

## Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,036.24
% change	-2.12%
DS30 Index	1,361.64
% change	-1.88%
DSES Index	907.03
% change	-2.47%
Turnover (BDT mn)	2,628.13
Turnover (USD mn)	31.29
% change	-8.36%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	3,134
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	37.31
% change	-1.78%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

## International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	28,939.67
% change	+0.11%
Nikkei 225	23,912.85
% change	-0.47%
FTSE 100	7,622.35
% change	+0.06%

Source: Bloomberg

## Exchange rate

Currency	BDT
USD	84.90
EUR	94.55
GBP	110.30
INR	1.20

Source: Bangladesh Bank

## Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range	Weighted Average (%)
13-Jan-2020	3.25-5.50	4.99
12-Jan-2020	3.00-5.50	4.94

Source: Bangladesh Bank

## Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl	64.34	-0.23%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz	1,551.56	+0.33%
Cotton, USD/lb	71.21	-0.24%

Source: Bloomberg

## Economy

### Govt moves to use surplus funds of state organisations

The government yesterday placed a bill in parliament with a view to bringing the surplus money held by 61 state agencies to the national exchequer and utilising the funds to implement development projects. Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal placed the bill titled "Deposition of Surplus Money of Self-Governed Agencies including Autonomous, Semi-Autonomous and Statutory Government Authorities and Public Non-Financial Corporations to the National Exchequer Bill 2020". The bill was sent to the parliamentary standing committee on finance to examine and report back to the house within seven days.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-moves-use-surplus-funds-state-organisations-1854250>

### Top bankers sceptical of 6.0pc deposit rate

The country's top bank executives evinced on Tuesday their grave concern over the 6.0 per cent interest rate on bank deposits as they believe such a poor rate will be "challenging" for mobilising funds from the public. They said they can lend at a rate of 9.0 per cent. But they are concerned about collecting funds at a rate of 6.0 per cent at a time when the prevailing rate of inflation is around 6.0 per cent.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/top-bankers-sceptical-of-60pc-deposit-rate-1579024820>

### BB makes easier digital marketing payment

Bangladesh's e-commerce sector has received a major boost after the central bank opened up an opportunity for them to make payment to social media giants for online marketing. The move will make all international bill payments for online campaigns transparent and boost earnings for the country as local companies would transfer the money through legal channels instead of exploring other routes, entrepreneurs said. This is the first of its kind initiative aimed at paying the bills for digital marketing on social media platforms such as Facebook and Google to their accounts from Bangladesh.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/bangladesh-bank-makes-easy-digital-marketing-payment-1854259>

## Banks and NBFI

### BB to relax rules for unintentional defaulters

The loan payment process will be eased for unintentional defaulters if they have valid grounds for their failure to clear the loans, said Bangladesh Bank Governor Fazle Kabir yesterday. The law has clearly defined what will be considered a nonperforming loan (NPL) and who will be called wilful and unintentional loan defaulters, he said. Entrepreneurs, who failed to repay loans for reasons they cannot be held responsible for, such as delays in getting utility connections and in loan approval process, might get special consideration, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-relax-rules-unintentional-defaulters-1854238>

## **Banks demand govt funds at the earliest**

The government should park its deposits at 6 percent interest rate with banks within the shortest possible time to implement the 9 percent interest rate for lending from April 1. The Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB), a forum of managing directors of banks, came up with the proposal at a quarterly bankers' meeting with the central bank.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/banks-demand-govt-funds-the-earliest-1854244>

## **Telecommunication**

### **Robi pays Tk27.60cr BTRC audit dues**

The country's second largest mobile operator Robi Axiata on Tuesday paid Tk27.60 as the first instalment of audit dues after more than three years into the tussle between the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) and the telephone operator over the audit claim of Tk867.23 crore. The payment from Robi came following a High Court order on January 5 that asked the operator to pay Tk138 crore to the BTRC in five equal instalments.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2020/01/14/robi-pays-first-installment-of-btrc-audit-claim>

## **Fuel & Power**

### **Autogas pump price shoots up by 19pc**

The pump price of autogas, the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) used in vehicles, surged by around 19 per cent to Tk 50 per litre from Tk 42 this week. Privately-owned LPG importers and marketers have increased the autogas price to cope with soaring LPG price in the global market, a LPG trader said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/autogas-pump-price-shoots-up-by-19pc-1579025418>

## **Food and Allied**

### **Oilseed yield low on cold wave, dense fog**

Oilseed production has witnessed a drop this season due to a prolonged cold wave, coupled with heavy fog, creating huge losses to farmers. Agriculturists say oilseed production area has increased, but odd climatic conditions have been causing low pollination amid lesser presence of bees, thus hampering production. According to officials, the target of 1.45 million tonnes of oilseed production is unlikely to achieve this year due to such unfavourable weather.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/oilseed-yield-low-on-cold-wave-dense-fog-1579025634>

## **Textile**

### **BGMEA identifies 51 products for export diversification**

The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association has identified 51 readymade garment products for export diversification within the sector, saying that the items have potential for an export boost. According to the sources, the trade body would focus on 31

products for five years and on the rest 20 products for 10 years to increase export of the products significantly. The products include cotton made babies' garments, women's or girls' briefs and panties, men's or boys' underpants, and trousers, women's or girls' blouses, shirt, brassieres, t-shirts, singlets, men's or boys' anoraks, women's or girls' jackets and blazers of synthetic, men's or boys' overcoats, of man-made fibres and full-length or knee-length stockings, socks and other hosiery.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/96586/bgmea-identifies-51-products-for-export-diversification>

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

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