

Bata posts Tk 10cr loss in Q2 as store vandalism hits sales

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bata Shoe, one of Bangladesh's leading footwear manufacturers, reported a loss of approximately Tk 10 crore for the April-June quarter of the current year, as sales declined sharply following the widespread disruption and damage to several of its retail outlets, the company has said.

The listed multinational shoe producer's sales plummeted by 39 percent to Tk 158 crore in the quarter, according to its half-yearly financial reports published yesterday.

The company had logged profits of Tk 19 crore in the same quarter last year.

"Several retail locations were affected by acts of vandalism, which disrupted operations and had a material impact on financial performance," said the company regarding the quarterly loss.

In mid-April, several retail stores of Bata Shoe were vandalised in the country while countrywide protest programmes in solidarity with the global strike for Palestine were held.

The company, however, said it remained focused on recovery and customer engagement. Net operating cash flow per share was high due to better working capital management.

"We were especially encouraged by the renewed wave of support and strong consumer traction seen during the Eid ul-Azha season," said the Managing Director of Bata Bangladesh, Debabrata Mukherjee.

"It reaffirmed our longstanding relationship with customers and business partners, a relationship built on trust, resilience, and shared history," he added.

In a press release, the company said the first half of the year presented a mix of strong commercial momentum and unforeseen

operational challenges.

In the first half of 2025, Bata Shoe's profits dropped by 10 percent to Tk 27 crore.

The year began on a positive note, with the Eid season coinciding with the first quarter, Bata Bangladesh said, adding that it successfully leveraged this opportunity through an integrated marketing campaign and the introduction of a new product range that was well received by consumers.

Looking ahead, the company plans to continue to focus on customer experience, innovation, and responsible growth.

Bata is a leading global footwear company, selling over 150 million pairs annually. Founded in 1894 in the Czech Republic, it has a network of over 6,000 stores. In Bangladesh, Bata has been present since 1962 under the name Bata Shoe Company, with over 362 stores and thousands of distribution points.

ESG failure may cost

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"Give us some rigorous, analytical basis for taking action; and bring people together," said Prof Lutfey Siddiqi, special envoy on international affairs to the chief adviser, while addressing the event as the chief guest.

Bangladesh is preparing for the least developed country (LDC) status graduation and navigating increasing global regulatory pressures, said Sanem Executive Director Selim Raihan.

"The question is whether our exporters, policymakers, researchers, and development partners are aligned and ready to meet these challenges—especially new standards around ESG," he said.

These requirements carry costs, and without

proper coordination, those costs may unfairly fall on the most vulnerable, particularly workers, he said.

"Through this centre, we aim to foster collaboration across stakeholders and ensure a just and inclusive transition," he said.

"Analysis from this centre is going to add value to our work," said Md Abdur Rahim Khan, additional secretary (export), export wing, Ministry of Commerce, as the special guest.

"With the changing scenario—when Europe is working on the Green Deal, they are working on digital passports, digital product passports, and other initiatives around global buyers—Bangladesh is, of course, in no position to deny the

need for sustainability and circularity in its supply chain," he added.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Industries, Department of Environment, Energy and Mineral Resources Division, Bangladesh Bank, Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority, and Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority were present.

Officials from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, International Finance Corporation, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, International Labour Organization, and the Food and Agriculture Organization were also present.

deactivated following account closures, while travel quota endorsements and seals must be cancelled in person at branches.

Non-resident customers will have until December 2025 to move their accounts and bonds. The bank said it will allow non-residents to move their accounts and bonds to their preferred bank.

HSBC also asked salary account holders to contact their employers for transfers and assured student file holders of full documentation support at no extra cost.

Updates will be posted regularly on the bank's website, and major changes will be communicated via email or post.

Panel formed

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Yunus' remarks came during a high-level review meeting held at the Office of the Chief Adviser in Tejgaon, which reviewed Bangladesh's preparations for LDC graduation by November 2026. Although the meeting addressed a range of institutional and policy-level updates, the leather sector featured prominently in his comments.

"We have wronged the leather industry," Yunus said during the meeting. "We failed to assess its true value. This sector had the potential to contribute significantly to our economy, but we did not make it happen."

He emphasised that the sector deserves targeted attention to overcome existing bottlenecks and regain global competitiveness.

"We must act in our own economic interest," he said. "Policies and laws that no longer serve us must be reformed. We need to chart a path forward, and these are fundamental tasks. For the sake of our future and economic survival, we must carry them out."

"We cannot afford to transition into a middle-income economy while leaving behind high-potential sectors. The leather industry is a test case of whether we are serious about inclusive, diversified growth," Yunus also said.

The meeting also reviewed progress on several key initiatives, including the implementation of

the Tariff Policy 2023, operational updates on major industrial projects, and inter-agency collaboration on export diversification.

Also speaking at the event, NBR Chairman Md Abdur Rahman Khan reported on the progress of the national single window initiative, which has so far integrated 19 agencies to streamline trade procedures.

He also briefed the meeting on the phased implementation of the Tariff Policy 2023.

Salehuddin Ahmed, economic adviser; Adilur Rahman Khan, industry adviser; Syeda Rizwana Hasan, environment adviser; M Sakkawat Hussain, shipping adviser; Noorjahan Begum, health adviser; Sheikh Abdur Rashid, cabinet secretary; and Ahsan H Mansur, governor of Bangladesh Bank, were also present at the meeting.

Gold firms

REUTERS

Gold prices inched higher on Wednesday, helped by a slight pullback in the dollar as investors awaited the Federal Reserve's policy decision and comments that could offer more cues on the timing of the US central bank's next moves.

Spot gold was up 0.2 percent at \$3,331.03 per ounce, as of 0828 GMT. US gold futures edged 0.1 percent higher to \$3,328.30.

The dollar index eased 0.1 percent after hitting more than a one-month high on Tuesday, making gold less expensive for holders of other currencies.

"There are a range of features that taken together are keeping gold prices moribund. From a geopolitical standpoint we appear to be making progress in the tariff negotiations, but no one is really prepared to commit one way or the other," StoneX analyst Rhona O'Connell said.

Dhaka stocks bounce back

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange closed higher yesterday, rebounding from a three-day losing streak, while turnover also rose.

The DSEX, the main index of the bourse, rose 53.73 points, or 1.01 percent, to settle at 5,352.19.

The other indices also gained before the end of the day's trading. The Shariah compliant DSES went up by 0.61 percent to 1,154.40.

The DS30, comprising blue-chip shares, increased by 1.03 percent to close at 2,065.35. Turnover, a key gauge of investor participation, reached Tk 743.16 crore, up from Tk 717.32 crore in the previous session.

A total of 188,754 trades were executed, while block transactions amounted to Tk 17.16 crore across 30 scrips. Market breadth showed a positive picture, with 253 stocks advancing, 67 declining, and 78 remaining unchanged.

Among A-category scrips, 149 gained, 37 declined, and 34 remained unchanged.

The B-category saw 58 stocks rise and 11 fall, while there was no activity in the N category.

Segment-wise performance was mixed. Among mutual funds, 15 issues advanced and 4 declined.

Corporate bonds saw just one issue decline, while the government bond market recorded four advances and one decline.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH HEADQUARTERS BORDER GUARD BANGLADESH MEDICAL BRANCH, PEELKHANA, DHAKA						e-Tender Notice (Open Tendering Method)		
Reference No : 44.02.1205.006.07.027.25/01						e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement goods as stated below :		
Package No	Name of Goods	Tender ID	Package No	Name of Goods	Tender ID	Package No	Name of Goods	Tender ID
Med-01	Procurement of Medicine-01 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133779	Med-26	Procurement of Medicine-26 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133804	Med-51	Procurement of Medicine-51 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133829
Med-02	Procurement of Medicine-02 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133780	Med-27	Procurement of Medicine-27 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133805	Med-52	Procurement of Medicine-52 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133830
Med-03	Procurement of Medicine-03 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133781	Med-28	Procurement of Medicine-28 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133806	Med-53	Procurement of Medicine-53 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133831
Med-04	Procurement of Medicine-04 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133782	Med-29	Procurement of Medicine-29 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133807	Med-54	Procurement of Medicine-54 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133832
Med-05	Procurement of Medicine-05 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133783	Med-30	Procurement of Medicine-30 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133808	Med-55	Procurement of Medicine-55 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133833
Med-06	Procurement of Medicine-06 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133784	Med-31	Procurement of Medicine-31 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133809	Med-56	Procurement of Medicine-56 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133834
Med-07	Procurement of Medicine-07 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133785	Med-32	Procurement of Medicine-32 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133810	Med-57	Procurement of Medicine-57 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133835
Med-08	Procurement of Medicine-08 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133786	Med-33	Procurement of Medicine-33 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133811	Med-58	Procurement of Medicine-58 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133836
Med-09	Procurement of Medicine-09 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133787	Med-34	Procurement of Medicine-34 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133812	Med-59	Procurement of Medicine-59 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133837
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Med-17	Procurement of Medicine-17 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133795	Med-42	Procurement of Medicine-42 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133820	Med-67	Procurement of Medicine-67 for the Fiscal year 2025-2026	1133845
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