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Stock Market & Company

[Stocks' prices, turnover increase](#)

The New Age, April 26, 2023

- Dhaka stocks gained for the eighth consecutive session on Wednesday with a higher turnover as investors continued making fresh investments in selective shares on the day, market operators said. Wednesday's turnover hit Tk 765 crore, the highest since January 1 when the turnover was Tk 904 crore.
- On the sectoral front, food issues exerted the highest turnover, followed by travel and IT stocks. Life insurance, tannery and miscellaneous exerted the most corrections on the day.
- Out of the 348 issues traded, 64 advanced, 72 declined and 212 remained unchanged on the day. The DS30 index increased by 0.28 points to finish at 2,213.21 points and the DSE Shariah index advanced by 1.27 points to close at 1,359.79 points on the day.
- Unique Hotel topped the turnover chart with its shares worth Tk 61.17 crore changing hands. Eastern Housing, Olympic Industries, Aamra Networks, Apex Footwear, Sea Pearl Beach Resort, Genex Infosys, Navana Pharma, Shinepukur Ceramics and Gemini Sea Food were the other turnover leaders on the day.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/200210/stocks-prices-turnover-increase>

Banks' profits increased but didn't benefit shareholders

The Business Standard, April 26, 2023

- Most banks posted higher profits for 2022 compared to the previous year, mainly due to good revenue from dollar trades amid a volatile currency market, despite the challenges of non-performing loans, high inflation, and a liquidity crunch.
- However, shareholders did not benefit from the increased profits, as almost all banks have kept their dividends unchanged in 2022, and some have even decreased them compared to the year before.
- Analysts have attributed it to the ceiling imposed by the Bangladesh Bank and the unstable financial conditions of banks.
- However, none of them have proposed to pay more dividends than the previous year; rather, City Bank, Dutch-Bangla Bank, and Trust Bank have proposed a lower dividend.
- According to the central bank, a bank can declare a maximum dividend of 35%, including 17.5% in cash and 17.5% in stock. According to the Bangladesh Bank, the total amount of default loans in the banking sector was Tk1.20 lakh crore in December last year, which was 8.16% of the total disbursed loans.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/banks-profits-increased-didnt-benefit-shareholders-622530>

Walton posts Tk 2.50 billion profit in July-March despite dollar price hike

The Financial Express, April 26, 2023

- Walton Hi-Tech Industries PLC., listed in the engineering sector in the capital market of Bangladesh, recorded a profit of Tk 2.50 billion in the first nine months of the financial year 2022-23, according to the latest unaudited financial report of the company.
- According to a published report, the company's earnings per share (EPS) for the period ended March 31 of the current financial year stood at Tk 8.25.
- As on March 31, 2023, the company's Net Asset Value Per Share (NAVPS) stood at Tk 224.57 without revaluation and Tk 327.84 with revaluation. In this period, the company's net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) stood at Tk 73.70, which is 550.49 times higher than the same period last year.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/walton-posts-tk-250-billion-profit-in-july-march-despite-dollar-price-hike>

Audit panel by early May to help realise unclaimed dividends from 50 cos

The Financial Express, April 26, 2023

- The Capital Market Stabilisation Fund (CMSF) will conduct audits of 50 non-compliant listed securities to realise undistributed or unclaimed dividends amounting to Tk 63 billion. In doing so, an audit panel will be formed with four firms by early May through a competitive bidding.
- The list of the 50 companies to be audited in the first phase includes some large-cap firms having good reputation. The other listed companies will be audited gradually to determine the exact amount of undistributed dividends.
- According to an initial estimate done by the CMSF, the amounts of unclaimed dividends of the 50 companies are between Tk 1 million and Tk 42 billion. Those are in forms of cash and stock dividends.
- Meanwhile, the move prompted three companies -- Square Pharmaceuticals, Social Islami Bank Ltd. (SIBL) and Tamij Uddin Textile Mills -- to rush to deposit undistributed dividends into the fund.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/audit-panel-by-early-may-to-help-realise-unclaimed-dividends-from-50-cos>

UCB saw 32% rise in profit in 2022

The Daily Star, April 27, 2023

- United Commercial Bank Ltd reported a 32 per cent increase in profit to Tk 330.47 crore in 2022. The profit stood at Tk 250.31 crore in 2021.
- The private commercial bank reported consolidated earnings per share of Tk 2.35 for 2022, which was Tk 1.78 in 2021. The consolidated net asset value per share rose to Tk 28.57 in the last financial year from Tk 26.59 in 2021.
- The consolidated net operating cash flow per share stood at Tk 13.25 negative in 2022. It was Tk 16.85 negative a year earlier. The board of directors has recommended a 5 per cent cash and a 5 per cent stock dividend for the year that ended on December 31.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/ucb-saw-32-rise-profit-2022-3305376>

First Security Islami Bank made Tk 293cr profit in 2022

The Daily Star, April 27, 2023

- First Security Islami Bank Limited's profit declined 12.18 per cent year-on-year to Tk 293.93 crore in 2022. The Shariah-based bank made a profit of Tk 334.72 in 2021.
- The company reported consolidated earnings per share of Tk 2.81 in 2022 against Tk 3.20 in 2021. The consolidated net asset value per share improved to Tk 21.32 in the last financial year from Tk 19.45 a year ago, while the consolidated net operating cash flow per share slipped to Tk 4.20 from Tk 5.81 during the period. The board of directors has recommended a 10 per cent stock dividend for the year that ended on December 31.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/first-security-islami-bank-made-tk-293cr-profit-2022-3305371>

Quarterly loss brings down Bangladesh Lamps shares by 6.35%

The Business Standard, April 26, 2023

- Bangladesh Lamps shares price dropped by 6.35% on Wednesday's trading session at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) as it incurred loss in the January-March quarter this year. At the end of the first three hours trading session, its share price lost Tk17 to Tk252.20 at the DSE.
- On the day, the Philips brand light producer reported that it incurred a loss of Tk2.21 crore and earnings per share was Tk2.21 negative. Due to the loss, its total profit fell year-on-year by 81% to Tk1.07 crore in the first three-quarters of FY2023.
- The company said in its financial statement, profit has decreased due to a decrease in sales revenue, and an increase in the raw material purchase price, operating costs and finance costs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/quarterly-loss-brings-down-bangladesh-lamps-shares-635-622154>

Roadshow begins in Tokyo to attract non-resident investors, foreign investment in Bangladesh

The Business Standard, April 27, 2023

- A roadshow to reach out to non-resident Bangladeshi investors in Japan and attract foreign investment in Bangladesh is taking place today in The Westin Tokyo.
- The roadshow, titled "The Rise of the Bengal Tiger: Potentials of Trade and Investment in Bangladesh," has been organised by Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida).
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is present at the event as the chief guest. The roadshow brought together various groups of people, including dignitaries, delegates, investors, and business leaders from both Bangladesh and Japan, with the goal of building sustainable growth partnerships.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/roadshow-begins-tokyo-attract-non-resident-investors-foreign-investment-bangladesh>

Economy & Industry

NBFIs can't get more than one director from a single firm

The Daily Star, April 27, 2023

- A single company can't have more than one representative director in the board of a non-bank financial institution (NBFI), said the Bangladesh Bank yesterday.
- Similarly, a company that already has a nominated director at a NBFI will not be permitted to appoint another director from its associated company, according to a circular. In addition, if an individual has a stake in an NBFI, another person can't be appointed as his or her representative to the board.
- The move comes as some individuals and entities that have directorship at non-banks are installing their representatives as directors to several NBFIs in order to control them, said a central banker yesterday. This practice has put an adverse impact on the corporate governance of the NBFI sector, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nbfis-cant-get-more-one-director-single-firm-3305411>

IMF concerned over rising default loans, poor recovery

The Business Standard, April 26, 2023

- The visiting review team of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has expressed concern over the growth of default loans, reducing which was one of the conditions for the IMF loan package, according to officials of the finance ministry's Financial Institution Division.
- The IMF team, during a meeting with the division's Secretary Sheikh Mohammad Salim Ullah on Wednesday, also expressed disappointment over the poor recovery of default loans as it was below the target set by the banks, officials who were present in the meeting told The Business Standard requesting anonymity.
- The secretary informed the IMF officials about the government's initiative to increase the default collection target for banks and to form asset management companies to reduce default loans in the future.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/imf-concerned-over-rising-default-loans-poor-recovery-622550>

International

Asian stocks slide as recession fears curb risk appetite

The Business Standard, April 26, 2023

- Most Asian equities fell on Wednesday (26 April), while currencies largely lacked direction after softening US data and renewed banking sector concerns fanned fears of a recession and dampened risk appetite. Stocks in Kuala Lumpur <.KLSE> and Seoul <.KS11> slipped 0.7% and 0.2%, respectively.
- Malaysia's ringgit <MYR=> weakened 0.4%, while Indonesia's rupiah <IDR=> reversed course and was last up 0.1%.Pause
- The greenback held onto overnight gains as investors turned to safe-haven assets after US consumer confidence dropped to a nine-month low in April, further heightening the risk that the economy could fall into recession this year.
- Meanwhile, reports of First Republic Bank considering asset sales after disclosing a \$100 billion plunge in deposits for the quarter stoked fresh banking sectors worries and further hurt investor sentiment. Investor attention is also on major central bank meetings, with the Bank of Japan's policy decision due on Friday and the US Federal Reserve meeting next week.
- Markets are now pricing in a 76% chance for the Fed to deliver a 25 basis point (bps) rate hike, according to CME FedWatch, down from 90% at the start of the week.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/asian-stocks-slide-recession-fears-curb-risk-appetite-622210>

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