

Key News

- ✓ [Stocks fall after 9-day rise](#)
- ✓ [Bank Asia virtually holds AGM](#)
- ✓ [Marico posts record profit](#)
- ✓ [ICB's profit plunges 98pc on market gloom, investments in scam-hit MFs](#)
- ✓ [Leading drug makers' profits down in Q3 for high production costs](#)
- ✓ [41st Annual General Meeting of IPDC Finance Ltd held](#)
- ✓ [Islami Bank registers dip in profit](#)
- ✓ [Biscuit maker Olympic's profit jumps 42%](#)
- ✓ [Investors unlikely to get anything from Regent Textile liquidation](#)
- ✓ [Two Pran-RFL concerns see lower profits in March quarter](#)
- ✓ [Dhaka Bank's EPS decline by 22% in 2022](#)
- ✓ [National Bank incurs Tk3,260cr loss in 2022](#)
- ✓ [Mercantile Bank's profit drops by 34% in 2022](#)
- ✓ [Far East Knitting posts higher profits in January-March](#)
- ✓ [More devaluation this month](#)
- ✓ [ECB set to hike rate again but analysts divided on how much](#)

Stock Market & Company

Stocks fall after 9-day rise

The New Age, April 30, 2023

- DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, lost 11.37 points, or 0.18 per cent, and settled at 6,262.68 points after gaining 77.53 points in the previous nine sessions. The turnover on the bourse decreased by 28.37 per cent to Tk 693.15 crore on Sunday compared with that of Tk 967.69 crore on April 27.
- The April 27 turnover was the highest since November 9, 2022 when the turnover was Tk 1,018.85 crore. Most of the sectors displayed dismal returns, out of which travel, jute and IT exerted the most corrections on the day. Cement, services and bank exhibited the most returns on the bourse on the day.

- Out of the 342 issues traded, 44 advanced, 98 declined and 200 remained unchanged on the day. The DS30 index also decreased by 6.15 points to finish at 2,207.41 points and the DSE Shariah index declined by 3.06 points to close at 1,359.83 points on the day.
- Unique Hotel topped the turnover chart with its shares worth Tk 53.52 crore changing hands. Eastern Housing, Aamra Networks, Gemini Sea Food, LafargeHolcim, Rahima Food, Genex Infosys, Sea Pearl Beach Resort, Sonali Paper, and Olympic Industries were the other turnover leaders on the day.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/200527/stocks-fall-after-9-day-rise>

Bank Asia virtually holds AGM

The Daily Star, May 01, 2023

- Bank Asia Limited virtually organised its 24th annual general meeting (AGM) yesterday, when shareholders approved a 15 per cent cash dividend for the year 2022. Romo Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of Bank Asia, presided over the meeting, said a press release.
- In the beginning of the AGM, one minute of silence was observed to pay tribute to the bank's lead sponsor and founder late A Rouf Chowdhury, who passed away on February 18, 2023.
- Mohammad Safwan Choudhury, vice-chairman of the bank, Rume A Hossain, chairman of the board executive committee, Dilwar H Choudhury, chairman of the board audit committee, MA Baqui Khalily, chairman of the board risk management committee, Enam Chowdhury, Romana Rouf Chowdhury, Ashraful Haq Chowdhury, Md Abul Quasem, Helal Ahmed Chowdhury and Nafees Khundker, directors of the bank, Adil Chowdhury, president and managing director, SM Anisuzzman, company secretary, along with other senior officials and a large number of shareholders joined the meeting.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/bank-asia-virtually-holds-agm-3308421>

Marico posts record profit

The Financial Express, April 29, 2023

- Marico Bangladesh reported a net profit of Tk 3.87 billion in financial year 2023, the highest since its listing on the stock market, thanks to an increase in sales and product prices.
- Its net profit grew 9.0 per cent year-on-year for the financial year that ended in March 2023, according to a disclosure published on Friday.
- The India-based fast-moving consumer goods company also posted an 8.45 per cent growth in sales revenue to Tk 14.13 billion.
- Despite its record profit, the board of the multinational company did not recommend any final dividend for 2023 as it had already paid a 750 per cent interim cash dividend in two phases (450 per cent and 300 per cent) for the year. It is the lowest dividend since 2020.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/marico-posts-record-profit>

ICB's profit plunges 98pc on market gloom, investments in scam-hit MFs

The Financial Express, May 01, 2023

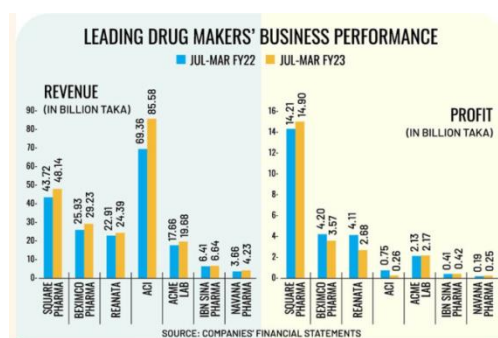
- Investment Corporation of Bangladesh's profit plunged 98 per cent year-on-year to Tk 2.73 million in the third quarter through March of FY23 for its failure to generate capital gains due to the imposition of floor price.
- Thus, the consolidated earnings per share were only Tk 0.03 in January-March against Tk 0.26 in the same quarter a year ago, according to a regulatory filing on the Dhaka Stock Exchange on Sunday.
- The corporation's capital gains slumped 58 per cent year-on-year to Tk 520 million in the latest quarter. Its capital gains in July-March (last nine months) also dropped 59 per cent to Tk 3.74 billion. Profit in the nine months to March dropped 70 per cent to Tk 492 million.
- Interest income dropped 37 per cent year-on-year while dividend income fell 26 per cent in the January-March quarter. The stock market has been bearish for long so ICB's earnings have dropped since it invests only in stocks and bonds, Mr Hossain said.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/icbs-profit-plunges-98pc-on-market-gloom-investments-in-scam-hit-mfs>

Leading drug makers' profits down in Q3 for high production costs

The Financial Express, May 01, 2023

- Leading drug makers endured a year-on-year decline in profit in the latest quarter through March of FY23 owing to higher production costs. Square Pharmaceuticals, Beximco Pharmaceuticals, Renata and ACI saw their profits drop up to 57 per cent year-on-year in the three months through March on the back of increased costs.
- Square Pharma, the flagship company of Square Group, saw a 6.23 per cent year-on-year drop in profit to Tk 4.28 billion in January-March despite an increase in the sales revenue.
- Its annual profit surged 14 per cent to Tk 18.18 billion in FY22, thanks to the launching of new drugs as well as strong marketing strategy.
- Beximco Pharmaceuticals saw a 15 per cent year-on-year dip in profit to Tk 908 million in January-March, despite a 6.58 per cent growth in revenue to Tk 9.55 billion.
- Renata's profit tumbled 57 per cent in the third quarter; its 11 percent revenue growth could not offset costs. Its consolidated revenue increased to Tk 8.45 billion while profit dropped to Tk 580 million in the three months.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/leading-drug-makers-profits-down-in-q3-for-high-production-costs>

41st Annual General Meeting of IPDC Finance Ltd held

The Financial Express, April 28, 2023

- The 41st Annual General Meeting of IPDC Finance Ltd was held virtually on Thursday, with its Chairman Kazi Mahmood Sattar in the chair.
- Mominul Islam, Managing Director and CEO; Barrister Samiul Hashim, Company Secretary & Head of Legal Affairs; Fahmida Khan, Chief Financial Officer; and other senior officials attended the meeting, according to a press release. The shareholders present in the AGM approved 10 per cent cash dividend for the year 2022.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/41st-annual-general-meeting-of-ipdc-finance-ltd-held>

Islami Bank registers dip in profit

The Daily Star, May 01, 2023

- Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited's profit slumped 32.70 per cent year-on-year to Tk 56.35 crore in the first quarter of 2023. The country's largest Shariah-based bank in terms of deposits made a profit of Tk 83.72 crore in the January-March quarter of 2022.
- The bank, thus, recorded Tk 0.35 earnings per share in January-March, down from Tk 0.52 in the same period a year ago, according to a disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange. The net operating cash flow per share became negative in the first quarter.
- Its shares closed unchanged at Tk 32.80 on the DSE yesterday. The bank saw its EPS grow 28 per cent year-on-year to Tk 3.83 in 2022 from Tk 2.99 a year ago. It declared a 10 per cent cash dividend for the year that ended on December 31.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/islami-bank-registers-dip-profit-3308456>

Biscuit maker Olympic's profit jumps 42%

The Daily Star, April 30, 2023

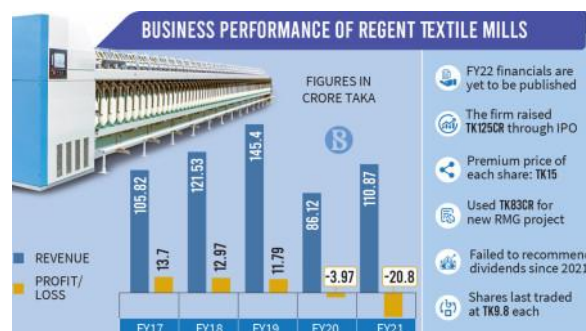
- Local biscuits manufacturing giant Olympic Industries today said its profit jumped 42 per cent in the first three quarters of the current financial year of 2022-23, powered by increased sales revenue.
- The biscuit maker logged Tk 145.85 crore in profit in the July-March period of the current financial year, up from Tk 102.36 crore a year ago, said Olympic in its unaudited financial statement for the period.
- Olympic sold biscuits and bakery products worth Tk 1,978.85 crore in nine months to the end of March 2023, recording 24 per cent year-on-year growth. Olympic said its gross profit margin rose to 24.66 per cent in the current year from 24.39 per cent in the previous year.
- The company said its net operating cash flow per share rose in the first three quarters of the financial year of 2022-23 mainly due to higher amount of sales and collections.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/biscuit-maker-olympics-profit-jumps-42-3308136>

Investors unlikely to get anything from Regent Textile liquidation

The Business Standard, April 30, 2023

- Publicly listed Regent Textile Mills Ltd, one of the 11 debt-ridden companies of the Chattogram-based Habib Group, is having to liquidate as the US business conglomerate Wilmington Trust Company filed an application against the company for being a guarantor of a substantial amount of dues.
- Liquidation is the process of selling off assets and using the proceeds to pay off creditors and shareholders. It is triggered when a company is insolvent and is unable to pay its debts.
- While creditors and lenders will be prioritised in the process, analysts warn that general investors (public) are unlikely to get anything from the liquidation.
- BSEC Executive Director Mohammad Rezaul Karim said any liquidation will be governed by the Company Act and the BSEC will act after receiving directions from the court. The High Court has recently accepted the liquidation application in this regard, according to court officials.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/investors-unlikely-get-anything-regent-textile-liquidation-624454>

Two Pran-RFL concerns see lower profits in March quarter

The Business Standard, April 30, 2023

- Agricultural Marketing Company Limited (Pran) and Rangpur Foundry Limited (RFL) of the Pran-RFL Group have reported year-on-year declines in their profits in the January to March quarter of the ongoing 2022-23 fiscal year.
- According to a disclosure by Rangpur Foundry on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) website on Sunday, the company's unaudited earnings per share (EPS) in the third quarter of FY23 fell by 3% to Tk0.89, compared to the same quarter of FY22.
- In the July to March period of FY23, the company's EPS stood at Tk3.03, which was 2.57% lower than that in the same nine months of the previous fiscal. According to Pran's DSE disclosure on Sunday, its EPS dropped by 14% to Tk1.72 in the third quarter of FY23, compared to the same quarter of the previous fiscal.
- And in the July to March period of FY23, Pran's EPS stood at Tk5.32, which was 15% lower than that in the same period of the previous fiscal year. After the disclosures, share price of Rangpur Foundry fell by 4.42% in a day to close at Tk159.9, and Pran's share price fell by 2.43% to Tk273 on Sunday at the DSE.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/two-pran-rfl-concerns-see-lower-profits-march-quarter-624450>

Dhaka Bank's EPS decline by 22% in 2022

The Business Standard, April 30, 2023

- Dhaka Bank's earnings per share (EPS) dropped by 22% in 2022 compared to the previous year. According to the bank's price sensitive statement, last year its consolidated earnings per share was Tk1.76, which was Tk2.25 a year ago.
- The bank also recommended 6% cash and 6% stock dividends to its shareholders for the last year. It paid a 12% cash dividend in 2021. To approve the dividends and audited financial statements, the bank will conduct its annual general meeting (AGM) on 18 June. It also set the record date on 22 May for the AGM.
- The last share trading price of the company on the Dhaka Stock Exchange was Tk13.40 on Sunday.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-banks-eps-decline-22-2022-624366>

National Bank incurs Tk3,260cr loss in 2022

The Business Standard, April 30, 2023

- National Bank Limited incurred a huge loss of Tk3,260 crore in 2022 as its borrowers could not repay their instalments in time and became classified.
- In its price sensitive financial statement, the bank said its earnings per share (EPS) was Tk10.13 negative in the previous year. Its net profit was Tk38 crore and EPS was Tk0.12 in 2021.
- Due to the high loss, the bank failed to recommend any dividend to its shareholders for the year 2022. Earlier, in 2021, it did not pay any dividend to the shareholders. Besides, it suffered a severe net operating cash crisis as it reported a net operating cash flow per share of Tk17.21 negative.
- The bank also published its first quarter financial statement of 2023. According to the statement, its EPS was Tk0.97 negative in this period. Its net asset value per share (NAV) also declined by 26% to Tk11.92 in the January-March quarter of this year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/national-bank-incurs-tk3260cr-loss-2022-624346>

Mercantile Bank's profit drops by 34% in 2022

The Business Standard, April 30, 2023

- Mercantile Bank's earnings per share (EPS) dropped by 34% in 2022 compared to the previous year. The bank also declared a lower dividend for last year than the previous.
- According to the bank's price sensitive statement, during last year its EPS was Tk2.17, which was Tk3.29 a year ago. The bank also recommended a 10% cash and 2% stock dividends to its shareholders for the last year. It paid a 12.50% cash and 5% stock dividends in 2021.
- To approve the dividends and audited financial statement, the bank will conduct the annual general meeting (AGM) on 14 June. It also set the record date on 23 May for the AGM. Currently, its share price is stuck on the floor price at Tk13.90 each at the Dhaka Stock Exchange.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/mercantile-banks-profit-drops-34-2022-624342>

Far East Knitting posts higher profits in January-March

The Business Standard, April 30, 2023

- Far East Knitting and Dyeing Industries posted an earnings per share (EPS) of Tk0.52 for the January-March period, which was Tk0.39 for the same period last year. In a price sensitive information disclosure, the composite knitwear exporter thanked its declined production costs of goods on top of an increase in other income.
- For the July-March period or the first nine months of the fiscal year, its EPS increased to Tk0.97 from Tk0.82 a year ago.
- At the end of March, the company's net asset value per share stood at Tk19.47. Far East Knitting shares having a face value of Tk10 apiece are stuck at the floor price of Tk17.2 for almost six months at the Dhaka Stock Exchange.

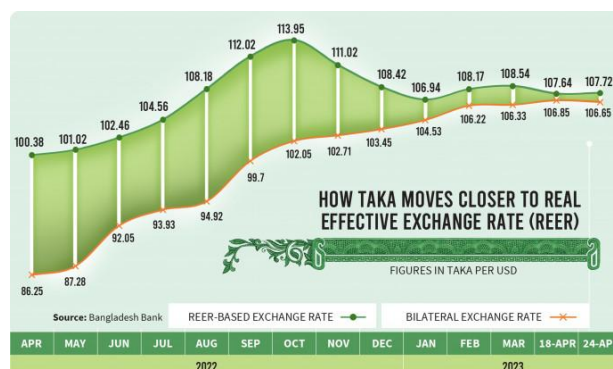
<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/far-east-knitting-posts-higher-profits-january-march-624338>

Economy & Industry

More devaluation this month

The Business Standard, April 30, 2023

- The Bangladesh Bank will devalue the taka again this month in an effort to narrow the gap between the dollar selling rate from reserves and the market rate as a visiting IMF review team has stressed faster implementation of a unified exchange rate to ease pressure on foreign exchange reserves.
- According to a source within the central bank, the rate at which US dollars are sold from reserves is expected to be raised by Tk1 to Tk104 this week, with a further increase to Tk106 scheduled for June. This will align the central bank's selling rate with the current market average rate.
- The decision was made on Sunday following a meeting of the central bank with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) delegation over Bangladesh's progress in performance indicators that were set by the global lender as the conditions for releasing the second tranche of the \$4.7 billion loan approved for the country in February this year.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/more-devaluation-month-624458>

International

ECB set to hike rate again but analysts divided on how much

The New Age, April 30, 2023

- The European Central Bank is expected to deliver another interest rate increase Thursday, but analysts are divided on how big the hike will be against a backdrop of stubborn inflation and market turmoil.
- There is little doubt the central bank will hike borrowing costs for the seventh consecutive time as consumer price increases are still way above its two-per cent target. The Frankfurt-based institution has already lifted rates 3.5 percentage points since July last year to tame energy and food costs that surged after Russia invaded Ukraine.
- But there is debate about whether the ECB will opt for a 50-basis point hike — as it did at its previous three meetings — or downshift to 25 basis points. Currently many analysts are betting on a quarter point hike, due to slowing inflation as well as a stable outlook in the 20-nation currency club.
- Data last week showed the eurozone economy expanding 0.1 per cent in the first quarter. While modest, EU officials said the figure indicated ‘resilience’ against the challenging backdrop of the energy crisis.
- However, several data releases due on Tuesday — including a first estimate of eurozone inflation for April — may change calculations. ‘Both a 25-basis point and a 50-basis point rate hike seem to be on the table,’ said ING economist Carsten Brzeski, adding there was a growing debate between ‘hawks’ and ‘doves’ about the impacts of tightening.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/200544/ecb-set-to-hike-rate-again-but-analysts-divided-on-how-much>

Disclaimer

This document has been prepared by Bank Asia Securities Ltd (BASL) based on publicly available data for information purpose only and does not solicit any action based on the material contained herein and should not be construed as an offer or solicitation to buy or sell or subscribe to any security. Neither BASL nor any of its directors, shareholders, member of the management or employee represents or warrants expressly or impliedly that the information or data of the sources used in the documents are genuine, accurate, complete, authentic and correct. However, all reasonable care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this document. BASL or Research & Development Department will not take any responsibility for any decisions made based on the information herein. As this document has been made for the Traders of BASL and strongly prohibited for circulation to any clients, investors or any other persons from outside of BASL.

About Bank Asia Securities Ltd

Bank Asia Securities Limited (BASL) is one of the leading full-service brokerage companies in Bangladesh. The company was formed in 2009 and running its operation as a majority owned subsidiary of Bank Asia Limited. BASL offers full-fledged standard brokerage services for retail, institutional and foreign clients with a dedicated team of skilled professionals. The company is currently providing the brokerage services under the membership of Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited (DSE).

BASL Research Team

Mr. Shariful Alam Chowdhury
Head of Research & Investments

tushar@basl-bd.com

Mr. Shohidul Islam
Research Analyst

shohidul@basl-bd.com

BASL Networks

Head Office

Hadi Mansion (2nd Floor)
2, Dilkusha Commercial Area
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Phone: +88-02-9515826-28
E-mail: info@basl-bd.com

Dhanmondi Branch

Meher Plaza (1st Floor),
House # 13/A, Road # 05
Dhanmondi, Dhaka - 1207
Phone: +8802-44611923-24

Mirpur Branch

Nishi Plaza, plot # 01,
Avenue-04, Section-06, Block-C
Mirpur, Dhaka - 1216
Phone: +8802-58055449, 48032449

Uttara Branch

House # 79/A, (4th Floor),
Road # 07, Sector # 04
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230
Phone: +88-02-48958389, 48958371

Banani Branch

Nur Empori, Plot # 77 (1st Floor),
Road No # 11, Banani,
Dhaka-1213
Phone: +88028836155, 8836849

Nikunja Branch

DSE Tower, Level 10, Room# 200,
Nikunja, Dhaka-1229
Phone: +8809666702070 Beraid

Bijoy Nagar Extension

Prime Tower (3rd Floor), 180-181
Dhaka-1213
Phone: +880248318685

Khulna Branch

28, Sir Iqbal Road (1st Floor)
Khulna
Phone: +88-041-731208-9

Chattogram Branch

Bank Asia Bhaban (3rd Floor)
39, Agrabad Commercial Area
Chattogram-4001
Tel : +8801730338091

Badda Digital Booth

Digital Booth (Beraid Badda)
Chairman Building (Ground Floor),
390, Bhuyian Para (Beraid Bazar),
Badda, Dhaka-1212.

Rajshahi Digital Booth

Chamber Bhaban (2nd Floor),
Station Road,
Alokar Moor,
Rajshahi – 6100,
Phone: 0088 02-088852318-9

Bogura Digital Booth

Jamil Shopping Center (3rd Floor),
288/325 Rangpur Road, Bogura Poura
shava
Bogura Sadar, Bogura. 5800
Mobile#01739872483

For International Trade & Sales, please call at +8801993111666, +880 02 9515826, Ext: 101 at Business hour. For further query, write to us at research@basl-bd.com.