



UTTARA FINANCE
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED



BUSINESS NEWS ANALYSIS REPORT

Daily Business News

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Capital Market News

Stocks extend gaining streak despite lockdown

Stocks extended the gaining streak for the fourth straight session on Sunday despite ongoing countrywide lockdown. The market witnessed high volatility in the first half of the day's session as some investors opted for booking profit on stocks which saw a price surge in the past three trading days. But later half went up steadily.

DSEX, the prime index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), went up by 21.23 points or 0.39 per cent to settle at 5,331 over the previous session. DSEX added more than 166 points in the past

four consecutive sessions. The presence of investors on the trading floor remained very thin due to the strict lockdown and reduced trading hours.

Most investors executed their trading online or through a mobile app, a DSE official said. The prime bourse and brokerage houses also encouraged investors to conduct share trading using virtual platforms amid the pandemic.

Market operators said lucrative price levels of many stocks coupled with lowered the circuit breaker limit to 2.0 per cent from the existing 10 per cent for 66 companies encouraged investors to take positions despite lockdown.

The investors, mostly institutional ones, are taking advantage of low-priced securities of some large-cap

issues, which helped the market to stay afloat, said a merchant banker. Two other indices also closed higher with the DSE30 Index, comprising blue chips, advanced 13.43 points to finish at 2,040 and the DSE Shariah Index (DSES) gained 2.46 points to close at 1,211.

Turnover, a crucial indicator of the market, also rose to Tk 6.02 billion, which was 8.27 per cent higher than the previous day's turnover of Tk 5.56 billion. Losers, however, took a modest lead over the gainers, as out of 348 issues traded, 165 declined, 103 advanced and 80 issues remained unchanged on the DSE trading floor.

Beximco - the flagship company of Beximco Group- was the most-traded stock with shares worth

about Tk 1.11 changing hands, followed by BD Finance (Tk 415 million), BATBC (Tk 394 million), LankaBangla Finance (Tk 392 million) and Robi (Tk 236 million).

Prime Insurance was the day's top gainer, posting a 10 per cent gain while Rahima Food Corporation was the worst loser, losing 4.52 per cent. A total number of 114,812 trades were executed in the day's trading session with a trading volume of 166.76 million shares and mutual fund units. The market cap of DSE also rose to Tk 4,632 billion on Sunday, up from Tk 4,627 billion in the previous session.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/stocks-extend-gaining-streak-despite-lockdown-1618738575>

BSEC sees no complications in issuing IPO shares among employees of two companies

The officials of the securities regulator see no complications in issuing IPO (initial public offering) shares among the employees of two companies which recently have received the regulatory approval to go public. Talking to the FE, a senior official of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) said the employees' sense of responsibility will be strengthened if they are allowed to get the shares which are treated as IPO shares. "We think the employees will feel due responsibility and compassion to the company if they are allowed to get shares," said Prof. Shaikh Shamsuddin Ahmed, a BSEC commissioner.

In last week, the securities regulator allowed the Midland Bank to issue 3.5 million shares among its employees and those shares will also be treated as the part of the company's IPO. To this effect, the BSEC on Thursday issued a notification exempting the issuer bank from the provision of public issue rules regarding stipulated IPO quota for different types of investors including the general ones.

In the existing public issue rules, there is no provision of distributing shares to a company's employees. As a result, the securities regulator has waived the company from the public issue rules through a separate notification.

In October, 2020 the securities regulator also allowed Robi Axiata to allot 136.1million shares to its employees under the Employee Share Purchase Plan (ESPP). Those shares will also be considered as a part of the IPO approved by the securities regulator. "We have considered two pleas of distributing shares to employees as we believe they (employees) will take care of the companies after the listing with the stock exchanges," said the BSEC commissioner Mr. Ahmed.

He said the instances of issuing IPO shares among the company's employees are also available in other countries. "Shares of the employees will be locked for two years. So, at the moment we do not see any complications in allowing the companies to shares among their employees," said the BSEC commissioner Mr. Ahmed. The securities regulator has imposed

two-year lock-in on the shares of the employees of Robi and Midland Bank

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bsec-sees-no-complications-in-issuing-ipo-shares-among-employees-of-two-companies-1618720007>

Industry News

e-fund transfer system resumes at Bangladesh Bank after five days

Inter-bank cheque settlement and electronic fund transfer system of Bangladesh Bank resumed on Sunday morning after five days of suspension. The system was suspended on Tuesday last due to a technical fault in the optical fibre of Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Limited (BTCL), reports UNB.

According to official sources at the BB, one of the two servers, one located at the central bank and another at Bangladesh Bank Training Academy in Mirpur, went out of action disrupting the electronic fund transfer inter-bank cheque settlement. Technicians of both BB and BTCL were working to resolve the problem and finally, they became successful in addressing the glitch.

Official sources said the glitch took place following an order from the central bank to stop the operation of the system during the all-out lockdown. But after the change in the decision, when the clearinghouse was asked to resume

the system, it started experiencing problems in the server, said a source at the BB.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/e-fund-transfer-system-resumes-at-bangladesh-bank-after-five-days-1618737038>

Economy News

Budget should reduce tax burden amid pandemic: FBCCI

Businessmen demanded reduced corporate taxes in the budget for the fiscal year 2021-22 to help them cope with the impacts of the second wave of the pandemic. All kinds of advance income tax and advance tax should be withdrawn, said Sheikh Fazle Fahim, president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industries at a virtual budget consultative meeting on Sunday. On the other hand, he proposed invoicing of every transaction to bring transparency in business, which, he said, would help increase government's revenue collection and the tax-GDP ratio.

Businessmen will be able to make self-declaration three times, Fahim said, adding that punitive action should be taken if their claims are proven false after that. The stringent measure will expand the coverage of the tax net at the grassroots level.

At present, 0.5% tax is imposed on the total turnover exceeding Tk 3 crore, irrespective of profit and loss. The apex trade body

suggested increasing the amount to Tk 5 crore.

Moreover, VAT should be levied on the actual value added by dealers, distributors and similar traders, corporate tax should be lowered and tax collection should be automated, according to the FBCCI. The advance income tax should be withdrawn altogether in the next two-three fiscal years, he added.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget-should-reduce-tax-burden-amid-pandemic-fbcci-233545>

Govt launches \$7.5m Covid response fund

Entrepreneurs will now get financial support from the government to produce medical and personal protective equipment (MPPE) for both local and international markets as the fight against Covid-19 continues. Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi yesterday launched a \$7.5 million Covid-19 response fund to help private enterprises procure the necessary equipment in this regard as the demand for MPPE products has ballooned amid an ongoing second wave of infections.

The EC4J project was initially a \$10 million matching-grant programme that provided financial support to eligible Bangladeshi firms in four targeted sectors -- Leather goods, footwear, plastics, and light engineering -- to identify gaps, catalyse investment and improve environmental, social and quality standards in an effort to enhance their competitiveness in export markets. The purpose of the EC4J is to integrate Bangladesh in

the global value chain. The Export Readiness Fund, another part of the EC4J, provides grant-based incentives to firms to support exports.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-launches-75m-covid-response-fund-2079901>

10,051 more accounts with Tk 1cr in 2020

The number of bank accounts with over Tk 1 crore in deposits has continued to grow even during the Covid outbreak, with banks adding 10,051 such accounts in 2020. Bangladesh Bank data showed that the number of bank accounts with over Tk 1 crore in deposits increased to 93,890 as of December 2020 from 83,839 as of December 2019.

Deposits in such accounts rose by Tk 27,701 crore to Tk 5,95,286.11 crore in 2020 from Tk 5,67,585.19 crore in 2019. The rapid surge in wealth accumulation by a small segment of people happened at a time when a large portion of the country's people was struggling hard for survival and many of them entered into poverty afresh during the Covid-hit 2020.

When rich people became richer, the financial condition of hardcore poor who are allowed to open bank accounts with Tk 10 as deposit deteriorated in the pandemic-hit year, the BB data showed. The deposits in the accounts which are generally opened with Tk 10 as deposits to receive the government's assistance dropped by 80.82 per cent to Tk 202.19

crore at the end of December 2020 from Tk 365.59 crore a year ago.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/135752/10051-more-accounts-with-tk-1cr-in-2020>

Company News

MTB offers CMSME loan at 4pc interest rate

Mutual Trust Bank has recently signed an agreement with SME

Foundation to disburse stimulus loan arranged by the government, said a press release. Under the agreement, the loan will be disbursed at 4 per cent interest rate among rural and marginal cottage, micro, small and medium entrepreneurs with special focus on women entrepreneurs, clusters and value chain with a view to elevating their life standard and accelerating the recovery from losses incurred due to the COVID 19 outbreak.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/135630/mtb-offers-cmsme-loan-at-4pc-interest-rate>

Price Sensitive News

Trading Code: MPETROLEUM
 News Title: MPETROLEUM: Dividend Disbursement
 News: The Company has informed that it has disbursed the cash dividend for the year ended on June 30, 2020 to the respective shareholders.
 Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: DGIC
 News Title: DGIC: Query Response (Repeat)
 News: (Repeat): In response to a DSE query dated April 13, 2021, the Company has informed that there is no undisclosed price sensitive information of the Company for recent unusual price hike and increase in volume of shares.
 Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: PADMALIFE
 News Title: PADMALIFE: Resumption after record date
 News: Trading of the shares of the Company will resume on 20.04.2021 after record date.
 Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: PROVATIINS
 News Title: PROVATIINS: Resumption after record date
 News: Trading of the shares of the Company will resume on 20.04.2021 after record date.
 Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: JAMUNABANK
 News Title: JAMUNABANK: Suspension for Record date
 News: Trading of the shares of the Company will remain suspended on record date i.e., 20.04.2021.
 Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: ICB
 News Title: ICB: Board Meeting schedule under LR 16(1)
 News: As per Regulation 16(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Corporation has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 25, 2021 at 3:00 PM to consider, among others, un-audited financial statements of the Corporation for the Third Quarter (Q3) period ended on March 31, 2021.
 Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: IPDC
News Title: IPDC: Board Meeting schedule under LR 16(1)
News: As per Regulation 16(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 22, 2021 at 3:00 PM to consider, among others, un-audited financial statements of the Company for the First Quarter (Q1) period ended on March 31, 2021.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: JANATAINS
News Title: JANATAINS: Board Meeting schedule under LR 16(1)
News: As per Regulation 16(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 24, 2021 at 11:30 AM to consider, among others, un-audited financial statements of the Company for the First Quarter (Q1) period ended on March 31, 2021.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: JANATAINS
News Title: JANATAINS: Board Meeting schedule under LR 19 (1)
News: As per Regulation 19(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 24, 2021 at 11:30 AM to consider, among others, audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended on December 31, 2020.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: ABBANK
News Title: ABBANK: Board Meeting schedule under LR 16(1)
News: As per Regulation 16(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 27, 2021 at 1:30 PM to consider, among others, un-audited financial statements of the Company for the First Quarter (Q1) period ended on March 31, 2021.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: ABBANK
News Title: ABBANK: Board Meeting schedule under LR 19 (1)
News: As per Regulation 19(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 27, 2021 at 1:30 PM to consider, among others, audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended on December 31, 2020.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: ISLAMIBANK
News Title: ISLAMIBANK: Board Meeting schedule under LR 16(1)
News: As per Regulation 16(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 25, 2021 at 2:30 PM to consider, among others, un-audited financial statements of the Company for the First Quarter (Q1) period ended on March 31, 2021.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: ISLAMIBANK
News Title: ISLAMIBANK: Board Meeting schedule under LR 19 (1)
News: As per Regulation 19(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 25, 2021 at 2:30 PM to consider, among others, audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended on December 31, 2020.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: NITOLINS
News Title: NITOLINS: Price Limit Open
News: There will be no price limit on the trading of the shares of the Company today (19.04.2021) following its corporate declaration, however, as per the BSEC Order No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2001-07/04 dated March 19, 2020, the floor price shall be applicable accordingly.
Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: NITOLINS
News Title: NITOLINS: Dividend Declaration
News: The Board of Directors has recommended 10% cash dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2020. Date of AGM: 20.06.2021, Time: 11:00 AM, Venue: Digital Platform. Record Date: 24.05.2021. The Company has also reported EPS of Tk. 2.84, NAV

per share of Tk. 27.23 and NOCFPS of Tk. 1.21 for the year ended on December 31, 2020 as against Tk. 3.22, Tk. 25.89 and Tk. 3.13 respectively for the same period of the previous year.

Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: MERCANBANK

News Title: MERCANBANK: Board Meeting schedule under LR 16(1)

News: As per Regulation 16(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 22, 2021 at 1:30 PM to consider, among others, un-audited financial statements of the Company for the First Quarter (Q1) period ended on March 31, 2021.

Post Date: 2021-04-19

Trading Code: MPETROLEUM

News Title: MPETROLEUM: Board Meeting schedule under LR 16(1)

News: As per Regulation 16(1) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations, 2015, the Company has informed that a meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 25, 2021 at 2:00 PM to consider, among others, un-audited financial statements of the Company for the Third Quarter (Q3) period ended on March 31, 2021.

Post Date: 2021-04-19

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