

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	BUY TK	EUR	GBP	CNY
▼ 1.30%	▼ 1.22%	\$1,846.09 (per ounce)	\$55.04 (per barrel)	▼ 1.26%	▼ 1.89%	▼ 0.61%	▼ 0.63%	83.95	100.85	114.22	12.82
5,649.86	9,942.15			46,285.77	27,663.39	2,902.52	3,483.07	84.95	104.65	118.02	13.48

**OPENING**  
of  
**KATGOR SUB-BRANCH**  
01 February, 2021

Saira Shiraj Complex  
North Patenga  
Chattoogram

CellCenter  
16491

SIBL  
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DHAKA MONDAY FEBRUARY 1, 2021, MAGH 18, 1427 BS • starbusiness@thedailystar.net

## Repayment tenure for term loans extended by two years

Wholesale moratorium comes to an end

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The central bank yesterday eased the repayment facility for term loans for tens of thousands of borrowers, including industrialists and businesses to help them pay instalments at ease as the pandemic persists.

The move comes as the Bangladesh Bank said it was not going to extend the moratorium facility, introduced for all types of borrowers in April last year in response to the devastating crisis, to 2021.

Two top bankers hailed the Bangladesh Bank's step and said the relaxation in the repayment terms would help businesses recover smoothly and allow banks and financial institutions to realise loans.

Credits that carry a tenure of more than one year are considered as term loans.

As much as 70 per cent of the total outstanding loans amounting to Tk 10,63,626 crore were term loans as of September 30 last year, according to a BB official.

Clients will enjoy the relaxed facility based on the banker-customer relationship, the BB said in a notice.



The initiative would help businesses make a smooth turnaround, bankers say.

The loan moratorium facility has not been extended, the central bank said. Now, the instalments of the term loans that were scheduled to be paid last year will be added to the principal amount of borrowers.

This may create trouble for borrowers as the instalment size will get bigger. So, the central bank has extended the repayment period by two years, a BB official said.

Banks will be allowed to offer a 50 per cent extension in the repayment tenure, the BB said.

For instance, if a client has a remaining repayment period of one year to pay back an existing loan, it would get an additional six months.

Borrowers can choose one of the two options: a maximum of two years in the repayment period or the 50 per cent extension of the remaining payback time, whichever is higher.

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## TK Group to invest Tk 6,600cr in Bangabandhu Shilpa Nagar

To set up six factories for consumer goods, chemicals

JAGARAN CHAKMA

Samuda Food Products, a subsidiary of TK Group, is set to make a fresh investment of Tk 6,600 crore in the consumer goods and chemical sectors.

Samuda had initially planned to invest Tk 1,744.80 crore but the investment increased as the group got financing assurance from foreign banks.

Samuda has already started work to set up a factory on a 60-acre plot at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar (BSMSN) in Mirsarai, Chattogram.

"We will set up six factories at the BSMSN in phases for the consumer goods, including food processing, and chemical sectors," said Mohammad Mustafa Haider, managing director of Samuda Food Products.

According to the managing director, they will set up a sugar refinery, seed crushing facility, precast pile, geo text manufacturing, caustic soda and export-oriented hydrogen peroxide plant.

Each of the sugar refinery and the seed crushing mill will have a production capacity of about 3,000 tonnes per day, Haider said.

"Basically, we are going to invest in these sectors to grab the increasing demand," he said adding TK will invest Tk 6,600 crore to set up the factories in phases in the next four-five years.

Haider went on to say that 70 per cent of the total investment will be financed by

### AT A GLANCE

- Total investment: Tk **6,600cr**
- Total factories to be set up: **6**
- Sectors: consumer goods, food processing, chemical
- Employment: **10,000**
- Land: **60** acres
- Own fund: **30%**
- Bank finance: **70%**

foreign banks while the remaining 30 per cent will come from equity.

"We already spoke with the financiers and they have given us the green signal," he said.

Regarding the investment's potential, Haider said as an investor, he is always hopeful for success in these projects.

"Our target is to produce quality goods to win the consumer's minds. Besides, most manufacturing units are located outside Chattogram, giving us a good opportunity to occupy the regional market," Haider said.

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## Shasha Denims nears fully owning Italian firm's local subsidiary

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Leading exporter Shasha Denims has acquired another 18 per cent stakes of an Italian company's Bangladesh-based subsidiary, EOS Textile Mills, for Tk 21.79 crore, taking its ownership to 98 per cent.

A disclosure in Dhaka Stock Exchange's (DSE) website says Shasha also received two plots of 4,005.12 square metres at Dhaka Export Processing Zone Extension Area from Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority for future expansions.

Shasha's consolidated earnings per share was Tk 0.43 for July-December 2020 against Tk 1.02 for July-December 2019 while the consolidated net operating cash flow per share was Tk 0.52 and Tk 4.14 respectively.

Its consolidated net asset value per share was Tk 41.17 as on December 31, 2020 and Tk 41.41 as on June 30, 2020, said the DSE.

Managing Director Shams Mahmud said they had recently acquired the EOS, a subsidiary of Berto Industria Tessile of Italy, paying Tk 125 crore.

The mill manufactures woven discontinuous fabric for the high-end international market and is one of the few



factories in the world to make moleskin fabric, which is a very technical fabric, he said.

Also it has an effluent treatment plant enabling the cleanest discharge in Bangladesh, he said.

The EOS management wanted to focus on their European manufacturing plants and chose Shasha for the similarities they shared, said Mahmud in a WhatsApp message.

This includes visions in research and development, high-end fabric production, corporate social responsibility activities and most importantly goodwill in the international market for quality, he added.

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## Most listed apparel makers log profit despite sluggish sales

AHSAN HABIB and REFAJET ULLAH MIRDHA

Two-thirds listed apparel companies either made a higher profit or managed to stay in the black in July to December despite sluggish sales, reflecting the recovery for the most export-earning sector in Bangladesh.

Of the 44 garment companies listed with the Dhaka Stock Exchange, 14 firms took home more profit in the first half of the fiscal year compared to a year ago.

They include Albaj Textile, Anlima Yarn, Apex Spinning, Far East Knitting, HR Textile, Maksons Spinning, Malek Spinning, Matin Spinning, Metro Spinning, New Line Clothing, and Queen South Textile.

The profits of 16 garment companies declined, eight incurred loss and the losses for six firms widened further.

Earnings per share of Envoy Textiles fell to Tk 0.37 in the first half of the fiscal year, from Tk 1.15 in the same period a year ago.

The EPS of Esquire Knit Composite decreased to Tk 1.13 from Tk 1.53 and that of Square Textiles to Tk 0.79 from Tk 0.84.

Desh Garments, Evince Textile, Hamid Fabrics, Nurani Dyeing, Prime Textile, Regent Textile, Shepherd Industries, and Stylecraft all fell into losses.

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Spinning companies were in a better position in the July-December period.

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## Renata buying Tk 20cr land for expansion



STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Renata, one of the leading drug makers, is going to invest nearly Tk 20 crore in purchasing land as part of its expansion plans to cater to domestic and international markets.

The company said its board had decided to buy over two acres of land and a 74,082 square feet building from Sajida Foundation at Kaliakoir, Gazipur.

The purchase cost excludes registration, said Renata in a posting on Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

"We are buying the land as part of our expansion," said Company Secretary Zubayer Alam. Renata shares declined 0.74 per cent to Tk 1,160 yesterday at the DSE.

The drug maker said its turnover rose 13 per cent to Tk 1,419 crore in the July-December period of the financial year 2020-21 from Tk 1,235 crore in the same period a year ago.

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## Pandemic leaves little impact on steel, cement makers

Their profits rise in the second half of 2020

AHSAN HABIB and JAGARAN CHAKMA

Leading steel, cement and paint companies related to the construction sector witnessed higher profits in the July-December period of the current financial year despite the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Although industry insiders fear that they will face 30 per cent lower profits from the July-December period, the reality is different as profits came mainly due to higher demand from government development projects.

Among five listed cement manufacturers, three saw higher profits, one returned to profits and the last incurred a loss albeit on a lower extent compared to that in the same period the previous year.

Meanwhile, all listed steel mills booked higher profits while multinational Berger Paints, also witnessed higher profits in the period.

Sales volumes significantly increased during the last quarter



Post-Covid demand for steel and cement was high because of the resumption of construction work in public and private sectors.

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as the demand for cement increased when all development activities resumed, according to Mohamad Amirul Haque, managing director of Premier Cement.

"Besides, rural demand is also bouncing back as all rural economic activities are going on in full swing," he said.

Premier Cement booked almost double its half-yearly profits compared to that in the same period of the previous year. Its earnings per share was Tk 2.51 in the July-December period of 2020-21, which was Tk 1.16 previously.

"We did not increase the price of cement to make profit since it is not fair but we want to make profit through improving efficiency," Haque added.

According to the managing director, as a businessperson he always tries to protect consumers' interests and ensure quality products.

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