

Cut internet tariffs

PM tells mobile operators

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the mobile phone operators to bring down internet service fees at the consumer level as the government has reduced its bandwidth fees, report UNB and BSS.

"We've brought down the price of Mbps bandwidth from Tk 78,000 to Tk 625. I'll ask the mobile phone operators to bring down the fees at the consumer level," she said.

The Prime Minister said this while inaugurating the week-long Upazila Digital Fair and Internet Week-2015 through a videoconferencing from her official residence Gana Bhaban. The programme is being observed in Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and 487 upazilas across the country under the auspices of ICT Division, BASIS and Grameen Phone.

She also mentioned that if

the mobile phone operators reduce the internet service fees, it would increase the number of users which will ultimately help up their income.

But Hasina put emphasis on stopping illegal VoIP business that creates manifold problems, including financial

HASINA WANTS END TO ILLEGAL VOIP

losses to the national exchequer.

The premier also said that the government is going to enact "The Digital Security Act" to ensure safe, secure and optimum use of internet and information technology in the country.

She said digital technology should be particularly safe for children and it should not be used for terrorist and militant activities and for hurting religious sentiment of the people.

Safe and secure use of information technology is crucial alongside its expansion, she

Cut internet tariffs

FROM PAGE 1 COL 3

added. "We have to create awareness so people refrain from using Internet with any evil intention of creating instability in the society," she said.

State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Pakak, president of BASIS Shameem Ahsan and CEO of Grameen Phone Rajib Shetty, among others, also spoke on the occasion.

After inaugurating the week, the prime minister talked with Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, ICT secretary Shyamsundar Sikder from Banani Society Ground in the city.

Sheikh Hasina also talked to the local leaders of Tungipara of Gopalganj, Peerganj of Rangpur, Companyganj of

Slyhet, Singra of Natore and Barisal Sadar Upazila through videoconference using BanglaGovNet and InfoSarker-2 network.

The Internet Week-2015 is being observed in the country with the slogan "password of development is in your hand." The primary objective of the week is to reach internet to 10 million people through internet fairs and giving all out idea to people about internet to create 15 million new users in the next one year.

One of the main objectives of the week is bringing the people under internet network and provide half of them with broadband connections to fulfill the target of earning one billion dollar from ICT sector by 2018, five billion by 2021 and 50 billion by 2041.