

Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,506.88
% change	0.57%
DS30 Index	1,536.17
% change	0.73%
DSES Index	1,034.83
% change	0.78%
Turnover (BDT mn)	5,063.51
Turnover (USD mn)	60.28
% change	8.97%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	3,446
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	41.02
% change	0.95%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	28,399.81
% change	+0.51%
Nikkei 225	22,995.01
% change	+0.10%
FTSE 100	7,326.31
% change	+0.55%

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate

Currency	BDT
USD	84.95
EUR	94.25
GBP	112.16
INR	1.19

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range	Weighted Average (%)
02-Feb-2020	4.25-5.50	5.03
30-Jan-2020	4.50-5.50	5.04

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl	54.72	+0.50%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz	1,575.04	-0.11%
Cotton, USD/lb	67.36	+0.78%

Source: Bloomberg

Stock

GP network likely to face major setback

The Grameenphone (GP), country's largest cellphone operator, will not be able to provide new connections after two weeks due to restrictions imposed by the telecom regulator, its top executive said on Monday. "GP's network might also face a major setback within four to six weeks if it fails to settle audit dispute with the telecom regulator," GP Chief Executive Officer Yasir Azman told a press conference held at GP House in city. He said the stock of new SIMs of the operator will be exhausted within two weeks and the service quality may also face major problem if the regulator does not give approval for network expansion within four weeks.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/gp-network-likely-to-face-major-setback-1580752649>

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2020/02/03/gp-to-face-trouble-without-noc>

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/98526/gp-running-out-of-new-sims-due-to-btrc-restriction-new-ceo>

<https://www.tbsnews.net/companies/telecom/gp-wont-be-able-to-provide-new-sims-after-few-weeks-ceo-yasir-41551>

Bank and NBFI

Travellers can carry up to \$10,000 in cash now

The central bank has doubled the limit of cash foreign exchange a passenger can carry, inbound or outbound, in relaxation of its regulations, officials said. Under the revised regulations, incoming passengers are allowed to bring in US\$10,000 or its equivalent amount in cash from now on instead of \$5,000 earlier without declaration to the customs authorities, according to a notification issued by the Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Monday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/travellers-can-carry-up-to-10000-in-cash-now-1580752759>

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/travellers-can-now-carry-10000-1863289>

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2020/02/03/bb-travellers-can-bring-10-000-without-declaration>

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/now-passenger-can-bring-10000-41675>

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/98525/inbound-travellers-allowed-to-carry-up-to-10000>

bKash in persuasion to raise Nagad's cash-out charge

Mobile Financial Services (MFS) operator bKash is in persuasion to raise the cash-out charge of digital financial service provider Nagad on the ground of creating level playing field, reports BSS. To this end, the MFS operator sent a letter to the Posts and Telecommunications Division, seeking policy support from the government for their smooth business operation. Talking to the news agency, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Mustafa

Jabbar has said that Nagad, being an entity of Bangladesh Post Office, will run operation with own style considering business case.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bkash-in-persuasion-to-raise-nagads-cash-out-charge-1580751379>

Bangladesh Navy to get new bank

The central bank is planning to award a licence for a new commercial bank, called Maritime Bank Ltd, amid plenty of banks buffeted by dull business in a sagging investment regime. The bank was proposed by the Bangladesh Navy, the naval warfare branch of Bangladesh Armed Forces. "We got a proposal for the new bank by Bangladesh Navy. Now it is in a primary stage. The central bank asked them to fulfill the criteria for getting a Letter of Intent (LoI) for the proposed bank," said Bangladesh Bank Executive Director and Spokesperson Md. Serajul Islam.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/banks/2020/02/03/bangladesh-navy-to-get-new-bank>

Economy

Not much progress in recovering Bangladesh Bank's stolen money

There is no headway, either on the investigation or the full recovery of the money an unidentified cyber gang stole from the account of the Bangladesh's central bank with the New York Federal Reserve four years ago. The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) claimed their investigation into the case filed by the Bangladesh Bank on March 15, 2016 has already been completed. However, they have not received information yet from other relevant countries about their citizens allegedly involved in the heist, causing delay in submitting the charge-sheet to the court. The local investigating agency said the Philippines, China, Malaysia and Sri Lanka have not been responding to the CID's repeated calls for providing them with the necessary information.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/not-much-progress-recovering-bangladesh-banks-stolen-money-41711>

RMG owners seek export tax adjustment worth Tk611cr

"The ministry of commerce and ministry of finance, at a joint meeting, took a decision about export tax reduction from the source. There is no option to adjust or deduct tax by zero percent before new SRO issuance," said Ikhtiar Uddin Mohammad, NBR first secretary (income tax policy). The garments businesses have to pay a one percent tax from source for exporting their goods. However, the RMG was getting tax rebates for past years through SRO and they enjoy the same facility this year. The reduced tax is 0.25 percent from existing one percent. The order will remain valid till June of this year. But the order did not mention from when it would be effective. As a result, the RMG owners are confused.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/rmg-owners-seek-export-tax-adjustment-worth-tk611cr-41685>

Allow bonded warehouse facility for all export-oriented sectors

Experts at a session on Monday called for allowing the bonded warehouse (BWH) facility with simplified rules for all the export-oriented sectors to

help diversify exports. The session was also informed that though there is no discrimination in the policy regarding availability of the facility, the non-readymade garment sectors were not getting equal treatment in regular practices.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/allow-bonded-warehouse-facility-for-all-export-oriented-sectors-1580751126>

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/export-diversification-hinges-access-bonded-warehouse-1863307>

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/98520/non-rmg-sectors-should-get-easy-access-to-bond-facility-economists>

Tk 1.11b spent on operating govt vehicles last year

A total of Tk 1.11 billion was spent on operating government vehicles during the last fiscal year, said State Minister for Public Administration Farhad Hossain on Monday, reports UNB. Farhad said the government organisations concerned have been asked to keep their fuel costs within the limit to reduce the expenditure. Besides, he said, public servants are being encouraged to use public transports instead of government ones while inspecting work at the field level.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/tk-111b-spent-on-operating-govt-vehicles-last-year-1580754179>

Govt spends Tk 23m to ferry 312 from Wuhan

The government spent Tk 23 million to ferry 312 stranded Bangladeshi from Chinese city of Wuhan to Dhaka on Saturday, reports BSS. "Biman Bangladesh Airlines spent Tk 23 million as it had operated a special dedicated flight through its Boeing 777-300 ER to bring back the Bangladeshis from Wuhan," a press release issued by Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism said on Monday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-spends-tk-23m-to-ferry-312-from-wuhan-1580754054>

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Expected absolute returns are calculated as the percentage of difference between our target price and latest close price. Stock recommendations are based on absolute upside (downside) and have a 12-month horizon. Please note that future price fluctuations could lead to a temporary mismatch between upside/downside for a stock and our recommendation.

Recommendation Type	Holding period (if not otherwise mentioned)	Absolute Return Potential
Buy	12 Months	More than +15%
Neutral/ Hold	12 Months	Between +15 % and -5 %
Underweight	12 Months	Less than -5 %

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