

Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,533.75
% change	-1.35%
DS30 Index	1,561.51
% change	-1.36%
DSES Index	1,022.27
% change	-1.83%
Turnover (BDT mn)	2,752.95
Turnover (USD mn)	32.77
% change	-21.12%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	3,447
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	41.03
% change	-1.03%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	27,909.60
% change	-0.38%
Nikkei 225	23,428.67
% change	-0.01%
FTSE 100	7,233.90
% change	-0.08%

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate

Currency	BDT
USD	84.90
EUR	93.91
GBP	111.55
INR	1.19

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average (%)
08-Dec-2019	3.00-5.50	4.19
05-Dec-2019	3.15-5.50	4.34

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl	64.17	-0.12%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz	1,464.60	-0.02%
Cotton, USD/lb	65.45	0.11%

Source: Bloomberg

Economy

Trade deficit widens

Trade deficit widened slightly in the first four months of the fiscal year when exports fell more than imports, a development that has exposed the sluggishness of the economy. Between July and October, trade deficit, a situation when imports exceed exports, stood at \$5.62 billion, up 5.58 percent year-on-year, according to data from the central bank. During the period, imports declined 3.17 percent from a year earlier to \$18.13 billion and exports dropped 6.65 percent to \$12.51 billion.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/trade-deficit-widens-1838269>

BB body explores options to cut lending rate

The Bangladesh Bank (BB)'s high-powered committee is trying to explore different options to bring down the industrial lending rate to single-digit from the existing level. Different issues including possible impact on the banking sector following slashing the interest rates on industrial loans were also discussed at the second meeting of the committee, held at the central bank headquarters in the city on Monday. BB Deputy Governor and Convener of the committee S M Moniruzzaman presided over the meeting where five other members out of six attended.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-body-explores-options-to-cut-lending-rate-1575912922>

Trades with Nepal, Bhutan allowed thru 3 more LCSS

The National Board of Revenue has allowed import and export business with Nepal and Bhutan through three more land customs stations to facilitate Bangladesh's trades with the two South Asian countries. Customs wing of the revenue board on December 1 widened the scope for international trades with the countries through Tamabil in Sylhet, Chilmari in Kurigram and Nakugaon in Sherpur land customs stations, amending the previous statutory regulatory order on import and export through the LC stations using Indian territories.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/93168/trades-with-nepal-bhutan-allowed-thru-3-more-lcss>

Garment exporters demand 5pc cash incentive against dollars

The finance ministry will send four officials to India, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia to assess the feasibility of the demand made by the country's readymade garments exporters for five per cent cash incentive against dollars they earn. Finance ministry officials said that the officials, each of them whom would visit one country, were mainly tasked with assessing the measures taken by India, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia in providing incentives to their respective apparel sectors.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/93172/garment-exporters-demand-5pc-cash-incentive-against-dollars>

Economy facing headwinds as key indicators in red zone

The economy is going to get into a quagmire as shortfall in revenue collection and excessive bank borrowing are set to thwart its growth target, economists fear. Continuing fall in export earnings has aggravated the already sagging economy, they add. Wobbly stock market, low confidence of private sector and negative import growth that signals poor factory activities put a dent on the macro economy that suggests a bleak outlook for economic expansion.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2019/12/09/economy-facing-headwinds-as-key-indicators-in-red-zone>

Fuel & Power

Payra coal-fired power plant commissioning faces delay

The partial commissioning of the Payra 1,320-megawatt (MW) thermal power plant project in Patuakhali is being delayed due to technical reasons, sources said. The delay is being caused by the non-availability of transmission line needed to evacuate electricity generated by the plant. The state-run Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) may have to count 'capacity payment' to the power plant sponsor if it failed to ready the evacuation transmission line soon, a senior BPDB official said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/payra-coal-fired-power-plant-commissioning-faces-delay-1575912981>

Stock

GQ Ball Pen plans a comeback

GQ Ball Pen now plans to reinvent itself through a market comeback with plastic and commercial building rental businesses. Uzzal Kumar Saha, Company Secretary of GQ Ball Pen, said the ball pen factory, ravaged in a fire in 2017, had been rebuilt and has resumed operation on a trial basis. It will go into commercial production next year. "Besides, the construction of our 14-storied commercial building in Dhaka's Uttara area is going on. It will be completed in 2020, and we expect a handsome income by renting it for commercial purposes," he added.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/gq-ball-pen-plans-comeback>

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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 %
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