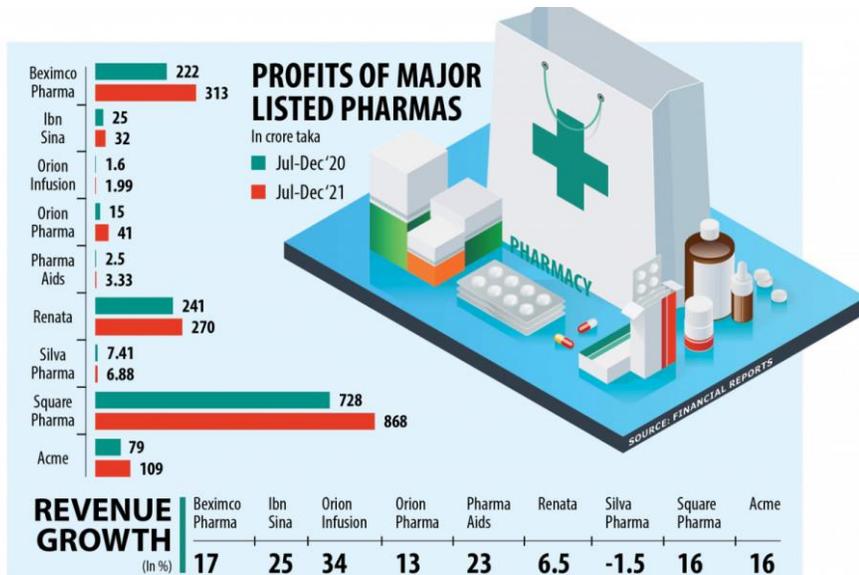




Photo Gallery



Daily Business News

February 2, 2022

BUSINESS NEWS ANALYSIS REPORT

Capital Market News

Stocks bounce back strongly

Trading at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) bounced back strongly today, after falling for four consecutive days. The DSEX, the benchmark index of the DSE, soared 71 points, or 1.02 per cent, to 6,997. Earlier, the index slipped 106 points in the last four days. At the DSE, 239 stocks advanced, 95 declined and 46 remained the same. The turnover, an important indicator of the market, rose 11 per cent to Tk 1,325 crore.

Stocks of Beximco Ltd traded mostly that worth Tk 96 crore followed by LafargeHolcim Bangladesh, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, Bangladesh Building Systems, and Orion Pharmaceuticals. Alltex Industries

topped the gainers' list that rose 19 per cent followed by Bangladesh Building Systems, Khan Brothers PP Woven Bag, Acme Pesticides, and Yeakin Polymer. Meanwhile, Envoy Textiles slipped mostly that dropped 3.4 per cent followed by Fortune Shoes, SEML Lecture Equity Management, Queen South Textiles, Social Islami Bank.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/busines/economy/stock/news/stocks-bounce-back-strongly-2952061>

Foreign funds in stocks drop

Foreign portfolio investment in stocks dropped last month compared to that in the preceding one as the investors had embarked on a selling spree. Net foreign investment was Tk 23.7 crore in the negative as sell-offs from the foreign investors were higher. They bought shares worth Tk 154.18 crore in January while the sales amounted to Tk 177.88 crore,

according to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) data. In the month before that, foreign investors bought shares worth Tk 194.19 crore while selling shares worth around Tk 154.66 crore. So, net foreign investment was around Tk 39.53 crore, the DSE data shows.

Foreign portfolio investment has undergone a falling trend over the last couple of years as they were disappointed over policy changes regarding listed companies, according to a stockbroker. Citing an example of a tussle between Grameenphone and Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), he said such incidents spook foreign investors' confidence. This is not the only case as there are many other examples of incidents that had impacted foreign investment, he added.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/stock/news/foreign-funds-stocks-drop-2952556>

Industry News

Most listed drug makers declare higher profits

Almost all listed pharmaceutical companies in Bangladesh registered higher profits in the first half of the ongoing financial year (FY) thanks to increased health consciousness amid the coronavirus pandemic. Among the 10 major drug makers that recently disclosed their latest financial reports, nine companies logged higher profits while only Silva Pharmaceuticals declared lower earnings for the period between July and December last year.

The 10 listed drug makers witnessed sales growth of 16 per cent on an average in the past six months, according to their earnings reports. Among the top profit booking companies, Square Pharmaceuticals logged Tk 868 crore in the July-December period of FY 2021-22, up 19 per cent compared to the same period of the previous year. Meanwhile, Beximco Pharmaceuticals saw its profits jump 41 per cent to Tk 313 crore. In terms of consolidated sales, the company achieved over 17 per cent growth year-on-year. Moreover, Beximco's profits rose due to its added income from vaccine distribution fees, which were non-existent in the previous year.

Beximco earned Tk 61 crore from vaccine distribution fees in the period, according to the company's financial report. Another top profit

booking company, Renata Ltd, saw its turnover rise 6.5 per cent to Tk 1,512 crore in the July-December period this financial year. Its profits shot up 12 per cent to Tk 270 crore, according to data on its financial statements.

Ibn Sina booked a 28 per cent growth in profits, registering Tk 32 crore in the last six months, when its sales rose 25 per cent to Tk 452 crore. Profits of Orion Pharmaceuticals soared by 173 per cent to Tk 41 crore as the company's sales rose 13 per cent to Tk 146 crore, as per its financial report. The Acme Laboratories saw its profits grow 37 per cent to Tk 109 crore while its revenue soared 16 per cent to Tk 1,161 crore, the data shows.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/most-listed-drug-makers-declare-higher-profits-2952506>

Economy News

Two state jute mills leased to private sector

The government yesterday handed over two jute mills to the private sector as part of its efforts to modernise the state-run enterprises dealing with the natural fibre. It comes 18 months after the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) shut 25 state-run jute mills to put an end to the heavy losses they had been incurring for years. Yesterday, Karnafuli Jute Mills Ltd in Chattogram was leased out to Unitex Group, and Bangladesh Jute Mills Ltd in Narsingdi to Bay Group. The lease period is 20 years.

In July 2020, the government decided to shut down the production at 25 state-run jute mills under the BJMC providing 100 per cent dues to 25,000 workers. Later, the corporation sought interest from investors as the government looks to lease out 17 mills. The BJMC received 55 proposals from investors from home and abroad. Of them, 14 proposals met the criteria. Five investors were selected for five mills. And Rauf is optimistic to hand over three mills by February. A survey was conducted at the jute mills to find out the condition of the machinery.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/two-state-jute-mills-leased-private-sector-2952561>

Company News

BSEC approves open-ended SAML Growth Fund

Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has approved an open-ended mutual fund named SAML Growth Fund. The approval came in a meeting of the commission held at the BSEC's office today. Mutual funds pool money from investors to channel it into securities such as stocks, bonds, and other assets. Depending on the profits earned, investors are then paid their share as dividends.

Open-ended mutual funds are not listed with the stock market but one can buy them from a fund managers' office on the basis of its net asset value. Similarly, investors can sell off fund units at any time at prices based on its current net asset value. The primary target of

the fund is Tk 25 crore. Of the fund, Shahjalal Asset Management provided Tk 2.5 crore. The face value of each unit is Tk 10. Shahjalal Asset Management is the fund manager of the mutual fund while its trustee and custodian are

Sandhani Life Insurance Company and Brac Bank respectively.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/stock/news/bsec-approves-open-ended-saml-growth-fund-2951341>

Price Sensitive News

Trading Code: BSRMSTEEL

News Title: BSRMSTEEL: Buy Confirmation of a Corporate Director

News: H. Akberali & Co. Limited, one of the Corporate Directors of the company, has further reported that it has completed its buying of 8,50,000 shares of the Company at prevailing market price through Dhaka Stock Exchange as per declaration disseminated on 14.12.2021.

Post Date: 2022-02-02

Trading Code: DESCO

News Title: DESCO: Appointment of Chairman

News: The Company has informed that Mr. A. T. M. Mostafa Kamal, Additional Secretary of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has been appointed as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company with effect from February 01, 2022.

Post Date: 2022-02-02

Trading Code: EXCH

News Title: DSENEWS: Commencement of ES of Pubali Bank Perpetual Bond by GP

News: (Continuation of DSENEWS): from 10:00 AM of January 31, 2022 to 5:00 PM of February 02, 2022 and make the full payment to DSE through The City Bank Limited (A/C Name: Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited, A/C No.: 1121063938001) from January 31, 2022 to February 02, 2022 (during banking hour) from their consolidated customers' Account based on total submitted application. Please visit the following website for subscription related updates: <https://www.essbangladesh.com>. (end)

Post Date: 2022-02-02

Trading Code: EXCH

News Title: DSENEWS: Commencement of ES of Pubali Bank Perpetual Bond by GP

News: Commencement of electronic subscription of Pubali Bank Perpetual Bond by General Public: The subscription of Pubali Bank Perpetual Bond for General Public will be started from January 10, 2022 and continued till January 30, 2022. Minimum subscription amount is BDT 5,000 (or its multiples) and there is no maximum bar. The registered TREC Holders/merchant bankers have to upload the IPO file of General Public in the Electronic Subscription System (ESS) (cont.)

Post Date: 2022-02-02

Trading Code: SUNLIFEINS

News Title: SUNLIFEINS: Prohibition on providing loan facilities to purchase securities

News: DSE NEWS: The Stock Brokers and Merchant Bankers are requested to abstain from providing loan facilities to purchase security of Sunlife Insurance Company Limited in between 1st to 7th trading days after change of categorization, with effect from February 03, 2022 as per BSEC Directive No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2009-193/32 dated December 26, 2021.

Post Date: 2022-02-02

Trading Code: SUNLIFEINS

News Title: SUNLIFEINS: Category Change

News: The Company will be placed in 'B' category from existing 'Z' category with effect from February 03, 2022 as the Company has reported disbursement of 1% cash Dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2020.

Post Date: 2022-02-02

Trading Code: SUNLIFEINS

News Title: SUNLIFEINS: Dividend Disbursement

News: The Company has informed that it has disbursed the cash dividend for the year ended December 31, 2020 to the respective shareholders.

Post Date: 2022-02-02

Daily Business News

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