

STOCKS		COMMODITIES		ASIAN MARKETS				CURRENCIES			
DSEX	CSCX	Gold	Oil	MUMBAI	TOKYO	SINGAPORE	SHANGHAI	USD	EUR	GBP	CNY
0.30%	0.12%	\$1,757.60	\$84.14	0.13%	1.60%	0.68%	0.01%	84.65	96.93	114.60	12.92
7,345.57	12,904.83	(per ounce)	(per barrel)	60,135.78	28,498.20	3,113.49	3,591.71	BUY TK	100.73	118.40	13.58
								SELL TK			

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RECOVERING BAD LOANS

State banks far away from targets

AKM ZAMIR UDDIN

The Bangladesh Bank yesterday ordered four state banks to speed up cash recovery from defaulters as their record in realising delinquent loans has remained dismal.

In addition, the central bank asked them to take prompt measures to bolster the capital base since they have been facing a capital shortfall for a long time.

The four state-run lenders – Sonali, Janata, Agrani and Rupali – were also asked to invest their excess liquidity to make a profit.

The BB gave the instructions at a quarterly meeting as part of its memoranda of understanding with the four banks. Governor Fazle Kabir presided over the meeting at the central bank headquarters, where the managing directors of the lenders were present.

The central bank had set a loan recovery target of Tk 1,610 crore from the top defaulters of the banks for 2021. But they got back only Tk 53.38 crore as of June.

Similarly, the banks recovered Tk 320 crore from other defaulters in contrast to an annual target of Tk 1,700 crore, according to data from the central bank.

Non-performing loans (NPLs) at the lenders stood at Tk 43,836 crore, which accounted for 45 per cent of the total bad loans in the banking industry in Bangladesh.

The BB asked the banks to beef up efforts to recover the delinquent loans as their performance has so far been dismal to this end, said three central bankers.

Md Abdus Salam Azad, managing director of Janata Bank, said the central bank had instructed them to recover NPLs by initiating effective drive.

The banking regulator also asked the banks to avoid seeking regulatory forbearance related to keeping required provisioning against the NPLs and unclassified loans.

READ MORE ON B3

Leather goods export exceeds pre-pandemic level

JAGARAN CHAKMA

Exports of leather and leather products from Bangladesh exceeded the pre-pandemic level in the first quarter of the current fiscal year as Western economies reopened following extended coronavirus pandemic-induced closures, pushing up demand.

Manufacturers shipped leather and leather products worth \$271.34 million from July to September, up 21 per cent from \$225.15 million in the same period last fiscal year, data from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) showed.

The receipts were 6.66 per cent higher than \$254.39 million recorded in the same three-month period of FY2019-20.

Exporters fetched \$324.62 million in the July-September quarter in FY2017-18, the highest in five years.

But the shipment declined in the following years for a loss of consumers' appetite for leather goods and a lack of environmental compliance by local firms. The pandemic hit the sector hard, prompting the exports to plummet.

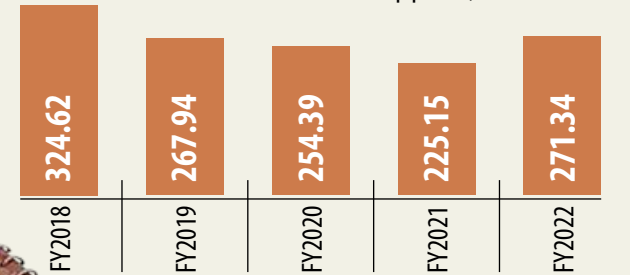
In the first quarter of FY22, leather exports rose 33.29 per cent, leather products 33.34 per cent, and leather footwear 13.72 per cent, EPB data showed.

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EXPORT OF LEATHER AND LEATHER GOODS

Jul-Sep period; In million \$



SOURCE: EPB

REASONS BEHIND THE RISE

- Buyers of the USA and Japan increased export order
- Lockdown lifted in almost all export destinations
- Non-leather footwear exporters fared better
- Bangladesh explored more non-traditional markets

RECOVERY FROM TOP 20 DEFAULTERS

In crore taka

SOURCE: BB

Bank	Target for 2021	Recovery till June	In % of recovery
Sonali	350	10	3
Janata	800	7	1
Agrani	240	36	15
Rupali	220	0.38	0.17



BB has instructed us to speed up cash recovery from defaulters and lend to good borrowers.

MD ABDUS SALAM AZAD, MD OF JANATA BANK

FOR INQUIRIES CALL US AT 16704



dbi CERAMICS

Capital market can help achieve SDGs: experts

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The stock market, insurance and pension funds could actively contribute in financing the roughly \$928 billion needed by Bangladesh to achieve its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within 2030 as bank lending alone will not suffice, various experts told a webinar yesterday.

The country needs an additional \$928.48 billion from 2017 to 2030 to implement the SDGs, as per the findings of a recent study.

The webinar on "Sustainable Finance in Bangladesh: Strategies and Options for Implementation" was organised by the Bangladesh Association of Publicly Listed Companies (BAPLC).

"Bangladesh aims to meet its SDG targets within this period but we need a wonderful economy with strong foundation to this end," said Prof Shibli Rubayat Ul Islam, chairman of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC).

The banking sector alone cannot supply the long-term finance needed as it puts undue pressure on the

industry whereas the stock market, insurance and pension funds could be a remedy in this regard.

Besides, the BSEC has worked to make the bond, mutual funds and secondary stock markets more vibrant.

As such, the domestic stock market has a variety of fundraising boards, such as the alternative trading board and SME board aside from the main board.

"We are bringing new products also so that the stock market can be a strong source of sustainable finance," Islam said.

Eunusur Rahman, chairman of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), said Bangladesh would need around Tk 78,92,000 crore within 2030 to achieve the SDGs.

In other words, about Tk 480,000 crore is required annually for this period. "So, how can this fund be financed?" Rahman asked.

Since the banking sector is suffering from a high rate of non-performing loans, it will be unable to provide adequate financing.

Similarly, the insurance sector is also not a viable option but here, the

stock market has huge potential.

When people are confident about the market, it can make big contributions as proven in recent times with market capitalisation at the DSE having risen by more than Tk 220,000 crore in the last one year.

"So, a huge financing demand can be met by the stock market if well performing private sector companies come to the market to raise funds," the DSE chairman said.

"Apart from the five basic needs, finance for entrepreneurship should be considered as a basic need of the people but we cannot ensure finance for all," he added.

Bangladesh's GDP to market capitalisation ratio is still very low at 21 per cent while it is 76 per cent in neighbouring India.

"So there is a huge opportunity to enlarge the market and source of financing," said Shaikh Shamsuddin Ahmed, a commissioner of the BSEC.

The number of listed companies in the country, which currently stands at about 390, should be increased as well.

READ MORE ON B3

Osman re-elected BKMEA president uncontested

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

AKM Salim Osman, president of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), has again been elected to the top post of the trade body unopposed.

"There was no opposition in the election of the BKMEA this time. So, the election commission announced the 35-member panel of Salim Osman elected on Sunday," said Mohammad Hatem, first vice president of BKMEA. This is the sixth consecutive time Osman has been made chief of the knitters' platform, four of which were unopposed.

The last time a contest took place in the BKMEA election was in 2012 when Md Fazlul Haque, managing director of Narayanganj-based Plummy Fashions Ltd, also ran for presidency. Osman, a member of the parliament, also won in the election of 2010.

This time, the election was scheduled to be held both in its Dhaka and Narayanganj offices on November 30, said Hatem, for whom a new post has been created in the BKMEA organogram for the first time.

Hatem is now an executive president. The new post was created in recognition of the hard work Hatem put in for the BKMEA for a long time with Osman.



AKM Salim Osman

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No tax fair this year: NBR

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Individual taxpayers will have to submit their income tax returns at tax offices this year too as the annual tax fair will not be held this time to avoid mass gatherings amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) took the decision in a meeting on October 7 regarding facilitating submission of tax returns.

The idea of holding a tax fair was to motivate people into paying taxes and increasing the country's tax-GDP ratio, one of the lowest globally.

The initiative created a lot of enthusiasm among taxpayers to furnish returns at the fair.

The tax authority said it would create festive environment in all field offices of taxes from November 1 to November

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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Govt eyes \$2b exports in 2yrs

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The agriculture ministry plans to double export earnings from fresh vegetables, fruits, processed spices and foods to \$2 billion in the next two years by addressing bottlenecks faced by exporters, according to a draft plan.

The initiative comes as export receipts from overall agricultural sector crossed \$1 billion for the first time in fiscal 2020-21, buoyed by a surge in shipment of dry foods and spices apart from fresh vegetables, fruits and other foods.

To attain the goal, the draft roadmap said works were in progress to ensure a dedicated gate at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for entry of fresh farm produce alongside a scanner.

Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) has taken steps to increase the capacity of the airport's cold storage by 120 tonnes. The government has also taken

up an initiative to set up globally accredited lab in order to increase export of agricultural goods, which brought \$550 million in export earnings five years ago.

The Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM), an agency under the agriculture ministry, has also set up an export cell.

Meanwhile the agriculture ministry has also established a cell to implement Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)-2020 at the ministry, said the draft roadmap placed at a meeting at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (Barc).

"We are in surplus in various crops and this has created prospects for exporting vegetables, potato and fruits. We want to export our surplus crops abroad. This is why, we are working to remove the bottlenecks," said Agriculture Minister Muhammad Abdur Razaque at the event.

"Our preparation is almost complete," he added.

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EXPORT FORECAST FOR AGRO-PRODUCTS

FY'21: \$1,028m*
FY'22: \$1,634m
FY'23: \$2,001m

*Actual, EPB



BARRIERS TO EXPORT

- Absence of suitable variety for export
- Lack of hygiene and quality products
- Inadequate cargo space in planes
- Lack of cold storage at airport
- Absence of lab to do required tests
- Lack of accredited lab



STEPS TAKEN TO INCREASE EXPORT

- Work underway to establish dedicated gate and scanner at airport
- Expansion of BADC's cold storage capacity by 120 tonnes
- Process underway to set up accredited lab
- Opening an export cell at DAM
- A cell at ministry to implement good agricultural practices
- Issuance of online quarantine certificates

Trade thru 5 land ports suspended for Puja

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Trade through Banglabandha, Hili, Birol, Sonahat and Burimari land ports is set to remain suspended for six days beginning yesterday for Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of the Hindu community in Bangladesh and neighbouring India.

Exporters, importers and clearing and forwarding agents of both countries on Saturday decided to stay off work during the period, reports our correspondents in Dinajpur and Thakurgaon.

However, immigration services will be available. Trade will resume on October 17.

Banglabandha land port is in Panchagarh, Hili and Birol in Dinajpur, Sonahat in Kurigram and Burimari in Lalmonirhat.



Mohammed Monirul Moula, managing director of Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd, yesterday inaugurated the lender's 375th branch on Kalibari Bazar Road, Palashbari in Gaibandha. Muhammad Qaisar Ali, additional managing director of IBBL, Md Mahboob Alam, senior executive vice-president, Miftah Uddin, executive vice-president, Md Abdus Sobhan, head of the Bogura zone, AKM Moksed Chowdhury Bidyut, chairman of Palashbari Upazila Parishad, Md Kamruzzaman, upazila nirbahi officer, and Md Golam Sarwar Biplob, mayor of Palashbari municipality, were also present.

Asian markets mostly up as traders keep eye on inflation

AFP, Hong Kong
Most Asian markets rose on Monday to extend last week's rally after US lawmakers averted a painful debt default, but another jump in oil prices added to inflation concerns as the Federal Reserve prepares to taper its ultra-loose monetary policy.

A big miss on US jobs creation last month did little to change expectations that the Fed will start winding back its massive bond-buying programme as it looks to keep a cap on price rises just as the global recovery shows signs of slowing.

The US Labor Department said just 194,000 new posts were taken up last month, less than half what was forecast, owing to weakness in the service sector, though there was an upward revision to gains in the

previous two months.

"Notwithstanding the soft payrolls headline, the inner strength in the report suggests the numbers have passed the Fed's test for a 'reasonable enough' report to allow for a... tapering announcement in November," said National Australia Bank's Rodrigo Catril.

Wall Street's three main indexes ended in the red, but Asia fared much better in early exchanges on Monday.

Tokyo was boosted after new Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said he was not considering hiking capital gains tax any time soon, soothing investor worries that the government was planning such a move.

A rise in the dollar to a three-year high against the yen -- on expectations for tighter US monetary policy -- provided added support.

Hong Kong jumped two percent with tech firms enjoying some much-needed buying after China fined food delivery giant Meituan less than expected over monopolistic practices.

The firm ended up more than eight percent, e-commerce giant Alibaba climbed 7.9 percent, while gaming firm XD put on more than nine percent.

Singapore, Mumbai and Manila also enjoyed gains, though Bangkok, Sydney and Wellington dipped. Shanghai was flat. London and Paris rose in morning trade, but Frankfurt slipped.

The broad advances built on Friday's positive performance that came in the wake of news that Democrats and Republicans had agreed a deal to lift the US debt ceiling to avoid an economically catastrophic default.

China has won AI battle with US

Pentagon's ex-software chief says

REUTERS, London
China has won the artificial intelligence battle with the United States and is heading towards global dominance because of its technological advances, the Pentagon's former software chief told the Financial Times.

China is likely to dominate many of the key emerging technologies, particularly artificial intelligence, synthetic biology and genetics within a decade or so, according to Western intelligence assessments.

Nicolas Chaillan, the Pentagon's first chief software officer who resigned in protest against the slow pace of technological transformation in the US military, said the failure to respond was putting the United States at risk.

"We have no competing fighting chance against China in 15 to 20 years. Right now, it's already a done deal; it is already over in my opinion," he said. told the newspaper.

Still no decision on whether IMF chief keeps her job

AFP, Washington
The International Monetary Fund said Sunday it still had not decided whether its embattled chief would keep her job, with the lack of clarity over Kristalina Georgieva's future threatening to overshadow the body's fall meetings this week.

An investigation by a law firm has concluded that the Bulgarian managing director manipulated data in favor of China while in a senior role at the World Bank.

The IMF board met again with representatives of the firm, WilmerHale, and with Georgieva over the weekend.

The board said in a statement published late Sunday that it made "further significant progress today in its assessment with a view to very soon concluding its consideration of the matter".

committee called in the law firm when the report proved controversial, and led to the resignation of the bank's former chief economist Paul Romer.

WilmerHale found that Georgieva -- along with her associate Simeon Djankov, a former Bulgarian finance minister who created the "Doing Business" report, and Jim Yong Kim, then president of the World Bank -- pressured staff to change the calculation of China's ranking to avoid angering Beijing.

The push came while bank leadership was engaged in sensitive negotiations with Beijing over increasing the bank's lending capital.



KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA
IMF MANAGING DIRECTOR

Georgieva -- who took over as head of the fund in October 2019 -- has repeatedly denied the WilmerHale report's conclusions. There was no immediate reaction from her on Sunday.

Her fate divides members of the IMF, with Europe and Africa wanting her to stay in post, while the United States and Japan are reluctant to see her continue, according to several sources familiar with the matter.



Azharul Islam, chief executive officer of Ace Autos Private Ltd, cuts a ribbon to inaugurate the company's third nationwide service campaign of motor vehicle brand Haval, at the firm's head office in Dhaka recently. Jan Van Der Poorten, CEO of Expo Freight, Elahi Manzurul Haque, general manager of Ha-Meem Group, Ghazi Mamunur Rashid, deputy general manager of Evercare Hospital Dhaka, and Brig Gen (Retd) Nasim Akhter, were also present.

UAE, Syria agree to enhance economic cooperation

REUTERS, Cairo
The United Arab Emirates' economy ministry said on Sunday that the Gulf state and Syria had agreed on future plans to enhance economic cooperation and explore new sectors.

The ministry wrote on Twitter that the value of non-oil trade between the two countries in the first half of 2021 was one billion dirhams (\$272 million).

The UAE re-opened its mission to Damascus in late 2018 in a bid to counter the influence of non-Arab actors like Iran, which along with Russia backs Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, and Turkey, which backs rebel forces.

Office of the Executive Engineer
Gopalganj O&M Division
BWDB, Gopalganj
E-mail: xen.bwdb.gopalganj@gmail.com

Invitation for e-Tender No. 03/2021-2022

1	Invitation Ref. No.	: 42.01.3500.474.14.005.21-995; Date: 10/10/2021.
2	Tender ID (from e-GP Portal)	: 617837, 617836, 617834, 617833 & 618741.
3	Package No. and works description:	
	(a) WGIWMP-II_MBR_PW-10.	River Bank Protective Work along the Right bank of MBR Channel from km 1.930 to km 2.130 = 200m at Sanpukuria, Upazila-Gopalganj Sadar, Dist-Gopalganj in C/W 'West Gopalganj Integrated Water Management Project (Phase-II)' under Gopalganj O&M Division, BWDB, Gopalganj during the year 2021-2022.
	(b) WGIWMP-II_MBR_PW-06.	River Bank Protective Work along the Right Bank of MBR Channel from km 0.000 to km 0.300 = 300m at Manikhar, Upazila-Gopalganj Sadar, Dist: Gopalganj under Gopalganj O&M Division, BWDB Gopalganj in C/W 'West Gopalganj Integrated Water Management Project (Phase-II)' during the year 2021-2022.
	(c) WGIWMP-II_MBR_PW-05.	River Bank Protective Work along the Right Bank of MBR Channel from km 0.000 to km 0.200 = 200m at Madhupur (Mukimpur-Manikhar), Union-Urfi in Upazila-Gopalganj Sadar, Dist: Gopalganj under Gopalganj O&M Division, BWDB Gopalganj in C/W 'West Gopalganj Integrated Water Management Project (Phase-II)' during the year 2021-2022.
	(d) WGIWMP-II_MBR_PW-03.	River Bank Protective Work along the Left Bank of Madhumati River from km 0.000 to km 0.250 = 250m at Dubshi Mollapara, Upazila-Gopalganj Sadar, Dist: Gopalganj under Gopalganj O&M Division, BWDB Gopalganj in C/W 'West Gopalganj Integrated Water Management Project (Phase-II)' during the year 2021-2022.
	(e) WGIWMP-II_RE_KHAL_05.	Re-excavation of Bamunia-Katakhal Khal from km 0.000 to km 1.700 = 1.700 km, Nawhata Khal from km 0.000 to km 1.000 = 1.000 km and Tungbari Khal from km 0.000 to km 0.550 = 0.550 km (total = 3.250 km) at Upazila-Muksudpur, District-Gopalganj in c/w 'West Gopalganj Integrated Water Management Project (Phase-II)' under Gopalganj O&M Division, BWDB, Gopalganj during the year 2021-2022.
4	This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. For more details please contact Support Desk contact number (01762625528-31, e-mail: helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) from 9:00am to 17:00pm.	
5	The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to banking hours.	
6	Last selling date & time	10-Nov-2021, 12:00
	Closing date & time	10-Nov-2021, 16:00 to 16:20
7	e-Tender document price	Stated in the e-GP Tender Notice and to be deposited through e-GP Portal.
8	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all or any tenders and work may increase/decrease or totally dropped without assigning any reason.	

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GD-1822

Md. Faizur Rahman
Executive Engineer
Gopalganj O&M Division
BWDB, Gopalganj

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Cox's Bazar.
www.lged.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার শ্রুতীতি
১০০
শ্রম শক্তির উন্নতি

Dated : 10/10/2021

Memo No. 46.02.0022.000.14.001.21/ 6463

e-Tender Notice-08/2021-22

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents of following Packages from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks' branches up to Date and Time given below.

Sl No.	Package No	Name of Works	Tendering Method	Tender ID	Last Date & Time of Selling Documents	Last Date & Time of Submission Documents
1.	GCHDP-WD-VZR-COX-SADA-21/01	Development of By Pass Nurul Alam Co.House -(Ghatta Khal) Raj Ghat Road By HBB at Ch: 00m - 630m, Under Sadar Upazila, District: Cox's Bazar.[Road ID: 422244072] [Salvage Materials Cost: 2,06,698.00]	LTM	612923	25-10-2021 17:00	26-10-2021 15:00
2.	GCHDP-WD-VZR-COX-CHAK-MAIN-NEW-21/01	Maintenance of Dulahazara - Malumghat RHD Road By BC at Ch: 920m-2080m, Under Chakaria Upazila, District: Cox's Bazar. [Road ID: 422164104]	LTM	618624	25-10-2021 17:00	26-10-2021 15:00
3.	GCHDP-WD-VZR-COX-KUTU-21/05	Development of Shah Alam Sikder Para Road By HBB at Ch: 00m - 220m, Under Kutubdia Upazila, District: Cox's Bazar. [Road ID: 422455069] [Salvage Materials Cost: 3,68,628.00]	LTM	612924	25-10-2021 17:00	26-10-2021 15:00
4.	GCP-3/cox/WD-92	Development of Joarijala Sowdagurpara Road by BC at Ch: 500m-1500m, Under Ramu Upazila, District: Cox's Bazar. [Road ID: 422664001] [Salvaged Materials Cost : 3,54,909.00]	LTM	612919	25-10-2021 17:00	26-10-2021 15:00
5.	GCP-3/cox/SWD-93	Improvement of Dula Fakir Mazar Road by Uni-Block at Ch: 00m-575m, Under Sadar Upazila, District: Cox's Bazar. [Road ID: 422244033] [Salvaged Materials Cost : 3,71,037.00]	LTM	616918	25-10-2021 17:00	26-10-2021 15:00
6.	FDR/Cox/21-22/UZR/W-29	Rehabilitation of Zagiraghona - Fakirghona Road from Ch: 00m-1510 & 2878m-3015m, Under Upazila: Moheshkhali, District: Cox's Bazar. [Road ID: 422494001]	LTM	618712	25-10-2021 17:00	26-10-2021 15:00
7.	GCP-3/cox/SWD-83	Improvement of Middle Esakhali Road (Choddo Kaniya Para Road) By Uni Block Pavement at Ch: 00m-1750m. [Road ID: 422245053] Under Sadar Upazila, District: Cox's Bazar. [Salvage Cost: Taka-2,69,146.00]	OSTETM	612920	08-11-2021 17:00	09-11-2021 15:00

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Md. Anisur Rahman)
Executive Engineer
Local Government Engineering Department
District: Cox's Bazar.

GD-1816

North-West Power Generation Company Ltd.
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & OHSAS 45001:2018 Certified
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Office of the Plant Manager (Superintending Engineer)
Sirajganj 225 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant (Unit-3)
NWPGL, Soyadabad, Sirajganj-6700.

Ref: 27.28.8878.301.07.001.20.156

e-Tender Notice Date: 11/10/2021

The following e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd):

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Brief Description of Tender	Publication Date & Time	Last Selling Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
1	616985	Procurement of Spares for GT Base Module.	10/10/2021, 10:00 AM	31/10/2021, 3:00 PM	01/11/2021, 11:00 AM
2	617214	Procurement of different types of Transducer and Variable Frequency Converter.	10/10/2021, 10:00 AM	31/10/2021, 03:00 PM	01/11/2021, 12:00 PM
3	617215	Procurement of Spare for Firefighting system.	10/10/2021, 10:00 AM	01/11/2021, 03:00 PM	02/11/2020, 2:00 PM
4	617217	Procurement of spares for GT Speed and Flame monitoring system.	10/10/2021, 10:00 AM	01/11/2021, 03:00 PM	02/11/2021, 10:00 AM
5	618194	Procurement of Special tools for Mechanical Maintenance.	10/10/2021, 10:00 AM	01/11/2021, 03:00 PM	02/11/2020, 2:00 PM
6	618195	Procurement of Spares for Cooling Tower.	11/10/2021, 10:00 AM	01/11/2021, 03:00 PM	02/11/2021, 10:00 AM

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and e-GP Help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Shyamal Kumar Das)
Plant Manager (S.E)
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NWPGL, Soyadabad, Sirajganj-6700.
Contact No.: + 880177736401

GD-1817

Stocks fall as investors cash out profits

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Shares on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) dropped yesterday as investors cashed out profits.

The DSEX, the benchmark index of the premier bourse of the country, fell 22 points, or 0.3 per cent, to close the day at 7,345.

Turnover, one of the key indicators of the market, decreased 5.8 per cent to Tk 1,848 crore. It was Tk 1,962 crore a session earlier.

The stocks slipped into the red as the investors opted for booking quick gains on sector-specific issues, according to an analysis of International Leasing Securities Ltd.

The key index touched the 7,400-point mark within the first hour of the trading. But the momentum did not sustain amid sales pressure induced by the profit-

amounting to Tk 138 crore transacted. Orion Pharmaceuticals, Beximco Ltd, IFIC Bank, and Power Grid also saw heavy transactions.

Shepherd Industries topped the gainers' list rising 9.65 per cent followed by ICB Islamic Bank, Tamijuddin Textiles, Kattali Textiles, and Aman Feed.

Metro Spinning shed the most, giving up 8.94 per cent followed by Prime Finance, Keya Cosmetics, Eastern Insurance, and Asia Insurance.

The shares on the Chittagong Stock Exchange also posted a decline.

The CASPI, the general index of the bourse in the port city, dropped 27 points, or 0.12 per cent, to end the day at 21,488.

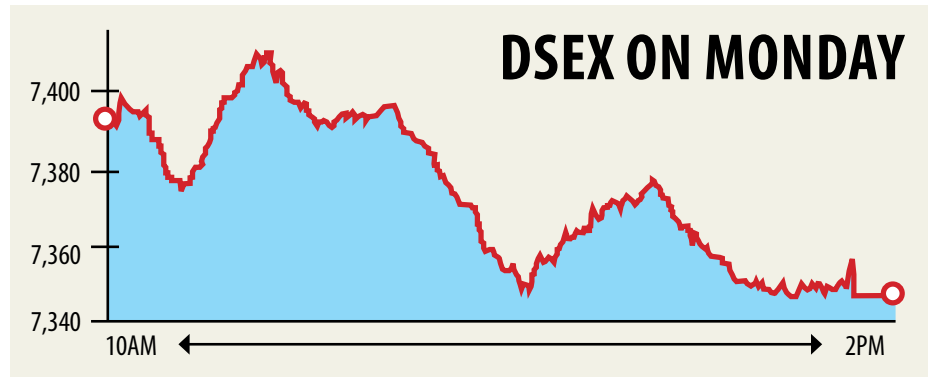
Among 310 issues traded, 99 advanced, 190 fell, and 21 remained unchanged.

METRO SPINNING'S PROFIT SURGES 12 TIMES



Locally grown malta is being sold for between Tk 90 and Tk 120 per kilogramme depending on the size and variety while the imported ones cost Tk 220 per kg.

PHOTO: STAR



booking during the remaining period of the session.

Risk-averse investors cashed profits on paper, travel, services, telecom, fuel and power stocks, which had seen an upward movement in the prices in the past few sessions.

However, the optimistic investors took position on mutual funds, textile, food, bank and engineering sectors, the analysis said.

Losers took a strong lead over the gainers: out of 376 issues traded, 259 ended lower, 97 higher, and 20 remained unchanged on the DSE.

LafargeHolcim Bangladesh was the most-traded stock with its securities

The spinning company reported earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 0.99 for the year ended on June 30, up from Tk 0.08 a year ago, an increase of 1,137 per cent.

The board of the firm recommended a five per cent stock dividend for the financial year.

MAKSONS SPINNING RETURNS TO PROFIT

Maksons Spinning Mills Ltd returned to profit in the last financial year that ended on June 30.

The company posted an EPS of Tk 2.07 in 2020-21, which was Tk 0.37 in the negative in the previous year. The board recommended an 11 per cent cash dividend for the year.

Northern malta growers grab hold of domestic market

Locally grown oranges now preferred over imported variety, sources say

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, Thakurgaon

Sweet orange grown in the country's northern districts such as Thakurgaon, Panchagarh and Dinajpur are dominating the local fruit market this season thanks to increased demand and reasonable prices.

Besides, fruit traders prefer to sell the locally produced sweet orange (Citrus sinensis), commonly known as malta in Bangladesh, as they can collect it as per their requirements directly from various orchards in the region.

This is comparatively cheaper than selling the imported varieties while consumers also prefer the preservative-free, locally sourced options.

Malta is being sold for between Tk 90 to Tk 120 per kilogramme (kg) depending on the size and variety while the imported ones cost Tk 220 per kg in local markets.

People are seemingly more interested in the

DISTRICTS IN FOCUS

locally grown malta rather than the imported ones since the local variety comes at reasonable prices and are preservative free, said Aminul Islam, a fruit trader of Kalibari in Thakurgaon municipality.

When this year's harvesting season began, local orchards were selling malta for about Tk 2,400 to Tk 2,800 per maund (around 37 kgs) while the price is now between Tk 3,600 to Tk 3,800 per maund, he added.

Lal Mia, a fruit trader of Badupara colony in Thakurgaon sadar upazila, spoke of Bari Malta-1, one of two varieties of sweet oranges developed through rootstock by the Horticulture Research Center at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (Bari) in 2005.

This variety is seeing higher demand than previous years as people no longer doubt its quality, he said.

When the harvesting began, Mia collected the fruit from orchards and supplied retailers for a good profit this year.

Other than the country's northern region, traders ship the vitamin-rich fruit all over Bangladesh, he said.

Malta was cultivated on 85 hectares of land in Panchagarh, 80 hectares in Thakurgaon and 77 hectares in Dinajpur with an expected production target of about 1,340 tonnes in the current season, according to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE).

At the national level, about 1,324 acres of land across the country were brought under malta cultivation in fiscal 2019-20, when 2,266 tonnes of the fruit were produced.

READ MORE ON B3

GLOBAL BUSINESS

Corporate business travel's carbon budgets loom for airlines

REUTERS, Sydney

As major companies look at drastic ways to cut carbon emissions from corporate travel, airlines are bracing for a major hit to business-class travel, a key revenue driver, industry executives and experts say.

Several companies, such as HSBC, Zurich Insurance, Bain & Company and S&P Global, have already announced plans to quickly cut business travel emissions by as much as 70 per cent.

Some are considering a "carbon budget" as they come under growing pressure from environmental advocates and investors to reduce indirect emissions that contribute to climate change. Flights account for about 90 per cent of business travel emissions. That makes it the lowest-hanging fruit for companies setting reductions targets.

The airline industry last week committed to reach "net zero" emissions by 2050 at a meeting in Boston, decades beyond the



A traveller walks past a Christmas tree as he makes his way through the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Arlington, Virginia.

REUTERS/FILE

corporate travel emissions cut targets. "It's going to be hard on airlines and they're going to need to adapt," Kit Brennan, co-founder of London-based Thrust Carbon, which is advising S&P and other clients on setting up carbon budgets.

"I think what we're going to see, funnily enough, is more of an unbundling of business class where you might get all perks of business class without the seat," he said, referring to airport lounges and nicer meals.

"Because ultimately it all comes down to the area on the aircraft and it takes up."

Flying business class emits about three times as much carbon as economy class because the seats take up more room and more of them are empty, according to a World Bank study.

Pre-pandemic, about 5 per cent of international passengers globally flew in premium classes, accounting for 30 per cent of international revenue, according to airline group IATA.

China vows to include biodiversity in economic plans

REUTERS, Kunming, China

China will incorporate biodiversity protection in development plans in all regions and sectors, Vice Premier Han Zheng said on Monday at the opening of UN talks aimed at making progress on a global deal to halt mass extinction.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, executive secretary of the UN Convention on Biological Protection, told the opening of the meeting in the city of Kunming, that the world had reached "a moment of truth" when it comes to protecting its ecosystems.

China has vowed to protect nature a priority after decades of rapid development and urbanisation devastated ecosystems, put dozens of species on the brink of extinction and raised the risk of lethal zoonotic diseases like Covid-19.

After an opening ceremony featuring an ethnic minority musical performance and a film lauding the safe migration of 15 Asian elephants across southwest China this year, Han said China would "make sure its important species and ecological resources were fully protected".

"We will formulate a national biodiversity protection strategy and action plan for the new era, incorporate biodiversity protection in mid- and long-term development plans of all regions and sectors as an important task," he said.

The biodiversity talks, known as "COP15", are aimed at building momentum for the signing of a new global biodiversity treaty on reversing massive species loss after countries failed to achieve any of the targets set in Aichi, Japan, in 2010.

Han also said China was committed to international cooperation on conservation, including in connection with its extensive and controversial Belt and Road Initiative, aimed at building infrastructure and energy links through Asia to the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

Experts worry about the environmental impact of China's economic ambitions around the world. "We need to make sure that China's pledge for biodiversity includes the impact internationally," said Nathalie Seddon, Professor of Biodiversity at the University of Oxford.

"It is one thing cleaning up supply chains within China but the biggest impacts they have on biodiversity are arguably outside China, in the Afro-Tropics, in South America," she added, noting China's huge demand for soybeans and growing demand for imported beef.

Mrema warned the world had not achieved the necessary breakthroughs from 2011-2020 and was not yet able to safeguard the ecosystem services key to human wellbeing. She said it was vital that a new deal should show the necessary ambition to put biodiversity on the road to recovery by 2030 at the latest.

No solution in UK gov't talks with industry on gas prices

AFF, London

The British government and industry are still trying to solve an energy crisis that bosses have warned could shut down production in a matter of days, business secretary Kwasi Kwarteng said on Sunday.

Faced with spiking global energy prices driven by fears over high winter bills, Kwarteng told broadcaster Sky News there was no plan so far for heavy industry, but added he was "very confident" in the resilience of the UK's energy supply. "I can't promise anything as yet," Kwarteng said.

"I can't come on your programme and say that we're going to have a price cap, because we're trying to work out what the nature of that support might be."

Heavy industry bosses in sectors like ceramics, paper and steel manufacturing have called for a price cap, but talks with government on Friday failed to reach a solution. The same day, UK Steel chief Gareth Stace called on the government to step in now to alleviate pressure on wholesale prices, saying action in a matter of weeks would be too late.

Yellen confident Congress will pass minimum global corporate tax

REUTERS, Washington

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said on Sunday she was confident the US Congress would approve legislation to implement the global corporate minimum tax agreed by 136 countries.

Yellen said the actions to bring the United States into compliance with the global minimum tax would likely be included in the so-called reconciliation budget bill containing President Joe Biden's proposed spending initiatives.

Asked on ABC's "This Week" whether she was confident the measure would get through, Yellen said: "Yes. I am confident that what we need to do to come into compliance with the minimum tax will be included in a reconciliation package. I hope that

we, that it will be passed and we will be able to reassure the world that the United States will do its part."

The parliamentary maneuver known as budget reconciliation would allow Democrats to act without Republican votes. A group of 136 countries on Friday set a minimum global tax rate of 15 per cent for big companies and sought to make it harder for them to avoid taxation in a landmark deal that Biden said leveled the playing field.

Treasury officials and tax experts have said that the global minimum tax would not require a treaty to implement and could be achieved in the reconciliation bill because it is a voluntary agreement among countries to individually impose a minimum tax on overseas earnings of corporations. The United States has had such a

minimum tax since the end of 2017, so it is a matter of raising the rate to conform with the agreement.

Treasury officials have said they regard the global minimum tax as less controversial than a higher overall corporate tax rate or a higher capital gains tax, because it puts the United States on a more competitive footing with other countries.

The US Chamber of Commerce said it will review details of the Biden administration proposals closely.

"We remain especially concerned about the cumulative impact of the (global minimum tax) proposal and the tax changes being sought by the administration as part of the reconciliation bill pending before Congress, Neil Bradley, the chamber's chief policy officer, said in a statement.