

## Stock Market & Company

### Stocks close with steady gains

The Business Standard, April 13, 2021

- Stocks registered a steady intraday gain on Tuesday as investors preferred some trending shares with hopes of a faster recovery whenever the market resumes trading.
- DSEX, the broad-based index at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) gained 1.35% on Tuesday following Monday's 0.45% increase, on its way to recovering recent losses.
- The capital market regulator and the bourses had earlier announced a weeklong shutdown of trading after Tuesday. But the stock markets have again come back with partial trading hours with the government having decided to continue banking services during the stricter lockdown now.
- However, with better investor better participation, the turnover has increased slightly by 3.57% to end at Tk511 crore at the DSE. General insurance contributed the highest maximum of 39.18% to the DSE's daily turnover. Miscellaneous and pharmaceuticals followed with slightly less than 10% each in the turnover.
- Most sectors did reasonably well on Tuesday. Cement, jute, and general insurance generated the most returns over the session: around 3% each. Of the 347 issues traded at the DSE, 228 advanced, 63 declined, and 56 remained unchanged.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stock/stocks-close-steady-gains-231385>

### Pubali Bank declares 12.50pc cash dividend for 2020

The Financial Express, April 13, 2021

- The board of directors of Pubali Bank has recommended 12.50 per cent cash dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2020. The record date is May 9, the company said in a filing with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Tuesday.
- The bank has also reported consolidated EPS of Tk 3.60, consolidated NAV per share of Tk 37.63 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk. 4.02 for the year ended on December 31, 2020 as against Tk. 2.10, Tk. 31.24 (restated) and negative Tk. 0.32 respectively for the same period of the previous year.
- The bank has informed that the board of directors has approved the revaluation report on the land and building of the company. Total value of land and building has been decreased from Tk 317,76,77,337 to Tk 265,72,33,396 resulting in total decrease of Tk 52,04,43,941 which has been adjusted with the assets revaluation reserve under other reserves in the balance sheet.
- In 2019, the bank disbursed 10 per cent cash dividend. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 10.28 billion and authorised capital is Tk 20 billion, while the total number of securities is 1.02 billion.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/pubali-bank-declares-1250pc-cash-dividend-for-2020-1618288483>

### Brac Bank declares 10pc cash, 5.0pc stock dividend

The Financial Express, April 13, 2021

- The board of directors of Brac Bank has recommended 10 per cent cash and 5.0 per cent stock dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2020. The record date is set for May 4, the company said in a filing with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Tuesday.
- The bank has also reported consolidated EPS of Tk. 3.33, consolidated NAV per share of Tk. 36.63 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk. 24.90 for the year ended on December 31, 2020, as against Tk. 3.73, Tk. 30.61 and Tk. 19.46 respectively for the same period of the previous year.

- In 2019, the bank disbursed 7.50 per cent cash and 7.50 per cent stock dividend. Each share of the bank, which was listed on the DSE in 2007, closed at Tk 41.70 on Monday. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 13.25 billion and authorised capital is Tk 20 billion, while the total number of securities is 1.32 billion.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/brac-bank-declares-10pc-cash-50pc-stock-dividend-1618288460>

## Eastern Bank declares 17.50pc cash, 17.50pc stock dividend

The Financial Express, April 13, 2021

- The board of directors of Eastern Bank has recommended 17.50 per cent cash and 17.50 per cent stock dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2020. The record date is set for May 5, the company said in a filing with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Tuesday
- The bank has also reported consolidated EPS of Tk 5.15, consolidated NAV per share of Tk 36.28 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk 7.42 for the year ended on December 31, 2020, as against Tk 4.92, Tk 31.98 and Tk 23.64 respectively for the same period of the previous year.
- In 2019, the bank disbursed 15 per cent cash dividend. Each share of the bank, which was listed on the DSE in 1993, closed at Tk 38.40 on Monday. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 8.11 billion and authorised capital is Tk 12 billion, while the total number of securities is 811.79 million.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/eastern-bank-declares-1750pc-cash-1750pc-stock-dividend-1618294927>

## CSE extends timeframe for applying for new TREC license until May 30

The Financial Express, April 13, 2021

- The Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) has extended the timeframe for applying for new TREC licence from the port city's bourse by one and half months until May 30.
- The board of directors of CSE has decided to extend the time for submission of application for issuance of new TREC a brokerage/dealer license to do stock brokerage/dealer business up to May 30, according to a statement on Monday.
- The initial deadline to submit applications for new trading right entitlement certificates (TREC) is going to expire on April 15, but the management of the CSE did not get the expected response from the potential firms.
- The prospective interested applicants in acquiring TREC are requested to submit applications in the sealed envelope marked "Offer for TREC" addressing the managing director to the Chittagong office or Dhaka office of the CSE along with a bank draft or pay-order of Tk 100,000 (non-refundable).
- According to the new regulations, an interested local company must have minimum Tk 50 million in paid-up capital while the foreign company has to minimum Tk 100 million in paid-up capital to buy a TREC.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/cse-extends-timeframe-for-applying-for-new-trec-licence-until-may>

## DSE adds three new companies to core index

The Financial Express, April 14, 2021

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has added three newly listed companies to its Broad Index (DSEX) as they met all the criteria of quarterly IPO addition. The companies are Robi Axiata, Energypac Power Generation and Mir Akther Hossain.
- The indices committee of DSE selected the companies after reviewing the performance of the firms for January-March, 2021 quarter in line with the index methodology designed by S&P Dow Jones Indices.
- Among the three companies, Robi joined the stock market with the largest-ever initial public offering (IPO) in Bangladesh's capital market history on December 24, 2020. Energypac Power, which raised Tk 1.50 billion through IPO under the book-

building method, made on the stock market debut on January 19, this year. Mir Akther Hossain, which raised Tk 1.25 billion through IPO under the book-building method, made debut trading on the bourses on February 2, this year.

- With inclusion of these companies, the DSEX will have 307 listed companies, around 95 per cent of the prime bourse's total market capitalisation.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/dse-adds-three-new-companies-to-core-index-1618373757>

## Economy & Industry

### Govt decides to keep banks open after mass confusion

The Daily Star, April 14, 2021

- The central bank and the government on April 12 ordered banks to keep all branches close from Wednesday, as the country has tightened measures to curb the spread of the virus. In the afternoon, the government and the central bank backtracked from the stance, saying some branches will remain open during the restriction period.
- As per the new decision, clients will be allowed to do banking from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Branches will have to be closed by 2.30 pm after completing regular procedures. Authorised dealer (AD) branches that carry out international transactions, including those for exports and imports, will operate as usual.
- If any AD branch is not available in a radius of two kilometres in city corporation areas, a non-AD branch, which is dedicated to operating general banking, will have to be kept open. Banks will keep their main branch in the district town open as well. The branches in upazilas will open the doors for the clients on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- The central bank had been in a fix on setting opening hours after the government declared the restrictions on movement on a limited scale on April 4.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-decides-keep-banks-open-after-mass-confusion-2077449>

### Bangladesh ranks 2nd for ethical auditing in 2020

The Business Standard, April 12, 2021

- Vietnam came in third, followed by Thailand, Pakistan, Turkey, China, India and Brazil. China was seventh on the list behind Pakistan and Turkey. Bangladesh has come second on a list comparing the ethical auditing practices of major manufacturing countries, according to a report compiled by QIMA, a supply chain compliance solutions provider.
- In the report "2020 in Review: Global Trade Covid Disruption Reveals Changes in Consumption Habits and Rampant Ethical Risks, as China Sourcing Beats the Odds," Qima said the challenges of the pandemic have strongly exacerbated human rights risks in global supply chains.
- Vietnam came in third, followed by Thailand, Pakistan, Turkey, China, India and Brazil. China was seventh on the list behind Pakistan and Turkey, reports just-style. Qima ethical audit data collected at reopened factories as well as in the course of remote audits show the percentage of factories ranked "red" for critical non-compliances increased by more than 100% in the second half of 2020 compared to the first.
- Qima says China, the first to suffer from Covid-19, showed some resilience in 2020. After a disastrous first-quarter marked by a manufacturing standstill and demand shock, China sourcing throughout the rest of 2020 followed a slow yet steady trajectory towards recovery.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-ranks-2nd-ethical-auditing-2020-231442>

## International

### **Covid vaccine production in poor countries: ex-leaders, Nobel winners urge US to waive patents**

The Daily Star, April 15, 2021

- A waiver would boost vaccine manufacturing and speed up the response to the pandemic in poorer countries which otherwise might have to wait years, they said in a joint letter to Biden sent to news organisations on Wednesday.
- "President Biden has said that no one is safe until everyone is safe, and now with the G7 ahead there is an unparalleled opportunity to provide the leadership that only the US can provide," said former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, referring to an upcoming meeting of the world's wealthiest countries.
- The letter asked Biden to back a proposal by South Africa and India at the World Trade Organization to temporarily waive intellectual property rules related to Covid-19 vaccines and treatments.
- "New mutations of the virus will continue to cost lives and upend our interconnected global economy until everyone, everywhere has access to a safe and effective vaccine," said Nobel Economics Prize winner Joseph Stiglitz.
- Other signatories included Francois Hollande, Mary Robinson, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Juan Manuel Santos and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf - formerly presidents of France, Ireland, Brazil, Colombia and Liberia - and former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark.
- The letter was coordinated by the People's Vaccine Alliance, a coalition of more than 50 development

<https://www.thedailystar.net/coronavirus-deadly-new-threat/news/ex-leaders-nobel-winners-urge-us-waive>

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