



BUSINESS



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SCAN FOR DETAILS

Most factories yet to clear Eid bonuses

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Nearly 57 per cent industrial and manufacturing units in Bangladesh did not pay Eid bonuses to their workers as of yesterday, missing the deadline set by the government.

Of the total 9,176 estimated industrial and manufacturing units, 43.29 per cent, or 3,972 factories, have so far cleared the festival bonuses, according to data from the Industrial Police.

The labour and employment ministry had instructed factory owners to provide bonuses to their workers by April 22.

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Of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association's (BGMEA) 1,615 member units, 922 have paid the bonus to the workers so far.

Some 441 out of 685 members of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association and 182 out of 338 members of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association have made the payments related to the festival allowances to the workers so far.

Of the 384 factories housed in the economic zones of the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority, 264 cleared the bonus, data from the industrial police showed.

Workers of 31 jute mills have received the bonus out of a total of 83.

In other categories, there are 6,107 industrial and manufacturing units. Workers of 3,972 units have received the festival benefits.

More than 86 per cent, or 7,963 industrial units, did not pay the 15 days' salary for April, again

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VOLUME-BASED PACKAGE (NEW)

-  Certain amount of data can be bought
-  Data will not expire before one year
-  Data can't be carried forward after 12 months
-  Voice, SMS can't be offered under this category
-  Currently, highest validity is one month

CURRENT PACKAGES TO CONTINUE

Operators can offer the existing 95 packages in 3 categories

Number of regular packages maximum 50

Special packages will be a maximum of 35

Research and development category packages can be 10 tops

Duration: 3 days, 7 days, 15 days, 1 month

MONTHLY DATA PACKAGE (NEW)

-  Customers can buy package on monthly basis
-  Data will be unlimited
-  Voice, SMS can't be offered under this category
-  Applicable only for internet data

Internet data caps, time limits to go soon

BTRC asks operators to launch two new internet packages

MAHMUDUL HASAN

about the two packages will take place tomorrow, said Subrata Roy Maitra, vice-chairman of the BTRC.

Jabbar, who himself has advocated for the launch of such internet offers, calls the packages watershed for

Teletalk's time limitless data package has received a huge response. I think private operators will get more customers with such packages," said the minister.

Md Shahab Uddin, managing director of Teletalk,

development packages.

Each package contains four types of duration: 3-day, 7-day, 15 day, and 30 day.

Sources say Grameenphone has already taken approval from the commission for some packages under two categories and will launch them in days, while Robi and Banglalink to follow suit in the coming month.

Hossain Sadat, acting chief corporate affairs officer of Grameenphone, said: "Our focus has always been to introduce new and innovative services and provide what matters most to our customers."

"We welcome BTRC and the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry's initiative to introduce unlimited data packages and believe that such initiatives will give our customers more freedom to use internet for their daily needs and necessities."

"If a private operator launches the service, we will have to do the same," said an executive of an operator.

However, some officials of private operators have



general customers as it would enhance their participation in the government's pursuit of digitalisation.

Currently, one of the major inconveniences for many customers is that they can't consume all the data for which they have paid for due to the time limit.

According to BTRC sources, the new categories of packages will only be applicable for internet data, not for SMS, voice and social packs.

However, an operator can continue offering its current 95 packages across three categories: regular packages, customer-centric special packages, and research and

echoed the minister, saying the operator is getting a good response.

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