

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

Bangladesh: Economy

July 03, 2022

Tk979cr Earned from Bond Facility

Chattogram Customs Bond Commissionerate (CCBC) earned Tk979 crore in revenue in the fiscal year of 2021-22 against the target of Tk951 crore on the back of heightened surveillance over bond facility misuse.

The revenue collection has exceeded the target by Tk28 crore, a year-on-year growth of 22.22%. CCBC authorities informed that the revenue collection for this fiscal year 2020-21 was Tk801 crore.

In the last fiscal year of 2020-21, the CCBC earned TK801 crore against the target of TK650 crore. That year, the revenue collection exceeded the target by Tk151 crore.

Businesses enjoy zero-duty import of raw materials for 100% export items, including readymade garment, under the bonded warehouse facility.

Source: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/tk979cr-earned-bond-facility-451626>



Premier Cement's New Factory Starts Commercial Operation

The commercial production at the new factory of Premier Cement Mills PLC began on 1 July.

On 30 June the company's board decided on the factory's launching date.

The new factory will increase Premier Cement's daily production capacity to 24,520 tonnes of cement, which was previously 8,000 tonnes.

Premier Cement's official said, the new plant was set up by using a vertical roller mill (VRM), which is an updated technology for the cement industry. The Denmark-based cement manufacturer FLSmidth has supplied the machinery to the company.

According to the official, the new factory will help Premier Cement to produce cement at a low cost, which will increase its capability of doing business amid intensive competition.

VRM technology allows high-quality cement to be produced at a low cost and in a small space. Also, it is less harmful to the environment compared to other technologies.

Source: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/premier-cements-new-factory-starts-commercial-operation-451590>



FBCCI Wants to Set up Innovation Centre

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI) would like to set up an innovation centre if the government provides Tk50 crore.

FBCCI President Md Jasim Uddin hoped that this money will be available from the national budget for the new financial year.

"After Bangladesh graduates LDC, institutional capacity building will be badly needed. For this we have asked the government for Tk50 crore to set up an innovation centre," said the FBCCI president at the Members Night organised by FBCCI at ICCB, Bashundhara.

He further said that a special cell for research would also be set up at the centre. The finance minister has shown a positive attitude towards giving this money. The centre will be set up at the FBCCI building in Hatkhola.

Former presidents and vice-presidents of the FBCCI were honoured at the ceremony.

Md Jasim Uddin said the FBCCI was playing an active role in formulating various business policies.

Source: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/fbcci-wants-set-innovation-centre-451714>



Ctg Customs Earns Record Revenue of Tk59,256cr

Chattogram Customs House has earned Tk59,256 crore in revenue in the FY2021-2022, an amount equivalent to the cost of two Padma Bridges, against the target of Tk64,075 crore.

The revenue growth was nearly 15% compared to the previous fiscal year.

The customs house authorities informed that the revenue collection for the FY2020-2021 was Tk51,576 crore.

The authorities said that the outstanding amount of revenue for the outgoing fiscal year is Tk3,884 crore. If this amount could be realised, the revenue could have become Tk63,140 crore with a growth rate of 22.42%.

Of the total outstanding amount, Petrobangla has a pending amount of Tk3,699 crore, Padma Oil Company Tk116.73 crore, Meghna Petroleum Tk28.40 crore, Standard Asiatic Oil Tk57 lakh, Summit LNG Tk5.11 crore, Accelerate Energy Tk13 lakh and Bangladesh Police Tk34.21 crore.

Source: <https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/ctg-customs-earns-record-revenue-tk59256cr-450658>



DSE News

Beximco Leads Most-traded Stocks in H1

Beximco, the flagship company of the Beximco Group, led the most-traded stocks in the first half (H1) of the calendar year 2022 while the top ten most-traded stocks grabbed one-fourth transactions of the Dhaka bourse during the period.

In the first six months (January-June) of 2022, the total turnover on Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) clocked in at Tk 1,174 billion, with Beximco accounting for 6.90 per cent of the turnover by generating Tk 81.06 billion.

The company's share closed at Tk 129.80 on Thursday last, shedding 13 per cent over the first six months of 2022.

Earlier on November 11, 2021, Beximco's share price jumped to a record high at Tk 185.

Beximco has led the market from the front in the past one year as the news of a big jump in its net profit prompted investors to buy the company's shares, said a stockbroker. The company's earnings per share (EPS) jumped 207 per cent to Tk 13.18 for July 2021-March 2022 as against Tk 4.30 for July 2020-March 2021.

Source: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/beximco-leads-most-traded-stocks-in-h1-1656738727>



Stocks Edge Higher amid Optimism

Stocks extended the gaining streak on Thursday, the last day of the fiscal year (FY) 2021-22 amid positive expectations in the new fiscal year.

Investors' participation also increased significantly as investors put fresh funds on selective stocks as the Bangladesh Bank (BB) unveiled the monetary policy statement for FY 2022-23.

The market was going through slow movement until the first three and a half hours, but the last minutes buying pressure helped the market index to close over 26 points higher.

DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), went up by 26.47 points or 0.41 per cent to settle at 6,376. DSEX added 76 points in the past four days.

Two other indices also edged higher. The DS30 Index, comprising blue chips, saw a fractional gain of 0.40 points to finish at 2,295 and the DSE Shariah Index (DSES) gained 1.37 points to close at 1,386.

Source: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/stocks-edge-higher-amid-optimism-1656584174>



Global: Business

Sri Lanka's Inflation Jumps beyond 50pc

Sri Lanka's inflation hit a ninth consecutive record in June, official data showed Friday, rising to 54.6 percent a day after the IMF asked the bankrupt nation to rein in galloping prices and corruption.

It was the first time the increase in the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI) crossed the psychologically important 50 percent mark, according to the department of census and statistics.

The figures came hours after the International Monetary Fund urged Sri Lanka to contain spiralling inflation and address corruption as part of efforts to salvage the troubled economy.

The IMF ended 10 days of in-person discussions with Sri Lankan authorities in Colombo on Thursday following the country's request for a bailout.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/sri-lanka-inflation-jumps-beyond-50pc-3062271>



Eurozone Inflation Hits Record as Gas Crunch Looms

Eurozone inflation accelerated to another record high in June, official data showed on Friday, as Russia's war in Ukraine drives up energy prices and hammers the European economy.

The EU's Eurostat data agency said the increase in consumer prices in the 19 countries that use the euro reached 8.6 percent in June, leaping from the previous record of 8.1 percent a month earlier.

Consumer prices in the eurozone have hit records since November, buffeted by sky-high energy prices, which jumped by 41.9 percent over one year, caused by the fallout of Russia's invasion of its neighbour Ukraine.

But analysts also pointed to the rise in food prices, which accelerated by 8.9 percent, showing that the inflation problem was spreading through the economy.

The European Central Bank has said it will do whatever it takes to bring inflation back to its target level, with political pressure high to bring energy and food prices into check.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/eurozone-inflation-hits-record-gas-crunch-looms-3062296>



Global: Business

Germany Moves to Ramp up Wind Power

The German government approved a draft law on Wednesday aimed at covering two per cent of the country's land area with wind turbines by 2032, by setting fixed regional targets and easing some administrative burdens.

The push to accelerate the expansion of wind power comes as Germany is scrambling to wean itself off Russian fossil fuels following the war in Ukraine.

"Independence from fossil energies and from Russian fossil energies must be advanced at full speed," Energy Minister Robert Habeck told reporters.

The goal is for Germany's 16 states to collectively dedicate two percent of the nation's surface area to wind power generation by the end 2032 -- up from 0.5 per cent currently.

The installation of wind turbines regularly runs into "not in my back-yard" resistance in Germany and objections from residents have often blocked such projects in the past, as have concerns about endangering local wildlife.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/europe/news/germany-moves-ramp-wind-power-3049396>



Fed Rolls out Biggest Rate Hike in 28yrs

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday approved its largest interest rate increase in more than a quarter of a century to stem a surge in inflation that US central bank officials acknowledged may be eroding public trust in their power, and being driven by events seen increasingly out of their hands.

The widely expected move raised the target federal funds rate by three-quarters of a percentage point to a range of between 1.5 per cent and 1.75 per cent, still comparatively low by historic standards.

But the Fed's hawkish commitment to controlling inflation has already touched off a broad tightening of credit conditions being felt in US housing and stock markets, and likely to slow demand throughout the economy - the Fed's intent.

Officials also envision steady rate increases through the rest of this year, perhaps including additional 75-basis-point hikes, with a federal funds rate at 3.4 per cent at year's end. That would be the highest level since January 2008 and enough, Fed projections show, to slow the economy markedly in coming months and lead to a rise in unemployment.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/america/news/fed-rolls-out-biggest-rate-hike-28yrs-3049421>



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