

Bangladesh market snapshot

| | Last closing |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| DSEX Index | 4,456.84 |
| % change | 0.88% |
| DS30 Index | 1,513.47 |
| % change | 0.99% |
| DSES Index | 997.48 |
| % change | 1.12% |
| Turnover (BDT mn) | 2,764.37 |
| Turnover (USD mn) | 32.91 |
| % change | 8.67% |
| Market Capitalization (BDT bn) | 3,396 |
| Market Capitalization (USD bn) | 40.43 |
| % change | 0.66% |

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International market snapshot

| | Last closing |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Dow Jones Industrial Average | 28,455.09 |
| % change | +0.28% |
| Nikkei 225 | 23,816.63 |
| % change | -0.20% |
| FTSE 100 | 7,582.48 |
| % change | +0.11% |

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate

| Currency | BDT |
|----------|--------|
| USD | 84.88 |
| EUR | 94.34 |
| GBP | 111.02 |
| INR | 1.20 |

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Money market

| Date | Call Money Rate Range | Weighted Average (%) |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 18-Dec-2019 | 3.50-5.50 | 4.93 |
| 17-Dec-2019 | 3.25-5.50 | 4.92 |

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Commodities

| | Price | % Change |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl | 66.14 | -0.60% |
| Gold Spot, USD/t oz | 1,481.64 | +0.19% |
| Cotton, USD/lb | 67.96 | +0.56% |

Source: Bloomberg

Economy

Export growth may slow to 7.3pc next year

Bangladesh's exports will grow 7.3 percent next year, down 1.8 percentage points from that in 2019, as the ongoing global trade tension continues to hurt business in Asia and the Pacific, a new United Nations report said. As per the report, the projected export growth of Bangladesh will still be the highest among some select countries and at the end of 2019, Bangladesh's overseas sales will see a growth rate of 9.1 percent, also the highest among the countries.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/export-growth-may-slow-73pc-next-year-1842850>

Taka appreciates slightly against US dollar

A day after Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal had announced that the local currency would not be devalued against US dollar, the Bangladesh Bank on Thursday depreciated the greenbacks by 2 basis points. The central bank revised the inter-bank dollar rate to Tk84.88 on Thursday, which was Tk84.90 on the previous day. Over the last three years, dollar has appreciated by almost 600 basis points in inter-bank exchange market.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/taka-appreciates-slightly-against-us-dollar>

Bank and NBFIs

BB asks banks, NBFIs not to press for more than one guarantee

The Bangladesh Bank on Thursday asked the scheduled banks and non-bank financial institutions to restrain from taking more than one personal guarantee against loans for cottage, small and medium enterprises. The central bank's move came after it found that the banks and NBFIs pressed the small entrepreneurs to provide more guarantees against their loans. The BB on Thursday issued a circular in this regard to ease loan receipt by the entrepreneurs and speed up the CMSME sector development.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/94065/bb-asks-banks-nbfis-not-to-press-for-more-than-one-guarantee>

Fuel and power

Power generation cut to one-third of capacity

Electricity generation across the country has been reduced to around one-third of the overall capacity under a 'rationing' system in view of the sagging demand in winter. Some power plants have been asked to suspend their operations, and some others to do maintenance work. However, available electricity at substation end, excluding transmission loss, was only 6,277 MW.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/power-generation-cut-to-one-third-of-capacity-1576945935>

Pvt LNG terminals to keep getting tax waiver on imports

The National Board of Revenue has exempted the two private floating

liquefied natural gas import terminals from payment of value-added tax, supplementary duty and advance tax on goods and services required for installation and activation of their floating storage regasification unit (FSRU). Value-added tax wing of the revenue board on Wednesday issued two separate orders, offering the exemption to local Summit LNG Terminal Co (Pvt) Ltd and US-based Excelerate Energy Bangladesh Ltd for their FSRU located at Moheshkhali in Cox's Bazar.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/94070/pvt-lng-terminals-to-keep-getting-tax-waiver-on-imports>

Telecommunication

GP's parent co sends legal notice to president over audit dispute

TELENOR Group, the parent company of Grameenphone, has sent a legal notice to president Abdul Hamid, seeking arbitration over a dispute concerning the Tk 12,579.95 crore in audit claim made by the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission to GP. Telenor in its notice mentioned that they would go to international court unless the audit issue was solved through arbitration.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/94035/gps-parent-co-sends-legal-notice-to-president-over-audit-dispute>

Six countries keen to invest in Teletalk, 5G: Jabbar

The government has received proposals from half a dozen foreign companies which want to invest in Teletalk and fifth-generation (5G) service, Mustafa Jabbar, posts and telecommunications minister, said yesterday. Jabbar declined to reveal the names. He said that the companies were from Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/telecom/news/six-countries-keen-invest-teletalk-5g-jabbar-1842856>

Textile

Time to go for man-made fibre

Bangladesh needs to scale up production of garment items from man-made fibre to increase exports as the consumption of apparels made from the artificial textile raw material is rising globally. The export of apparel items produced from man-made fibre (MMF) from Bangladesh has remained stuck at 20 percent for many years although the production of such garment items has crossed 40 percent worldwide.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/time-go-man-made-fibre-1843561>

Capital market

Election on December 29

Three shareholders of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) have submitted their nomination papers to contest for posts of two shareholder directors of the premier bourse. The candidates are Shakil Rizvi, Mohammad Shahjahan and Mohammad Shamim Afzal.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/election-on-december-29-1576941662>

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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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