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## Stock Market & Company

### Stocks surge for 9th day on pharma cos

Newage, April 25, 2021

- Dhaka stocks soared on Sunday, extending the gaining streak to the ninth session as investors, encouraged by the easing of ongoing Covid restrictions by the government, increased share buying. Besides, the government's decision to produce Russian Sputnik V vaccines in the country by local companies contributed most to a significant surge in share prices of a number of large pharmaceutical companies.
- DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, added 1.16 per cent, or 63.18 points, to close at 5,498.21 points on Sunday. The DSEX gained 333 points in the last nine trading sessions.
- So, share prices of Beacon Pharmaceuticals, Renata Limited, Beximco Pharmaceuticals and Square Pharmaceuticals soared by 8.21 per cent, 6.24 per cent, 2.35 per cent and 1.46 per cent respectively that together added 32 points to the DSEX on Sunday. Investors were also active on general insurance companies. Average share prices of general insurance and pharmaceutical sectors gained by 2.7 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively on the day.
- DS30, a composition of 30 large capitalised companies, advanced by 1.44 per cent, or 30.13 points, to close at 2,117.69 points on Sunday. BEXIMCO led the turnover chart with shares worth Tk 117.8 crore changing hands on the day.
- Beximco Pharmaceuticals, LafargeHolcim Bangladesh, LankaBangla Finance, Renata, BD Finance, British American Tobacco Company, Robi, Dhaka Insurance Company and Asia Pacific Insurance were the other turnover leaders on the day.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/136383/stocks-surge-for-9th-day-on-pharma-cos>

## Ten largest companies grab 44pc market capitalisation of DSE

The Financial Express, April 25, 2021

- Ten largest listed companies in terms of market capitalisation accounted for 44 per cent of the Dhaka bourse's total market-cap as of Thursday thanks to rising shares prices of large-cap companies. The total market-cap of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) stood at approximately Tk 4,683 billion as of Thursday where as the top 10 largest firms accounted for Tk 2,046 billion, according statistics from the DSE.
- Grameenphone (GP), the lone listed mobile phone company and the biggest market-cap company, grabbed 9.72 per cent market-cap alone of the prime bourse. The GP's total market-cap stood at Tk 454.91 billion as on Thursday. Its share closed at Tk 337 each on Thursday.
- Walton Hi-Tech Industries which made trading debut on September 23, 2020, emerged as the second largest listed company. The home-grown leading electronics and appliance manufacturer's market-cap stood at Tk 363.91 billion, grabbing 7.77 per cent of the DSE's total market-cap.
- British American Tobacco Company's market stood at Tk 283.82 billion as of Thursday which was 6.06 per cent of the DSE's total market-cap. The multinational company's share price closed at Tk 523.60.
- Robi Axiata, the country's second largest telecom operator, emerged as the fourth largest market-cap company. Its total market stood at Tk 241.46 billion.
- Square Pharmaceuticals clinched the third spot in terms of market-cap worth Tk 185.62 billion, capturing 3.96 per cent of the DSE's total market-cap. The leading pharma company's share closed at Tk 211.90.
- United Power Generation and Distribution Company grabbed 3.37 per cent market-cap as its total market-cap stood at Tk 157.85 billion. The power generation company's share closed at Tk 272.50 each on Thursday. The next four highest market-cap companies are Renata, Beximco Pharma, Berger Paints and Investment Corporation of Bangladesh, capturing 2.53 per cent, 1.83 per cent, 1.68 per cent and 1.63 per cent respectively, according to statics available from the DSE.

### DSE market-cap to GDP ratio remains low

#### Top 10 listed companies by market-cap in DSE

Company	Market-Cap	% of total market-cap
Grameenphone	Tk 454.91 billion	9.72
Walton	Tk 363.91 billion	7.77
BATBC	Tk 283.82 billion	6.06
Robi	Tk 241.46 billion	5.15
Square Pharma	Tk 185.62 billion	3.96
United Power	Tk 157.85 billion	3.37
Renata	Tk 118.49 billion	2.53
Beximco Pharma	Tk 85.78 billion	1.83
Berger Paints	Tk 78.50 billion	1.68
ICB	Tk 76.31 billion	1.63

Source: DSE

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/ten-largest-companies-grab-44pc-market-capitalisation-of-dse-1619330518>

## Janata Insurance declares 6.0pc cash, 5.0pc stock dividend

The Financial Express, April 25, 2021

- The board of directors of Janata Insurance Company has recommended 6.0 per cent cash and 5.0 per cent stock dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2020. The record date is set June 7, the company said in a filing with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Sunday.
- The insurer has also reported earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 1.25, net asset value (NAV) per share of Tk 14.45 and net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk 2.11 for the year ended on December 31, 2019 as against Tk 1.08, Tk 14.22 and Tk 0.86 respectively for the same period of the previous year.
- The non-life insurer also disclosed first quarter (Q1) financial statements on Sunday. As the Q1 reports, EPS was Tk 0.44 for January-March 2021 as against Tk. 0.40 for January-March 2020. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 422.84 million and authorised capital is Tk 1.0 billion, while the total number of securities is 42.28 million.
- The sponsor-directors own 38.66 per cent stake in the company while the institutional investors own 10.02 per cent and the general public 51.32 per cent as on March 31, 2021, the DSE data shows.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/janata-insurance-declares-60pc-cash-50pc-stock-dividend-1619326111>

## Reliance Insurance approves 25pc cash dividend

The Daily Star, April 26, 2021

- Reliance Insurance has approved 25 per cent cash dividend for 2020. The decision came at its 33rd annual general meeting held through a digital platform yesterday presided over by Zakia Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of the board of directors, said a press release.
- Public shareholders Amiran Hossain and Shahzreh Huq were elected directors while Shahnaz Rahman and Rajiv Prasad Shaha chairman and vice-chairman respectively.
- The remaining members of the board of directors are Shamsur Rahman, Habibullah Khan, Arshad Waliur Rahman, Imran Faiz Rahman, Iftekharul Huq, Samira Alam, Sabra Yasmin Chowdhury, Md Habibur Rahman Mollah, Srimati Shaha, Ahmed Shafi Choudhury, Azizur Rashid and CEO Md Khaled Mamun.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/reliance-insurance-approves-25pc-cash-dividend-2083853>

## Higher earnings raise IPDC's stock price

The Daily Star, April 26, 2021

- Stocks of IPDC Finance rose 2.08 per cent to Tk 24.50 yesterday thanks to the higher earnings declaration by the company in the first quarter of the current year. The non-bank financial institution's profit rose 36 per cent year-on-year to Tk 20.49 crore in the January-March period of 2021.
- During the period, IPDC's net interest income increased 3.6 per cent to Tk 57 crore while investment income surged more than three times to Tk 23 crore.
- It has a paid-up capital of Tk 371 crore, according to Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) data. The company provided 12 per cent cash dividend to its shareholders for the year that ended on December 31, 2020.
- Sponsors of the A category company hold 48 per cent of its shares, government 21.88 per cent, institutional investors 16.79 per cent and foreign investors 2.35 per cent.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/higher-earnings-raise-ipdcs-stock-price-2083893>

## Bangladesh National Insurance recommends 15% cash dividend

The Business Standard, April 25, 2021

- Bangladesh National Insurance has recommended a 15% cash dividend for its shareholders for 2020, an increase from 12% of the previous year. The company, which got listed on the stock exchanges in 2016, has reported a 4% year-on-year growth in net profit.
- Its net asset value stood at Tk89.24 crore, which was Tk84.29 crore a year earlier. Bangladesh National Insurance, which reported just a 4% net profit growth, has posted an impressive 81% jump in profit in the first three months of 2021.
- In the January-March period, the company's net profit was Tk4.45 crore and EPS Tk1.01, compared to Tk2.45 crore and Tk0.56 respectively in the same quarter of the previous year.
- According to the financial statements, its net premium income, and underwriting profit rose to Tk13.05 crore and Tk6.72 crore, which was Tk12.33 crore and Tk3.26 crore in the same time of the previous year.

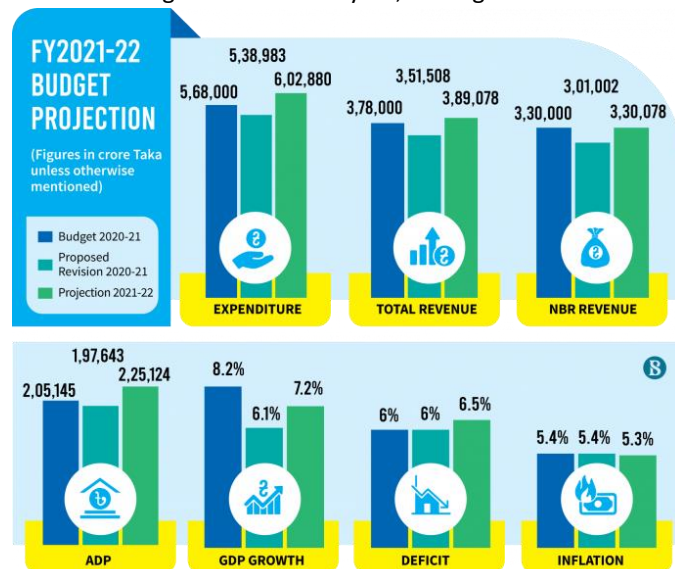
<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stock/bangladesh-national-insurance-recommends-15-cash-dividend-237157>

## Economy & Industry

### Next budget targets higher spending without raising taxes

The Business Standard, April 26, 2021

- The finance ministry is preparing a Tk6.03 trillion budget for the forthcoming 2021-22 fiscal year, aiming to recover the economy from the Covid-19-induced slowdown by increasing public expenditure through borrowing instead of raising taxes.
- The ministry is going to set a target of 7.2% growth in gross domestic product (GDP) by keeping the industrial sector afloat through continuation of the ongoing incentive programmes and reining in the increase in poverty rate through expansion of social security programmes.
- In fact, the revenue target for the fiscal 2021-22 against the GDP is lower when compared to the revised budget of the current year. As a result, the revenue board will not need to levy new taxes on trade and commerce in the next budget.
- However, the non-tax revenue target is going to increase in the budget for the next financial year. The finance ministry hopes to raise extra funds from the savings of the autonomous corporations and the recent auctions of 2G and 4G spectrums.

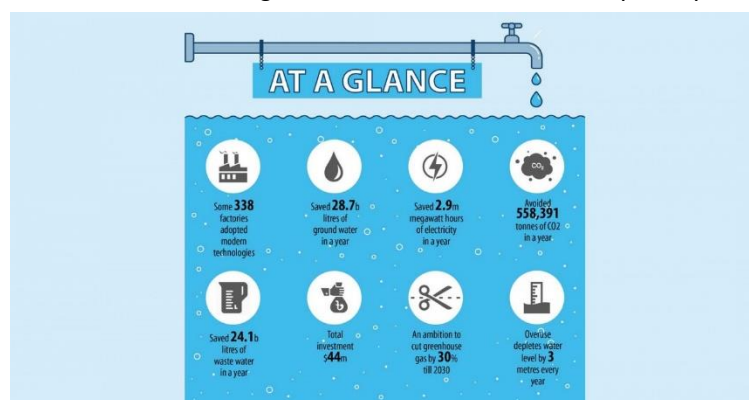


<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/next-budget-targets-higher-spending-without-raising-taxes-237214>

### Low-cost, cleaner production processes paying off

The Daily Star, April 26, 2021

- Bangladesh's textile and garment factories have significantly cut water and energy consumption by adopting low-cost and cleaner production processes and installing new technologies under a programme initiated by the International Finance Corporation (IFC).
- Some 338 washing, dyeing, spinning, weaving, and garment factories are saving 28.7 billion litres of water a year by adopting the solutions of the Partnership for Cleaner Textile (PaCT), a flagship programme of the private sector lending arm of the World Bank Group.
- Investment of a single US dollar can cut the consumption of 26 cubic metres of water, avoid 0.2 tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission, save two MWhs power, and reduce wastewater discharge by 23 cubic metres a year with the adoption of technologies, said the PaCT.
- The export-oriented company used 60.47 litres of water to produce one kilogram of denim fabrics in 2016. The water use has gone down to 44.9 litres thanks to the installation of the full-water metering technology in collaboration with the PaCT.
- These ranges from low-cost or no-cost changes in management and housekeeping practices to process modifications to larger investments such as new equipment.



- The BGMEA has joined the UN Climate Change and the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action with an ambition to reduce GHG emission by 30 per cent by 2030.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/low-cost-cleaner-production-processes-paying-2083909>

## International

### US to provide urgently needed vaccine components, medical supplies to India

The Daily Star, April 26, 2021

- The United States is working around the clock to deploy available resources and supplies," National Security Council spokeswoman Emily Horne said in a statement.
- Washington was under mounting pressure to help India, the world's largest democracy, after Britain, France and Germany pledged aid over the weekend. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged all citizens to be vaccinated and exercise caution, as the country set a global record for new COVID-19 infections in a single day.
- The United States was also pursuing options to provide India with oxygen generation and related supplies.
- U.S. officials are also considering sending India its unused COVID-19 vaccines doses from AstraZeneca Plc, the top U.S. infectious disease official Dr. Anthony Fauci told ABC News on Sunday. "That's something that certainly is going to be actively considered," Fauci said in an interview.
- AstraZeneca's vaccine is not yet approved in the United States, which has millions of doses, and top U.S. health officials have said they have enough doses of approved versions by three other drugmakers to inoculate all Americans in coming weeks. The nation's top business lobbying group has also pushed the administration to send AstraZeneca's vials to countries with rising cases.
- In addition to the immediate aid, the U.S. Development Finance Corporation (DFC) will fund a substantial expansion of manufacturing capability for Indian vaccine maker Biological E Ltd, or BioE, enabling the company to produce at least 1 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines by the end of 2022.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/coronavirus-deadly-new-threat/news/us-provide-urgently-needed-vaccine-components-medical-supplies-india-2083929>

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