

## Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,650.90
% change	-1.02%
DS30 Index	1,571.21
% change	-1.29%
DSES Index	1,073.57
% change	-1.14%
Turnover (BDT mn)	6,005.62
Turnover (USD mn)	71.50
% change	-10.16%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	3,550
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	42.26
% change	-1.38%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

## International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	28,992.41
% change	-0.78%
Nikkei 225	23,386.74
% change	-0.39%
FTSE 100	7,166.80
% change	-3.20%

Source: Bloomberg

## Exchange rate

Currency	BDT
USD	84.95
EUR	92.11
GBP	110.17
INR	1.18

Source: Bangladesh Bank

## Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average (%)
23-Feb-2020	4.50-5.50	5.11
20-Feb-2020	4.50-5.50	5.09

Source: Bangladesh Bank

## Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil),	56.55	0.44%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz	1,658.14	-0.07%
Cotton, USD/lb	67.18	-0.56%

Source: Bloomberg

## Bank and NBFIs

### BB caps lending rate at 9% for all loans but credit cards

No loan would cost more than 9 percent interest except credit card, a decision that can cheer up the businesses, but will cause havoc on some banks that have big exposure in small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and retail loans. However, interest rate on export credit at pre-shipment level will remain unchanged at 7 percent. The central bank on Monday made it clear by issuing a circular that said the new directives will be effective from April 1 this year.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-caps-lending-rate-9-all-loans-credit-cards-47561>

### Individual savings investment capped at Tk50 lakh

The government has decided to set a ceiling for investments in different savings tools and automate the system in a bid to stop abuse and pass the benefits on to target groups. However, a pensioner can invest a maximum of Tk1 crore under a single name, she said. Earlier, a person could invest a maximum amount in multiple schemes. <https://tbsnews.net/economy/individual-savings-investment-limited-tk50-lakh-47303>

### If Banks Go Bankrupt: Govt mulling Tk 2 lakh coverage for depositors

The finance ministry mulls providing a single depositor a maximum of Tk 2 lakh within six months of a bank's closure. Currently, a depositor is supposed to get maximum Tk 1 lakh under the deposit coverage. The ministry is considering the move amid criticism from different quarters as it initially did not widen the ceiling of insuring the deposits in the draft Deposit Protection Act, 2020, which will replace the existing Bank Deposit Insurance Act, 2000.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/news/bankrupt-banks-govt-mulling-tk-2-lakh-coverage-depositors-1872439>

### MFIs can now provide up to Tk 4m collateral-free loan

Microfinance institutions (MFIs) can now provide collateral-free loans of up to Tk 4 million for micro enterprises to help boost the country's small and medium enterprises. According to draft guidelines, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and MFIs have to maintain a 50/50 ratio for micro and micro enterprise loans so that the focus cannot deviate from poverty alleviation through micro credit.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/mfis-can-now-provide-up-to-tk-4m-collateral-free-loan-1582568502>

## Economy

### Japanese firms to invest \$6.4b

Major Japanese large firms are to invest about \$6.4 billion to implement six infrastructure projects in Bangladesh under the public

-private partnership model. The implementation timeline for the projects to be implemented by groups such as Kajima, Sojitz and Marubeni will be set at the fourth Bangladesh-Japan Joint PPP Platform meeting in Dhaka next month. The feasibility study, the construction period and other issues will also be fixed at the meeting, said officials of the Prime Minister's Office and the planning ministry.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/japanese-firms-invest-64b-1872655>

### **Imports from China tumble 21pc for coronavirus**

Imports from China slumped 21 per cent year-on-year in volume in the one and a half months to February 15 amid supply disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic, official data showed. Businesses imported 36 lakh tonnes of products in the first seven months of fiscal 2019-20, down 19 per cent from a year earlier, according to the National Board of Revenue (NBR). In monetary terms, imports also declined this year compared with the same period a year ago, said the revenue administration in a report on the possible impact of the coronavirus outbreak in the world's second largest economy.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/imports-china-tumble-21pc-coronavirus-1872649>

### **Perspective plan: 1st one unmet, new one toned down**

Bangladesh's first perspective plan for the 2011-2021 period will expire next year without having met the major targets that include reduction of moderate poverty, achieving double-digit economic growth and boosting national savings and investments. The plan had a goal to reduce moderate poverty to 15 percent, achieving 10 percent economic growth, boosting gross national savings to 39.1 percent and investment to 38 percent of GDP.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/perspective-plan-1st-one-unmet-new-one-toned-down-47585>

### **FBCCI President seeks more investment from Commonwealth countries**

FBCCI President Sheikh Fazle Fahim said on Monday urged the Commonwealth countries from the Asia-Pacific to Africa region to come to Bangladesh with investment to tap the potentials of the growing South Asian economy. He made the call during a meeting with the Deputy Chairman of Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council (CWEIC) Rt Hon Sir Hugo Swire at the Federation Bhaban in the capital city. CWEIC is the Commonwealth's business network with over 90 business and government strategic partners from 27 countries and territories.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/fbcci-president-seeks-more-investment-commonwealth-countries-47493>

### **Telecommunication**

#### **GP gets 3 months to pay Tk 1,000 crore more to BTRC**

The Supreme Court today directed Grameenphone to pay Tk 1,000 crore to Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) within

the next three months. A six-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain passed the order, a day after the leading mobile phone operator deposited Tk 1,000 crore to the telecom regulator. The order came when the bench was hearing a review petition filed by GP on January 26 to allow it to pay Tk 575 crore in 12 equal instalments.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gp-gets-3-months-pay-tk-1000-crore-more-btrc-1872289>

## Capital Market

### DSE elects new chairman

Md Eunusur Rahman, former senior secretary to the Financial Institutions Division, has been elected the chairman of the Dhaka Stock Exchange. The election took place at the bourse's board meeting in Dhaka yesterday, according to a statement. Prior to joining DSE, he worked as a senior policy adviser at the Business Finance for the Poor in Bangladesh project.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/dse-elects-new-chairman-1872622>

### GP slump drags down DSEX

Stocks continued to fall for the third straight session on Monday, with cautious investors indulging in sell-offs during the ongoing dividend declaration season. At the end of the day, DSEX, the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), settled 48 points or 1.02 per cent lower at 4,650. The DSEX lost a total of 108 points in the past three consecutive sessions, as a number of large-cap companies reported poor year-end earnings and declared lower dividends.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/gp-slump-drags-down-dsex-1582563314>

## Stocks

### Beximco Pharma to sell global drug maker Mylan's products

Generic drug manufacturer Beximco Pharmaceuticals yesterday penned a deal to begin the sale of medication for cancer, rheumatoid arthritis and other diseases made by US-based Mylan, in what can be viewed as a stroke of good news for the country's healthcare sector. Under the agreement, Beximco Pharma will be allowed to launch Mylan's portfolio of key monoclonal antibodies for different types of cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis and other medical conditions, said the listed company in a press release. The news of this tie-up though failed to boost Beximco stock: it closed 0.41 per cent lower at Tk 73.30 yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/beximco-pharma-sell-global-drug-maker-mylans-products-1872646>

### DBBL to issue Tk 5.0b subordinated bond

The board of directors of Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd (DBBL) has approved the issuance of third subordinated bond worth Tk 5.0 billion through

private placement. The bank will issue the bond to increase the Tier 2 capital in order to meet the capital requirement under Basel III and to strengthen the regulatory capital base of the bank, said an official disclosure on Monday. The tenure of the unsecured and non-convertible subordinated bond is seven years.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dbbl-to-issue-tk-50b-subordinated-bond-1582563344>

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Expected absolute returns are calculated as the percentage of difference between our target price and latest close price. Stock recommendations are based on absolute upside (downside) and have a 12-month horizon. Please note that future price fluctuations could lead to a temporary mismatch between upside/downside for a stock and our recommendation.

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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