

Appollo Ispat's flying trade debut

GAZI TOWHID AHMED

Appollo Ispat Complex made a stellar trading debut yesterday, generating the highest turnover of the day.

Some 1.92 crore shares worth Tk 71 crore were exchanged on the trading floor, registering a 73.18 percent gain, the highest of the day.

The share price of the company stood at Tk 38.1, with a price movement ranging between Tk 32 and Tk 40, according to the DSE website.

The company has reported net profit of Tk 9.9 crore in the third quarter with earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 0.66, up from Tk 9.7 crore and Tk 0.64 respectively in the same period a year ago.

However, considering post-IPO (initial public offerings) shares of 25 crore, the company's net asset value (NAV) is Tk 24.20 as on September.

The NAV and EPS have been calculated considering number of post-IPO shares, according to DSE.

The price-earnings ratio of the company is 14.88. Sponsor-directors have 30.47

percent stakes in the company, while 36 percent stakes belong to the public and 33.53 percent to institutions.

The company collected Tk 220 crore through issuing 10 crore ordinary shares of Tk 10 each with Tk 22 as premium per share.

Appollo Ispat will use around Tk 153 crore from the IPO proceeds to repay bank loans, Tk 60 crore for project development and the rest to bear the IPO expenses, according to the IPO prospectus.

With the utilisation of the IPO fund, the company's profitability will go up, helping the management disburse dividends among shareholders at the year end, an official of the company said.

The company will install an environment-friendly German technology-based non-oxidising furnace unit for manufacturing lead-free corrugated iron sheet.

The new project is expected to come into commercial production in mid-2014, the official said.

Appollo Ispat produces around 1.20 lakh tonnes of Rani branded CI sheet per year, with a 20 percent market share.

Emirates's New Year offer for Bangladeshi travellers

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Emirates is offering attractive fares for its Bangladeshi travellers to destinations across the airline's network on six continents in New Year.

Bookings for both economy and business class tickets to all destinations have to be made between December 24 to January 7 to travel between February 1 and June 30, the airline said in a statement yesterday.

"Throughout the year we have enjoyed tremendous support from our valued Bangladeshi travellers," said Khalid Ali J Hassan, Emirates area manager in Bangladesh.

"We have combined the great flight connections offered by our global network with great special fares to help our customers fulfil their travel aspirations in 2014."

All inclusive return economy class fares for London and Barcelona in Europe start at \$1,257 and \$1,307 respectively. While for American destinations like Washington and Houston, the fares start at \$1,587 and \$1,462 respectively.

A total of eight new destinations have been added to the Emirates network since the beginning of 2013, including Stockholm, Tokyo Haneda, and Clark in the Philippines; with Taipei, Kiev and Boston to join the network in early 2014.

Emirates also continues to add the latest aircraft to its fleet, which now stands at 213 with 44 Airbus A380s flying to 24 destinations.



Mohammed Nurul Amin, managing director of NCC Bank receives a Certificate of Merit from Finance Minister AMA Muhith at the 13th ICAB National Awards in the city on Saturday.



Juha Nurmi, chief executive of Fennovoima of Finland, and Dzhomart Aliev, overseas director general of Rosatom, exchange documents of a contract to set up a nuclear power plant in the northern part of Finland, at a programme in Helsinki recently.



Officials of Grameenphone participate in a rally to mark the commercial launch of the operator's 3G services in Barisal recently.

Homegrown solutions to lead way to green living

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Zebun Nasreen Ahmed, a professor of architecture at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), said the green technologies must take care of the ecology, the economy and the people.

"We have to look at how inclusive those technologies are as we are adopting them at the expense of our hard-earned foreign currencies. So it is no good if their benefits are confined to a few."

The architect said the country would have to formulate its own standards rather than blindly follow the western standards. She also questioned whether the country is fully ready for automation. "The government has instructed that the temperature of the air-conditioners is kept at a minimum 24 degree celsius. But our research has found that people feel comfortable when the temperature is set at 28 degree Celsius. So, we have to work on policy issues when we talk about green technology." Power Secretary Monowarul Islam called for a system to check the entry of obsolete or used technologies into the country.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, said the country could start with energy saving as part of its efforts to adopt green technologies. "We will also have to bring changes in our lifestyle and approach to make the world sustainable."

Salehuddin Ahmed, managing editor of the newspaper, who moderated the event, said it is very important to create technologies that cater to local needs and are user-friendly.

During his presentation, Md Sayfullah, a Bangladeshi citizen who has developed SinePulse, a home automation solution, said his innovation could save up to 30 percent energy in buildings.

The solution also allows a building owner to produce energy from solar systems as well as transfer the excess electricity to the national grid and earn additional money along the way. "It is very important, as people will not be interested to make investment unless they are assured of a reward at the end of the day."

The engineer, a BUET graduate, said his solution would allow a user to control his or her energy consumption during peak or off-peak hours and even when he or she is out of the house. Syed Azizul Haque, superintendent engineer of Public Works Department, said the BNBC 2013 should categorically instruct a building owner to go for green technology if its energy and water consumption exceeds a certain limit.

Coca-Cola reaffirms \$50m pledge for Bangladesh

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The issue, which is now lying with the cabinet, is likely to be settled on December 29, according to Finance Minister AMA Muhith.

Kini also said the company, however, is trying to ensure that its support for the Freedom Fighters' Association continues.

"We have got a very positive feedback from the government. There are a couple of technical details which need to be sorted out," said Kini, who has been with the company for 15 years.

Worldwide, Coca-Cola has 400 brands. But in Bangladesh, only four brands -- Coca-Cola, Sprite, Fanta and Diet Coke -- are available. He said the company will look to expand its product portfolio once the business in Bangladesh grows.

Coca-Cola has a global policy of not marketing its products to children under 12 years of age as it believes that they are not in a position to make any decision on their own.

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Blockades disrupt coal, limestone imports

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Coal and limestone imports from the Indian state of Meghalaya have dropped by a third in the last one month due to shutdowns and blockades.

Imports are mainly made through six land customs stations in Tamabil, Bholaganj, Sutarkandi, Barchhara, Charagaon and Bagli in Sylhet. Around 150 truckloads of Indian coal and limestone now come through the Tamabil land port, down from 500 trucks on regular days, said Kamruzzaman, superintendent of customs at Tamabil.

Besides, Indian trucks do not want to enter Bangladesh to avoid becoming a victim of political violence, he said. "Now, we have to depend on Fridays."

More than 700 truckloads of coal and limestone were imported last Friday, which created space problems for importers, as the dumping site at the land port is not that spacious, he said.

The importers are counting revenue losses worth at least Tk 25 lakh a day due to the drop in imports.

"Imports went down by more than 60 percent in one month and a half," said Chandan Saha, general secretary of Sylhet Coal Importers Group. Strikes and blockades are taking a heavy toll on businesses, he added.

Moreover, transporting imported items from one place to another has become tough, Saha said. "Only a few trucks agree to carry the goods, and they charge much higher rates and move only at night."

Every year, about 20 lakh tonnes of coal and nearly 10 lakh tonnes of limestone are imported from Meghalaya, he said. Brick kilns in Sylhet and other

Turnover hits 16-session low

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Turnover on the Dhaka Stock Exchange dipped to a 16-session low yesterday, as investors were reluctant to make fresh investments due to the ongoing political impasse.

It dropped 17.98 percent from the previous day to Tk 374 crore.

DSEX, the benchmark general index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, closed the day at 4,228 points, after falling 36 points or 0.85 percent.

The market ended the day in the red amid weak participation of investors ahead of the Christmas holiday, said LankaBangla Securities, a leading stockbroker, in its regular market analysis. "The session was disappointing for the investors without any glimmer of positivity on any front," IDLC Investments said.

A total of 1.49 lakh trades were executed, with 9.42 crore shares and mutual fund units changing hands on the Dhaka bourse. All the major sectors closed in the red: power 2 percent, textile 1.6 percent, banks 0.7 percent, telecoms 0.57 percent and pharma 0.34 percent.

Regulator green-lights textile IPO

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The bond will have a maturity period of two years, but it can be renewed for the next three years with a new (variable) coupon rate.

Race Portfolio and Issue Management will work as the financial adviser and sole lead arranger of Premier Bank's bond. Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) is the trustee. At yesterday's meeting, BSEC extended the maturity period of eight mutual funds, managed by ICB, up to December 2014. The regulator extended the time upon a request from ICB.

The eight mutual funds were supposed to be redeemed this year, in line with a regulatory directive.



Md Rezaul Haque, chairman of SIBL Foundation, presents a donation to Mustafizur Rahman, director of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, and Samantolal Shen, head of the hospital's burn and cosmetic surgery unit, recently.



Sukomol Singh Chowdhury, project director of Bangladesh Bank's SME department, and Helal Ahmed Chowdhury, managing director of Pubali Bank, sign an agreement to provide financial assistance to small and medium enterprises, at the central bank's head office in Dhaka recently.



Sohail RK Hussain, managing director of City Bank, and Selim RF Hussain, managing director of IDLC, pose with the documents of a term sheet agreement to issue a coupon-bearing subordinated bond worth Tk 3,000 million. Kaiser A Chowdhury, managing director of Meghna Bank, was also present.



SM Abdul Hamid, chief financial officer of IFIC Bank, inaugurates the bank's 111th branch at Miah Bazar in Chowddagram, Comilla recently. AKM Mozharul Hoque, company secretary, was also present.

Housing and Building Research Institute (HBRI)						
120/3, Darus-Salam, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216						
Memo No. QD-148/1108/HBRI				Date: 19-12-2013		
Invitation for Tender (IFT)						
1.	Ministry/division			Ministry of Housing & Public Works.		
2.	Agency			Housing & Building Research Institute (HBRI).		
3.	Name of procuring entity			Housing & Building Research Institute.		
4.	Procuring entity district			Dhaka.		
5.	Invitation for			Supply of Laboratory Instrument and Machineries.		
KEY INFORMATION						
6.	Procuring method			Open Tendering Method (OTM).		
FUNDING INFORMATION						
7.	Budget and source of funds			Government of Bangladesh (GOB).		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION						
8.	Tender publication date			25-12-2013.		
9.	Tender last selling date			15-1-2014 (during office hours).		
10.	Tender closing date and time			16-1-2014 up to 3.00pm.		
11.	Tender opening date and time			On 16-1-2014 at 3.30pm (All tenderer may remain present at opening time of the tender).		
12.	Name and address of the office selling tender document			Assistant Accounts Officer, HBRI Office, Darus-Salam, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216.		
	Name and address of the office receiving tender document			Project Officer, Housing & Building Research Institute (HBRI), Darus-Salam, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216.		
	Name and address of the office opening tender document			Project Officer, Housing & Building Research Institute (HBRI), Darus-Salam, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER						
13.	Eligibility of tenderer			Trade license valid for 2013-2014, up-to-date Income Tax clearance certificate, VAT registration certificate, original money receipt, bank solvency certificate, experience certificate and other conditions as mentioned in the tender document.		
14.	Brief description of items			Lot 1	Supply of Electrical Sieve Shaker, Grinding Mill EEW (Local) and Pressed Block/Brick Making Machine with concrete Pan Mixer and Mould.	
				Lot 2	Table Vibrator.	
				Lot 3	Micro-Computer Universal Testing Machine.	
15.	Brief description of related services			As per tender document.		
16.	Price of tender document					
	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Price of tender document	Tender security amount (Tk.)	Completion time (weeks)
	1.	Supply of Sieve Shaker, Grinding Mill & Pressed Block/Brick Making Machine.	HBRI	1,000.00 (one thousand)	60,000.00 (sixty thousand)	15 (fifteen)
	2.	Table Vibrator	HBRI	1,000.00 (one thousand)	20,000.00 (twenty thousand)	15 (fifteen)
	3.	Micro-computer Universal Testing Machine	HBRI	1,000.00 (one thousand)	45,000.00 (forty-five thousand)	15 (fifteen)
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS						
17.	Name of official inviting tender			Md. Akhtaruazzaman.		
18.	Designation of official inviting tender			Project Officer.		
19.	Address of official inviting tender			Housing & Building Research Institute, Darus-Salam, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216.		
20.	Important notes:					
	a. The Procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without explaining any reason.					
	b. In case tender opening day becomes a public holiday, the opening day will be shifted to the next working day, timing will remain unchanged.					
Md. Akhtaruazzaman Project Officer HBRI, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216						
GD-4896						