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Stock Market & Company

LankaBangla Securities declares no dividend for second year in a row

The Business Standard, May 20, 2026

- LankaBangla Securities PLC has recommended no dividend for its shareholders for the financial year ended 31 December 2025, marking the second consecutive year the brokerage firm has failed to provide returns to investors.
- The announcement triggered a negative reaction on the trading floor today (20 May), with the company's share price falling 3% to close at Tk9.70.
- Despite the decision to withhold dividends, the company's audited financial report showed a marginal increase in profitability.
- For the year 2025, LankaBangla Securities, which is listed on the alternative trading board (ATB) of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, reported a consolidated earnings per share (EPS) of Tk0.50, compared to Tk0.43 in the previous year.
- The consolidated net asset value (NAV) per share also improved to Tk16.91 from Tk16.11 in 2024.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/lankabangla-securities-declares-no-dividend-second-year-row-1444736>

Intraco Refueling under BSEC scanner

The Business Standard, May 20, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has formed a three-member investigation committee to examine the fixed assets of Intraco Refueling Station PLC and three associated companies amid an ongoing merger process.
- The associated firms are M Hye & Co CNG Refueling Station Limited, Nessa and Sons Limited and Good CNG Re-fueling Station Limited.
- According to a BSEC order, the committee comprises Md Faruk Hossain, additional director of the BSEC, Md Amirul Islam, assistant director, and Amit Adhikari, assistant director.
- The panel has been asked to complete its investigation and submit its report within 60 working days from the date of issuance of the order.

BSEC PROBES INTRACO'S FIXED ASSETS

Firms under review

- Intraco Refueling Station
- M Hye & Co CNG Refueling Station
- Nessa & Sons
- Good CNG Re-Fueling Station

BSEC committee to review FY22-24 financials

Committee will submit report within 60 days

The enquiry will verify physical assets

Financials (Jan-Mar) 2026

Revenue drops by 23% to Tk21.72cr

Net loss Tk1.78cr

Per share loss Tk0.18

NAV per share Tk13.21

Shares closed at Tk17.70

- The probe will review financial statements and fixed assets of the companies for the period between 30 June 2022 and 30 June 2024, focusing on the valuation and authenticity of assets ahead of the proposed merger.
- A BSEC official, requesting anonymity, said the regulator wants to assess the condition and valuation of the fixed assets before making any decision on the merger proposal. The investigation team will also review issues related to the merger plan in the interest of the capital market and investors, the official added.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-launches-probe-intraco-refueling-3-subsiidiaries-assets-merger-1444726>

Union Capital logs Tk42.50cr loss, skips dividend as NAV sinks deeper into negative

The Business Standard, May 20, 2026

- Union Capital Limited, a non-bank financial institution, has recommended no dividend for the financial year ended 31 December 2025, as the company continues to grapple with mounting losses and a deeply negative net asset value.
- According to a price-sensitive disclosure filed with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) today (20 May), the company posted a consolidated net loss after tax of approximately Tk42.50 crore for the year.
- Following the announcement, its share price slipped 2.08% to Tk4.70 on the premier bourse.
- The company's consolidated earnings per share (EPS) for 2025 stood at negative Tk2.46 — an improvement from the negative Tk11.99 recorded in 2024.
- Management attributed the narrower loss primarily to reduced provision requirements for loans and advances, higher recoveries from written-off clients, and lower operating expenses through cost control measures.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/union-capital-logs-tk4250cr-loss-skips-dividend-nav-sinks-deeper-negative-1444721>

Cenbank removes tax certificate hurdle to ease foreign investment in stocks

The Daily Sun, May 20, 2026

- In a major move to attract more foreign investment into the country's struggling stock market, Bangladesh Bank has eliminated the requirement for an auditor's certificate for every transaction made by non-resident investors.
- Under the new directive issued today (20 May), the central bank has streamlined the tax collection process for Non-Resident Investor Taka Accounts (NITA), allowing for the immediate credit of sale proceeds and automated tax withholding by banks.
- Previously, foreign investors were required to obtain a certificate from a chartered accountant for every single trade to determine capital gains tax before funds could be reinvested or sent abroad. This practice frequently caused significant delays, increased compliance costs, and discouraged active trading.
- According to the central bank's circular, authorised dealer (AD) banks will now ensure the deduction or withholding of applicable taxes on capital gains directly from the sale proceeds of shares or securities held by non-resident investors. These proceeds will be credited directly to the respective NITA for eventual payment to the government exchequer prior to repatriation.
- Speaking to The Business Standard, a senior official from Bangladesh Bank said under the previous system, non-resident investors used to buy stock market shares, and selling them would yield profits.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/cenbank-removes-tax-certificate-hurdle-ease-foreign-investment-stocks-1444611>

Economy & Industry

BEPZA secures \$15m investment to establish tent & camping factory at BEPZA EZ

The Business Standard, May 20, 2026

- Sunshine Outdoor (BD) Co, Ltd, a British Virgin Island and China (Hong Kong)-based company, is set to invest US\$ 15 million to establish a tent & camping manufacturing industry at the BEPZA Economic Zone (BEPZA EZ) in Mirsharai, Chattogram.
- An agreement to this effect was signed today at the BEPZA Complex, Dhaka, between the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) and Sunshine Outdoor (BD) Co, Ltd, said a press release.
- The lease agreement was signed by Md Tanvir Hossain, Executive Director (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA, and Liang Difa, Chairman of Sunshine Outdoor (BD) Co, Ltd BEPZA Executive Chairman Major General Mohammad Moazzem Hossain, ndc, afwc, psc, G, MPhil witnessed the signing ceremony.
- The company will produce annually 1.5 million pieces of outdoor products like tent, canopy, bag, duffel bag, waterproof dry bags, and sleeping bag, backpack, tarpaulins, inflatable pillows and mattresses, air pillows, mosquito nets, carpets, mats, folding chairs, and different types of bins & baskets.
- The company is expected to create employment opportunities for 2,975 Bangladeshi nationals.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/bepza-secures-15m-investment-establish-tent-camping-factory-bepza-ez-1444461>

Bangladesh should modernise IP rules to attract more FDI: US diplomat

The Daily Star, May 20, 2026

- As Bangladesh prepares to graduate from least developed country (LDC) status, the country needs to modernise its intellectual property (IP) laws to attract more foreign investment, particularly from the United States, and strengthen confidence among global businesses, a US diplomat said today.
- Shilpi Jha, senior commercial specialist and IP policy advisor for South Asia at the US embassy in New Delhi, made the comment at a roundtable titled "Advancing the IPR Framework and the Way Forward".
- The American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh organised the breakfast session at The Westin Dhaka.
- She said stronger and internationally aligned IP protection is no longer just a legal requirement but an economic necessity.
- Jha said an updated IP framework would help Bangladesh integrate more effectively into the global economy, boost exports, encourage innovation, and attract foreign direct investment.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-should-modernise-ip-rules-attract-more-fdi-us-diplomat-4180361>

Money whitening provision may return

The Daily Star, May 21, 2026

- The government is likely to reintroduce a provision allowing the legalisation of undisclosed income through investment in selected sectors in the national budget for the next fiscal year.
- The proposed amnesty scheme will include disclosure conditions, a finance ministry official said yesterday.
- Speaking on condition of anonymity, the official said taxpayers may be allowed to regularise undisclosed funds by investing in designated sectors, provided they declare the actual transaction value in income tax returns filed by both buyers and sellers.
- "Taxpayers can legalise their income by paying their regular rate in any assessment year in certain sectors, without any concessional treatment," said the finance ministry official.

- The Awami League government previously allowed taxpayers to legalise undisclosed assets by paying a flat 15 percent tax rate. Under that arrangement, individuals could declare previously undisclosed money in any assessment year by paying the specified rate, after which no government agency would question the source of the income.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/money-whitening-provision-may-return-4180691>

International

China to work with US on slashing tariffs

The Business Standard, May 21, 2026

- Beijing will work with Washington on reducing levies affecting tens of billions of dollars in goods, the commerce ministry said Wednesday, days after US President Donald Trump visited China.
- The world's two top economies spent much of 2025 embroiled in an escalating trade war, until Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping reached a one-year truce when they met in South Korea in October.
- As a result of their summit last week, a trade council has been set up, under the auspices of which "both sides agreed in principle to discuss a framework arrangement for reciprocal tariff reductions on products of equivalent scale", the ministry said in a statement.
- The intended tariff cuts will affect goods worth "\$30 billion or more on each side", the online statement, attributed to an unnamed commerce ministry official, said.
- China hopes "the US side will honour its commitment" made during the recent round of negotiations, it added, calling for an extension to the trade truce agreements reached last year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/china-work-us-slashing-tariffs-4180636>

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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).

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