's share sales to strategic partner," EBL Securities said in its daily market review.

The tussle between the DSE and Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) over the selection of a strategic partner took a toll on investor confidence, it said.

The BSEC will soon take the final decision on the strategic partner, a high official of the stockmarket regulator said.

READ MORE ON B3

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

An Initiative of Bangladesh BRAND FORUM
 Inspiring Brands in Bangladesh

THE BANGLADESH DIALOGUE FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS

4 KEYNOTE SESSIONS | 3 INSIGHT SESSIONS | 4 PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Government & Private Sector Perspective on Economy | Planning & Strategy | Innovation | Sustainability



PROF. ROBERT C. WOLCOTT
 Clinical Professor of Innovation & Entrepreneurship
 Kellogg School of Management
 Co-Founder & Executive Director
 Kellogg Innovation Network



LALIT GUPTA
 Chief Marketing Officer
 The Icfi Leadership and Governance Centre



DR. MIR SALIM
 Principal
 The Boston Consulting Group



NAMRATA DUBASHI
 Partner
 McKinsey & Company

Date: 7th April, 2018 (Saturday)
Time: 09:00 AM - 05:30 PM
Venue: Grand Ballroom
 Le Méridien Dhaka

FOR REGISTRATION
 01720426629, 01925969444
 leadershipsummit.bbf@gmail.com
 bbf.digital/leadershipsummit2018

EACH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY COPY OF **OPEN SOURCE LEADERSHIP**



AC Carnival

RANGS TOSHIBA

Win up to 20,000 Cashback TV, AC, Freezer & more...

SAMSUNG TOSHIBA Panasonic

For details: 09617 745 745

ADD WHEELS TO YOUR DREAM

MTB AUTOLOAN

MTB RETAIL

পিতৃমুখ ট্রাস্ট ব্যাংক লিমিটেড
 Mutual Trust Bank Ltd.

16219 or 096040 16219