Olympic recommends 35% dividend

Plans Tk 3.38cr land purchase for expansion

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Olympic Industries has recommended a higher dividend even though its earnings fell marginally to Tk 199 crore during the financial year 2025-26 ended on June 30.

The leading biscuits and confectionery maker said it would pay a 35 percent cash dividend to its shareholders for the financial year 2025-26, higher than the 30 percent paid a year earlier, according to a price-sensitive disclosure.

Olympic's earnings per share (EPS) declined marginally to Tk 10 for the year, against Tk 10.06 a year earlier.

The company, which has been buying land in recent years, said it would buy a total of 138 decimals of land in Narayanganj for Tk 3.38 crore to develop facilities to accommodate the future expansion of its operations.

Olympic said its revenue rose by more than 6 percent year on year to Tk 2,955 crore in the financial year 2025-26.

Shares of the company rose 1.26 percent to Tk 141.30 as of 1:27pm yesterday on the Dhaka Stock Exchange.

Sponsors and directors held 37.38 percent of Olympic Industries' shares as of September 30, 2026, while institutional and foreign investors held the remaining shares, according to data from the DSE.



Mohammad Nayeem Akhtar, chief operating officer of Turaag Active, and Md Jafar Sadeq, deputy managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement at the bank's corporate head office in Dhaka yesterday. PHOTO: SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK

Shahjalal Islami Bank cardholders to get discounts on Turaag products

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Shahjalal Islami Bank PLC yesterday signed an agreement with Turaag Active, a performance and lifestyle activewear brand in Bangladesh, to offer discounts on Turaag Active products.

Md Jafar Sadeq, deputy managing director of the bank, and Mohammad Nayeem Akhtar, chief operating officer of the activewear brand, signed the agreement at the bank's corporate head office in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, Shahjalal Islami Bank's Visa debit and credit cardholders will be entitled to a 20 percent discount on purchases from Turaag Active.

AKM Hasan Rahim, head of the human resources division of the bank; Md Khirkil Nowaz, head of retail business; SM Mohiuddin, head of the retail investment department; Md Riad Hossain, head of the cards division; and Md Shafiul Islam, assistant vice-president of the cards division, attended the event.

KM Harunur Rashid, head of public relations and bank foundation, and Mohammad Monsur Rouf, chief operating officer of Wave Riders Ltd, along with senior officials of both organisations, were also present at the signing ceremony.

Consumers

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Amirul said local administrations, law enforcement agencies and consumer rights authorities should take action against retailers charging more than the government-approved prices.

Explaining the operators' role in the supply chain, he said they are responsible for importing, bottling and marketing LPG.

"Many small retailers do not require licences to sell limited quantities of LPG cylinders. So, it is difficult for operators to monitor their activities," he said.

Amirul added that LOAB issued a press release in September warning operators, distributors and retailers against hoarding and price manipulation. He urged the authorities to take legal action against anyone found selling LPG above the approved prices.

At the discussion, the participants cited several reasons for the supply crunch, including volatility in international markets, the limited number of active importers, restrictions on import volumes and, more recently, the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation's decision to import LPG itself.

Amirul, however, said there have been no updates on the BPC imports after its announcement.

Abu Sayed Raza, chief marketing officer of Fresh LPG, said operators are selling cylinders to distributors at government-approved rates, but overcharging is occurring further down the supply chain.

He questioned whether the margins set for distributors and retailers, at Tk 50 and Tk 100 respectively for a 12kg cylinder, are sufficient to cover their operating costs. However, he said this does not justify charging consumers above the approved price.

Abu Sayed said only around 10 of Bangladesh's 23 LPG operators imported the fuel in the previous month, leaving much of the country's storage capacity unused.

Bangladesh has storage capacity of about 178,000 tonnes, against estimated monthly demand of 150,000-160,000 tonnes, he added.

He attributed the decline in imports to inactive operators, saying years of price competition have weakened some companies' ability to continue importing LPG. With fewer companies bringing in cargoes, the sector's storage and bottling capacity may remain underused even as consumers struggle to find cylinders at regulated prices.

Stevan Matheendra De Zoysa, chief operating officer of Omera LPG, said only six to eight of the country's 27-28 registered operators have imported cargoes in recent months because geopolitical disruptions have made supplies harder to secure.

"Consumers are paying 30-40 percent above BERC-approved prices, although Omera is selling at the regulated rate," he said. "Operators have limited control over the final retail price."

The shortage of liquefied natural gas (LNG) has also increased demand for LPG in industry recently, with consumption rising from around 15,000-16,000 tonnes a few months ago to 30,000-32,000 tonnes, Zoysa said.

He said the shift by industries to LPG, along with higher autogas consumption, had pushed up demand, while import volumes have not increased at the same pace.

Matheendra added that, apart from regular importers, most registered operators have lost the capacity to import LPG, further affecting supplies.

Meanwhile, LOAB President Amirul said volatility in international markets and disruptions to supply routes have made it harder to secure cargoes at predictable prices.

He urged the government to allow operators to increase import volumes so they could secure long-term supply contracts instead of relying on the more expensive spot market.

Some operators are paying premiums of around $320 per tonne in the spot market, compared with about $95 under long-term arrangements, Amirul said.

He said operators sought permission to increase their import volumes under the interim government but faced restrictions that prevented them from committing to longer-term purchases.

The operators have also called for land at Moheshkhali to develop terminals, saying that greater storage and import capacity would improve supply security. Amirul urged the government to make such facilities available to multiple companies rather than concentrate the infrastructure in the hands of a single operator.

The industry's explanation of supply constraints and retail overcharging drew criticism from M Shamsul Alam, energy adviser to CAB, who questioned BERC's role in setting prices and addressing complaints.

Shamsul said BERC should have investigated the complaints through its formal dispute-resolution process rather than allowing the dispute to deepen.

He argued that failing to address such complaints leaves distributors caught between the prices charged by suppliers and the rates they are expected to maintain at the retail level.

He also alleged that a handful of companies dominated LPG imports. Citing a report submitted to the government, he said it has reportedly identified five firms as major suppliers and called for an investigation into possible supply restrictions.

Arun Devnath, deputy editor of The Daily Star, moderated the event. The newspaper's consulting editor, Kamal Ahmed, was also present.

Foreign debt

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This earlier reduction was primarily attributed to sluggish implementation of foreign-funded development projects.

However, the public sector debt stock rebounded significantly after the government secured nearly $3 billion in crucial budget support from multilateral and bilateral development partners, including the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), to navigate the economic fallout from the Middle East conflict.

Meanwhile, the contraction in private sector foreign debt was driven by reductions in short-term loans, buyer's credit and trade credit.

Marubeni eyes

FROM PAGE B1

the commerce ministry office in Dhaka yesterday, according to a press ministry statement.

Omoto also expressed interest in new investments and technological cooperation in the production of diammonium phosphate (DAP) and triple superphosphate (TSP) fertilisers.

Highlighting Bangladesh's potential in the information technology sector, he noted that hundreds of Bangladeshi engineers employed by Bangladesh Japan Information Technology (BJIT), a joint investment venture, were providing services to international markets, including Japan.

He said there were further opportunities to expand cooperation in artificial intelligence and IT offshoring.

The discussions also covered investment in modern, environmentally friendly technologies for the ship recycling industry, a proposal for Toyota vehicle manufacturing and ensuring an uninterrupted electricity supply to economic zones.

Small modular reactor (SMR) technology was also discussed as a potential option for ensuring long-term energy security, the ministry statement said.

Muktadir said the government was prioritising the simplification of company registration, trade licensing and investment approval procedures. It was also working to ensure that foreign investors could repatriate profits and capital.

He assured that Japanese companies looking to expand their investments in Bangladesh would receive the necessary government support.

The minister said Japanese technology, expertise and investment could play a significant role in developing Bangladesh's manufacturing industries.

There were opportunities to expand joint ventures in shipbuilding and ship recycling, automobiles, agro-based industries and high-technology sectors, he said, adding that the government was advancing necessary reforms to facilitate investment in these areas.

He also said efforts were underway to move the jute industry beyond conventional products towards diversified, higher-value goods. Priorities included developing new products by blending jute fibres with cotton, viscose and polyester, improving seeds and expanding research activities.

Both sides also discussed the importance of deepening Bangladesh-Japan economic relations, capitalising on the potential benefits of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the two countries, and expanding long-term partnerships in industry and technology.

Marubeni, one of Japan's major general trading companies, operates across sectors ranging from food and agriculture to energy, infrastructure and technology. The group reported revenue of ¥7.79 trillion in the fiscal year ended March 2025 and employed more than 52,000 people worldwide, according to its Integrated Report 2025 and financial results.

In Bangladesh, Marubeni has a business and capital alliance with local IT service company BJIT Group. Under the alliance announced in April 2023, Marubeni invested in BJIT Ltd, the group's core company, and BJIT Global Pte Ltd, which manages overseas sales, to expand offshore digital transformation services, according to a Marubeni announcement.

Marubeni has also installed about 1,300 megawatts of gas-fired and hydropower plants in Bangladesh and supplied the entire railway system for Dhaka Metro Rail's MRT Line 6, according to a company statement issued in April 2023.

বাংলাদেশ অভ্যন্তরীণ নৌপরিবহন কর্তৃপক্ষ
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Record No.: 18.11.0000.311.14.163.2026-665 Date: 07-Oct-2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders have been invited in the national e-GP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following goods:

Sl. No.	Tender Name	Tender ID No.	Last selling date & time
01	Procurement of 05 (five) Nos. 20-inch Cutter Suction Dredgers and Ancillary Vessels with Other Accessories	1346529	22-Nov-2026 16:00
02	Procurement of 04 (four) Nos. 18-inch Cutter Suction Dredgers and Ancillary Vessels with Other Accessories	1346578	22-Nov-2026 16:00

These are e-GP tenders, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the national e-GP system portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (www.eprocure.gov.bd).

07-10-2026
(Md. Moznu Miah)
Addl. Chief Engineer (Marine)
Dredging Department, BIWTA
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

GD-2468

Net FDI

FROM PAGE B1

However, the latest BB data showed that net equity capital inflows dipped 55 percent, from $345 million in the first half of 2025 to $155 million in the same period this year.

During the same period, net intra-company loans plunged 91 percent year on year, while reinvested earnings by firms operating in Bangladesh rose 68 percent.

Razzaque said the weakness in equity capital inflows was particularly serious.

"Equity investment represents a clearer commitment of fresh capital to new or expanding business activity. Its sharp decline suggests that fewer investors are currently prepared to make substantial new commitments in Bangladesh," he said.

In his view, investor confidence was being affected by both domestic and global conditions.

"In an unusually uncertain environment, with geopolitical tensions, trade disruptions and weaker global growth prospects, investors are more cautious. In such circumstances, attracting new funds in relatively less-established investment destinations such as Bangladesh is extremely difficult," Razzaque said.

"At the same time, our own macroeconomic strains, persistent energy shortages and wider business-environment difficulties are hardly sending reassuring signals to prospective investors."

The RAPID chief said the near-term outlook looked discouraging given these trends.

"Unless there is a noticeable turnaround in the remaining months, 2026 appears likely to be another disappointing year for Bangladesh's efforts to attract FDI."

Walton

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North Light Holdings is a private company with its registered office in Nairobi, the disclosure said.

Walton shares were unchanged at Tk 331.10 as of 1:30pm yesterday on the DSE floor.

The listed manufacturer of electrical and electronic products reported a net profit of Tk 1,124 crore for FY2025-26, up 8.5 percent year-on-year, according to its financial statements. The increase was mainly driven by a sharp fall in bank interest expenses.

According to DSE data, sponsors and directors held 71.09 percent of Walton's shares as of September 30, 2026, while institutional investors, foreign investors and the public held the remainder.

The People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Office of the Commanding Officer
Special Response Battalion-2
Bosila, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207

Invitation For e-Tender

For financial year 2026-2027, e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of :

SL	Tender ID No & Reference No	Description of goods	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing/ Opening Date & Time
1.	1350758 SRB-2/2026-27/Qtr-2/Dal	Local Moshur Dal	22 Oct 2026 09:00	22 Oct 2026 12:00
2.	1350480 SRB-2/2026-27/Qtr-2/Oil	Edible Oil (Soyabean Oil)	22 Oct 2026 09:00	22 Oct 2026 12:00

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.

The fees for downloading the e-tender documents from the national e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd). Tender having clarity requirements are requested to contact at 01777710205 (Assistant Director, QM, SRB-2).

NAIMUL HASSAN
Additional DIG,
Commanding Officer,
SRB-2, Bosila, Mohammadpur, Dhaka,
Tel : 02-41022060

GD-2473