

## Set Tk 800 as lowest payable for broadband packages

Demand service providers

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The lowest price payable for a broadband internet connection needs to be Tk 800, not Tk 400 as per a policy drafted recently, said service providers, offering to reciprocate by raising the minimum speed to 50 Mbps.

The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has decided to reduce the prices by up to 20 percent starting next month, aiming to make internet more affordable nationwide.

Under the new pricing, a 5 Mbps connection will cost Tk 400 per month, down from Tk 500, which was set in 2021 when the telecom regulator started determining the pricing.

The cost of 10 Mbps packages has been reduced to Tk 700 from Tk 800, and 20 Mbps ones to Tk 1,100 from Tk 1,200.

The price cuts were made possible by reducing transmission and bandwidth import costs, as international bandwidth prices have declined in recent years.

Earlier, for the Tk 500 package,

the Internet Service Providers Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB) had offered to double the internet speed to 10 Mbps, on condition that the price remain unchanged.

However, the association now demands that the minimum payable for an internet package be Tk 800 and offers 50 Mbps with it.

It also urged dropping 5 Mbps packages, citing concerns over service quality.

"We constantly face questions about the quality of service. If I have to reduce response time, I need to hire more call centre agents. I also need to ensure instant physical support by deploying engineers," said ISPAB President Aminul Hakim.

"Our average revenue per user is around Tk 550. So, we won't be able to deliver proper service if the minimum package price is set at Tk 400," he said.

There should be both floor and ceiling prices for broadband internet. "If mobile operators have a floor price, then our industry should also have one," he added. Currently, only ceiling prices exist for broadband services.

## Weaker taka, high interest rates

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By mid-2025, non-performing loans (NPLs) had surged to Tk 4.2 lakh crore (USD 35 billion), up from Tk 3.45 lakh crore three months ago, DCCI President Taskeen Ahmed said.

This now accounts for over 24 percent of total outstanding loans and poses serious risks to financial stability, investor confidence, and creditworthiness.

He attributed the crisis to poor governance, weak recovery mechanisms, and insufficient credit risk assessment.

As a result, borrowers are facing tighter credit conditions, higher collateral requirements, and elevated interest rates.

Taskeen called for a coordinated policy

response linking monetary and fiscal strategies to revive business confidence and credit flow.

He proposed a six-month extension of the current loan classification timeline to help businesses pursue revival strategies without being labelled as defaulters.

Ashraf Ahmed added that creditors should be allowed legal protection for restructuring and rescheduling loans as part of corporate revival.

He also emphasised structural reforms in banking management to ensure good governance.

A n i s u z z a m a n Chowdhury, special assistant to the chief adviser, said both borrowers and lenders must act responsibly.

"We must protect the

formal sector, or else the development of the informal sector will also be affected," he stated.

Chowdhury questioned whether global lenders should bear some responsibility for the corruption and economic mismanagement of the past 15 years.

He said the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the World Bank supported the previous government without questioning how public money was being misused.

"Should the IMF and the ADB not share responsibility for lending to a government where large scale corruption occurred?" he asked.

He described the IMF loan taken by the previous

government as sending the economy into the "ICU" and warned that very few recover from such a condition.

Praising the current government and the Bangladesh Bank, Chowdhury said that had the previous administration remained, a major crisis would have been unavoidable.

After 2014-15, some banks came under the control of certain families, causing instability in the financial sector, said Md Ezazul Islam, executive director of the Monetary Policy Department of the Bangladesh Bank.

Following the political changeover in July-August this year, confidence is returning due to the central bank's efforts to stabilise forex reserves and

ensure a market-based exchange rate, he said.

He noted that most banks are performing well and can consider reducing interest rates slightly, especially for SMEs.

He acknowledged that fixing interest rates in the past was a mistake and that rates should be market-driven.

Hossain Khaled, group managing director of Anwar Group of Industries and former DCCI president, said SMEs are integral to the supply chain, and challenges faced by large enterprises directly impact them.

He stressed the need to shift from a traditional bank-client relationship to a partnership model for better guidance and support.

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Delivering the joint statement, Anwar-Ul-Alam Chowdhury (Parvez), president of the Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI), also urged an immediate end to the stalemate at the revenue authority.

He called for improved and hassle-free business services from the NBR, with greater transparency and accountability.

The BCI president appealed to the highest level of government, involving the finance, commerce, and industries ministries, to resolve the crisis as soon as possible.

Mahbubur Rahman, president of the International Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said dialogue between businesses and the interim government had broken down, leaving many issues unaddressed.

The NBR officials are not trade union members. They cannot continue this strike indefinitely. It is unacceptable," Rahman said. "If they do not resume customs clearance by tomorrow [Sunday], our export and import operations will come to a halt."

"Against this backdrop, we need to explore alternative solutions to overcome these challenges and to promote greater use of jute," he said.

He further noted that businesses involved in the jute sector were likely to face substantial difficulties.

"It is a suicidal decision

## Jute sector

FROM PAGE B1

Bangladesh exports around 13 lakh bales of raw jute, and India accounts for most of the shipment.

Akanda said most of their buyers were based in Kolkata and it would be convenient for them if India allowed shipments through the Kolkata port.

"Our buyers are pursuing the Indian authorities to allow shipments through Kolkata," he said, adding that no buyer has cancelled orders until now.

"They are assessing the cost," said Akanda.

Mohammad Hatem, president of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), said restrictions on imports through land ports were having a significant economic impact.

At the same time, it is not feasible for Indian importers to bring in jute and jute products via Mumbai, he said.

"Against this backdrop, we need to explore alternative solutions to overcome these challenges and to promote greater use of jute," he said.

He further noted that businesses involved in the jute sector were likely to face substantial difficulties.

## Businesses fret about NBR deadlock

by the NBR officials. Our situation is so critical now that our back is against the ropes," Rahman added.

He said reforms at the NBR had long been overdue, as suggested by multilateral lenders such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"We always wanted a time-befitting, honest, and transparent NBR which echoes with the ease of doing business. NBR reforms are essential and we have full support for it," he said.

Sed Nasim Manzur, president of the Leathergoods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association, said they always wanted an inclusive discussion to shape the reform process.

"The opinion of the stakeholders should be sought through holding discussions on what would be the procedure for reforms and how it will take place. We think it is possible to find a solution," said Manzur.

He added that there are committed officers in the revenue authority. "We know in the NBR there are honest, patriotic, and hard-working officers. What would be their future? It

is a legitimate question whether the NBR would be dissolved; it should have space for discussion."

He said the crisis affects not just exports but also imports, including pharmaceuticals and essential goods for domestic consumption.

"The NBR crisis has come at a time when businesses were just beginning to recover from global volatility. Markets will not wait for Bangladesh," said the footwear entrepreneur. "It will bring disaster to the country's business. It is a matter of survival for us."

Manzur said he was unaware of any similar incident happening anywhere in the world unless triggered by war.

Showkat Aziz Russell, president of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA), said businesses had long felt hostage to the NBR. Referring to the ongoing strike, he said, "This is nothing but a distribution of power and money."

"We are becoming the victims of their trouble. They always disturbed us. And now they are disturbing the government. They will cause suffering to the entire nation. We

want them to stop the movement," Russell said.

Kamran T Rahman, president of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and its vice-president Simeen Rahman were also present at the briefing.

Mir Nasir Hossain, former president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry; A Matin Chowdhury, former president of BTMA; and Fazlee Shamim Ehsan, executive president of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association; also attended the programme.

## Reserves cross

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The BB official said, in addition, \$500 million from the WB and \$900 million from Asian Development Bank have also been added to the reserves, raising the country's capacity to pay import bills of more than four and a half months.

Besides, remittance inflow has been growing since the political changeover in August last year, which helped to tackle the sharp fall in the country's reserves.

## এসবিএসি ব্যাংক পিএলসি.

BSC Tower, 2 & 3 Rajuk Avenue, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka 1000.



## Price Sensitive Information

This is for information of all concerned that SBAC Bank PLC. habeen rated by Credit Rating Information and Services Limited (CRISL) on 25.06.2025 on its audited financials up to 31.12.2024, and unaudited financials up to 31.03.2025, and other relevant quantitative as well as qualitative information up to the date of rating declaration, as follows:

Long Term	Short Term	Outlook	Rating Date	Rating Validity
A	ST-2	Stable	25.06.2025	24.06.2026

By order of the Board

  
Md. Mokaddess Ali FCS  
Company Secretary

26 June, 2025  
Dhaka.

### LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH  
HIGH COURT DIVISION  
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)

COMPANY MATTER NO. 926 OF 2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Nourish Poultry and Hatchery Limited and others  
—Petitioners

VERSUS

The Registrar, Office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms and others  
—Respondents

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CREDITORS OF AGROW FRUITS AND VEGETABLES LIMITED  
This notice is hereby given to all the creditors of Agrow Fruits and Vegetables Limited in accordance with the direction of the Hon'ble High Court by an order dated 01.06.2025 passed in the Company Matter No. 926 of 2025, a meeting of the creditors of Agrow Fruits and Vegetables Limited will be held on 23rd July, 2025 at 11:45 am at House 39, Sonargaon Janapath Road, Sector 07, Uttara, Dhaka 1230, Bangladesh to transact the following business:

APPROVAL OF THE SCHEME OF AMALGAMATION OF 1. NOURISH AGRO LIMITED, 2. NOURISH FEEDS LIMITED, 3. NOURISH GRAND PARENTS LIMITED, 4. NOURISH FISHERIES LIMITED, 5. AGROW BREEDERS LIMITED, 6. AGROW BIO SOLUTIONS LIMITED, 7. AGROW FRUITS AND VEGETABLES LIMITED AND 8. AQUAFARM SHRIMP LIMITED (TRANSFEROR COMPANIES) WITH NOURISH POULTRY AND HATCHERY LIMITED (TRANSFEREE COMPANY)

To consider, and if thought fit, to pass the following resolution, with or without modification:

“RESOLVED THAT the draft Scheme of Amalgamation of 1. Nourish Agro Limited, 2. Nourish Feeds Limited, 3. Nourish Grand Parents Limited, 4. Nourish Fisheries Limited, 5. Agrow Breeders Limited, 6. Agrow Bio Solutions Limited, 7. Agrow Fruits and Vegetables Limited, 8. Aquafarm Shrimp Limited (the “Transferor Companies”) with Nourish Poultry and Hatchery Limited (“Transferee Company”) (the Scheme) be and is hereby approved and subject to sanction of the Scheme by the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in accordance with the provisions of sections 228 and 229 of the Companies Act, 1994, approval of the same by the shareholders and creditors of the respective Transferor Companies and Transferee Company in accordance with law in similar manner, let the Transferor Companies be merged with the Transferee Company in terms of the Scheme.”

The creditors of the Company are being requested to attend the meeting on the date, time and at the place mentioned above.

By the order of the Board  
Sd/-  
Nazmul Ahsan Khaleed  
Chairman of Agrow Fruits and Vegetables Limited  
June 28, 2025

The Scheme of Amalgamation shall be kept open in the registered office of Agrow Fruits and Vegetables Limited at House 39, Sonargaon Janapath, Sector 07, Uttara, Dhaka 1230, Bangladesh, and is available for inspection by all the concerned (during Office Hours).

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VERSUS

The Registrar, Office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms and others  
—Respondents

NOTICE OF EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS AND MEMBERS OF AGRIFOOT & VEGEPLANT LIMITED

This notice is hereby given to all the shareholders and members of the above named Companies that in accordance with the direction of the Hon'ble High Court by an order dated 01.06.2025 passed in the Company Matter No. 926 of 2025, an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the shareholders and members of the above named Transferor Companies and Transferee Company will be held on 23rd July, 2025 at 8:45 pm at House 39, Sonargaon Janapath Road, Sector 07, Uttara, Dhaka 1230, Bangladesh to transact the following business:

APPROVAL OF THE SCHEME OF AMALGAMATION OF 1. NOURISH AGRO LIMITED, 2. NOURISH FEEDS LIMITED, 3. NOURISH GRAND PARENTS LIMITED, 4. NOURISH FISHERIES LIMITED, 5. AGROW BREEDERS LIMITED, 6. AGROW BIO SOLUTIONS LIMITED, 7. AGROW FRUITS AND VEGETABLES LIMITED AND 8. AQUAFARM SHRIMP LIMITED (TRANSFEROR COMPANIES) WITH NOURISH POULTRY AND HATCHERY LIMITED (TRANSFEREE COMPANY)

To consider, and if thought fit, to pass the following resolution, with or without modification:

“RESOLVED THAT the draft Scheme of Amalgamation of 1. Nourish Agro Limited, 2. Nourish Feeds Limited, 3. Nourish Grand Parents Limited, 4. Nourish Fisheries Limited, 5. Agrow Breeders Limited, 6. Agrow Bio Solutions Limited, 7. Agrow F