

এসআইবিএল সুপার ডিপিএস বিশেষ সঞ্চয় কিম
 প্রাক্কলিত মুদাফা:
 ৩ বছর ৯.২৫%, ৫ বছর ৯.৫০%, ১০ বছর ১০%
 ইসলামী শরীআত এর মূদাফা
 নিতির বিহীন পরিচালিত।
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Star BUSINESS

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ENOUGH MEAT AND EGG FOR ALL NOW

SAJJADUR RAHMAN and JAGARAN CHAKMA

Bangladesh has become self-sufficient in production of meat and egg, the two best sources of good-quality protein and micronutrients.

But the country lags behind in milk production compared with demand.

Meat and egg production surged 496 percent and 198 percent respectively in a decade between fiscals 2009-10 and 2018-19, according to the Department of Livestock Services (DLS).

Meat production, led by chicken, is now higher than the demand. Egg production has risen to the same level as demand.

Though the production of milk has increased 319 percent to nearly 100 lakh tonnes in almost 10 years, it is still lower than the present demand of over 152 lakh tonnes.

Analysts termed the development a success of the country. Consistent economic growth, consumers' rising purchasing power and engagement of young-educated people have helped the country become self-sufficient in livestock.

"Rising purchasing power and development of commercial livestock farming have been helping the sector to grow significantly," said AKM Ataur Rahman, a livestock economist of DLS.

According to him, the ongoing artificial insemination programme of the DLS has contributed to the increase in milk and meat production.

He also said the department provides necessary medical support to improve animal health.

Researches on feed nutrition and prevention of diseases have encouraged young people to come into the dairy farming sector, said Jahangir Alam Khan, former director general of the Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute.

He claimed that livestock did not face any serious disease in the last several years.

"Young entrepreneurs have been setting up dairy farms by taking bank loans at 5 percent interest," he added.

However, Kazi Ali Toufique, research director of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, said he did not find any remarkable contribution of the DLS in the sector's development.

DLS officials cannot provide the services needed by the dairy farmers, said Toufique, who has been conducting research on livestock economy.



MILK (LAKH TONNE)

| PRODUCTION 2009-10 | PRODUCTION 2018-19 | DEMAND 2018-19 |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 12.6 | 75.14 | 72.97 |

2018-19

| | |
|------------|---------------------|
| DEMAND 120 | AVAILABILITY 124.99 |
|------------|---------------------|

(gm/day/head)

PRODUCTION 2009-10 23.7

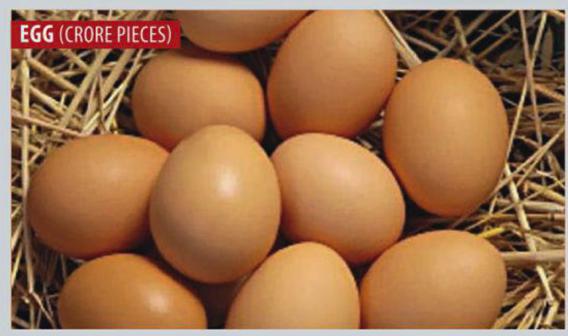
PRODUCTION 2018-19 99.23

DEMAND 2018-19 152.02

2018-19

| | |
|------------|---------------------|
| DEMAND 250 | AVAILABILITY 165.07 |
|------------|---------------------|

(ml/day/head)



EGG (CRORE PIECES)

| PRODUCTION 2009-10 | PRODUCTION 2018-19 | DEMAND 2018-19 |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 574.24 | 1,711 | 1,732.64 |

2018-19

| | |
|------------|---------------------|
| DEMAND 104 | AVAILABILITY 103.89 |
|------------|---------------------|

(pieces/year/head)



MEAT (LAKH TONNE)

| PRODUCTION 2009-10 | PRODUCTION 2018-19 | DEMAND 2018-19 |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 574.24 | 1,711 | 1,732.64 |

2018-19

| | |
|------------|---------------------|
| DEMAND 104 | AVAILABILITY 103.89 |
|------------|---------------------|

(pieces/year/head)

LIVESTOCK CONTRIBUTION TO GDP (in percent)

| | 2009-10 | 2018-19* |
|--------------------|---------|----------|
| GDP (base 2005-06) | 2.06 | 1.47 |

*PROVISIONAL

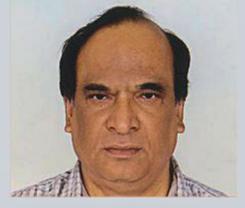
TK 43,212CR LIVESTOCK ECONOMY

(SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK SERVICES)



JAHANGIR ALAM KHAN
 FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL OF BANGLADESH LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The government's policy and financial supports have helped the sector grow tremendously. There were lots of research work for developing the livestock, including disease control.



KAZI ALI TOUFIQUE
 RESEARCH DIRECTOR OF BANGLADESH INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Credit goes to the young entrepreneurs who have invested their money and labour in developing the sector. Plan to bring livestock under insurance coverage will further boost up the sector.

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AUDIT CLAIMS DISPUTE

Move to revoke GP, Robi's 2G-3G licences

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Grameenphone and Robi's clash with the telecom regulator became more heated yesterday after they were slapped with show-cause notices enquiring why their 2G and 3G licences should not be cancelled for their failure to pay unpaid dues unearthed by audit.

According to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission's audits into the two operators' books from their inception until December 2014, Grameenphone has Tk 12,579.95 crore pending and Robi Tk 867.24 crore.

Both the operators vehemently dispute the amounts and thus far have turned a deaf ear to the regulator's repeated claims.

"This is public money and we have tried to realise it several times," said Md Jahurul Haque, chairman of the telecom watchdog, while confirming sending the latest show-cause notices.

But the operators have wasted time in the name of consultation, which is not permitted in the telecom act, he said.

The BTRC has the authority to revoke licences to realise public money and also got the green light from the government to do so.

In the five-page-long notices, the BTRC asked the operators to reply within 30 days.

Both the operators confirmed they have received the notice and will reply within the stipulated timeframe.

"This notice is unjustified and yet another step by the regulator to refuse our invitation to

seek an amicable solution related to a disputed audit claim," said Grameenphone, the country's leading mobile operator, in a statement.

The operator will evaluate the notice before considering its response.

"We will take necessary measures to protect the rights of the company, our shareholders and customers against unwarranted actions by the regulator," it added.

Both the operators are insisting on arbitration against the audit claims as per Bangladesh Arbitration Act 2001, but the BTRC remains non-responsive, saying it would only act as per the Telecommunication Act.

If the two operators' response is not satisfactory as per the telecom act, the BTRC can appoint an administrator to run the business so that the operation can run smoothly, said a top official of the telecom regulator.

Grameenphone and Robi officials said they have invested more than Tk 58,000 crore (over \$7 billion) in Bangladesh and now their investments are at risk.

Industry experts said the BTRC move would send out a negative signal to the investors around the world about Bangladesh.

BREAKDOWN OF CLAIMS

| Operator | First claim | Revised claim | BTRC's part | Principal amount | Interest | NBR's part |
|----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| GP | Tk 11,530cr | Tk 12,580cr | Tk 8,494cr | Tk 2,300cr | Tk 6,194cr | Tk 4,086cr |
| ROBI | Tk 1,252cr | Tk 867cr | Tk 488cr | Tk 319cr | Tk 169cr | Tk 379cr |

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Institutional investors lift Dhaka stocks

BSEC sits with stakeholders

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Dhaka stocks yesterday bounced back breaking a six-day losing streak, as institutional investors extended their support at the request of the capital market watchdog.

On the day, the stakeholders also sat with the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) to discuss the current situation of the market.

The meeting identified that the market slump was down to the tussle between the telecom regulator and Grameenphone and the institutional selloffs to pay for the subscription fee of the initial public offering of Ring Shine Textile.

Market insiders say the regulator had informally requested the institutional investors, which include stock dealers, merchant banks, asset management companies and fund managers, to inject fresh funds into the market and refrain from going for selloffs.

Many well-performing stocks have

become cheaper because of the slump in the last six consecutive days, prompting the institutional investors to increase their investment a little more.

As a result, the DSEX, the benchmark index of the premier bourse, added 26.64 points, or 0.53 percent, to close the day at 5,013.01.

Royal Capital, a merchant bank, said in its market analysis that the indices were bearish throughout the week because of a sell pressure mainly in telecom, financial institutions and banking stocks.

Investors, however, had been shaky after news surfaced that the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) would serve a show-cause notice to Grameenphone, asking the operator why its licence would not be revoked for not clearing dues.

The notice was also served on Robi—another mobile phone operator but not listed—after 5pm, over two hours after the closure of the market.

READ MORE ON B3

WB to help achieve double-digit growth

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The World Bank is ready to help Bangladesh increase its growth to double digits and would provide all kinds of support to this end, said Mercy Miyang Tembon, the multilateral lender's newly-appointed country director for Bangladesh and Bhutan.

"There are so many potential areas where we can improve and accelerate growth to double-digit and the bank is here to support this," she said after a meeting with Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal at his office yesterday.

The two spoke about accelerating economic growth and faster project

implementation. The bank has taken an initiative to help Bangladesh in improving road safety. Road accidents not only claim lives but also cause economic losses.

"Road safety is a big issue, which the government recognises and is committed to doing something."

To help support the government's commitment to road safety, the World Bank's vice-president for the South Asia, Hartwig Schafer, and the United Nations secretary-general's special envoy for road safety, Jean Todt, are visiting Bangladesh on September 23 and 24.

"Not only is their visit important but we want their visit to put Bangladesh as the model country in

the region that would address this issue," she added.

Kamal said the WB is concerned about road safety in Bangladesh and will finance various projects to this end.

The WB country director emphasised on implementation of the project on time and that funding will not be a problem, he added.

Meanwhile, Schafer in his blog said annual crash-related cost is estimated at 2 to 5 percent of national GDP in South Asia.

Referring to WB analysis, he said: "For South Asia as a whole, a 50 percent reduction in road deaths would generate an estimated gross benefit of about \$1.2 trillion."

Morris Garages enters Bangladesh with MG ZS

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Morris Garages (MG), a British automotive brand, started its operations in Bangladesh yesterday with the launch of MG ZS.

Robert Chatterton Dickson, the British high commissioner to Bangladesh, launched the model at the Radisson Blu hotel in Dhaka. Rancon Group Managing Director Romo Rouf Chowdhury and other officials were also present.

MG ZS is packed with intelligent technology, including LED daytime running lights, cruise control, Bluetooth, an eight-inch colour touch screen, satellite navigation, reversing camera, and sensors, according to a statement from Rancon Group.

READ MORE ON B3



An MG ZS, a crossover SUV of British automotive Morris Garages, is seen.