

| STOCKS |          | Week-on-week |          |
|--------|----------|--------------|----------|
| DSEX   | 5,094.66 | CSCX         | 8,789.83 |

| COMMODITIES |            | As of Friday |         |
|-------------|------------|--------------|---------|
| Gold        | \$1,839.03 | Oil          | \$49.97 |

| ASIAN MARKETS |           |       |           | Friday Closings |          |
|---------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| MUMBAI        | 46,099.01 | TOKYO | 26,652.52 | SINGAPORE       | 2,821.70 |

| CURRENCIES |       |        |        |       |     | As on Thursday |     |
|------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-----|----------------|-----|
| \$         | USD   | €      | EUR    | £     | GBP | ¥              | CNY |
| BUY TK     | 83.95 | 100.50 | 111.31 | 12.67 |     |                |     |
| SELL TK    | 84.95 | 104.30 | 115.11 | 13.32 |     |                |     |



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DHAKA SUNDAY DECEMBER 13, 2020, AGRAHAYAN 28, 1427 BS • starbusiness@thelailystar.net

## Govt plans fresh apparel stimulus

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The garment sector is on way to receive a second round of stimulus, with government plans reasoning that it has been severely affected by the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic.

"If the situation worsens further, the government is ready to give it," said Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi at a virtual event of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) yesterday.

He, however, made no mention of the exact amount and repayment period.

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Moreover, the payback period of the first stimulus package, delivered in the form of low-cost loans, might also be extended, said Munshi.

The BGMEA has demanded that the present six-month moratorium period be extended to one year and the loan repayment period to five years from one year, he said.

"We have to help the trade to survive," the minister said, adding that the government targets to export \$48 billion-worth merchandise and services in the current fiscal year.

The first stimulus package, provided



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### BANGABANDHU SHILPA NAGAR

## Two Chinese firms to invest \$28.69m

JAGARAN CHAKMA

Two Chinese companies are set to invest around Tk 244 crore, equivalent to \$28.69 million, in Bangladesh for establishing manufacturing units for non-woven personal protective equipment (PPE), steel structural items and ready-mix concrete.

The due will sign an agreement with Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (Beza) tomorrow to take lease of land to set up the factories at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar (BSMSN).

Beza Executive Chairman Paban Chowdhury termed the investment a "really encouraging" development during a pandemic and more so for its offer of import substitutes.

This exemplifies foreign investors' confidence built up through Beza's performance and government initiatives to create a business friendly environment, he said.

Chowdhury expects to hand over the land within six months for the factory construction to begin.

Some 10 acres will be availed by CCECC Bangladesh, a subsidiary of China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC).

It will invest \$15.97 million, equivalent to Tk 136 crore, and employ around 350 people in producing the construction items as "Mirsarai Fabrication".

### INVESTMENT PROPOSALS AT A GLANCE

| Investors                        | CCECC Bangladesh Ltd (China) | JieHong Medical Products (BD) |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Economic zone                    | BSMSN                        | BSMSN                         |
| Size of plot (acres)             | 10                           | 8                             |
| Payment method                   | One time (upfront)           | One time (upfront)            |
| Proposed investment (million \$) | 15.97                        | 12.72                         |
| Jobs to be created               | 350                          | 1,500                         |

SOURCES: BEZA

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## Bangladesh an inspiration to South Asian peers

Says Nepalese billionaire Binod Chaudhary at DHL-Star Business Awards ceremony

STAR BUSINESS REPORT



Binod Chaudhary

Bangladesh has had a stunning economic journey.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) had even projected that Bangladesh would witness economic growth of 3.8 per cent, the highest among its south Asian peers, during the pandemic time, said Chaudhary, who says that Bangladesh is like a home away from home for him.

Over the last 30 years, Chaudhary has

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### INDUSTRY LEADERS' TAKE ON 'TRANSFORMING FOR TOMORROW'

At the 19th Bangladesh Business Awards ceremony yesterday, industry leaders talked about the prerequisites for a smooth journey towards future transformation. Here are the excerpts.



RMG needs product diversification

RUBANA HUQ, BGMEA president

Product diversification and branding Bangladesh are the key components required to further develop the country's

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Robust infrastructure key to faster digitalisation

ALMAS KABIR, BASIS president

Robust infrastructure and skilled manpower are essential to boost the ongoing digitalisation initiatives taken by the

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Innovation to take entrepreneurship to next level

ZIAUR RAHMAN, regional country manager of H&M

Innovation, product development and building human resources are the key requisites

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> HSBC Business Excellence Awards

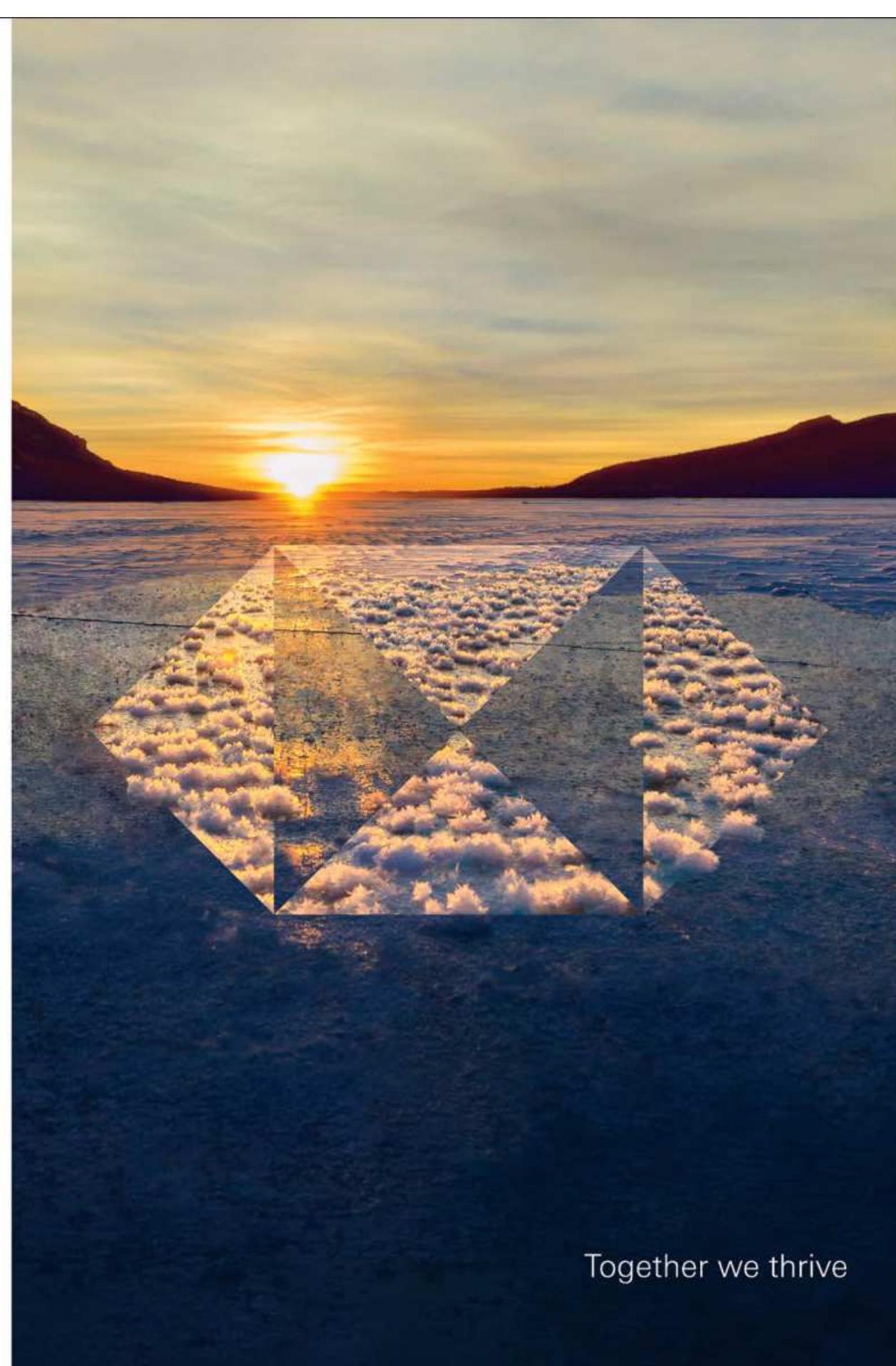
As the leading international bank, HSBC has always supported the progress of Bangladesh's thriving business sector. The pandemic has created many unprecedented economic and business challenges for Bangladesh and the business community as a whole this year. We will therefore be recognising the most successful entrepreneurs and organisations who have displayed incredible resilience and acted with exceptional purpose throughout the pandemic.

Nominations are now open across the following 8 categories:

- ◆ Export Excellence - Ready Made Garments (RMG)
- ◆ Export Excellence - Supply Chain and Backward Linkage
- ◆ Export Excellence - Non-traditional and Emerging Sectors
- ◆ Best in Import Substitution
- ◆ Leader in Inbound Investment and Infrastructure
- ◆ Excellence in Sustainability
- ◆ Best in Innovation & Technology
- ◆ Special Achievement Award

Entry for nominations close on 28 January 2021. We look forward to receiving your entries.

For more information on the nomination criteria and application process, visit: [business.hsbc.com.bd/bea](http://business.hsbc.com.bd/bea) or call +880966631000



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