

Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,197.39
% change	-0.73%
DS30 Index	1,406.38
% change	-1.06%
DSES Index	945.92
% change	-0.84%
Turnover (BDT mn)	3,014.20
Turnover (USD mn)	35.88
% change	7.66%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	3,237
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	38.53
% change	-0.85%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	28,823.77
% change	+0.46%
Nikkei 225	23,850.57
% change	+0.47%
FTSE 100	7,587.85
% change	-0.14%

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate

Currency	BDT
USD	84.90
EUR	94.30
GBP	111.21
INR	1.19

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average (%)
08-Jan-2020	3.00-5.50	4.42
07-Jan-2020	3.00-5.50	4.44

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl	64.98	-0.60%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz	1,562.34	+0.65%
Cotton, USD/lb	71.31	+0.88%

Source: Bloomberg

Economy

Exports to all major markets fall in H1

The country's readymade garment exports to the European Union in the first half of the current financial year 2019-20 fell by 6.75 per cent while the export earnings from the United States decreased by 3.67 per cent due to the on-going slowdown of the global economy. Experts and exporters said that although the readymade garment exports in December 2019 achieved a minimal growth, the major export markets for Bangladeshi products including the US, Germany and the United Kingdom, had still been suffering from the impacts of the US-China trade war and Brexit.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/96273/exports-to-all-major-markets-fall-in-h1>

Bangladesh must comply with ILO standards for GSP Plus

The European Union wants a guarantee from Bangladesh that its factories would ensure fair practice and comply with the International Labour Organisation standards if the country wants to enjoy continued trade privilege from the bloc following graduation to the developing country bracket. Bangladesh is set to lose its current trade privilege of zero-duty export benefit under the EU's Everything but Arms (EBA) scheme when the country makes the transition in 2024.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-must-comply-ilo-standards-gsp-plus-1852927>

WB trims Bangladesh growth forecast

The World Bank has cut its economic growth forecast for Bangladesh by 0.2 percentage points to 7.2 percent for the current fiscal year, but the country is still poised to clock in the highest growth in South Asia. The Washington-based multilateral lender, however, kept the growth outlook unchanged at 7.3 percent for the next fiscal year, according to its semi-annual Global Economic Prospects. The growth forecast - which are revisions of the projections made in June last year - still puts Bangladesh as one of the fastest growing nations in the world.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/wb-trims-bangladesh-growth-forecast-1852180>

Bangladesh to lose 36.49% GDP per capita to climate change

Bangladesh is set to incur major economic damage due to climate change. A recent paper published by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) predicts that during the 2040-2059 period, the South Asian country will lose 36.49 percent of its GDP per capita. Bangladesh, which annually produces only 0.25 percent (92 tonnes) of total global carbon emissions is considered to be one of the worst victims of climate change.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-lose-3649-gdp-capita-climate-change-35643>

Fuel and Power

PMO body finds LNG cheaper, favours piped gas supplies

Re-gasified liquefied natural gas, LNG, is cheaper and safer than liquefied petroleum gas, LPG, for cooking in cities, a committee has found. The government should import required quantity of LNG, build sufficient terminals coping with the rising demand for natural gas to supply re-gasified LNG in houses through pipelines. A high-powered committee of the Prime Minister's Office, or PMO, has recently concluded this.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/pmo-body-finds-lng-cheaper-favours-piped-gas-supplies-1578758779>

Capital Market

BB's stimulus for stock market flops

Only City Bank took up the Bangladesh Bank's package for banks to invest in stocks, as yet another initiative of the government to prop up the flagging bourse falls flat. The development suggests that the problems causing the stock market to slide are deep-rooted and cannot be fixed with stop-gap measures. Earlier on September 22, with the view to shoring up the capital market the central bank announced a package for banks that would let them borrow money through repo for six months at 6 percent interest to invest in stocks.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/bangladesh-bank-stimulus-for-stock-market-flops-1852183>

DSE MD's recruitment gamed, allege directors

Kazi Sanaul Hoq's appointment as the managing director of the Dhaka Stock Exchange has run into a spot of controversy after a group of directors alleged that a director tried to game the process to get him elected. The episode comes at a time when stock investors' confidence on the bourse is heading towards rock bottom.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/dse-mds-recruitment-gamed-allege-directors-1852933>

Robi starts move to get listed, raise Tk 500cr through IPO

Robi, the second largest mobile operator in Bangladesh, has begun a process to raise around Tk 500 crore from the capital market through an initial public offering, Securities and Exchange Commission officials said. The BSEC has suggested that the company should opt for the fixed price method of floating shares so that the general investors can be benefited. Robi Axiata Ltd, a subsidiary of the Malaysia-based Axiata Group, has recently signed a memorandum of understanding with IDLC Investment Limited to appoint it as issue manager to the IPO.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/96271/robi-starts-move-to-get-listed-raise-tk-500cr-through-ipo>

Stock

GP maintains it did nothing wrong

Grameenphone maintains it has followed the prescribed process to release equipment from customs and did not violate any regulations in its official response on Thursday to the show cause notice slapped by the telecom watchdog. The notice was issued on January 1 after the country's leading mobile operator took delivery of five lots of equipment without obtaining the approval of the regulator.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gp-maintains-it-did-nothing-wrong-1852168>

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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 %
Underweight	12 Months	Less than -5 %

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