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Stock Market & Company

Dhaka stocks maintain upward trend for fourth day

The New Age, April 17, 2023

- DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, gained 6.82 points or 0.10 per cent and settled at 6,223.05 points on Monday against 6,216.23 points on Sunday. The DSEX gained 26.56 points in the past four trading sessions after losing 17.71 points in previous three sessions.
- Meanwhile, the Dhaka bourse observed a decrease in participation as total turnover fell by 6.2 per cent to Tk 443.58 crore on Monday against Tk 472.91 crore on Sunday.
- National Tea Company, City General Insurance, Rangpur Dairy, Gemini Sea Food, Rupali Life Insurance, Islami Commercial Insurance, Al-Haj Textile, Sunlife Insurance, Unique Hotel and Aamra Tech were the top ten gainers considering close price on the day.
- Midland Bank, Legacy Footwear, Samata Leather, Bengal Windsor, Apex Tannery, Bangladesh Monospool Paper, Hamid Fabrics, Jute Spinners, Beach Hatchery and Bangladesh Lamps were the top ten losers.

- The DS30 index increased by 2.39 points to finish at 2,202.06 points and the DSE Shariah index advanced by 0.89 points to close at 1,348.58 points on the day.
- Unique Hotel topped the turnover chart with its shares worth Tk 36.36 crore changing hands. Aamra Networks, Rangpur Dairy, Gemini Sea Food, Orion Infusion, Genex Infosys, Eastern Housing, Apex Footwear, Sea Pearl Beach Resort and Olympic Industries were the other turnover leaders on the day.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/199642/dhaka-stocks-maintain-upward-trend-for-fourth-day>

Banks turning away from capital market, with investments far below limit set

The Financial Express, April 18, 2023

- As many as 32 scheduled banks have the scope of investing around Tk 37 billion more in total into the capital market, keeping their exposure to listed securities within the permissible limit on solo basis.
- At present, the lenders have a little over Tk 136 billion invested in equity and debt-backed securities, according to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC).
- The regulator compiled the data as, BSEC Executive Director Mohammad Rezaul Karim said, it seeks to increase participation of institutional investors in the capital market that has been suffering from an acute liquidity crisis.
- It sent a letter last week to the 32 banks, requesting them to help stabilise the market through fresh investments. Banks can invest up to 25 per cent of their capital in listed securities on a solo basis and 50 per cent on a consolidated basis, according to the Bank Companies Act.
- If loss-making ICB Islami Bank is excluded from the list, Dutch-Bangla Bank has the lowest capital market exposure at only 4.54 per cent as of February 28. It can inject up to Tk 7.58 billion in addition to its existing investment in stocks, listed mutual funds and listed perpetual bonds.

Capital market exposure as of Feb

Figures in %

Bank	Solo basis	Consolidated basis	Bank	Solo basis	Consolidated basis
AB Bank	19.72	53.09	One Bank	21.92	32.52
Bank Asia	19.09	28.30	Premier Bank	23.78	33.93
BRAC Bank	15.41	16.90	Prime Bank	18.39	32.82
The City Bank	18.14	33.66	Pubali Bank	20.10	41.73
Dhaka Bank	23.54	29.39	Shahjalal Islami Bank	21	34.90
Eastern Bank	24.71	40.90	SBAC Bank	20.82	19.28
EXIM Bank	26.78	34.41	Southeast Bank	19.11	41.97
First Security Islami Bank	18.26	25.28	Standard Bank	24.03	38.62
Global Islami Bank	20.50	20.50	Trust Bank	21.31	51.12
IFIC Bank	24.70	37.40	Union Bank	14.91	14.91
Jamuna Bank	16.30	19.37	United Commercial Bank	20.90	33.44
Mercantile Bank	14.21	37.27	Uttara Bank	18.58	21.70
MTB	8.66	35.35	Islami Bank Bangladesh	20.54	19.12
National Bank	20.31	28.70	Al-Arafa Islami Bank	24.51	49.74
NCC Bank	22.46	33.01	ICB Islami Bank	0.16	0.16
NRB Commercial Bank	23.49	28.30	Dutch-Bangla Bank	4.54	4.54

Source: BSEC

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/banks-turning-away-from-capital-market-with-investments-far-below-limit-set>

Meghna Ins profit jumps 40%

The Daily Star, April 18, 2023

- Meghna Insurance Company Limited registered a 40 per cent year-on-year higher profit of Tk 5.28 crore in the financial year that ended on December 31.
- The company made Tk 3.76 crore profit in 2021, according to a disclosure on the website of the Dhaka Stock Exchange. Thus, it posted earnings per share of Tk 1.32 for 2022 against Tk 0.94 in the previous year.
- Meghna Insurance said its EPS increased thanks to the injection of the initial public offering amount, the increase in premium incomes and non-operating incomes, and the decrease in financial costs.
- The net asset value per share decreased to Tk 17.21 from Tk 17.88 while the net operating cash flow per share plummeted to Tk 1.33 negative from Tk 6.13 a year back. The company's board of directors recommended a 10 per cent cash dividend for the last financial year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/meghna-ins-profit-jumps-40-3299376>

Ambee Pharma's profit surges 75%

The Daily Star, April 18, 2023

- Ambee Pharmaceuticals Ltd's profit jumped 75 per cent year-on-year to Tk 16.80 lakh in the January-March quarter of the ongoing financial year. The profit stood at Tk 9.60 lakh in the identical three-month period of 2021-22.
- Thus, the earnings per share were Tk 0.70 in January-March of 2022-23 against Tk 0.40 in the same quarter a year earlier, according to the unaudited financial statements. The third quarter's stellar performance raised the pharmaceuticals manufacturer's profit to Tk 32.16 lakh in July-March, up 81 per cent from Tk 17.76 lakh seen in the same period a year earlier.
- Thus, the EPS was Tk 1.34 in the first nine months of the financial year compared to Tk 0.74 in the same period in FY22. Shares of Ambee Pharmaceuticals rose 1.56 per cent to Tk 515.40 on the Dhaka Stock Exchange yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ambree-pharmas-profit-surges-75-3299371>

Asia Pacific General Ins made Tk 10cr profit in 2022

The Daily Star, April 18, 2023

- Asia Pacific General Insurance Co Ltd made a Tk 10.04 crore profit in the financial year that ended on December 31. This was an increase of 1.72 per cent from the Tk 9.87 crore profit the insurer reported in 2021.
- The company, thus, reported earnings per share of Tk 2.37 for the last financial year against Tk 2.33 in 2021. The net asset value per share rose to Tk 22.53 from Tk 21.96 while the net operating cash flow per share slipped to Tk 2.54 from Tk 4.02 during the period.
- The board of directors has recommended a 15 per cent cash dividend for 2022. Asia Pacific General Insurance shares were up 1.38 per cent at Tk 44.20 on the Dhaka Stock Exchange yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/asia-pacific-general-ins-made-tk-10cr-profit-2022-3299351>

Genex Infosys to provide service to Irish firm

The Daily Star, April 18, 2023

- Genex Infosys Limited said its board has approved an agreement with Whaleco Technology Limited, an Ireland-based technology company. Under the deal, Genex Infosys will work as a strategic partner, providing content moderation and data annotation services.
- The service demands a competent workforce with strong analytical and cognitive skills to filter and label the influx of incoming data, which will help improve the technology company's AI algorithm through machine learning, said Genex Infosys in a filing on the Dhaka Stock Exchange.
- By providing the service, Genex Infosys is expected to generate \$7.07 lakh in revenue and \$70,000 in incentives per year. Established in Dhaka in 2012, Genex Infosys became one of the largest business process management and IT services companies in the country within a short time. Shares of the company rose 0.84 per cent to Tk 96.50 on the DSE yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/genex-infosys-provide-service-irish-firm-3299391>

Evince Textiles makes Tk 2.56 crore profit in Q3

The Daily Star, April 17, 2023

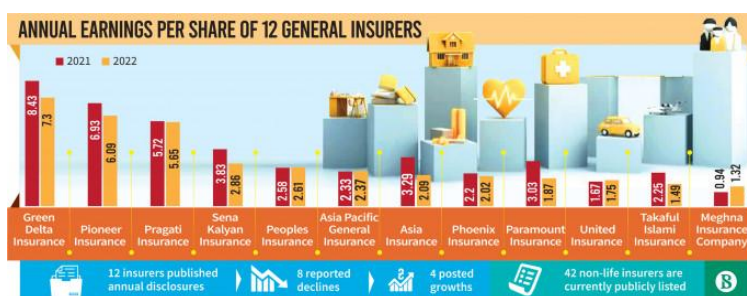
- Evince Textiles made a profit of Tk 2.56 crore in the January-March quarter of 2022-23 fiscal year. In the same period previous year, the company counted a loss of Tk 3.48 crore.
- However, in the first three quarters to March 2023, the apparel maker made a loss of Tk 2.19 crore, up from Tk 6.4 crore loss in the same period last year, according to the company's unaudited data.
- The public limited company shared the information in a posting on the website of Dhaka Stock Exchange today. Evince Textiles' net operating cash flow per share stood at Tk 2.45 in the nine months from July 2022 to March 2023, up from Tk 0.69 in the negative in the same period the previous year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/evince-textiles-makes-tk-256-crore-profit-q3-3299211>

Economic crisis, war take a toll on non-life insurers

The Business Standard, April 17, 2023

- The global economic crisis, fuelled by the Russia-Ukraine war, appears to have hit the non-life insurance sector hard, as most insurers experienced year-on-year declines in their profits for 2022.
- Twelve of the 42 publicly listed general insurers have published their annual performance. Eight of them witnessed declines, while only four posted year-on-year growth.
- Industry people blame the sluggish business of insurance companies on a combination of factors – declining imports, a stock market slowdown, the resumption of agents' commissions, and higher reinsurance costs.
- Usually, general insurers provide services to their clients in the following areas: fire, marine, engineering, motor, and miscellaneous.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/economic-crisis-war-take-toll-non-life-insurers-618302>

Eastern Housing's land, apartment sales surge in March quarter

The Business Standard, April 17, 2023

- Eastern Housing, the lone publicly traded real-estate company in the country, witnessed an 8% growth in land sales and 11% in apartment sales in the January-March quarter of FY23 amid inflationary pressure.
- High inflation appeared as a blessing in disguise for the company as it realised higher gains from increased property prices, according to the realtor's latest price sensitive information.
- During the quarter, the company sold land worth Tk60.42 crore and apartments worth Tk6.76 crore. The total revenue of this company amounted to Tk67 crore in the period, which was 8% higher than that in the same period in the previous year.



- Its net profit also jumped year-on-year by 30% to Tk15.68 crore and the earnings per share (EPS) stood at Tk1.68 during the third quarter of FY23. The company, in its financial statement, said increase of income and soaring prices of lands and apartments were the reasons behind the surge in profits.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/eastern-housings-land-apartment-sales-surge-march-quarter-618298>

First Security Islami Bank gets the nod to declare dividends

The Business Standard, April 17, 2023

- First Security Islami Bank got a nod from Bangladesh Bank to declare dividends to its shareholders for the calendar year 2022 which ended on 31 December.
- The bank also fixed the board meeting date on 25 April at 2:45 pm to declare dividends and approve the audited financial statement for 2022. At the end of the first three quarters of 2022, its earnings per share (EPS) was Tk1.25, which was Tk1.24 in the previous year during the same period.
- Earlier, it had paid off 5% cash and 5% stock dividends for 2021. In that year, its EPS was Tk3.36, which was 20% higher than the previous year. Its shares have been traded on the floor price at Tk9.80 each since November last year at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/first-security-islami-bank-gets-nod-declare-dividends-617962>

Argon Denims' profit drops 55% in Q3

The Business Standard, April 17, 2023

- Argon Denims' net profit dropped by 55% in the third quarter of FY2023 caused by fuel and power price hikes. From January 2023 to March 2023, its earnings per share (EPS) stood at Tk0.21 which was Tk0.47 during the same time a year ago.
- At the end of the first three-quarters of FY2023, its EPS was Tk0.45, which is 10 times higher than the previous year. At present, the textile company's share price is stuck on the floor price at Tk18.20 at the Dhaka Stock Exchange.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/argon-denims-profit-drops-55-q3-617934>

Economy & Industry

Apparel export to nontraditional market increases by 34.74% in Q3

The Business Standard, April 17, 2023

- Bangladesh's apparel export to the nontraditional market increased by 34.74% year-on-year to \$6.44 billion in the first three quarters of (July-March) of FY2022-23, according to the EPB data.
- The apparel export earnings were \$4.78 billion in the same period of FY2021-22. Among the major non-traditional markets, RMG exports to Japan, India, and Australian markets have grown 43.79% to \$1.22 billion, 58.38% to \$830.51 million, 42.22% to \$889.88 million year-on-year respectively.
- RMG export to the nontraditional markets of Brazil, South Korea and the United Arab Emirates markets also increased 73.15% to \$127.88 million, 34.69% to \$449.55 million and 15.77% to \$230.43 million year-on-year growth respectively.
- Traditional market-Meanwhile, total apparel shipment export reached \$35.25 billion with 12.17% growth in the period of July-March in 2022-23 fiscal year from \$31.43 billion in the same July-March period of FY2021-22.
- Of these exports export earnings from the European Union markets contributed 49.96%, while 17.76% comes from the USA, 10.91% from the UK, 3.09% is from Canada and the non-traditional market contributed 18.28%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/apparel-export-nontraditional-market-increases-3474-q3-617978>

ADP spending in July-March lowest in a decade

The Daily Star, April 18, 2023

- The first nine months of the current fiscal year of 2022-23 saw the lowest implementation rate of the annual development programme (ADP) in at least the last 10 years, with only 41.65 per cent of the total outlay being spent till March, showed official figures.
- The government managed to spend Tk 98,521 crore from its ADP budget in the July-March period of fiscal year 2022-23, according to data from the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED).
- It was Tk 98,934 crore in the same period in fiscal year 2021-22. As of March, the ministries and divisions managed to spend 41.65 per cent of the total revised ADP allocation of Tk 236,560 crore set aside to carry out development activities throughout the current fiscal year.
- It was 45.05 per cent in the same period of FY22. Between July and March, the implementing entities spent Tk 56,151 crore from the government's portion of the ADP, down 2.15 per cent year-on-year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/adp-spending-july-march-lowest-decade-3299451>

International

Global stocks mixed as rate-hike fears resurface

The New Age, April 17, 2023

- Stock markets traded mixed Monday over concerns that central banks may have to wait longer than expected to end their policy of raising interest rates.
- In Europe, London's FTSE 100 rose but the Paris CAC 40 fell in afternoon deals after reaching a fresh record-high at 7,552 points earlier in the day. Wall Street rose in morning trades as investors prepare for a raft of corporate results in the United States this week that could give insight into the health of the world's biggest economy.
- The dollar firmed on prospects of more US rate-tightening and oil prices slipped. While analysts say cooler inflation has eased pressure on the US Federal Reserve, European Central Bank and Bank of England to keep raising borrowing costs, consumer prices remain elevated.
- Markets fear that the monetary tightening by central bankers will tip the economy into recession. The collapse of US regional banks last month was largely blamed on the higher interest rates, which brought down the value of bond portfolios.
- Forecast-beating earnings from US banking titans last week further eased concerns about the sector. While JPMorgan reported a surge in profits to \$12.6 billion last week, it also took additional reserves, citing 'an increased probability of a moderate recession due to tightening financial conditions'.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/199656/global-stocks-mixed-as-rate-hike-fears-resurface>

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