



Photo Gallery



BUSINESS NEWS ANALYSIS REPORT

Daily Business News

March 31, 2022

Capital Market News

Tk 100b special fund coming to boost bourses

A special fund worth Tk 100 billion is to roll on bourses along with measures for increasing institutional participation in stock trade as per a consensus between the regulator and market operators. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the associations of market operators Wednesday reached the decision in principle in a meeting held at the BSEC office to work out market-boosting means.

Representatives of Bangladesh Merchant Bankers Association (BMBA), DSE Brokers Association (DBA), Association of Asset Management Companies (AAMC) and Capital Market Stabilisation Fund (CMSF) attended the meet chaired by

BSEC commissioner Prof Shaikh Shamsuddin Ahmed. "We sat to discuss the possible ways of enhancing the liquidity support for the stock market. We have agreed in principle on formation of the special fund worth Tk 100 billion," said the BSEC commissioner, Mr Ahmed.

On March 21, the BMBA mooted a proposal regarding the formation of special fund by issuing bonds through the CMSF. Wednesday's meeting was held as part of BSEC's continuous effort to ensure increased institutional participation in the stock market as a counterweight against market volatility. The securities regulator on Tuesday sought the support of the insurers' regulator in facilitating the listing of 26 insurers alongside ensuring their stipulated investments in listed securities.

Mohammad Rezaul Karim, a BSEC executive director, says the market operators and the securities regulator Wednesday also reached a consensus

on enhancing participation of institutional investors during Ramadan to stabilise the country's stock market. "The representatives of the BMBA assured of injecting fresh funds worth around Tk 2-3 billion through the own portfolios of merchant banks during Ramadan," Mr Karim adds through an audio message.

He said the representatives of DBA also told the meeting that the stockbrokers would also support the market through injecting around Tk 10 million by each stockbroker through their own portfolios. "The representatives of AMCs said they had already played a vital role in supporting the market through the investment made through the own portfolios of mutual funds," says the BSEC executive director, Mr Karim.

And the representatives of the AMCs also pledged to continue their support for the stock market during the holy month of fasting and festivals. "We hope the market will witness more

liquidity support during this Ramadan compared to previous Ramadan," Mr Karim adds. Asked, BMBA president Md. Sayadur Rahman said the securities regulator took into account their proposal regarding the formation of the special fund worth Tk 100 billion.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/tk-100b-special-fund-coming-to-boost-bourses-1648694674>

Trading time on bourses cut by 30 minutes during Ramadan

The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) have decided to reduce trading time by 30 minutes during the holy month of Ramadan, officials said. As per the decision, trading at the DSE will begin at 10:00am and continue until 2:00pm instead of 2:30pm, reducing 30 minutes during the holy month.

The DSE office will remain open at 9:00am and continue until 4:00pm in line with the government order during Ramadan, said a DSE official. He said that they have decided to reduce trading and office time instructed by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission. After Ramadan, bourses trading and office hours will resume at the usual time. Trading will begin at 10:00am and continue until 2:30pm while the office will start at 9:00am and continue till 5:00pm, he said.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/trading-time-on-bourses-cut-by-30-minutes-during-ramadan-1648647154>

Listed cos asked to provide info about directors' loans

The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has asked all listed companies to provide information about loans sanctioned by banks or other financial institutions

against a lien or pledge of shares of their directors and shareholders who hold more than 10 per cent shares of the company. The companies have also been asked to give information about their directors and shareholders who took margin loans from stockbroker or portfolio manager.

The BSEC issued separate letters to all listed companies in this regard on Tuesday and asked to provide the information within three days. Earlier on March 22, 2021, the BSEC issued a notification saying that the listed companies must provide information about their directors and shareholders who hold more than 10 per cent shares and availed loan facility by lien or pledge of shares to the lenders or information about margin loans of such director and shareholders availed from stockbroker or portfolio manager within 15 days of the end of each quarter of financial year. The regulator asked the companies to give the information in compliance with the notification.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/166773/listed-cos-asked-to-provide-info-about-directors-loans>

Industry News

Banking hour 9:30am-2:30pm during Ramadan

Banks in Bangladesh will remain open from 9.30am to 4pm in every working day in the month of Ramadan, which, according to Bangladesh Islamic Foundation, will begin on April 3. However, people will be allowed to make banking transactions from 9.30am to 2.30pm, according to a circular issued by Bangladesh Bank today. The weekend will remain the same: Friday and Saturday. The banking regulator also said the office

and banking hour will return to their earlier time table after the end of the month of Ramadan.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/banking-hour-930am-230pm-during-ramadan-2994096>

Govt okays LNG purchase at lower cost

The government yesterday approved a proposal to buy 33.60 lakh Metric Million British thermal units (Btus) of liquefied natural gas (LNG) for \$35 per unit, which is cheaper than what it cost just a week ago thanks to a downward trend in global prices. As per the proposal approved by the cabinet committee on purchase, Petrobangla, a corporation of the energy and mineral resources division, will buy the LNG for a total of Tk 1,186.70 crore from Singapore based M/S Vitol Asia Pte Ltd. While addressing a press conference after the meeting, Zillur Rahman Chowdhury, additional secretary of the cabinet division, said the fuel cost more than \$36.70 per MMBtu when the government approved a separate proposal to buy the same amount of LNG from Vitol Asia on March 23.

The price was previously fixed at \$29 per MMBtu just before Russia began its invasion of Ukraine, he added while hoping that LNG prices would return to such levels if the conflict ends soon. The committee also approved two proposals for purchasing fertiliser. The first was a proposal from the Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) to buy 30 thousand tonnes of Triple Super Phosphate from OCP Group, a Moroccan state-owned fertiliser producer, for about Tk 257.11 crore.

The second was BADC's proposal to buy 40 thousand tonnes of Diammonium Phosphate fertiliser from the same company for about Tk

398.99 crore. Considering the current cost, Rahman said fertiliser prices have increased a bit. The committee approved two other proposals as well -- upgrading the Kurigram-Nageswari-Bhurungamari-Sonahat Landport road to a highway and widening the Elenga-Jamalpur national highway.

The cabinet committee on economic affairs yesterday gave policy approval to establish 27 modern microbiology labs with RT-PCR machines from the United Nations Office for Project Services. However, the committee returned a proposal of the Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) under the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Division to purchase the "Porichoy" platform service.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-okays-lng-purchase-lower-cost-2994666>

Spectrum auction today

A crucial auction for spectrum bands that can support both fourth-generation (4G) and 5G technologies is set to take place in Dhaka today as the government looks to alleviate the sufferings of users stemming from the slower mobile internet speed. The country's four mobile operators, including state-owned Teletalk, have already deposited earnest money with the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), confirming their participation. The auction will take place at the Hotel InterContinental. The regulator will award 60 MHz spectrum in six blocks from 2.3 GHz (2,300-2,400 MHz) bands and 120 MHz in 12 blocks from 2.6 GHz (2,500-2,690 MHz) bands through the open auction. The base price per MHz is \$6 million for both bands.

Three mobile phone operators bought 27.4 megahertz of spectrum for

\$885.35 million last year, taking Grameenphone's total spectrum to 47.4 MHz, Robi's to 44 MHz and Banglalink's to 40 MHz. Teletalk's spectrum was at 25.2 MHz. The spectrum department of the BTRC allotted 60MHz of the spectrum from 3.5GH to Teletalk on a refundable condition to allow it to launch 5G in December on a trial basis.

Industry people say the people and the government want a better quality of voice and data services, higher speed, lower prices and coverage improvement. The rollout of 5G has been part of the current government's election manifesto in 2018.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/spectrum-auction-today-2994671>

Economy News

Govt to buy LNG at lower price

The government on Wednesday decided to purchase 33.60 lakh MMBTU liquefied natural gas for \$35 each unit, one dollar less than the previous purchase deal amid volatility in the global energy price following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The per MMBTU (Metric Million British Thermal Unit) price of the previous deal approved on March 10 was \$36, said cabinet division additional secretary Zillur Rahman Chowdhury after a virtual meeting of the cabinet committee on government purchases.

Presided by finance minister AHM Mustafa Kamal, the cabinet committee approved a Petrobangla proposal to buy the current supply of LNG from M/S. Vitol Asia Pte Ltd, Singapore. Referring to discussions in the meeting, Zillur Rahman said that the price of energy in the global market was expected to come down further

with the improvement in the war situation. Like many import-dependent countries, Bangladesh has to pay a high price for energy items because of its price hike in recent months, he said.

Zillur Rahman added that Petrobangla received approval from the same committee to purchase 36 lakh tonnes of MMBTU LNG with each unit costing \$29.70. The approval was given on February 23, a day before Russia invaded Ukraine. Since 2019, the country has been importing LNG against low domestic production of natural gas and high demand for the item.

Bangladesh imported 8.97 million cubic metres of LNG in 2020 with a 1.56 per cent growth over 2019, according to Petrobangla officials. Zillur Rahman said that the cabinet committee approved four other proposals, including the procurement of 30,000 tonnes of triple superphosphate at Tk 257.11 crore and 40,000 tonnes diammonium phosphate at Tk 398.99 crore from Morocco following proposals from Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation.

He said a proposal of the Road Transport and Highways Division for awarding a contract to Ashoka Buildcon Limited of India to widen the Baraiyarhat-Heyanko-Ramgarh road in Khagrachari district worth Tk 683.71 crore was turned down.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/166801/govt-to-buy-lng-at-lower-price>

Tk 100b special fund coming to boost bourses

A special fund worth Tk 100 billion is to roll on bourses along with measures for increasing institutional participation in stock trade as per a consensus between the regulator and market operators. The Bangladesh

Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the associations of market operators Wednesday reached the decision in principle in a meeting held at the BSEC office to work out market-boosting means.

Representatives of Bangladesh Merchant Bankers Association (BMBA), DSE Brokers Association (DBA), Association of Asset Management Companies (AAMC) and Capital Market Stabilisation Fund (CMSF) attended the meet chaired by BSEC commissioner Prof Shaikh Shamsuddin Ahmed. "We sat to discuss the possible ways of enhancing the liquidity support for the stock market. We have agreed in principle on formation of the special fund worth Tk 100 billion," said the BSEC commissioner, Mr Ahmed.

On March 21, the BMBA mooted a proposal regarding the formation of special fund by issuing bonds through the CMSF. Wednesday's meeting was held as part of BSEC's continuous effort to ensure increased institutional participation in the stock market as a counterweight against market volatility. The securities regulator on Tuesday sought the support of the insurers' regulator in facilitating the listing of 26 insurers alongside ensuring their stipulated investments in listed securities.

Mohammad Rezaul Karim, a BSEC executive director, says the market operators and the securities regulator Wednesday also reached a consensus on enhancing participation of institutional investors during Ramadan to stabilise the country's stock market. "The representatives of the BMBA assured of injecting fresh funds worth around Tk 2-3 billion through the own portfolios of merchant banks during Ramadan," Mr Karim adds through an audio message.

He said the representatives of DBA also told the meeting that the stockbrokers would also support the market through injecting around Tk 10 million by each stockbroker through their own portfolios. "The representatives of AMCs said they had already played a vital role in supporting the market through the investment made through the own portfolios of mutual funds," says the BSEC executive director, Mr Karim.

And the representatives of the AMCs also pledged to continue their support for the stock market during the holy month of fasting and festivals. "We hope the market will witness more liquidity support during this Ramadan compared to previous Ramadan," Mr Karim adds. Asked, BMBA president Md. Sayadur Rahman said the securities regulator took into account their proposal regarding the formation of the special fund worth Tk 100 billion.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/story/tk-100b-special-fund-coming-to-boost-bourses-1648694674>

Company News

JMI Hospital posts about 10pc rise in profit

JMI Hospital Requisite Manufacturing, which made its shares trading debut today (Thursday), posted a 9.47 per cent increase in profits for the second quarter (Q2) for October-December, 2021. In a filing with Dhaka Stock Exchange on Wednesday, the company said its unaudited profits increased to Tk 59.77 million for October-December, 2021, up by 9.47 per cent, from Tk 54.60 million in the corresponding period. The medical equipment manufacturer has also reported basic earnings per

share (EPS) of Tk 0.66 for October-December, 2021, as against Tk 0.61 for the same period a year earlier. However, post-IPO basic EPS for October-December 2021 would be Tk 0.48.

Besides, the company's profit for six months for July-December, 2021 stood at Tk 116.21 million as against Tk 109.21 million for July-December, 2021. The company's basic EPS for six months until December 2021, stood at Tk 1.29 as against Tk 1.21 for July-December, 2020. However, post-IPO EPS would be Tk 0.93 for six months until December 2021. The company's pre-IPO net asset value (NAV) per share would be Tk 32.78 as on 31 December 2021 and the same would be Tk 29.54, considering post-IPO paid-up share.

The JMI Hospital Requisite will make its shares trading debut on the bourses today (Thursday) under the settlement category "N".

JMI Hospital Requisite raised Tk 750 million under the book-building method. The cut-off price of its share was fixed at Tk 25 each through electronic bidding held between January 9 and January 12 -- a requirement for going public under the book-building method. Each general investor got 51/52 IPO shares while non-resident Bangladeshi received 58 shares against the application of Tk 10,000, as the prime bourse allocated IPO shares under the pro-rata basis.

The company will utilise the IPO proceeds for purchasing machinery, constructing building, land development, repaying bank loans and bearing the IPO expenses. The company's paid-up capital is over Tk 1.25 billion and authorised capital is Tk 3.0 billion while the total number of securities is 125.29 million. Sponsor-directors own 32.32 per cent stakes in the company, while the

institutional investors own 39.23 per cent and the general public 28.45 per cent as on June 30, 2021 (The year-end). JMI Hospital Requisite Manufacturing has been manufacturing and selling a wide range of medical devices and their

component products in Bangladesh since 2013 and trading of healthcare related equipment since 2010. Janata Capital and Investment is the issue manager of the JMI Hospital Requisite.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/story/jmi-hospital-posts-about-10pc-rise-in-profit-1648701553>

Price Sensitive News

Trading Code: BATBC

News Title: BATBC: Investment decision in Savar site Factory

News: The Company has informed that the Board of Directors has approved the investment decision amounting to BDT 574.20 crore for company's Savar site factory. This investment would cater the upcoming exports opportunities and create contingency capacity. The investment will be funded from internal sources and bank financing based on Cashflow of the company.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: UCB

News Title: UCB: Dividend Declaration (Additional Information)

News: (Continuation news of UCB): declared from capital reserve or revaluation reserve or any unrealized gain or out of profit earned prior to incorporation of the Company or through reducing paid-up capital or through doing anything so that the post-dividend retained earnings become negative or a debit balance. (end)

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: UCB

News Title: UCB: Dividend Declaration (Additional Information)

News: The Company has further informed reasons for declaration of stock dividend: i) Stock Dividend has been recommended to strengthen the capital base of the company to comply with the regulatory requirements and to support the business growth; ii) Stock Dividend is declared out of accumulated profit. iii) Stock Dividend is not (cont.)

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: UCB

News Title: UCB: Board Decision to form a fully owned Subsidiary Company

News: The Company has informed that the Board of Directors has decided to form a fully owned Subsidiary Company having paid-up capital of MYR 4,000,000.00 (forty lakh) (Equivalent to USD 950,000) in Malaysia to operate Money Services Business (MSB) subject to the approval of the regulatory authorities.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: UCB

News Title: UCB: Board Decision to form a fully owned Subsidiary Company

News: The Company has informed that the Board of Directors has decided to form a fully owned Subsidiary Company having paid-up capital of HK\$ 5,000,000.00 (fifty lakh) (Equivalent to USD 650,000) in Hong Kong to conduct Trade Finance and other Business subject to the approval of the regulatory authorities.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: AFTABAUTO

News Title: AFTABAUTO: Credit Rating Result

News: Credit Rating Agency of Bangladesh Limited (CRAB) has announced the Entity Rating (Surveillance) of the Company as "A1" along with a stable outlook based on audited financial statements up to June 30, 2021; unaudited 6 (six) months management prepared financial statements; bank liability position as on December 31, 2021 and other relevant quantitative as well as qualitative information up to the date of rating declaration.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: SINGERBD

News Title: SINGERBD: Decision to establish a new manufacturing facility

News: (Continuation news of SINGERBD): The proposed manufacturing facilities would cater to the increasing local demand with a competitive price and would also contribute to the Company's growth. (end)

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: SINGERBD

News Title: SINGERBD: Decision to establish a new manufacturing facility

News: The Company has informed that the Board of Directors has approved a budget for establishing a new manufacturing facility in order to increase its manufacturing capacity. The budget approved by the Board of Directors is for a total of Euro 71 million (estimated) equivalent to BDT 680 crore (estimated). The investment will be financed from internal sources and bank financing both foreign and local borrowing. (cont.)

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: CITYBANK

News Title: CITYBANK: 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 7, 2022 at 3:00 PM to consider, among others, audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: SAIHAMCOT

News Title: SAIHAMCOT: Credit Rating Result

News: Credit Rating Agency of Bangladesh Limited (CRAB) has announced the Entity Rating (Surveillance) of the Company as "A1" along with a stable outlook based on audited financial statements up to June 30, 2021; bank liability position up to February 28, 2022 and other relevant quantitative as well as qualitative information up to the date of rating declaration.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: SAIHAMTEX

News Title: SAIHAMTEX: Buy Intimation

News: Faisal Spinning Mills Ltd. (where Mr. S. M. Faisal, Mrs. Yasmin Faisal, Mr. Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed and Mr. Syed Shafqat Ahmed all are the Sponsor Directors of Saiham Textile Mills Ltd.), has expressed its intention to buy 15,00,000 shares of the company at prevailing market price (in the Block Market) through Dhaka Stock Exchange within April 28, 2022.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: UCB

News Title: UCB: Price Limit Open

News: There will be no price limit on the trading of the shares of the Company today (31.03.2022) following its corporate declaration.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: UCB

News Title: UCB: Dividend Declaration

News: The Board of Directors has recommended 10% stock dividend for the year ended December 31, 2021. Date of AGM: 09.06.2022, Time: 3:00 PM, Venue: Digital Platform. Record date: 25.04.2022. The Company has also reported consolidated EPS of Tk. 1.92, consolidated NAV per share of Tk. 29.25 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk. (18.54) for the year ended December 31, 2021 as against Tk. 2.31, Tk. 27.96 and Tk. (8.87) respectively for the same period of the previous year.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: DSSL

News Title: DSSL: BSEC Consent and Record date for entitlement of 5% Stock Dividend

News: The Company has further informed that BSEC has accorded consent for issuance of 5% Stock Dividend for the year ended June 30, 2021. The Company has also informed that the Board of Directors has fixed the Record date on 10.04.2022 for entitlement of the aforesaid Bonus Shares.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: VFSTDL

News Title: VFSTDL: Credit Rating Result

News: National Credit Ratings Limited (NCR) has announced the surveillance entity rating of the Company as "BBB+" in the long term and "ST-3" in the short term along with a developing outlook based on audited financial statements as on June 30, 2021.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: NHFIL

News Title: NHFIL: Update of Information

News: The Company has requested the shareholders to update their respective BO Accounts with 12 digits e-TIN number and e-mail ID before the Record Date. If any shareholder fails to update his/her BO Account with the e-TIN disbursement of his/her dividend will be subject to deduction of Advance Income Tax (AIT) @ 15% instead of 10% (for individual) as per Section 54 of the amended Income Tax Ordinance, 1984.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: NHFIL

News Title: NHFIL: Price Limit Open

News: There will be no price limit on the trading of the shares of the Company today (31.03.2022) following its corporate declaration.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: NHFIL

News Title: NHFIL: Dividend Declaration

News: The Board of Directors has recommended 16% cash dividend for the year ended December 31, 2021. Date of AGM: 02.06.2022, Time: 12:00 noon, Venue: Digital Platform. Record Date: 20.04.2022. The Company has also reported EPS of Tk. 2.23, NAV per share of Tk. 18.65 and NOCFPS of Tk. 9.21 for the year ended December 31, 2021 as against Tk. 2.75, Tk. 17.91 and Tk. 5.06 respectively for the same period of the previous year.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: EXCH

News Title: DSENEWS: CDBL News for the investors

News: To get "FREE SMS & EMAIL Alert" for Debit/Credit of securities in BO account, BO account Opening/Closing, Changes in the BO account holders name, Bank A/C number, Bank name, Mobile number, E-mail address and "Monthly e-Statement" of BO account directly from CDBL, please update your Mobile number and Email address in your BO Account through your DP.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: JAMUNABANK

News Title: JAMUNABANK: Price Limit Open

News: There will be no price limit on the trading of the shares of the Company today (31.03.2022) following its corporate declaration.

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: JAMUNABANK

News Title: JAMUNABANK: Dividend Declaration

News: (Continuation news of JAMUNABANK): Reason for deviation in EPS, NAV and NOCPS: EPS has decreased compared to previous year for keeping additional General Provision for COVID 19 as per circular issued by Bangladesh Bank. NAV has decreased compared to previous year due to reduction of revaluation reserve. NOCFPS has decreased

compared to previous year due to increase of gap between collection of deposit and deployment of fund through advances over the previous year. (end)

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: JAMUNABANK

News Title: JAMUNABANK: Dividend Declaration

News: (Continuation news of JAMUNABANK): The Company has also reported Consolidated EPS of Tk. 3.35, Consolidated NAV per share of Tk. 28.41 and Consolidated NOCFPS of Tk. 11.33 for the year ended December 31, 2021 as against Tk. 3.54, Tk. 32.06 and Tk. 14.98 respectively for the same period of the previous year. (cont. 2)

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Trading Code: JAMUNABANK

News Title: JAMUNABANK: Dividend Declaration

News: The Board of Directors has recommended 17.50% cash dividend for the year ended December 31, 2021. Date of AGM: 14.06.2022, Time: 11:00 AM, Venue: Hybrid system: physical presence and by using digital platform. i) Meeting Venue: HELMET (Hall-1), RAOWA Convention Hall, VIP Road, DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka. ii) Web-link for joining AGM through digital platform will be notified later on. Record date: 21.04.2022. (cont. 1)

Post Date: 2022-03-31

Daily

Business News

UFCML Research Team

Contact:

Rishad Reza Nur

Analyst

Mob: 01715551555

Email: rishad_reza@outlook.com

UTTARA FINANCE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Jibon Bima Tower (6 th Floor),

10 Dilkusha C/A,

Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.