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Stock Market & Company

[Stocks see sharp gain after Eid](#)

The New Age, June 22, 2024

- Dhaka stocks witnessed a sharp rise in its indices in the past week, as a section of optimistic investors increased their activity across the trading board, after resumption of trading following the Eid-ul-Azha holidays.
- DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, increased by 126.31 points in the past week, to end at 5,244.12 points. This was preceded by a drop of 119.51 points in the previous week.
- In the past week, the Dhaka bourse operated on only two sessions, as the bourse remained close from June 14 to June 18 for weekly holidays and on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha. Both sessions witnessed gain in the indices.
- Eid-ul-Azha, one of the biggest religious festivals of the Muslims, was celebrated in the country on June 17. Over the past 18 weeks, the market has risen only four times, including the past week, and has fallen in the other 14 weeks.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/stocks/stocks-see-sharp-gain-after-eid>

[PM pays tribute to Sheikh Mujib marking diamond jubilee of AL](#)

The New Age, June 23, 2024

- Prime minister Sheikh Hasina on Sunday paid tribute to Bangladesh's founding president Sheikh Mujibur Rahman marking the 75th founding anniversary of the ruling Awami League.
- She paid homage to Bangabandhu by placing a wreath at the portrait of the Father of the Nation at Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi-32 in the morning.
- After laying the wreath, the prime minister stood in solemn silence for some time as a mark of profound respect for the memory of Sheikh Mujib.
- Later, flanked by senior party leaders, Sheikh Hasina, also president of the Awami League, paid tribute to Bangabandhu by placing another wreath at the portrait of the Father of the Nation on behalf of her party.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/pm-pays-tribute-to-sheikh-mujib-marking-diamond-jubilee-of-al>

Investors focus on MNCs, blue chips in holiday-shortened week

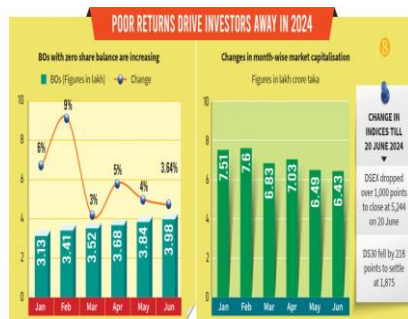
The Financial Express, June 22, 2024

- Stocks snapped the five-week losing streak in this holiday-shortened week, as smart investors made fresh bets on oversold blue chips and multinational stocks.
- Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSEX) soared more than 126 points or 2.47 per cent to settle at 5,244 on Thursday, paring all the losses from the previous week. The DSEX lost a total of 548 points in the previous five weeks.
- The market remained closed for the first three days on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.
- When it comes to investing in well-performing stocks, institutional and foreigners are mostly interested in blue-chip stocks. These companies are well governed and have successfully maintained a profit growth even in adverse business environments.
- Moreover, corporate disclosures of Linde Bangladesh and Renata attracted investors most which had a major contribution to the weekly index rise.
- Linde's stock jumped an astounding 43 per cent on Thursday to Tk 1,409 following the company's board declaring a 1,540 per cent interim dividend for January-October of 2023.
- During the two trading days, Linde's stock surged 48.6 per cent, becoming the week's top gainer, contributing a 15-point rise to the index.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/investors-focus-on-mncs-blue-chips-in-holiday-shortened-week>

Investors empty 1.02 lakh BOs, market cap falls by Tk1.37 lakh crore this year

The Business Standard, June 22, 2024



- Around 1.02 lakh beneficiary owners' accounts (BOs) were emptied by 20 June this year, while market capitalisation dropped by Tk1.37 lakh crore due to prolonged poor returns, frustrating investors and pushing them to leave the market.
- According to the Central Depository Bangladesh Limited (CDBL), in the six months up to 20 June, the total number of BOs with zero share balance increased by 34% to 3.98 lakh, while BOs with share balances decreased by 91,651 to 13.12 lakh.
- During this period, the benchmark index DSEX of the Dhaka Stock Exchange fell over 1,000 points to close at 5,244, while the blue-chip DS30 dropped 218 points to settle at 1,875.
- The market capitalisation at the DSE also dropped by over 17% to Tk6.43 lakh crore at the end of the session on 20 June.
- In response, the BSEC re-implemented measures to protect investors, including reducing the circuit breaker limit from 10% to 3%.
- Abu Ahmed further said the market has experienced a fund crisis as a direct consequence indicating that due to the elevated interest rates, the market is witnessing a decline.
- According to him, investors' options for investment have dwindled over the past decade.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/investors-empty-102-lakh-bos-market-cap-falls-tk137-lakh-crore-year>

Unilever Consumer Care shares soar 26% in 10 sessions

The Business Standard, June 22, 2024

- Shares in Unilever Consumer Care Limited surged 26% in the first 10 sessions of this month, according to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).
- The DSE's data shows that the share price rose from Tk2,002.4 each on 2 June to Tk2,529.1 on 20 June, marking the highest level in a year for the multinational company.
- Meanwhile, another multinational, Reckitt Benckiser (Bangladesh) PLC, holds the most valuable stocks, with each share priced at Tk4,499.9 on 20 June, according to the DSE.
- Unilever Consumer Care is considered one of the fundamentally strong stocks in the country's capital market, known for its consistent profitability and generous dividends to shareholders.
- The company has a robust market presence in the health drinks sector with its flagship brand, Horlicks.
- In the first quarter of 2024, Unilever Consumer Care reported a 13% decline in revenue to Tk93.98 crore compared to the same period the previous year, while its net profit surged by 11% to Tk22.38 crore, according to its financial statements.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/unilever-consumer-care-shares-soar-26-10-sessions>

Linde Bangladesh shares surge 43% as it proposes record dividends

The Business Standard, June 20, 2024

- Linde Bangladesh's shares witnessed a sudden spike of over 43% on Thursday, in the wake of its announcement of record-high dividends.
- The leading medical and industrial gas producer in the country proposed to pay 1,540% interim cash dividends based on its January to October financials for 2023.
- The multinational Linde Bangladesh will pay Tk154 per share as interim dividends, according to a disclosure published on the website of both stock exchanges on Thursday.
- Shareholders are supposed to get Tk234 crore as interim dividends, and 9 July has been set as the record date for the entitlement of dividends.
- According to its disclosures, Linde Bangladesh recommends the highest dividends in its history even though it experienced a 66% fall in profits in the first ten months of 2023 compared to the same time of the previous year.
- In May this year, Linde Bangladesh in its disclosure informed that it is going to sell its major revenue-generating segment - the welding electrodes business - to the American-Swedish industrial company ESAB Group.
- Following announcement of the interim dividends, Linde's share price jumped Tk442.1 each or 43.04% to close at Tk1409.40 each at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/linde-bangladesh-shares-surge-43-it-proposes-record-dividends>

Economy & Industry

Export gains as taka appears 'highly competitive'

The Financial Express, June 22, 2024

- Bangladesh's currency now appears "highly competitive" as the real effective exchange rate (REER) of the taka against a 15-currency basket of global trading partners dropped below 100, particularly spurring export.
- Measured by the central bank of Bangladesh against the currency basket, the REER stood at 99.79 in May. The exchange rate was 104.89 in April 2024.
- This change is due to higher depreciation of the local currency recently against the US dollar with the relaxation of exchange-rate controls. "Such deep depreciation of the taka in one go has not been seen in many years before," says an analyst.
- This gauge can be used to assess the equilibrium value of a currency. A decrease from 100 is an indication that its exports are getting competitive and its imports expensive.
- The end result: its trade-competitiveness is on the rise. It is an indicator of the international competitiveness of a nation in comparison with its trade partners.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/export-gains-as-taka-appears-highly-competitive-1>

International

India economic inequality to persist despite roaring GDP growth

The Financial Express, June 20, 2024

- The Indian economy is likely to remain the fastest-growing major one in coming years, but a majority of independent economists and policy experts polled by Reuters are not confident it will make any difference in narrowing stark economic inequality.
- Despite over 8 per cent economic growth last fiscal year and a roaring stock market in Mumbai that is easily one of the world's most expensive, New Delhi still distributes free food grains to more than 800 million of its 1.4 billion people, as per Reuters reports.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sworn in for a third term with the support of regional parties after a shock election where his Bharatiya Janata Party lost its sizeable majority in parliament, has retained most ministers from his second one.
- Yet rising economic inequality - around its highest in decades - and high youth unemployment were widely reported as reasons for the electoral drubbing after securing sweeping victories in 2014 and 2019 on development and economic reform platforms.
- Only six said they were confident and two said very confident. These are separate from private economists who regularly forecast economic data and interest rates.
- "Inequality is not something that will go away on its own ... it needs proactive government interventions."
- Even for a developing economy, income inequality in India is too extreme, according to a March report from the World Inequality Lab.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/global/india-economic-inequality-to-persist-despite-roaring-gdp-growth>

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