

Stock Market & Company

BSEC reforms Fareast Finance board

Newage, March 30, 2021

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has restructured the board of Fareast Finance and Investment Limited by appointing nine independent directors to the board of the fundamentally weak non-bank financial institution. It was the first time the stock market regulator reformed board of an NBF, BSEC officials said.
- The regulator also decided to run a special audit in the company's financial statements and other affairs. On completion of the special audit, the regulator would also appoint an observer to the company. The BSEC on March 29 issued a letter in this regard to the company. The letter was also forwarded to the Bangladesh Bank, the primary regulator of the NBF.
- The company will not be allowed to sell, mortgage, transfer and dispose of any assets until the reconstitution of the board, he letter said. The regulator appointed nine persons, including three sponsor shareholders of the company, as directors to the board.
- Md Ashraf Moqbui, a former chairman of Sonali Bank Limited, Ihsanul Aziz, former AMD of Social Islami Bank Limited, Sheikh Nazmul Hogue Saikot, editor in chief of Kingsnews24.com, Sajib Hossain, assistant professor at the University of Dhaka, Mosharraf Hossain, director of management consultancy at the University of Dhaka and AKM Shahiduzzaman, senior consultant, were made directors, the BSEC letter said.
- The three sponsor shareholders Shamsul Islam Varosha, Khadiza Waheeda Jahan and Rimsha BD Limited (represented by Ashaduzzaan) were made directors of the restructured board, it said.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/134005/bsec-reforms-fareast-finance-board>

Mahfuz becomes Prime Bank DMD

Newage, March 30, 2021

- ANM Mahfuz has recently been promoted as deputy managing director of Prime Bank, said a press release.
- Mahfuz started his career at Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh in 1999 and served in multiple leadership roles across different functions of consumer banking division. He joined Prime Bank in May 2018 as senior executive vice-president and head of consumer banking.
- Since then, he has played a pivotal role in the transformation of consumer banking business with the launch of the bank's call centre, agent banking service, its special initiative for women Neera and championed the introduction of various innovative products and services leveraging on digital capabilities.
- Mahfuz completed his honour's and master's degrees in economics from Dhaka University.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/134011/mahfuz-becomes-prime-bank-dmd>

Energypac exporting transformers to India's Adani

The Daily Star, March 31, 2021

- Energypac Engineering has begun exporting transformers to Adani Electricity Mumbai, in a testament to the company's capacity to produce high-quality products.
- One "16/20 million mega volt ampere" transformer was shipped to the Indian private power distribution company on March 26, marking Bangladesh's golden jubilee of independence.
- A second transformer will be exported next month, according to company officials. Not too long ago, Energypac secured one of the country's biggest export deals with the Adani for 70 cast resin transformers.

- Such transformers need only air for cooling and are therefore nearly maintenance-free in comparison to liquid-cooled transformers.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/energypac-exporting-transformers-indias-adani-2069341>

LR Global allowed to manage two mutual funds again

The Daily Star, March 31, 2021

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has recently granted LR Global Bangladesh the right to regain management of DBH First Mutual Fund and Green Delta Mutual Fund.
- However, it was on condition that the LR follow rules, bring back money invested in a news outlet, pay fines and withdraws legal measures against market intermediaries, said BSEC Chairman Prof Shibli Rubayat UI Islam.
- Mutual funds are investment tools that pool a fixed amount of money for a certain period from investors and re-invest it into stocks, bonds and other assets. On December 28, 2019, the regulator allowed IDLC Asset Management to take over management rights of the funds from the LR.
- The decision was based on the demand of 73 per cent of the DBH unit holders and 70 per cent of the Green unit holders. The LR has been ordered to bring back money it had invested in non-listed companies recently, he said, adding that it had already paid the fines for previous breach of laws.
- In 2015, the stock market regulator fined the LR Tk 50 lakh after a regulatory probe unearthed a number of gross violations of securities rules and misappropriation of hard cash of six mutual funds managed by the asset management company.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/lr-global-allowed-manage-two-mutual-funds-again-2069325>

86pc of investors' complaints resolved through CCAM

The Financial Express, March 29, 2021

- Around 86 per cent of the investors' complaints so far submitted online have been addressed through the Customer Complaints Address Module (CCAM).
- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) introduced the CCAM September 30, 2019 and since then investors have lodged 685 complaints with the module.
- According to the BSEC information, of total complaints, 583 have already been addressed and the remaining 102 complaints are in process to be solved. The complaints which are submitted through the CCAM are about non-payment of cash dividend, non-disbursement of stock dividend, non-payment sale proceeds and un-authorized sales of shares.
- The complaints regarding delay in settlement of share transactions, margin finance and interest, forced selling and financial losses due to non-transfer of shares are also submitted through the CCAM.
- According to the BSEC information, investors lodged 28 complaints with the CCAM in March, 2020 as on Thursday and 11 complaints have already been addressed and the remaining 17 complaints are in process.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/86pc-of-investors-complaints-resolved-through-ccam>

Humaira becomes first female CEO of a commercial bank in Bangladesh

The Business Standards, March 31, 2021

- Newly appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director Humaira Azam of Trust Bank Ltd has earned the distinction of being the first woman to head a commercial bank in Bangladesh.

- Humaira Azam started her career as a management trainee in ANZ Grindlays Bank in 1990. She contributed to the local corporate's development in Bangladesh as early as 1992 in ANZ Grindlays Bank. Later she joined HSBC since its inception and laid a very strong framework for corporate/ OBU, custodian, and institutional banking.
- After joining IPDC of Bangladesh in April 2009 as managing director & CEO, Humaira turned around the company, made significant progress in business and operational growth.
- Humaira later worked at Bank Asia from 2012 - 2018 as deputy managing director & chief risk officer. She afterward joined Trust Bank in 2018 as an additional managing director.

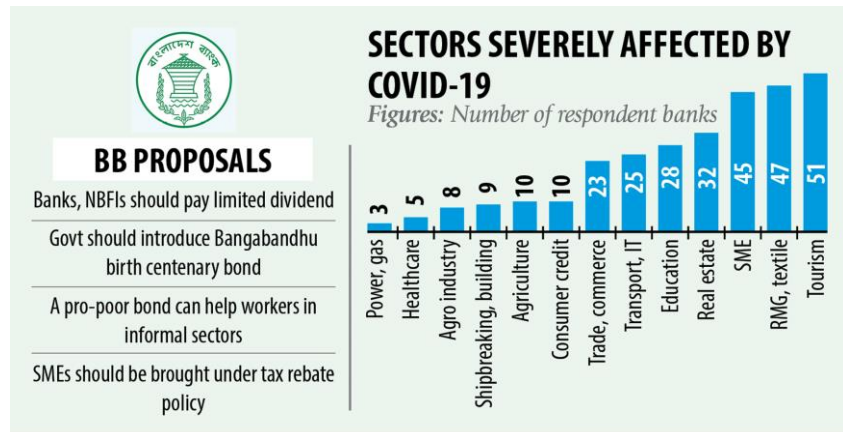
<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/humaira-becomes-first-female-ceo-commercial-bank-bangladesh-223924>

Economy & Industry

Banks tell BB survey identifying 13 severely affected sectors

The Daily Star, March 31, 2021

- Bangladesh Bank has identified 13 sectors of the economy that have been severely affected by the first wave of the coronavirus pandemic, including travel and tourism, readymade garments, textile and small and medium enterprises.
- They were identified in a central bank survey involving the country's 59 banks.
- The survey was carried out as part of a central bank study titled "Economic and Financial Stability Implications of Covid-19: Bangladesh Bank and Government's Policy Response". The central bank made the study public on Monday.
- The first five have been affected "most severely" as per the participating banks, the study said as much as 51 banks thought that travel and tourism were "dreadfully affected". Forty-seven banks identified the garment and textile sector, 45 banks identified SMEs, 32 banks identified real estate and construction, and 28 banks identified education as the dreadfully affected.
- As per the responses, the SME sector has the highest credit demand in the near future, followed by the RMG and textile, trade and commerce, agro-based industries and agriculture.
- Some 54 banks thought that the need for loans of the SME sector outweighed the requirement of other sectors. "The recovery in the SME sector might be slow, but steady growth may be achieved in due course if proper financial support is ensured," the study said.
- The RMG and textile sector was the second highest credit-deserving sector as per 53 banks. The sector faced export orders cancellations and lower demand owing to uncertainty and continuation of the pandemic's spread in advanced economies.



<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/smes-need-credit-the-most>

International

Traffic in Suez Canal resumes after stranded ship refloated

The Daily Star, March 31, 2021

- Shipping was on the move again late on Monday in Egypt's Suez Canal after tugs refloated a giant container ship which had been blocking the channel for almost a week, causing a huge build-up of vessels around the waterway.
- With the 400-metre-long (430-yard) Ever Given dislodged, 113 ships were expected to transit the canal in both directions by early Tuesday morning, Suez Canal Authority (SCA) chairman Osama Rabie told reporters.
- The Ever Given had become jammed diagonally across a southern section of the canal, the shortest shipping route between Europe and Asia, in high winds early on March 23. Evergreen Line, which is leasing the Ever Given, said the ship would be inspected for seaworthiness in the Great Bitter Lake, which separates two sections of the canal.
- "The ship was ready for limited navigation after an initial inspection and not a single container was damaged, but a second investigation will be more precise and if it was affected it will show," Rabie said.
- At dawn on Monday, rescue workers from the SCA working with a team from Dutch firm Smit Salvage partially refloated the ship and straightened it in the canal. After several hours it shifted briefly back across the canal before being manoeuvred free by tugs as the tide changed, a canal source said.
- The company said approximately 30,000 cubic metres of sand had been dredged to refloat the 224,000-tonne container ship and a total of 11 tugs and two powerful sea tugs were used to pull the ship free.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/traffic-suez-canal-resumes-after-stranded-ship-refloated-2069309>

Disclaimer

This document has been prepared by Bank Asia Securities Ltd (BASL) based on publicly available data for information purpose only and does not solicit any action based on the material contained herein and should not be construed as an offer or solicitation to buy or sell or subscribe to any security. Neither BASL nor any of its directors, shareholders, member of the management or employee represents or warrants expressly or impliedly that the information or data of the sources used in the documents are genuine, accurate, complete, authentic and correct. However, all reasonable care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this document. BASL or Research & Development Department will not take any responsibility for any decisions made based on the information herein. As this document has been made for the Traders of BASL and strongly prohibited for circulation to any clients, investors or any other persons from outside of BASL.

About Bank Asia Securities Ltd

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).

BASL Research Team

Mr. Shariful Alam Chowdhury
Head of Research & Investments

tushar@basl-bd.com, tusharbd@bloomberg.net

Mr. Shohidul Islam
Research Analyst

shohidul@basl-bd.com, shohidulbd@bloomberg.net

BASL Networks

Head Office

Hadi Mansion (2nd Floor)
2, Dilkusha Commercial Area
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Phone: +88-02-9515826-28
Fax: +88-02-9567884

Dhanmondi Branch

Meher Plaza (1st Floor),
House # 13/A, Road # 05
Dhanmondi, Dhaka - 1207
Phone: +8802-8624874-5

Mirpur Branch

Nishi Plaza, plot # 01,
Avenue-04, Section-06, Block-C
Mirpur, Dhaka - 1216
Phone: +88-02-9013841

Uttara Branch

House # 79/A, (4th Floor),
Road # 07, Sector # 04
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230
Phone: +88-02-8958371

Banani Branch

Nur Empori, Plot # 77 (1st Floor),
Road No # 11, Banani,
Dhaka-1213
Phone: +8801716180767

Bijoyagar Extension

Prime Tower (3rd Floor), 180-
181
Dhaka-1213
Phone: +8801811408385

Khulna Branch

28, Sir Iqbal Road (1st Floor)
Khulna
Phone: +88-041-731208-9

For International Trade & Sales, please call at +8801993111666, +880 02 9515826, Ext: 101 at Business hour. For further query, write to us at research@basl-bd.com.