

Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,722.02
% change	0.10%
DS30 Index	1,652.15
% change	0.60%
DSES Index	1,084.72
% change	0.09%
Turnover (BDT mn)	4,096.19
Turnover (USD mn)	48.76
% change	12.63%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	3,558
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	42.35
% change	0.16%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	28,036.22
% change	+0.11%
Nikkei 225	23,319.57
% change	-0.41%
FTSE 100	7,307.70
% change	+0.07%

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate

Currency	BDT
USD	84.80
EUR	93.74
GBP	109.42
INR	1.18

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average (%)
17-Nov-2019	2.50-5.50	4.40
14-Nov-2019	2.25-5.50	4.05

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl	62.29	-0.24%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz	1,470.46	-0.07%
Cotton, USD/lb	65.58	-0.59%

Source: Bloomberg

Economy

Tax collection dismal for sluggish domestic VAT

Tax collection growth slowed in the first quarter of the fiscal year due to a decline in the flow of value-added tax (VAT) from domestic economic activities and decline in import tariff. Overall, revenue collection grew 2.62 percent year-on-year to Tk 47,388 crore between the months of July and September thanks to an 11 percent growth in income tax receipts during the period. Yet, the NBR missed its target of Tk 62,294 crore for the period by almost Tk 15,000 crore. Revenue officials linked the sluggish growth in collection to delays in adoption of the new VAT law by businesses because of changes in the accounting system and definition of rebate. Decline in collection of VAT from cigarettes, one of the biggest sources of revenue, and imports were also blamed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/tax-collection-dismal-sluggish-domestic-vat-1829125>

Rice prices shoot up despite sufficient stock

Amid national outcry over skyrocketing onion prices, the prices of different varieties of rice have surged by Tk5 to Tk7 per kilogram over the past several days. Traders said the sharp increase in the price of the major cereal has been caused by a hike in the price of paddy. However, the Directorate General of Food said no such crisis has erupted in the country to warrant the price hike. The government agency is worried that some vested quarters from the business community are trying to destabilise the market. According to data by the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh, price of the coarse variety of rice shot up by 10.29 percent since last week, while prices of the fine and the medium qualities of the essential commodity rose by 7 percent and 6 percent, respectively.

<https://tbsnews.net/markets/rice-prices-shoot-despite-sufficient-stock>

Govt to waive airport bills on onion import

The government has moved to waive various airport-related charges to help lower the import cost of much-talked-about onion, whose price has recently mounted amid short supply. The Ministry of Commerce (MoC) has taken the step following a meeting with the importers and the agencies concerned on Sunday evening.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-to-waive-airport-bills-on-onion-import-1574097224>

NBR gets Tk 3.11b tax on fifth day of fair

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) bagged Tk 3.11 billion in tax on Monday, the fifth day of the ongoing countrywide Income Tax Fair 2019. The NBR earned Tk 16.58 billion in the first five days of the weeklong fair. A total of 1,00,200 people submitted their tax returns on the day, taking the total number of tax returns submitted in five days to 420,765.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/nbr-gets-tk-311b->

[tax-on-fifth-day-of-fair-1574097991](#)

Fuel and power

FSRUs still operate at half capacity

Pipeline constraints are still pushing the country's overall import of LNG (liquefied natural gas) and its re-gasification almost half the total capacity. State-run Petrobangla is currently re-gasifying around 550 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) of LNG from two LNG import terminals, FSRUs, against their capacity to re-gasify around 1,000 mmcf. Petrobangla has deals with the terminal owners to pay around US\$ 450,000 (Tk 38.25 million) per day for re-gasification of up to around 1,000 mmcf of LNG. According to the deals, Petrobangla is required to pay the US's Excelerate Energy's FSRU (floating, storage, re-gasification unit) around \$237,000 per day and Summit's FSRU around \$ 217,000 per day. It will have to pay the same amount to Excelerate Energy and Summit Group, no matter it re-gasifies the agreed quantity or less.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/fsrus-still-operate-at-half-capacity-1574097631>

Telecommunication

GP asked not to proceed with the issue in any other forum

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court deferred on Monday the date until November 24 for passing order on a Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC)'s petition filed over its audit claim of Tk 125.79 billion dues from Grameenphone. However, the court asked the Grameenphone not to proceed with the issue (for arbitration) in any other forum by this time (until November 24).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/gp-asked-not-to-proceed-with-the-issue-in-any-other-forum-1574097809>

Insurance

Non-life insurers must invest 7.5pc of assets in govt securities

The government has made it mandatory for non-life insurance companies to invest at least 7.5 per cent of their assets in government securities. The government securities include short-term and long-term securities such as treasury bills and treasury bonds. At the same time, each non-life insurer will have to invest 10 per cent of their premium income or the sum equivalent to their liabilities plus Tk 10 million, which is higher of the two, in the country. The Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) issued a new regulation having these mandatory provisions for non-life insurance companies in order to secure investment return of the policyholders.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/non-life-insurers-must-invest-75pc-of-assets-in-govt-securities-1574097746>

Textile

Apparel exporters to get additional 1.0pc cash incentive

Apparel exporters will get an additional 1.0 per cent cash incentive as the government is going to issue a circular soon to this end amid less-than-

expected export growth due to global competition. The existing four categories of exporters, who now enjoy 4.0 per cent incentive, will also be entitled to get the extra subsidy, once the government issues an order in this regard. The exporters, who have so far been deprived of the facility, will then get 1.0 per cent incentive as proposed in the budget for the current fiscal year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/apparel-exporters-to-get-addl-10pc-cash-incentive-1574097267>

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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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