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## Stock Market & Company

### Stocks fall for 6th day as sell-off continues

Newage, November 28, 2021

- Dhaka stocks plunged for the sixth day on Sunday with the key index falling to a three-month low as investors unnerved by a relentless fall in share prices in recent weeks kept selling shares to avoid further losses.
- DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, lost 1.14 per cent, or 78.19 points, to close at 6,773.89 points on Sunday. Sunday's index was the lowest after August 19 when it was at 6,760.61 points. The DSEX lost 318.19 points in the last six sessions.
- Among the prominent companies, share prices of BEXIMCO, Beximco Pharmaceuticals, IFIC Bank, LafargeHolcim Bangladesh and Square Pharmaceuticals plunged on the day. Turnover on the DSE plunged to Tk 837.1 crore on Sunday from Tk 849.77 crore in the previous session.
- Sunday's turnover was the lowest after April 27, 2021 when it was at Tk 824.36 crore. DS30, a composition of 30 large capitalised companies, dropped by 1.02 per cent, or 26.69 points, to close at 2,576.17 points on Sunday. Of the 362 scrips traded on the DSE on Sunday, 291 declined, 66 advanced and 15 remained unchanged.
- Shariah index DSES shed 0.90 per cent, or 13.05 points, to settle at 1,429.32 points. BEXIMCO led the turnover chart with shares worth Tk 91.72 crore changing hands on the day.
- One Bank, IFIC Bank, Paramount Textiles, First Security Islami Bank, Delta Life Insurance, Anwar Galvanizing, Orion Pharmaceuticals and NRB Commercial Bank were the other turnover leaders on the day.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/155956/stocks-fall-for-6th-day-as-sell-off-continue>

## IPO subscription of three companies opens next month

The Financial Express, November 29, 2021

- The initial public offering (IPO) subscription of three companies, including a private commercial bank, will commence in December, officials said. The companies are Union Bank, Union Insurance Company and BD Thai Food & Beverage. These three companies will raise an aggregate amount of over Tk 4.62 billion from the public under the fixed price method.
- Union Insurance will raise Tk 193.60 million and BD Thai Food & Beverage will collect Tk 150 million from the public. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has allowed these companies to disburse 15 per cent of IPO shares to their employees with a lock-in period for two years.
- Union Insurance: The IPO subscription of Union Insurance through the electronic subscription system of the stock exchanges will begin December 15 and continue until December 22.
- BD Thai Food: The IPO subscription of BD Thai Food & Beverage will start on December 23 and continue until December 29. The stock market regulator approved the company's IPO proposal on October 3 to raise Tk 150 million under the fixed price method by issuing 15 million ordinary shares.
- Union Bank: The IPO subscription of Union Bank will commence on December 26 and continue until December 30. The BSEC allowed the bank to raise Tk 4.28 billion by issuing 428 million ordinary shares at an offer price of Tk 10 each from the capital market under the fixed price method.

### Three companies' IPO subscription at a glance

Company name	Subscription open	Subscription close	IPO amount
Union Insurance	December 15	December 22	Tk 193.60m
BD Thai Food	December 23	December 29	Tk 150m
Union Bank	December 26	December 30	Tk 4280m

Source: DSE and IPO prospectuses

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/ipo-subscription-of-three-companies-opens-next-month-1638159000>

## StanChart arranges country's first-ever green bond

The Daily Star, November 28, 2021

- Standard Chartered Bangladesh has arranged the first-ever green bond in Bangladesh as it mobilised Tk 150 crore for Pran Agro Ltd, a concern of Pran-RFL Group. The bond proceeds will be used to finance green and energy-efficient initiatives of the conglomerate, the bank said in a press release yesterday.
- The financial closure ceremony was arranged at the head office of Pran-RFL Group. Pran Agro will use the proceeds of the bond for initiatives such as recycling waste water, climate action through waste decomposing, building sustainable communities by providing employment among rural and poverty-stricken communities, and preserving life on land through contract-based organic farming.
- Standard Chartered was the mandated lead arranger for the transaction.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/stanchart-arranges-countrys-first-ever-green-bond-2904551>

## Profits up for Bangas, Peninsula

The Daily Star, November 28, 2021

- Bangas Ltd and The Peninsula Chittagong reported higher profits in the first quarter of the current financial year while Hakkani Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd has been in the red since FY2020-21.
- Earnings per share (EPS) of Bangas, a fast-moving consumer goods company that deals in chips, biscuits, bread and the like, stood at Tk 0.06 in the July-September period while it was Tk 0.12 in the negative last year, according to the company's unaudited financial statement. The Peninsula Chittagong, a business class hotel in Chattogram, posted an EPS of Tk 0.31 for the first quarter, up 14.81 per cent year-on-year from Tk 0.27.
- Meanwhile, Hakkani Pulp & Paper Mills reported a negative EPS of Tk 1.28 for the financial year that ended on June 30 due to a decrease in sales. However, the company's EPS was Tk 0.07 in the positive in the previous financial year when demand was stable.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/profits-bangas-peninsula-2905316>

## Beacon Pharma's profit up on sales growth

The Business Standard, November 28, 2021

- Beacon Pharmaceuticals Limited posted a 27% growth in revenue in fiscal 2020-2021 owing to an increase in demand for Covid-related products. In the last fiscal year that ended on 30 June, its revenue was Tk712 crore, which was Tk559 crore in the previous year.
- Its net profit stood at Tk86.39 crore, which was Tk38.07 crore the previous year. At a board meeting on Sunday, the company recommended a 15% cash dividend for its shareholders for FY21. In the previous fiscal year, it had recommended a 6% cash dividend for its shareholders.
- The company has scheduled an AGM for 29 December 2021 and the record date for the AGM will be 20 November. The company has reported a profit of Tk260.12 crore in the third quarter, Tk218.36 crore in Q2 and Tk155 crore in Q1 this year.
- Till 31 October 2021, sponsors and directors jointly held 30%, institutions 34.01% and general public 35.99% shares in the company. The last trading share price of the company at the Dhaka Stock Exchange was Tk227.70 on Sunday.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/beacon-pharmas-profit-sales-growth-335953>

## Green Delta Capital acts as foreign debt transaction advisor for LankaBangla Finance

The Business Standard, November 28, 2021

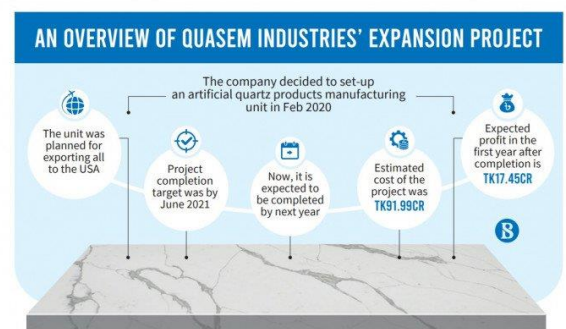
- Local investment bank, Green Delta Capital Limited, acted as an advisor in a recent foreign loan transaction for LankaBangla Finance Limited - one of the leading non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) in Bangladesh.
- LankaBangla Finance has received a total of \$21 million foreign loan – \$5 million from Financing for Healthier Lives DAC, an Ireland-based special purpose vehicle and \$16 million from five funds managed by responsAbility Investments AG.
- Green Delta Capital Limited was the transaction advisor in both the transactions, reads a press release. LankaBangla received its first foreign funding of \$20 million in 2019 from Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector and then it received another foreign funding of \$15 million from BlueOrchard Microfinance Fund, a Swiss-based fund manager, earlier this year, where also Green Delta Capital Limited was lead arranger and advisor to the transaction.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/green-delta-capital-acts-foreign-debt-transaction-advisor-lankabangla-finance>

## Quasem Industries' desired expansion project faces one-year delay

The Business Standard, November 28, 2021

- Quasem Industries' much desired expansion project to boost its revenue and profit is getting delayed by a year owing to the coronavirus pandemic. In February 2020, the dry cell industry leader had planned to set up a unit to manufacture artificial quartz products for 100% export to the USA.
- The project completion target was June 2021 but Quasem Industries now expects the new unit will go into operation next year.
- The technological advancement has put a squeeze on the business of Quasem Industries, resulting in gradual declines in profits for years.
- The new expansion project, and the business diversification plan have given hope to the company and its shareholders for better profits in the days to come.
- By Tasvir Ul Islam, MD of Quasem Industries: In collaboration with the American company Sunstone International LLC, Quasem Industries had planned to manufacture artificial quartz products using its existing factory premises in Tangail.
- The project cost was estimated at Tk91.99 crore. In the first year, the net profit was targeted at Tk17.45 crore after completion. In the existing business, the company made a profit of Tk9.16 crore in the 2020-21 fiscal year from dry cell batteries, consumer products, and by making cans.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/quasem-industries-desired-expansion-project-faces-one-year-delay-335947>

## Economy & Industry

### Grab investment opportunities in Bangladesh

The Daily Star, November 29, 2021

- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the investors from across the world to invest in Bangladesh, making the best use of the opportunities the government is offering for foreign investment.
- "I believe investors will be able to learn more about the potential of different investment sectors in Bangladesh through this conference. New markets will particularly be created for Bangladeshi products, and Bangladesh will be able to attract the desired investment," she said.
- The prime minister said this while addressing the inaugural session of the two-day International Investment Summit 2021 organised by the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida) at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel to brand new Bangladesh among investors from around the world
- Hasina said the government has identified 11 potential investment sectors, including infrastructure, capital markets, financial services, information technology, electronics manufacturing, leather, automotive and light engineering, agro-products and food processing, healthcare and medicine, jute textiles, and blue economy.
- The prime minister said the importance of Bangladesh in terms of political stability, creation of a skilled workforce, liberal investment policy through attractive incentives, and geographical position between the huge markets of South and Southeast Asia is increasing day by day. "More than 60 per cent of foreign direct investment is coming through reinvestment."

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/investments/news/grab-investment-opportunities-bangladesh>

### Expats bond investment coming under online management

The Business Standard, November 28, 2021

- The government is set to bring the transactions of three government bonds for expatriates under the National Savings Scheme Online Management System. If launched, it will require expatriates to use their national identity card (NID) to invest in savings schemes.
- The Bangladesh Bank will launch the system on Tuesday, people familiar with the matter told The Business Standard (TBS). The move will ensure transparency in bond investment and allow the government to easily track how much money is being invested by whom and where.
- Among the three bonds, expatriates can invest in the Wage-Earner Bonds in their own names, as well as in the names of family members living in Bangladesh. For the other two, expatriates can only invest using foreign currency in their own names. All of the bonds allows an expatriate to invest a maximum of Tk1 crore— singly or collectively. The limit is applicable even in the case of collective investment in savings certificates and bonds.
- The bonds can be bought and redeemed from all offices of the Bangladesh Bank, its foreign branches, exchange houses, exchange companies, and local authorised dealers (branches of the banks that deal with foreign currency).
- Currently, the government has no central database containing information on the investments made through these bonds. Meaning, it has no way of knowing how much money is one investing using the bonds from any single system. The announced move will remove this bottleneck in ensuring transparency in bond investment.
- According to data from the Bangladesh Bank, the total investment in three types of expatriate bonds till last June stood at Tk14,838 crore. The bulk of this investment is in five-year Wage Earner Development Bonds with 12% interest. Till last June, the amount invested in this bond was Tk12,365 crore, which amounts to 83.33% of the total investment.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/expats-bond-investment-coming-under-online-management-336034>

## International

### US oil drilling review proposes higher fees, development curbs

The Daily Star, November 29, 2021

- The Biden administration proposed a slew of changes on Friday to the nation's federal oil and gas leasing program, including hiking fees on drilling companies and limiting their access to sensitive wildlife and cultural zones.
- The recommendations followed a months-long review aimed at ensuring drilling on federal lands and waters benefits the public. But in a sign of the extreme controversy surrounding the issue, environmental groups slammed the proposals as too weak and the industry criticized them as too harsh.
- President Joe Biden's administration launched the review earlier this year in what had widely been seen as a step toward delivering on his election campaign promise to end new fossil fuel drilling on federal acreage to fight climate change. Under the US federal oil and gas leasing program, the Interior Department must hold regular auctions for the drilling industry to boost domestic energy self-sufficiency and raise money for public coffers.
- The Interior Department report, however, said the current program "falls short of serving the public interest" and called for new rules to boost royalty rates, bonding rates, and other fees for producers. Current law requires a minimum royalty rate of 12.5 per cent for oil and gas produced on federal acreage, a level that has not changed in about a century.
- The American Petroleum Institute, which represents the US oil and gas industry, criticised the proposals, saying they would heap costs on domestic energy producers at a time of already-high retail gasoline prices. Environmental groups including the Center for Biological Diversity and Food & Water Watch, meanwhile, objected to the proposals as too weak.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/us-oil-drilling-review-proposes-higher-fees-development-curbs>

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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).

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