Payment Systems of Bangladesh



Payment Systems Department

Bangladesh Bank

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Banking Industry In Bangladesh..

- 170 Million Population
- 6.20% GDP Growth (2013-14)
- US\$ 1200 Per Capita Income
- 19% SLR Including 6% CRR
- 56 Commercial Banks having 9,800 Branches
- 31 Non Bank Financial Institutions
- US\$ 23 Billion Foreign Exchange Reserves (22nd Feb 2015)
- 110 Million Mobile Subscribers



Banking Industry In Bangladesh

- 35 Million Internet User
- 7,000 ATM and 25,000 POS Terminals
- 10 Million Cards (1 Million Credit Cards and 9 Million Debit Cards)
- 25.10 Million account under Mobile Financial Services (MFS)
- 10 Million ten taka bank account for poor farmers
- 3.5 Million of bank accounts under social safety nets
- 1,00,000 bank accounts under school banking
- New Window of central bank: Agent Banking, Green Banking, Corporate Social Responsibility, etc.



Payment Systems of Bangladesh: Major Components

- Bangladesh Automated Clearing House (BACH)
 - Bangladesh Automated Cheque Clearing Systems (BACPS)
 - Bangladesh Electronic Fund Transfer Network (BEFTN)
- National Payment Switch Bangladesh (NPSB)
- Mobile Financial Services (MFS)
- Internet Banking, E-Commerce and M-Commerce
- Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)*

* Tender floated



Bangladesh Automated Clearing House (BACH)

Bangladesh Automated Cheque Processing System (BACPS)..

- All Inter-bank cheques/instruments are now being cleared through BACPS.
- Countrywide clearing cycle time has been brought down to t+0 for high value cheques and t+1 for regular value cheques.
- At present per day 1.2 million regular value and 8000 high value clearing instruments valued BDT 25 billion and BDT 45 billion respectively are being cleared through BACPS.



Bangladesh Automated Clearing House (BACH)

- Bangladesh Automated Cheque Processing System (BACPS):
 - All commercial banks are connected through secured virtual private network for exchanging of cheque data and image.
 - Implementation of digital certificate to secure the cheque data and image.
 - Positive Payment Instruction is made compulsory for transactions amounting BDT 100,000 and above for corporate as well as BDT 50,00000 and above for individuals for clearing the cheques.



Bangladesh Automated Clearing House (BACH)

Bangladesh Electronic Funds Transfer Network (BEFTN):

- Secure, safe and prompt relating to cheque based payments.
- BEFTN has become more popular rapidly among the government and corporate bodies of Bangladesh.
- corporate payroll, dividend payment, utility bill payment, inward remittance disbursement etc. are mostly routed through BEFTN.
- At present, per day in total one million credit and debit transactions amounting BDT 3.00 billion are being processed through BEFTN.



BACPS & BEFTN Transaction at a Glance:





National Payment Switch Bangladesh (NPSB):



- Countrywide common switching platform for inter-bank cards (debit/credit/ prepaid) based retail payments.
- Facilitating electronic payments originating from different delivery channels such as ATM/POS.
- At present 40 banks are connected through ATM based transactions: Cash Withdrawal, Mini Statement and Balance Inquiry.
- Per day total transaction volume and value are 10,000 and BDT
 80.00 million respectively.



Mobile Financial Services (MFS) in Bangladesh:

•The rapid growth of mobile phone users and countrywide coverage of mobile operators network has made the delivery channel an important tool-of-the-trade for extending banking services to the unbanked/banked population, especially to expedite faster delivery of remittances across the country.

- •From legal and regulatory perspective, only the bank-led model is allowed to operate in Bangladesh.
- •Customer account, termed "Mobile Account" having short KYC will rest with the bank and will be accessible through customers' mobile device.



Type of Services (MFS) in broad Categories:

- Disbursement of Inward Foreign Remittance
- Cash in/out using mobile/wallet account through agents/bank branches/ ATMs/Mobile Operator's outlets.
- Person to Business Payments: utility bill payments, merchant payments, etc.
- Business to Person Payments: salary disbursement, dividend and refund warrant payments, vendor payments, etc.



MFS at a Glance





Internet Banking, E-Commerce and M-Commerce in Bangladesh:

- Introducing of 2FA (both token and SMS based) mandated by Bangladesh Bank for card not present transactions.
- Deadline has been given for completion for switching to Chip n PIN based (EMV compliance) technology from Magnetic stripes.
- More than five (5) private banks direct or through third-party Payment Gateway provides E-Commerce services in the country.
- More than ten (10) private banks offer internet banking facilities for intra-bank transactions: fund transfer, bill payment, cheque book requisition, etc.
- Bangladesh Railway, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Bangladesh Cricket Board, Utility Billers and more than thousand of private merchants receive payments through E-Commerce and M-Commerce.

Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)*:



- Implementation in progress and system will be live in September 2015.
- V-Shape topology, ISO 20022 message format, multi currency clearing and settlement.
- Uses of existing secured virtual private network for exchanging MX message.
- Both straight through processing and web access will be available for RTGS participants.



Legal and regulatory framework:

- Bangladesh Automated Cheque Processing Rules and Procedures 2010
- Bangladesh Payment and Settlement Systems Regulation, 2014 (Amended)
- Electronic Fund Transfer Regulation, 2014 (Ammended)
- Mobile Financial Services Guidelines 2011
- Guidelines on Agent Banking for the Banks 2013.
- Enactment of National Payment Systems Act is in the final stage.



International Award:

 Bangladesh Bank has been awarded in 2014 by Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI) in recognition of innovative and impactful financial inclusion policies for MFS.



Opportunities of Payment Systems in Bangladesh

- Both MFS and Agent Banking can serve unbanked population, specially in the underprivileged section in rural areas.
- Adaptation of new/modern technologies can boost economic growth of the country.



