

Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	5,250.95
% change	0.27%
DS30 Index	1,830.32
% change	0.41%
DSES Index	1,196.54
% change	0.11%
Turnover (BDT mn)	2,905.45
Turnover (USD mn)	34.59
% change	-17.39%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	3,863
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	45.99
% change	0.10%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	25,532.05
% change	0.82%
Nikkei 225	21,051.24
% change	-0.08%
FTSE 100	7,241.60
% change	1.09%

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate

Currency	BDT
USD	84.50
EUR	94.30
GBP	107.50
INR	1.20

Source: Bloomberg

Money Market

Date	Call Money Rate	Weighted Range Average (%)
21-May-2019	3.75-5.00	4.54
20-May-2019	3.75-5.00	4.56

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl	71.79	-0.39%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz	1,274.13	-0.55%
Cotton, USD/lb	67.15	-0.17%

Source: Bloomberg

Economy

Govt's bank borrowing hits six-year high

The government has all on a sudden stepped up its borrowing from the banking system from this month as its revenue collection fell short of expectations, sending the cash-strapped banks into a state of panic. Until the end of April, the government did not borrow from banks; rather, it paid back Tk 1,083 crore, according to data from the Bangladesh Bank. But from this month it started borrowing; as of May 15, it has taken Tk 7,998 crore, which is the highest in six years. The government had earlier targeted to borrow Tk 2,725 crore from commercial banks in May. But in the second week of this month, it has revised the amount to Tk 6,725 crore.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/banking/news/govts-bank-borrowing-hits-six-year-high-1747558>

Regulatory duty on rice import increases to 25pc

From now on, rice importers will require to pay a total of 55 per cent duty as the government has increased the regulatory duty (RD) on rice import to 25 per cent from the existing 3.0 per cent. The decision was taken to discourage rice import against the backdrop of a significant fall in paddy prices in the local market. The National Board of Revenue (NBR) issued a Statutory Regulatory Order (SRO) imposing the new RD from Wednesday.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/regulatory-duty-on-rice-import-increases-to-25pc-1558529237>

Bank and NBFIs

Agent banking deposit grows by 20pc in Jan-Mar

Deposit in the agent banking accounts rose by 20 per cent or Tk 622 crore in January-March 2019 amid banks' increased focus to the system. Customers can get services like cash deposits, withdrawals, remittance disbursement along with cash payments through agent banking window. Bangladesh Bank's latest quarterly report on agent banking released on Wednesday showed that total deposit in agent banking accounts increased to Tk 3,734.50 crore at the end of March this year from Tk 3,112.41 crore at the end of December last year.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/73241/agent-banking-deposit-grows-by-20pc-in-jan-mar>

Textile

Bangladeshi apparel makers paid one of the lowest prices in the world

Bangladeshi garment makers received one of the lowest prices in the world last year due to a lack of value-added apparel items, lack of negotiation skills, and image crisis. Among the garment trading nations in the world, Bangladeshi garment items were paid \$2.79 per unit or per square metre equivalent (SME) in the US market in 2018. Chinese and Ethiopian exporters were paid lesser: \$2.35 and \$2.45 per SME respectively. The Turkish exporters were paid the highest: \$7.38 per SME. Per SME from Malaysia fetched \$5.37, Laos \$4.98, Indonesia \$3.81, Myanmar \$3.08, Vietnam \$3.28, and Thailand

\$2.88.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladeshi-apparel-makers-paid-one-the-lowest-prices-the-world-1747579>

Telecom

BTRC holds up audits into Banglalink, Airtel

The telecom regulator is yet to appoint auditors to conduct financial and technical inspection of Banglalink and Airtel's system even though the formal process has started more than a year and a half ago due to irregularities within the institution itself. The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) had invited expression of interest (EOI) on December 2017 and a total of five companies -- one for Banglalink and four for Airtel -- put forward their proposals in January last year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/telecom/news/btrc-holds-audits-banglalink-airtel-1747534>

Capital Market

DSE to take action against co directors who sold shares secretly

Dhaka Stock Exchange leaders on Wednesday said that the bourse would take action against errant company directors who sold shares secretly and did not give government taxes levied on capital gains. DSE director Minhaj Mannan Emon said that they asked the bourse's chief regulatory officer AKM Ziaul Hasan Khan to find out the errant directors of listed companies and submit a list before the board.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/73242/dse-to-take-action-against-co-directors-who-sold-shares-secretly>

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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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