

## Weekly Market Update

### Capital Market Overview

The market closed in red this week. The benchmark index DSEX (-0.27%) lost -14.46 points and closed the week at 5,353.94 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (-0.75%) lost -15.47 points and stood at 2,050.78 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+0.11%) gained 1.14 points and stood at 1,080.56 points. The large cap index CDSET (-0.67%) lost -7.48 points and closed at 1,105.08 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of +10.04%, +10.64%, +7.98%, +9.98%, respectively.

**Total Turnover During The Week (DSE):** BDT 9.8 billion (USD 80 million)  
**Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV):** BDT 4.9 billion (Δ% Week: -7.4%)  
**Market P/E:** 15.6x

### Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed two sessions this week. It started negatively on Sunday (-0.92%) but turned positive on Monday (+0.65%).

### Sectoral Performance

Most of the financial sectors registered negative performance this week. Mutual Fund experienced the highest loss of -1.54% followed by Life Insurance (-1.34%), Bank (-0.98%), General Insurance (-0.96%), and NBFi (+0.00%).

Non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted mixed performance this week. Fuel & Power booked the highest gain of 0.62% followed by Engineering (+0.38%). Pharmaceutical experienced the highest loss of 0.37% followed by Telecommunication (-0.08%), and Food & Allied (-0.03%).

### Macroeconomic Arena

Remittance inflow up 35.7% in first half of March ahead of Eid. Govt to rally support to defer LDC graduation. Iran war could wipe out up to 3% of Bangladesh GDP. Plethora of products, services under tax surveillance. NBR extends corporate tax return deadline to April 15. Global fertiliser price four-year high, may affect Bangladesh farming. WB to back reforms for Bangladesh's macro-economic stability. BANK | Farmers' BDT 10,000 loans: Govt asks banks to write them off, withdraw cases. BANK | Bangladesh Bank raises max credit card limit to BDT 4 Mn. BANK | Banks no longer need BB approval to obtain guarantees for loans to foreign companies. BANK | BB issues new rules for bank dividend reporting. Oil stays above USD 100, stocks slide tracking Mideast war.

IMF Loan: Bangladesh may get next tranche in June. Bangladesh among 16 nations facing new US unfair-trade probes. US probes Bangladesh's export incentives, BGMEA 'uncomfortable'. Shipping costs spiral as Iran war prompts new surcharges. Trade deficit widens 17.4% in July-January. US dollar hovers near 2026 highs as oil's rise spurs hawkish central bank bets. Individuals raise stakes in Treasury bills, bonds. Family cards could reduce poverty to 11.3%. Eid sales surge despite temporary slowdown. NBFi | Crisis-hit People's Leasing seeks BDT 7.5 Bn stimulus from govt for revival. STEEL & CEMENT | Rod prices jump BDT 10,000 per tonne in 10 days, cement up BDT 25 per bag. ENERGY | Nat'l grid receiving 8.0mmcf/d gas from Srikail fifth well.

### Stock Market Arena

ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank delays US investor's entry into mCash subsidiary. BANKASIA | Kayesh Chowdhury joins Bank Asia as DMD. TRUSTBANK | Trust Bank gets BB exemption for multiple nominee directors. INDEXAGRO | BSEC fines Index Agro and Prudential Capital for regulatory breaches. WALTONHIL | BSEC clears Walton Digi-Tech and Hi-Tech merger. OLYMPIC | Olympic turns to solar power as country strides to secure energy supply. EXCHANGE | BSEC, ADB discuss strategies to boost capital market to 40pc of GDP. EXCHANGE | DSE certifies 11 more brokerages to launch own order management systems. EXCHANGE | Foreigners prefer Square Pharma, BRAC Bank in February, but pull back from Olympic, GP. REGULATOR | DSE certifies 11 more brokerages to launch own order management systems. NAVANAPHAR | BSEC steps in amid turmoil at Navana Pharma.

## DSEX ended in Red (-0.27%) in the week

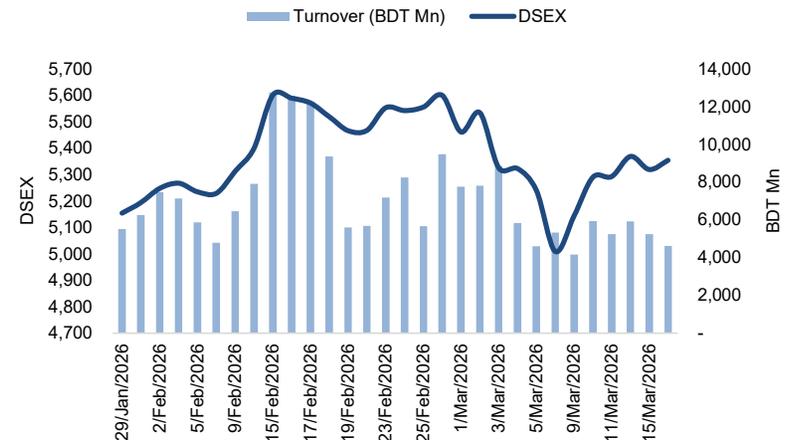
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2025	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,353.94	5,368.40	-14.46	4,865.34	-0.27%	10.04%
DS30	2,050.78	2,066.25	-15.47	1,853.54	-0.75%	10.64%
DSES	1,080.56	1,079.42	+1.14	1,000.72	0.11%	7.98%
CDSET	1,105.08	1,112.56	-7.48	1,004.81	-0.67%	9.98%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	7,065,382	7,069,126	-0.05%
	Mn USD	57,757	57,787	-0.05%
Turnover	Mn BDT	9,839	26,568	-62.97%
	Mn USD	80	217	-62.97%
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	4,919	5,314	-7.42%
	Mn USD	40	43	-7.42%
Volume	Mn Shares	477	1,087	-56.14%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in Last Four Weeks



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**Table 3: Top Ten Gainers**

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
APOLOISPAT	4.4	3.7	+18.9%	1,766	48.5	NM	0.2x
SSSTEEL	5.8	4.9	+18.4%	1,906	34.2	NM	0.2x
ILFSL	3.9	3.3	+18.2%	865	47.3	NM	NM
RINGSHINE	4.1	3.5	+17.1%	2,051	39.3	NM	NM
CNATEX	4.1	3.5	+17.1%	981	36.8	NM	NM
FAMILYTEX	4.3	3.7	+16.2%	1,523	66.0	NM	0.4x
METROSPIN	10.8	9.3	+16.1%	666	10.1	NM	2.7x
SAIFPOWER	7.7	6.7	+14.9%	2,921	30.7	11.0x	0.5x
PDL	6.2	5.4	+14.8%	1,138	23.1	NM	0.5x
AFCAGRO	7.5	6.6	+13.6%	864	6.3	NM	0.4x

**Table 4: Top Ten Losers**

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
MEGCONMILK	32.7	35.6	-8.1%	523	36.1	NM	NM
SUNLIFEINS	52.1	55.7	-6.5%	1,863	85.5	NM	NM
MEGHNA PET	27.6	29.5	-6.4%	331	7.2	NM	0.4x
EMERALDOIL	16.4	17.3	-5.2%	1,497	7.8	14.0x	NM
UTTARAFIN	13.2	13.9	-5.0%	1,736	2.6	NM	0.2x
FAREASTLIF	22.0	23.0	-4.3%	1,644	1.0	NM	NM
HRTEX	21.1	22.0	-4.1%	617	8.6	NM	7.1x
LOVELLO	70.5	73.4	-4.0%	6,921	280.0	30.2x	5.6x
BRACBANK	75.3	78.2	-3.7%	149,917	282.2	9.5x	1.5x
SONARBAINS	26.8	27.8	-3.6%	1,127	4.2	53.6x	1.3x

**Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares**

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
ORIONINFU	359.8	364.0	-1.2%	7,325	385.2	NM	22.6x
CITYBANK	31.8	31.9	-0.3%	48,375	356.8	3.7x	0.8x
SAPORTL	49.2	49.5	-0.6%	11,654	303.4	21.6x	1.4x
BRACBANK	75.3	78.2	-3.7%	149,917	282.2	9.5x	1.5x
LOVELLO	70.5	73.4	-4.0%	6,921	280.0	30.2x	5.6x
KBPPWBIL	50.5	51.4	-1.8%	4,953	258.0	90.2x	4.3x
INTECH	42.6	38.7	+10.1%	1,334	246.8	NM	NM
SEAPEARL	40.5	39.9	+1.5%	4,890	204.3	NM	2.9x
ROBI	31.7	31.8	-0.3%	166,042	190.9	17.7x	2.4x
ASIATICLAB	69.7	70.0	-0.4%	8,531	172.3	18.8x	1.2x

**Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe**

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
ACTIVEFINE	7.4	+34.5%	1,776	NM	0.3x
CITYBANK	31.8	+30.3%	48,375	3.7x	0.8x
CONFIDCEM	64.0	+30.1%	5,520	5.3x	0.7x
ISLAMIBANK	42.5	+29.6%	68,425	NM	1.0x
LANKABAFIN	15.8	+28.5%	8,514	39.5x	0.8x
BARKAPOWER	8.5	+26.9%	2,001	7.9x	0.4x
SHASHADNIM	19.7	+26.3%	2,778	20.5x	0.5x
BANKASIA	22.1	+21.4%	28,343	5.4x	0.8x
BRACBANK	75.3	+19.3%	149,917	9.5x	1.5x
BBSCABLES	17.7	+16.4%	3,747	NM	0.7x

\*BDT

\*BDT Mn

**Table 7: Sector Indices**

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,600.9	1,616.7	1,367.20	-0.98%	+17.09%
NBFI	1,029.9	1,029.9	860.23	+0.00%	+19.72%
Mutual Fund	501.5	509.3	478.27	-1.54%	+4.86%
General Insurance	3,065.2	3,095.0	2,879.11	-0.96%	+6.46%
Life Insurance	1,849.1	1,874.2	1,691.42	-1.34%	+9.32%
Telecommunication	4,573.4	4,577.2	4,431.51	-0.08%	+3.20%
Pharmaceutical	2,997.7	3,008.8	2,764.29	-0.37%	+8.44%
Fuel & Power	1,057.9	1,051.4	996.11	+0.62%	+6.20%
Cement	1,992.6	1,978.7	1,739.18	+0.70%	+14.57%
Services & Real Estate	1,039.9	1,024.3	949.82	+1.53%	+9.49%
Engineering	2,413.1	2,404.1	2,290.78	+0.38%	+5.34%
Food & Allied	12,580.2	12,584.0	12,942.72	-0.03%	-2.80%
IT	1,902.6	1,866.9	1,703.25	+1.91%	+11.71%
Textile	1,149.2	1,133.6	1,060.76	+1.38%	+8.34%
Paper & Printing	4,627.0	4,649.5	4,485.61	-0.48%	+3.15%
Tannery	1,895.3	1,880.7	1,806.05	+0.78%	+4.94%
Jute	10,867.9	10,972.6	11,805.57	-0.95%	-7.94%
Ceramics	402.7	403.6	370.10	-0.23%	+8.81%
Miscellaneous	3,933.2	3,941.0	3,881.56	-0.20%	+1.33%

**Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix**

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	758.8	1,038.1	-26.91%	+16.40%	10.5x	0.8x
NBFI	231.7	166.8	+38.91%	+5.01%	NM	1.0x
Mutual Fund	60.8	70.7	-14.04%	+1.31%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	154.7	248.6	-37.77%	+3.34%	14.1x	1.3x
Life Insurance	144.9	143.4	+1.03%	+3.13%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	130.5	205.3	-36.44%	+2.82%	13.0x	3.7x
Pharmaceutical	650.5	748.9	-13.14%	+14.06%	11.9x	1.5x
Fuel & Power	183.2	164.8	+11.18%	+3.96%	9.5x	0.6x
Cement	57.1	70.3	-18.73%	+1.23%	18.7x	2.1x
Services & Real Estate	292.4	213.9	+36.68%	+6.32%	20.3x	0.4x
Engineering	418.1	325.3	+28.50%	+9.03%	15.3x	0.8x
Food & Allied	326.1	340.2	-4.15%	+7.05%	33.0x	3.5x
IT	304.7	243.1	+25.33%	+6.59%	28.2x	1.5x
Textile	496.2	466.6	+6.33%	+10.72%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	81.1	77.3	+4.88%	+1.75%	NM	1.3x
Tannery	31.9	20.7	+54.27%	+0.69%	NM	1.3x
Jute	5.6	9.8	-42.66%	+0.12%	NM	NM
Ceramics	85.2	98.3	-13.34%	+1.84%	NM	1.2x
Miscellaneous	214.0	233.9	-8.53%	+4.62%	88.9x	1.7x

**Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe**

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
BATBC	228.0	-8.3%	123,120	21.1x	2.2x
RUNNERAUTO	34.1	-7.1%	3,872	22.3x	0.5x
UCB	9.8	-5.8%	15,194	NM	0.4x
DOREENPWR	26.8	-3.6%	4,854	6.3x	0.5x
GP	254.5	-1.3%	343,651	11.6x	6.1x
MIRAKHTER	27.5	+0.7%	3,321	17.6x	0.5x
MJLBD	91.3	+0.9%	28,919	10.7x	1.7x
SINGERBD	85.3	+0.9%	8,505	NM	50.5x
SQUARETEXT	49.0	+1.0%	9,665	9.4x	0.9x
UNIQUEHRL	38.6	+1.0%	11,364	6.5x	0.4x

## Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

### Remittance inflow up 35.7% in first half of March ahead of Eid

- Remittance inflows have increased by 35.7% in the first half of March, ahead of Eid, with expatriate Bangladeshis sending USD 2.20 Bn. A senior official of a private bank told that the rise in remittances is mainly due to the upcoming Eid festival, as expatriates typically send more money home during this period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/remittance-inflow-357-first-half-march-ahead-eid-1387681>

### Govt to rally support to defer LDC graduation

- Bangladesh will use the World Trade Organization's (WTO) 14<sup>th</sup> ministerial conference next week to garner support for deferring its graduation from the group of least developed countries (LDCs). Meanwhile, Bangladesh will also use the sidelines of the WTO conference to pursue membership of the China-led Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) with cooperation from other countries.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-rally-support-defer-ldc-graduation-4129646>

### Iran war could wipe out up to 3% of Bangladesh GDP

- A prolonged US-Israel war on Iran could reduce Bangladesh's gross domestic product (GDP) by as much as 3 percent over the next two years, according to a new policy analysis by the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (Sanem). Sanem says worst-case modelling shows risks from falling Gulf remittances, slowing exports and rising shipping costs.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/iran-war-could-wipe-out-3-bangladesh-gdp-4129661>

### Plethora of products, services under tax surveillance

- A new array of hundreds of products and services - 50 in each category- have been shortlisted for special surveillance on value-added tax (VAT) collection by a high-powered taskforce in a government bid to ramp up revenue. The items include cigarettes, petroleum products, mobile-phone services, contractors, banks, suppliers and several other high-revenue-generating sectors.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/plethora-of-products-services-under-tax-surveillance-1773599090>

### NBR extends corporate tax return deadline to April 15

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) on Sunday extended the deadline for companies to submit their income tax returns by one month.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/nbr-extends-corporate-tax-return-deadline-to-april-15>

### Global fertiliser price four-year high, may affect Bangladesh farming

- Global fertiliser prices hit a four-year high, putting pressure on Bangladesh through fertiliser-supply problem and import-cost escalation, as the US-Israel war on Iran blocked the world trade-lifeline Strait of Hormuz. Although the country has 1.8 Mn tonnes fertiliser stock until May, the government has targeted to import 1.7 Mn tonnes of the cropping input from different countries for the Aman and winter crops following the global volatility.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/global-fertiliser-price-four-year-high-may-affect-bangladesh-farming-1773599260>

### WB to back reforms for Bangladesh's macro-economic stability

- The World Bank Group will support reforms critical for Bangladesh's macro-economic stability and the reduction of financial sector vulnerability, the Washington-based multilateral lender said after meet with Finance and Planning Minister, Commerce Minister, and Bangladesh Bank Governor.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/wb-back-reforms-bangladeshs-macro-economic-stability-4129441>

### BANK | Farmers' BDT 10,000 loans: Govt asks banks to write them off, withdraw cases

- The government has decided to pay the loans and interest owed to banks for farmers, on the condition that all cases filed against those farmers are withdrawn. For this purpose, BDT 15.68 Bn has been earmarked in the revised budget. Of the total amount, about 54% will be paid by Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank and Bangladesh Krishi Bank, while the remaining amount will be distributed among other state-owned banks.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/agriculture/news/farmers-tk-10000-loans-govt-asks-banks-write-them-withdraw-cases-4129811>

**BANK | Bangladesh Bank raises max credit card limit to BDT 4 Mn**

- The Bangladesh Bank has raised the maximum credit card limit from BDT 2.5 Mn to BDT 4.0 Mn in a move aimed at strengthening the country's digital payment ecosystem and meeting the growing demand of consumers.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/credit-card-limit-raised-tk40-lakh-1387641>

**BANK | Banks no longer need BB approval to obtain guarantees for loans to foreign companies**

- Commercial banks in Bangladesh will not need approval from Bangladesh Bank to obtain guarantees from foreign banks when lending to foreign companies operating in the country. The facility will apply only to overseas banks that maintain satisfactory credit ratings from internationally recognised rating agencies.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-no-longer-need-bb-approval-obtain-guarantees-loans-foreign-companies-1387991>

**BANK | BB issues new rules for bank dividend reporting**

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has come up with a new directive mandating all scheduled banks to report any dividend declaration against shares within 7 days of the respective board meeting.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bb-issues-new-rules-for-bank-dividend-reporting>

**Oil stays above USD 100, stocks slide tracking Mideast war**

- Oil prices stayed over USD 100 per barrel Friday while stock markets slid, with no end in sight to disruption in crude supplies as war rages on in the Middle East.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/oil-stays-above-100-stocks-slide-tracking-mideast-war-4128371>

**BANK | Banks make do with available funds sans crunch**

- Notwithstanding pressure of liquidity amid splurges ahead of Eid festival, Bangladesh's interbank call-money market showed signs of stability with banks successfully making do with available cash thanks in part to central bank's backing. Although the volume of borrowings keeps increasing slowly, the weighted average rate (WAR) of call money stood just over 10% Sunday, compared to 10.38% on March 05, 2026.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/banks-make-do-with-available-funds-sans-crunch-1773599203>

**ENERGY | Govt moves to launch bid round amid ME crisis**

- The new government has moved to launch bid rounds offering both onshore and offshore blocks to international oil companies (IOCs). Of the 47 blocks planned for offer, 21 lie in onshore areas and 26 in offshore ones. State-run Petrobangla has already sweetened further the drafts of the model production sharing contract (MPSC) to lure the IOCs in the forthcoming bid rounds.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-moves-to-launch-bid-round-amid-me-crisis-1773599500>

**FINTECH | Simpaisa acquires aamarPay, invests USD 1.0 Mn in Bangladesh fintech**

- Simpaisa has acquired aamarPay and invested nearly USD 1.0 Mn to expand digital payment services in Bangladesh. The investment marks a foreign fintech investment in a Payment System Operator (PSO) in Bangladesh, says a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/press-releases/news/simpaisa-acquires-aamarpay-invests-1m-bangladesh-fintech-4129131>

**RMG | NBR moves to ease raw material sourcing for 1,100 non-bonded RMG factories**

- The National Board of Revenue is set to remove restrictions preventing non-bonded exporters from sourcing raw materials locally through back-to-back letters of credit (LCs), a move expected to ease exports and improve access to inputs for hundreds of garment factories.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/nbr-moves-ease-raw-material-sourcing-1100-non-bonded-rmg-factories-1386991>

**Govt likely to relax fuel purchase caps from today**

- The government is set to ease restrictions on fuel lifting for vehicles from Sunday, amid mounting pressure on refuelling stations ahead of the Eid travel rush, while authorities insist that adequate supplies will be maintained throughout the holiday period.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/environment/natural-resources/energy/news/govt-likely-relax-fuel-purchase-caps-today-4128766>

### **IMF Loan: Bangladesh may get next tranche in June**

- Bangladesh could receive a USD 1.3 Bn tranche from its loan programme with the International Monetary Fund by June if the new government moves ahead with reforms to make the dollar exchange rate more market-based, strengthen revenue collection, reduce subsidies, and address weaknesses in the banking sector. A three-member high-level IMF delegation is scheduled to arrive in Dhaka on March 23 for a two-day visit.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/imf-loan-bangladesh-may-get-next-tranche-june-4128866>

### **Bangladesh among 16 nations facing new US unfair-trade probes**

- US administration on Wednesday (11 March) said it was launching two new trade investigations into excess industrial capacity in 16 major trading partners and into forced labor, to rebuild tariff pressure after the US Supreme Court tore down much of Trump's tariff program last month.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/world/bangladesh-among-16-nations-facing-new-us-unfair-trade-probes-1384531>

### **US probes Bangladesh's export incentives, BGMEA 'uncomfortable'**

- President of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) described Bangladesh's inclusion in the investigation as "uncomfortable" and "without logical basis". He added that export incentives in Bangladesh are minimal, while questions might arise about agricultural subsidies, the US itself heavily subsidises its farmers, whereas Bangladesh primarily subsidises fertilisers. Former member of the Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission told that the incentives fall within the WTO policy.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/us-initiates-trade-investigation-bangladesh-and-major-exporters-1385396>

### **Shipping costs spiral as Iran war prompts new surcharges**

- Bangladeshi exporters and importers are facing higher shipping costs as major global carriers introduce war-related surcharges following the US-Israel war on Iran. The extra fees, ranging from USD 500-USD 4,000 per container, threaten to push up export prices, delay deliveries, and disrupt trade flows to the Middle East and other markets.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/shipping-costs-spiral-iran-war-prompts-new-surcharges-4128606>

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/freight-rates-triple-middle-east-crisis-cuts-air-cargo-capacity-1386266>

### **Trade deficit widens 17.4% in July-January**

- Bangladesh's trade deficit, the gap between what it buys and sells abroad, widened by 17.44% in the July-January period of fiscal year 2025-26, due mainly to higher imports and weaker export earnings.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/trade-deficit-widens-174-july-january-4127556>

### **US dollar hovers near 2026 highs as oil's rise spurs hawkish central bank bets**

- The dollar extended its gains on Thursday to hold near its strongest levels this year as surging crude prices threatened to spur inflation and force central banks to adopt more hawkish policy stances.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/us-dollar-hovers-near-2026-highs-oils-rise-spurs-hawkish-central-bank-bets-4127006>

### **Individuals raise stakes in Treasury bills, bonds**

- Individual investment in government treasury bills and bonds has grown steadily from just 0.3% to 0.83% of outstanding, as savers seek safer instruments and better interest rates amid limited investment options and uncertainty in the financial system. Total investment in T-bills and bonds reached BDT 7.27 Tn by December 2025.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/293972/individuals-raise-stakes-in-treasury-bills-bonds>

### **Family cards could reduce poverty to 11.3%**

- The government's "Family Card" programme, which will provide BDT 2,500 a month to poor and vulnerable households, could reduce the country's poverty rate by more than 7 percentage points if carried out effectively.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/family-cards-could-reduce-poverty-113-4127561>

### **Eid sales surge despite temporary slowdown**

- Clothing sales at fashion retailers started off strong before facing a slowdown over the last few days this Eid-ul-Fitr season amid broader economic uncertainty triggered by the United States and Israel's war on Iran.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/eid-sales-surge-despite-temporary-slowdown-4128636>

**NBFI | Crisis-hit People's Leasing seeks BDT 7.5 Bn stimulus from govt for revival**

- Crisis-hit People's Leasing and Financial Services Ltd (PLFS) has formally sought a financial stimulus of BDT 7.50 Bn from the government to complete its restructuring process and resume full-scale operations. Among the proposed restructuring measures include converting existing liabilities into interest-free principal payments over a specified period, exploring the conversion of depositor claims into company equity, and restarting SME and collateral-based lending to generate fresh revenue. According to the company, approximately BDT 2.0 Bn has been recovered from defaulting borrowers since July 2021, and around BDT 840 Mn has already been repaid to nearly 1,900 depositors.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/crisis-hit-peoples-leasing-seeks-tk-75b-stimulus-from-govt-for-revival>

**STEEL & CEMENT | Rod prices jump BDT 10,000 per tonne in 10 days, cement up BDT 25 per bag**

- Over the past 10 days, steel rod prices have risen by up to BDT 10,000 per tonne, while cement prices have increased by BDT 20-25 per bag, according to market data. Industry players say higher import costs – particularly for scrap and freight – driven partly by tensions in the Middle East, along with a gradual increase in construction activity after the national election are pushing prices upward.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rod-prices-jump-tk10000-tonne-10-days-cement-tk25-bag-1384486>

**ENERGY | Nat'l grid receiving 8.0mmcf/d gas from Srikail fifth well**

- Bangladesh's national gas grid Saturday started receiving around 8.0 Mn cubic feet per day (mmcf/d) of natural gas from onshore Srikail-5 hydrocarbon well. According to BAPEX, this well is expected to supply gas for around 10 years, with estimated natural gas reserve of 40 Bn cubic feet (Bcf) and 28 Bcf is considered extractable.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/natl-grid-receiving-80mmcf-d-gas-from-srikail-fifth-well-1773507989>

**ENERGY | Rooppur Power Plant Unit-1: Fuel loading to begin April 7**

- Fuel loading at Unit-1 of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP) is scheduled to begin on April 7, marking a major milestone toward starting electricity production at Bangladesh's first nuclear facility by mid-year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/rooppur-power-plant-unit-1-fuel-loading-begin-april-7-4128921>

**ENERGY | Islamic Development Bank agrees to lend USD 1.0 Bn**

- An Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) mission has assured Bangladesh of providing USD 1.0 Bn in loan for setting up a 3.0-million-tonne-capacity oil refinery, officials say and hope it would cut import dependence for petroleum fuels. The loan is expected to be approved at the IsDB board next month and would sign a deal in June this year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/islamic-development-bank-agrees-to-lend-10b-1773507809>

**RMG | Bangladeshi garments fetch over 10% higher prices in EU than US**

- Bangladeshi apparels are fetching over 10% higher prices in European markets on average compared to the United States, even for similar products, according to a recent study. On average, leading exporters fetch 5-18% higher prices in the EU than the US for 10 major apparel products.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladeshi-garments-fetch-over-10-higher-prices-eu-us-4128621>

**RMG | Apparel exporters' raw-material costs surge 32pc, export loss looms**

- Bangladesh's textile manufacturers, apparel exporters and global buyers alike feel mounting financial pressure under chain effects of the Middle East turmoil that disrupts major shipping routes and hikes freight, container shortages, energy, and cost of raw material like man-made fibre (MMF) and other synthetic textile materials.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/apparel-exporters-raw-material-costs-surge-32pc-export-loss-looms>

**TEXTILE | USDA cuts Bangladesh's cotton import forecast**

- The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has lowered its projection for Bangladesh's cotton imports, citing reduced domestic use of the key raw material for the textile industry.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/usda-cuts-bangladeshs-cotton-import-forecast-4127541>

## Important News: Stocks

### ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank delays US investor's entry into mCash subsidiary

- Islami Bank has decided to postpone its earlier plan to onboard B100 Holdings LLC, USA, as a strategic investor in mCash Ltd, a subsidiary formed to operate mobile financial services. The board has decided to postpone the earlier decision to complete the necessary due diligence and obtain regulatory clearance.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/islami-bank-delays-us-investors-entry-mcash-subsiary-4129256>

### BANKASIA | Kayesh Chowdhury joins Bank Asia as DMD

- Mr. Kayesh Chowdhury has joined Bank Asia PLC as Deputy Managing Director (DMD) and Zonal Head – Chattogram, effective from 11 March 2026.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/kayesh-chowdhury-joins-bank-asia-as-dmd>

### TRUSTBANK | Trust Bank gets BB exemption for multiple nominee directors

- Bangladesh Bank has allowed Trust Bank PLC to appoint more than one director to its board by exempting the lender from a provision of the law.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/trust-bank-gets-bb-exemption-multiple-nominee-directors-4129286>

### INDEXAGRO | BSEC fines Index Agro and Prudential Capital for regulatory breaches

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has imposed financial penalties on Index Agro Industries Limited and brokerage firm Prudential Capital Limited for violating securities laws and regulatory requirements.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-fines-index-agro-and-prudential-capital-regulatory-breaches-1387916>

### WALTONHIL | BSEC clears Walton Digi-Tech and Hi-Tech merger

- According to a disclosure made on March 16, 2026, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission issued a No Objection Certificate regarding the merger between listed electronics manufacturer Walton Hi-Tech Industries and non-listed technology company Walton Digi-Tech Industries.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-clears-walton-digi-tech-and-hi-tech-merger-1387946>

### OLYMPIC | Olympic turns to solar power as country strides to secure energy supply

- Olympic Industries has announced plans to install 1,000 kilowatt-peak (kWp) rooftop solar power plants at three of its factories to support manufacturing with clean energy. The project cost is estimated at BDT 41.51 Mn, which will come from the company's own funds.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/olympic-turns-to-solar-power-as-country-strides-to-secure-energy-supply-1773598412>

### EXCHANGE | BSEC, ADB discuss strategies to boost capital market to 40pc of GDP

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have charted a transformative course to quadruple the size of the national capital market, aiming to elevate its contribution from the current 10 percent of GDP to at least 40 percent within the next three years.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bsec-adb-discuss-strategies-to-boost-capital-market-to-40pc-of-gdp>

### EXCHANGE | DSE certifies 11 more brokerages to launch own order management systems

- Certificates were handed over at a ceremony at the DSE Tower on 11 March, where DSE Managing Director Nuzhat Anwar presented the FIX certifications to representatives of the brokerage houses

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-certifies-11-more-brokerages-launch-own-order-management-systems-1386901>

### EXCHANGE | Foreigners prefer Square Pharma, BRAC Bank in February, but pull back from Olympic, GP

- Foreign investors increased their exposure to several blue-chip stocks in February, particularly in the banking and pharmaceutical sectors, while pulling back from companies including Olympic Industries, Grameenphone (GP) and DBH Finance.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/foreigners-prefer-square-pharma-brac-bank-february-pull-back-olympic-gp-1385561>

## **REGULATOR | DSE certifies 11 more brokerages to launch own order management systems**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) is working to introduce a comprehensive framework to define and regulate public interest companies (PICs). According to the proposed structure, entities dealing directly with public funds or securities, such as banks, financial institutions, insurance companies, stockbrokers, stock dealers and merchant banks, would automatically fall under the PIC category regardless of capital size. Public limited companies with paid-up capital exceeding BDT 50 Mn, private limited companies with capital above BDT 150 Mn, companies with annual revenue exceeding BDT 1 Bn, and companies borrowing BDT 200 Mn or more from banks or other public sources, may also be classified as PICs.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/bsec-prepares-new-rules-to-regulate-public-interest-companies>

## **NAVANAPHAR | BSEC steps in amid turmoil at Navana Pharma**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has ordered an investigation into allegations that the board of Navana Pharmaceuticals was forcefully taken over during a contentious meeting in January by several individuals, including sponsor shareholder Sayeed Ahmed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bsec-steps-amid-turmoil-navana-pharma-4127546>

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