**ASIAN MARKETS** 

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MUMBAI



MOBILE NUMBER PORTABILITY

Launch to be

delayed again

The freedom of switching mobile operators every 90 days

while retaining an existing number might remain elusive

for some more time as a technical issue over international

calls has remained unresolved while Teletalk is yet to

According to Bangladesh Telecommunication

Though BTRC gave a guideline and set the prices for

Regulatory Commission's (BTRC) most recent order, the

mobile number portability (MNP) service was scheduled to

rolling out the service, the issue remained unsettled over

how a call from abroad could reach its destination if the

recipient has changed the operator but has retained the

which is followed by the operator's code and the subscriber's

number. Each operator has been assigned a unique code.

A cellphone number in Bangladesh starts with a zero

The issues were placed before Prime Minister's ICT

DHAKA FRIDAY JULY 27, 2018, SRABAN 12, 1425 BS starbusiness@thedailystar.net

# Banks get more room to lend

COMMODITIES

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

**STOCKS** 

CSCX

DSEX

Banks will get some room to disburse more loans after the central bank yesterday revised its two guidelines.

The two guidelines -- risk-based capital adequacy and calculation method of loan-deposit ratio -- will also help banks slightly mitigate their ongoing liquidity crisis.

From now on banks will be allowed to keep statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) and cash reserve ratio (CRR) against the surplus amount of subordinated bond.

A bank's surplus amount of subordinated bond is the amount that is raised from issuing such bond after it deducts the invested amount in similar bonds of other banks, said a central bank notice. If the bank's net investment in the bond is negative then it will not be considered as net liability for determining the CRR and the SLR. **READ MORE ON B3** 

## Vibrant bond market to beef up financial sector: analysts

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The absence of a vibrant bond market is putting pressure on the country's financial sector as the business community largely depends on banks to get their requisite financing, analysts said yesterday.

The weak bond market has also affected the banks' financial operations as it means heavy dependence on common depositors for funds, they said.

Entrepreneurs of many countries frequently collect their funds through the bond market but Bangladesh's scenario is completely different, they said at a excessive dependence on banks and seminar on the development of the bond facilitates diversification of corporate market in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Institute of Bank norofthecentralbank. Management at its office in the capital.

## AT A GLANCE

Bond market is still in its infancy

**CURRENCIES** 

SHANGHAI

The country has a primary government debt market, characterised by small number of participants as primary dealers

Experts say many diversified securities should be launched in the bond market to make it vibrant A developed bond market helps avoid excessive dependence on banks

It also helps reduce corporate risks

A developed bond market helps avoid risks beyond the banking system, said SK The event was organised by the Sur Chowdhury, a former deputy gover-

**READ MORE ON B3** 

## Deal signed with Czech Republic to avoid double taxation

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

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Bangladesh and the Czech Republic signed an agreement yesterday to avoid double taxation in a bid to strengthen bilateral trade and investment ties between the two countries.

The main goal is to help investors avoid paying taxes on the same income in the two countries. The Double **Taxation Avoidance** Agreement (DTAA) will create a congenial atmosphere in Bangladesh for

Czech investors, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) said in a statement.

**READ MORE ON B3** 

previous operator's code.

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

achieve technical readiness.

be made available from August 1.

Affairs Adviser Sajeeb Wazed Joy at a meeting on Tuesday and another meeting with Joy will be held next week for a final decision to be reached, said Md Jahurul Haque, acting chairman of the telecom regulator.

Infozillion BD Teletech Consortium, a joint venture of a local and foreign firm which got the licence to offer the MNP service, says while it was ready to meet the launch deadline, the unresolved issue would lead to hassles, such as

54,400

For details

(16607

# Footwear piques Chinese firms

JAGARAN CHAKMA

Chinese companies are keen on exploring Bangladesh's leather and footwear market, seeking to draw investors and have a share of the flourishing sector.

A total of 40 Chinese companies are showcasing leather and footwear manufacturing machinery, accessories and various kinds of intermediate products and fair that kicked off in the and Footwear Expo that began yesterday. capital yesterday.

The three-day "Bangladesh Leather and Footwear Expo" was jointly organised by Bangladesh Indenting Agents Association (BIAA) and Limra Trade Fair and



ornamental accessories at a Sewing machines on display at Bangladesh Leather

Exhibition (Pvt) Ltd at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB) in Purbachal.

**READ MORE ON B3** 

## Telcos too have to cut VAT on internet use: NBR

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The tax administrator has asked the telecom operators for the fast implementation of the 10 percentage points cut in value-added tax on internet use at the enduser level.

......

The National Board of Revenue lowered the VAT on internet use from 15 percent to 5 percent on July 1.

implement the rate, as they say that they do not belong to the category of "internet organisations" which are mandated to reduce the VAT.

the Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh. In the letter, it said

the telecom operators should also implement the reduced rate, said a top official of the NBR's VAT regulation division.

Internet service providers have reduced the VAT as soon as the new order came. The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) ordered the telecom operators twice to cut the VAT but they did not pay heed to the call.

The telecom operators used to get a But the mobile phone operators did not rebate for the 15 percent VAT they realise from the mobile users. But there will be no rebate if the VAT is reduced to 5 percent, which will increase the cost of doing business for the operators and the end-users On Wednesday, the NBR issued a letter to will have to bear the burden, said a top official of the NBR.

READ MORE ON B3

### customers finding it hard to get international calls. READ MORE ON B3 RANGS TOSHIBA र्ण SUMMER COOL অফার TOSHIN J的一個 Promo Price 38,500 32,725 1.5 ton 53,500 45,475

2 ton

TOSHIBA TOSHIN Panasonic OGENERAL

64,000

# 

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\*Participation is by invitation only