

Weekly Market Update

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+0.55%) gained 27.04 points and closed the week at 4,910.61 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (-0.70%) lost -13.13 points and stood at 1,869.42 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (-0.26%) lost -2.67 points and stood at 1,006.00 points. The large cap index CDSET (+0.08%) gained 0.84 points and closed at 1,013.82 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of +0.93%, +0.86%, +0.53%, +0.90%, respectively.

Total Turnover During The Week (DSE): BDT 14.2 billion (USD 116 million)

Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 3.5 billion (Δ Week: -1.2%)

Market P/E: 13.8x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed four sessions this week. It started negatively on Sunday (-0.30%) and remained negative on Monday (-0.15%). However, it turned positive on Tuesday (+0.08%) but ended the week positively on Thursday (+0.93%).

Sectoral Performance

· Most of the financial sectors posted positive performance this week. Life Insurance booked the highest gain of 2.16% followed by Bank (+1.78%), General Insurance (+1.61%), NBFi (+1.39%), and Mutual Fund (-1.56%).

· Non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted mixed performance this week. Engineering booked the highest gain of 0.89% followed by Fuel & Power (+0.24%), and Food & Allied (+0.13%). Telecommunication experienced the highest loss of 0.99% followed by Pharmaceutical (-0.72%).

Macroeconomic Arena

Forex reserves hit 3-year high at USD 33 Bn. Chattogram Port logs robust 11% cargo growth in 2025. Uncertainty in politics undermines economic rebound. Remittances hit USD 2.93 Bn in 28 days of December. Foreign aid commitments jump 133%, disbursements up 26% in Jul-Nov. Revenue strain deepens as NBR turmoil dents collection in 2025. FUEL & POWER | Rooppur Unit 1 nears power generation, grid connection likely in March-April. Inside Bangladesh's new tobacco law: Public smoking fine hiked sevenfold to BDT 2,000; BDT 5,000 set for using vape. 15 years of investment, little modal shift.

TELECOMMUNICATION | Telecom giants leave a heavier carbon footprint in Bangladesh. ENGINEERING | Toyota Tsusho expands direct Toyota operations in Bangladesh. BANK | BB extends payment period for industrial raw material imports. Bangladesh's UN-defined role as regional hub undermined. Manufacturers fret over BDT 120 Bn unsold apparel raw material. State firms' classified loans doubled in FY25. House rent climbs for three consecutive quarters. INSURANCE | Non-life insurers fear loss of business without agents. IT | Climate-resilient digital lifeline planned for remote islands. Large-scale manufacturing down 0.78% in Oct. Aid commitments on hold as donors await Feb polls. Korean firm eyes rail coach assembly.

Stock Market Arena

GPHISPAT | GPH Ispat declares 5% cash dividend. TAMIJTEX | TAMIJUDDIN TEXTILE AGM APPROVES 22% DIVIDEND. ICB | ICB hit by BDT 1.40 Bn loss as five banks merge. AL-HAJTEX | How Al-Haj Textile posts record profit in FY24. EXCHANGE | Bangladesh Bank buys USD 3.05 Bn to stabilise forex market. EXCHANGE | T-bill yields edge down. EXCHANGE | BB issues risk-based supervision framework for banks. EXCHANGE | Volatile market pushes investors to empty 66,500 BO accounts in 2025. BXPHERMA, SINGERBD | Norway fund's Bangladesh stake rises 3.3% after six years, exits Beximco Pharma, Singer. BEXIMCO | Revival plan shelved, Beximco factories to be put on open tender. BXPHERMA | Beximco Pharma trading suspended on London bourse. BEXIMCO | Beximco, 9 other firms face lawsuits over failure to repay BDT 7 Bn wage loans

DSEX ended in Green (0.55%) in the week

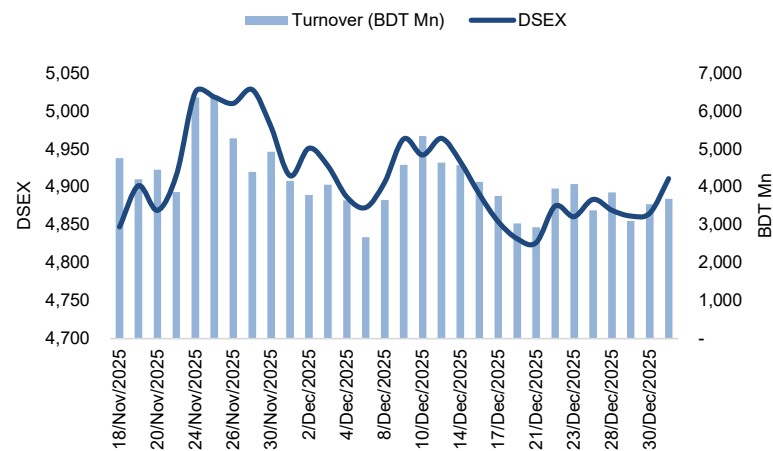
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2024	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	4,910.61	4,883.57	+27.04	4,865.34	0.55%	0.93%
DS30	1,869.42	1,882.55	-13.13	1,853.34	-0.70%	0.86%
DSES	1,006.00	1,008.67	-2.67	1,000.72	-0.26%	0.53%
CDSET	1,013.82	1,012.98	+0.84	1,004.81	0.08%	0.90%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	6,807,792	6,768,734	0.58%
	Mn USD	55,658	55,339	
Turnover	Mn BDT	14,173	14,347	-1.21%
	Mn USD	116	117	
Average Daily	Mn BDT	3,543	3,587	-1.21%
	Mn USD	29	29	
Volume	Mn Shares	456	476	-4.34%

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
BDWELDING	19.0	14.8	+28.4%	824	40.5	NM	1.7x
TALLUSPIN	6.9	5.5	+25.5%	616	26.6	NM	0.5x
ISLAMICFIN	9.9	8.4	+17.9%	1,389	24.0	NM	NM
APEXSPINN	193.2	166.1	+16.3%	1,623	146.0	57.7x	2.3x
REGENTTEX	4.0	3.5	+14.3%	514	4.8	NM	0.2x
GENNEXT	2.7	2.4	+12.5%	1,336	7.6	NM	0.2x
PENINSULA	18.8	16.9	+11.2%	2,231	40.4	52.2x	0.7x
AAMRATECH	12.2	11.0	+10.9%	789	4.9	NM	0.6x
SAIHAMTEX	18.2	16.5	+10.3%	1,648	121.1	33.1x	0.4x
BDFINANCE	14.0	12.7	+10.2%	2,635	5.2	NM	NM

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
ILFSL	0.6	0.7	-9.0%	135	2.8	NM	NM
JAMUNAOIL	168.2	184.7	-8.9%	18,573	91.5	2.8x	0.6x
ZEALBANGLA	137.6	149.4	-7.9%	826	10.7	NM	NM
POPULAR1MF	2.4	2.6	-7.7%	718	4.7	NM	0.3x
IFIC1STMF	2.4	2.6	-7.7%	437	4.3	NM	0.3x
TRUSTB1MF	2.4	2.6	-7.7%	729	1.2	NM	0.3x
FIRSTFIN	2.5	2.7	-7.4%	296	2.9	NM	NM
DBH1STMF	6.4	6.9	-7.2%	768	4.6	NM	0.7x
ARAMIT	174.6	187.5	-6.9%	1,048	18.2	NM	1.4x
NORTHERN	87.4	93.8	-6.8%	187	2.1	NM	1.1x

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
CITYBANK	24.7	24.6	+0.4%	37,574	495.4	2.9x	0.6x
UTTARABANK	23.7	22.3	+6.3%	22,995	410.2	4.5x	0.8x
RAHIMAFOD	155.1	160.5	-3.4%	3,102	378.0	NM	16.3x
SONALIPAPR	237.2	219.1	+8.3%	7,815	372.7	28.8x	1.5x
ORIONINFU	357.1	347.4	+2.8%	7,270	364.7	NM	21.5x
SIMTEX	21.8	22.3	-2.2%	1,735	361.2	21.6x	1.0x
BSC	111.2	112.4	-1.1%	16,962	344.6	5.8x	1.0x
SAIHAMCOT	19.6	20.0	-2.0%	2,916	318.3	19.6x	0.5x
SQURPHARMA	198.3	200.9	-1.3%	175,783	297.3	7.0x	1.2x
FINEFOODS	380.4	380.8	-0.1%	5,316	204.1	62.1x	22.1x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
IDLC	37.0	+3.6%	16,150	6.4x	0.8x
RUNNERAUTO	37.8	+3.0%	4,292	18.9x	0.6x
BARKAPOW	6.9	+3.0%	1,625	6.6x	0.3x
EBL	25.0	+2.9%	39,895	5.0x	0.8x
GHAIL	10.9	+2.8%	2,353	NM	0.9x
HEIDELCEM	221.7	+2.6%	12,527	44.7x	3.0x
MTB	12.6	+2.4%	13,626	4.5x	0.4x
TRUSTBANK	17.7	+2.3%	17,595	4.7x	0.6x
BRACBANK	64.5	+2.2%	128,415	8.2x	1.2x
BANKASIA	18.6	+2.2%	23,854	4.5x	0.6x

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,395.2	1,370.8	1,367.20	+1.78%	+2.05%
NBFI	878.0	866.0	860.23	+1.39%	+2.07%
Mutual Fund	478.5	486.1	478.27	-1.56%	+0.06%
General Insurance	2,882.4	2,836.7	2,879.11	+1.61%	+0.11%
Life Insurance	1,694.1	1,658.3	1,691.42	+2.16%	+0.16%
Telecommunication	4,425.3	4,469.7	4,431.51	-0.99%	-0.14%
Pharmaceutical	2,777.5	2,797.7	2,764.29	-0.72%	+0.48%
Fuel & Power	1,001.6	999.2	996.11	+0.24%	+0.55%
Cement	1,757.3	1,777.2	1,739.18	-1.12%	+1.04%
Services & Real Estate	959.9	948.4	949.82	+1.22%	+1.07%
Engineering	2,300.9	2,280.6	2,290.78	+0.89%	+0.44%
Food & Allied	13,002.3	12,984.9	12,942.72	+0.13%	+0.46%
IT	1,707.3	1,693.0	1,703.25	+0.84%	+0.24%
Textile	1,072.7	1,062.1	1,060.76	+0.99%	+1.12%
Paper & Printing	4,586.1	4,351.9	4,485.61	+5.38%	+2.24%
Tannery	1,827.3	1,816.8	1,806.05	+0.58%	+1.18%
Jute	11,886.7	11,755.4	11,805.57	+1.12%	+0.69%
Ceramics	372.2	367.2	370.10	+1.36%	+0.58%
Miscellaneous	3,888.4	3,894.8	3,881.56	-0.16%	+0.17%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	446.4	279.0	+59.99%	+13.89%	NM	7.7x
NBFI	37.6	31.7	+18.57%	+1.17%	NM	NM
Mutual Fund	63.6	83.4	-23.78%	+1.98%	NM	0.4x
General Insurance	182.9	228.9	-20.10%	+5.69%	13.6x	1.2x
Life Insurance	115.2	100.9	+14.22%	+3.59%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	44.6	35.6	+25.54%	+1.39%	12.8x	3.9x
Pharmaceutical	359.8	341.0	+5.51%	+11.20%	11.3x	1.4x
Fuel & Power	205.9	242.6	-15.13%	+6.41%	8.6x	0.5x
Cement	20.5	14.5	+41.75%	+0.64%	20.2x	1.8x
Services & Real Estate	88.7	88.9	-0.22%	+2.76%	16.8x	0.4x
Engineering	251.4	363.5	-30.85%	+7.82%	13.5x	0.7x
Food & Allied	325.8	387.7	-15.96%	+10.14%	19.0x	3.6x
IT	123.9	138.6	-10.58%	+3.86%	23.4x	1.4x
Textile	556.6	614.4	-9.41%	+17.32%	NM	0.7x
Paper & Printing	138.9	78.3	+77.38%	+4.32%	NM	1.1x
Tannery	20.5	23.3	-11.94%	+0.64%	NM	1.4x
Jute	19.0	18.3	+3.87%	+0.59%	NM	NM
Ceramics	35.7	53.1	-32.68%	+1.11%	NM	1.1x
Miscellaneous	176.5	277.8	-36.46%	+5.49%	95.7x	1.7x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
CROWNCEMNT	45.7	-0.7%	6,786	9.7x	0.7x
GP	256.5	-0.5%	346,352	11.8x	7.0x
ESQUIRENIT	20.2	-0.5%	2,725	NM	0.3x
ENVOYTEX	48.3	-0.4%	8,102	5.3x	0.8x
BXPHARMA	101.9	-0.2%	45,459	7.1x	0.9x
BSRMSTEEL	63.0	-0.2%	23,685	4.5x	0.7x
SQURPHARMA	198.3	-0.2%	175,783	7.0x	1.2x
OLYMPIC	137.3	-0.1%	27,452	13.6x	2.1x
KPCL	10.5	-	4,173	21.0x	0.5x
GPHISPAT	16.0	-	7,742	24.2x	0.3x

*BDT

*BDT Mn

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

Forex reserves hit 3-year high at USD 33 Bn

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves have surged to the USD 33 Bn mark, reaching a three-year high, bolstered by a massive influx of remittances and strategic dollar purchases by the central bank.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/forex-reserves-hit-3-year-high-at-33b-1767205465>

Chattogram Port logs robust 11% cargo growth in 2025

- Chattogram Port recorded a strong 11.17% year-on-year growth in cargo handling in 2025, alongside moderate increases in container throughput and vessel calls, signalling steady momentum in the country's external trade despite operational constraints and global uncertainties.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/chattogram-port-logs-robust-11-cargo-growth-2025-1323511>

Uncertainty in politics undermines economic rebound

- A mixed economic picture comes clear in the yearbook 2025 with Bangladesh having witnessed its external accounts fairly strengthened while stubborn inflation, weak private investment and deep-rooted stress in banking continuing to weigh on growth prospects.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/uncertainty-in-politics-undermines-economic-rebound-1767205579>

Remittances hit USD 2.93 Bn in 28 days of December

- The upward trend in remittances sent by expatriate Bangladeshis has continued in December, with receiving over USD 2.93 Bn in 28 days of the month. Bangladesh received USD 15.97 Bn inward remittance so far in the current fiscal year FY 2025-26.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/remittances-hit-293-billion-in-28-days-of-december>

Foreign aid commitments jump 133%, disbursements up 26% in Jul-Nov

- Foreign loan commitments from development partners rose sharply by 133% to USD 1.22 Bn in the first five months of the current 2025-26 fiscal year, while disbursements rose by 26.3% to USD 1.96 Bn, according to the latest data from the Economic Relations Division (ERD).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/foreign-loan-pledges-jump-133-1219b-first-5-months-fy26-1321801>

Revenue strain deepens as NBR turmoil dents collection in 2025

- The year 2025 ended with deepening concern over Bangladesh's weakening domestic revenue mobilisation, prompting economists and policymakers to warn about the government's ability to meet rising public expenditure.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/revenue-strain-deepens-as-nbr-turmoil-dents-collection-in-2025-1767205635>

FUEL & POWER | Rooppur Unit 1 nears power generation, grid connection likely in March-April

- Bangladesh's first nuclear power plant is now approaching the power generation stage, with fuel loading at Unit 1 of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Project likely to begin in early February, project officials said.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/rooppur-unit-1-nears-power-generation-grid-connection-likely-march-april-1323726>

Inside Bangladesh's new tobacco law: Public smoking fine hiked sevenfold to BDT 2,000; BDT 5,000 set for using vape

- With the promulgation of the Smoking and Tobacco Products Usage (Control) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, the government has sharply raised penalties for smoking in public places and drawn a firm regulatory line against emerging tobacco products such as e-cigarettes and vapes. Under the new ordinance, smoking in public places and public transport will now attract a fine of up to BDT 2,000, nearly seven times the BDT 300 penalty set under the original 2005 law. In plain terms, the once-casual cigarette on a roadside or bus stop is no longer cheap, nor officially tolerable.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/inside-bangladeshs-new-tobacco-law-public-smoking-fine-hiked-sevenfold-tk2000-tk5000-set>

15 years of investment, little modal shift

- An enormous amount of money had been invested in developing Bangladesh's communications system over the past 15 years but modal transport share remained heavily skewed toward overburdened roads for no significant shift to rail, water, or air transport.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/15-years-of-investment-little-modal-shift-1767043575>

TELECOMMUNICATION | 2025 telecom reset: Policy rewritten, but fault lines remain

- As 2025 draws to a close, Bangladesh's telecommunications sector stands at a pivotal juncture, reshaped by a wave of policy interventions that have altered how connectivity is regulated, owned and governed. Over the year, the government rolled out sweeping reforms to telecom licensing, amended decades-old surveillance laws, fast-tracked the entry of satellite internet through Starlink and revived plans to block unauthorised handsets through the National Equipment Identity Register (NEIR).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/2025-telecom-reset-policy-rewritten-fault-lines-remain-4068906>

BDT 440 Mn loan scam: ACC approves charge sheet against PK Halder, 17 others

- The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has approved a charge sheet against 18 people, including fugitive Prashanta Kumar Halder, also known as PK Halder, over the alleged embezzlement and laundering of BDT 440 Mn taken as a loan in the name of a fake institution.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/corruption/tk44-crore-loan-scam-acc-approves-charge-sheet-against-pk-halder-17-others>

2025 brings calm to external balance sheet, not to businesses

- In 2025, some macroeconomic indicators improved, but the mood on the ground did not. On the external front, the year opened on a stronger note. The country ends the year with record remittance inflows, a steadier foreign exchange market and rising dollar stocks. Together, they brought a welcome sense of relief to the country's external sector.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/2025-brings-calm-external-balance-sheet-not-businesses-4068916>

POWER & FUEL | SGFL earns BDT 5.39 Bn profit in FY25

- According to the audited accounts for the 2024–25 fiscal year, SGFL generated total revenue of BDT 27.41 Bn from the production, processing, and sale of natural gas and petroleum products, including condensate, petrol, diesel, kerosene, octane, NGL, and LPG.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/sgfl-earns-tk53859-crore-profit-fy25-1321396>

BANK | Janata Bank's top 33 clients default on BDT 561.31 Bn

- State-owned Janata Bank's exposure to a small group of risky borrowers has intensified, with defaulted loans from just 33 large clients now totalling BDT 561.31 Bn, according to internal documents reviewed by The Business Standard.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/janata-banks-top-33-clients-default-tk56131cr-1321381>

TEXTILE | Bangladeshi apparel exporters have to absorb 40% of EU tariff cost after 2029: Study

- Bangladesh's apparel exporters may have to absorb up to 40% of European Union tariff costs after 2029, following the country's LDC graduation, by lowering product prices to stay competitive, a new study finds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/bangladeshi-apparel-exporters-have-absorb-40-eu-tariff-cost-after-2029-study-1322201>

TELECOMMUNICATION | Telecom giants leave a heavier carbon footprint in Bangladesh

- Global telecom giants are generating more carbon emissions in Bangladesh than in most of their developed markets, company disclosures show, a pattern environmental activists say exposes weaknesses in international climate agreements. In 2024, Norwegian telecom group Telenor, the parent company of leading local operator Grameenphone, recorded its highest greenhouse gas emissions in Bangladesh among all its global operations, according to Telenor's annual report.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/telecom-giants-leave-heavier-carbon-footprint-bangladesh-4068941>

ENGINEERING | Toyota Tsusho expands direct Toyota operations in Bangladesh

- Toyota Tsusho Asia Pacific Pte Ltd has strengthened its nationwide commitment to customers in Bangladesh by delivering Toyota's global standards of quality and service through its wholly owned subsidiary, Toyota Bangladesh Limited (TBL).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/corporates/toyota-tsusho-expands-direct-toyota-operations-bangladesh-1321821>

BANK | BB extends payment period for industrial raw material imports

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has extended the usance (deferred payment) period to 270 days for imports of industrial raw materials, aiming to ease trade and support the manufacturing sector.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bangladesh-bank-extends-usance-period-key-imports-270-days-1322066>

Bangladesh's UN-defined role as regional hub undermined

- Bangladesh's UN-mandated role as a regional logistics hub is getting undercut as manifest in the value of its re-exported goods plummeting, according to the first-quarter statistics of this fiscal year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladeshs-un-defined-role-as-regional-hub-undermined-1766944560>

Manufacturers fret over BDT 120 Bn unsold apparel raw material

- Millers fret over a stockpile of unsold local yarn worth BDT 120 Bn amid massive influx of the cheap-rated clothing raw material, allegedly meant to undercut domestic industry, manufacturers say.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/manufacturers-fret-over-tk120b-unsold-apparel-raw-material-1766944458>

State firms' classified loans doubled in FY25

- Classified loans of state-run firms more than doubled in fiscal year 2024-25 (FY25), with the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) accounting for nearly 88 % of the total amount. According to the Bangladesh Economic Review, classified loans of state-run firms rose to BDT 4.29 Bn at the end of FY25, up from BDT 1.99 Bn a year earlier. Of that amount, BJMC alone held BDT 3.77 Bn, equivalent to 87.88 % of the total, up sharply from BDT 1.31 Bn in the previous fiscal year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/state-firms-classified-loans-doubled-fy25-4068071>

House rent climbs for three consecutive quarters

- The House Rent Index (HRI), which tracks quarterly changes in rental costs, climbed to 5.19 % in the July-September quarter of fiscal 2025-26, up slightly from 5.16 % in April-June and 5.14 % in January-March, according to data compiled by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/house-rent-climbs-three-consecutive-quarters-4068056>

INSURANCE | Non-life insurers fear loss of business without agents

- Non-life insurers fear losing business because of the ban on agent commission, while the insurance regulator says it took the action to stop the misuse of the tool to attract premiums in an effort to discipline the sector.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/non-life-insurers-fear-loss-of-business-without-agents-1766941091>

IT | Climate-resilient digital lifeline planned for remote islands

- The ICT Division has proposed a USD99.84-Mn project to build climate-resilient digital infrastructure across some of most remote and disaster-prone islands, targeting 77 unions and 701 villages in five coastal districts.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/climate-resilient-digital-lifeline-planned-for-remote-islands-1766944966>

Large-scale manufacturing down 0.78% in Oct

- The large-scale manufacturing (LSM) sector contracted by 0.78 % in October year on year due to a sharp slowdown in the garment industry, according to the latest Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data. LSM, which accounts for about 11 % of the gross domestic product (GDP), was dragged down by an 8.23 % year-on-year fall in apparel output. Best clothing retailers

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/large-scale-manufacturing-down-078pc-in-oct-1766772233?date=27-12-2025>

Aid commitments on hold as donors await Feb polls

- Almost all of Bangladesh's development partners have put their aid commitments on hold ahead of the national polls in February next year, adopting a wait-and-see approach until a politically stable government is in place, analysts said on Saturday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/aid-commitments-on-hold-as-donors-await-feb-polls-1766855235>

Korean firm eyes rail coach assembly

- A delegation from a leading South Korean rolling-stock manufacturer is expected to visit Dhaka soon to explore the possibility of setting up an assembly plant for metro- and conventional-railway coaches in Bangladesh.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/korean-firm-eyes-rail-coach-assembly-1766855542>

Decades of foreign-funded local governance projects yield little while debt mount

- Despite 25 years of foreign loans for local governance and capacity-building projects, Bangladesh has seen limited gains while debt burdens and dependence on external financing have increased manyfold, according to an assessment by the Economic Relations Division (ERD).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/decades-foreign-funded-local-governance-projects-yield-little-while-debt-moun-1320196>

RNPP project revision faces delays amid financial scrutiny

- The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP) project, originally planned for 9.5 years with a budget of BDT 1.13 Tn, is set to reach the end of its tenure next Tuesday. So far, around 72.5 % of the works has been completed. The project revision, which seeks to extend the completion date to June 2028 and increase the total cost by 23 % to over BDT 1.39 Tn, has hit major hurdles. The Planning Commission sent the proposal back to the Ministry of Science and Technology with more than 20 queries.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/rnpp-project-revision-faces-delays-amid-financial-scrutiny-1766855856>

A turbulent year for the premier seaport

- From the start to the end, Chattogram port remained in the national spotlight this year -- for protests, controversy, tariff hikes and other significant policy decisions like handing over operations of major terminals to foreign companies. Throughout the year, political uncertainty, labour unrest and sensitive reform decisions all collided at the facility that handles more than 90 % of the country's international trade. It barely got any breathing space for trade to bloom.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/turbulent-year-the-premier-seaport-4067436>

BANK | Credit card use jumps domestically and overseas: Bangladesh Bank

- Credit card use in Bangladesh recorded a sharp rise in October, with both domestic transactions and spending by Bangladeshis overseas increasing significantly compared to the previous month, says the Bangladesh Bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/credit-card-use-jumps-domestically-and-overseas-bangladesh-bank-1319256>

FUEL & POWER | Industry first in gas supply to fuel economic growth

- Industrial consumers will get top priority in gas supply as the government prepares such a fuel-feeding recipe aimed at fuelling economic growth, now largely subdued following political upheavals, sources say. "Industry will be on top of our priority and we want that the industrial consumers will get as much gas as possible next year to run their industries," state-run Petrobangla Chairman Md Rezanur Rahman told The Financial Express Saturday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/industry-first-in-gas-supply-to-fuel-economic-growth-1766854766>

Important News: Stocks

GPISPAT | GPH Ispat declares 5% cash dividend

- GPH Ispat Limited yesterday declared a 5 % cash dividend for the financial year (FY) that ended on June 30, 2025. The declaration was made at the company's 19th annual general meeting (AGM), held virtually, according to a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gph-ispat-declares-5-cash-dividend-4070271>

TAMIJTEX | TAMIJUDDIN TEXTILE AGM APPROVES 22% DIVIDEND

- The 42nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Tamijuddin Textile Mills PLC was held at Gulshan Club in Dhaka on Tuesday. The meeting was chaired by Chowdhury Mohammad Hanif Shoeb, Chairman of the company. The AGM approved a 12% cash dividend and 10% stock dividend for the shareholders.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/tamijuddin-textile-agm-approves-22pc-dividend-1767203610>

ICB | ICB hit by BDT 1.40 Bn loss as five banks merge

- Amid mounting financial strain due to a volatile capital market and poor investment choices, the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB), a state-owned investment bank, has taken another hit, with investments worth around BDT 1.40 Bn in five banks wiped out following their merger.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/icb-hit-tk140cr-loss-five-banks-merge-1322141>

AL-HAJTEX | How Al-Haj Textile posts record profit in FY24

- Al-Haj Textile Mills Limited has surprised the market by posting a sharp turnaround in its financial performance in FY24, reporting its highest-ever profit and announcing a record dividend, despite having remained loss-making for much of the year. The company's audited financial statements show that the profit surge was driven primarily by a one-off accounting recognition linked to the resolution of a long-running legal dispute with Agrani Bank, rather than a strong operational recovery.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/how-al-haj-textile-posts-record-profit-fy24-1322136>

EXCHANGE | Bangladesh Bank buys USD 3.05 Bn to stabilise forex market

- Bangladesh Bank has stepped up purchases of US dollars from commercial banks to stabilise the foreign exchange market following a sharp rise in inward remittances this year.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-bank-buys-305-billion-to-stabilise-forex-market>

EXCHANGE | T-bill yields edge down

- The yields on treasury bills (T-bills) edged down on Sunday as the central bank purchased USD115 Mn more from three banks on the day to keep the exchange rate stable. The cut-off yield, generally known as interest rate, on the 91-Day T-bills fell to 10.52 % on the day from 10.53 % of the previous level while the yield on 182-day T-bills remained almost unchanged at 10.65 %.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/t-bill-yields-edge-down-1766945170>

EXCHANGE | BB issues risk-based supervision framework for banks

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has issued a detailed framework outlining how banks will shift to risk-based supervision (RBS), with the new supervisory system set to be implemented across the banking sector from January 2026.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-issues-risk-based-supervision-framework-for-banks-1766944879>

EXCHANGE | Volatile market pushes investors to empty 66,500 BO accounts in 2025

- Data from the Central Depository Bangladesh Limited (CDBL) show that at least 66,514 BO accounts were emptied of shareholdings in 2025, underscoring the depth of investor disenchantment amid falling indices, shrinking market capitalisation and ongoing economic uncertainty. As of 24 December, the total number of BO accounts stood at 1.639 Mn, marking a decline of 42,789 compared to December 2024. The fall has been visible across all categories of investors.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/volatile-market-pushes-investors-empty-66500-bo-accounts-2025-1320311>

BXPHARMA, SINGERBD | Norway fund's Bangladesh stake rises 3.3% after six years, exits Beximco Pharma, Singer

- Norway's sovereign wealth fund, the world's largest investment fund, has modestly increased its equity exposure in Bangladesh after six years, even as it exited holdings in Beximco Pharmaceuticals and Singer Bangladesh, citing company-specific risks and limited scope for diversification in the local market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/norway-funds-bangladesh-stake-rises-33-after-six-years-exits-beximco-pharma-singer>

BEXIMCO | Revival plan shelved, Beximco factories to be put on open tender

- The interim government has decided to lease out debt-ridden Beximco factories through an open tender, shelving a near-final deal with the Japanese firm Revival to resume its textile unit, as lenders scramble to recover over BDT 350 Bn in defaulted loans.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/revival-plan-shelved-beximco-factories-be-put-open-tender-1319236>

BXPPhARMA | Beximco Pharma trading suspended on London bourse

- Beximco Pharmaceuticals has announced that trading of its global depositary receipts (GDRs) on London's Alternative Investment Market (AIM) will be suspended from January 2, 2026, due to delays in publishing its annual financial results for the year ended June 30, 2025.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/beximco-pharma-trading-suspended-london-bourse-4066186>

BEXIMCO | Beximco, 9 other firms face lawsuits over failure to repay BDT 7 Bn wage loans

- The interim government has decided to take legal action against owners of at least 10 struggling industrial firms, including the Beximco Group, after more than BDT 7 Bn in interest-free loans given to clear workers' wage arrears were not repaid within the agreed timeframe.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/beximco-9-other-firms-face-lawsuits-over-failure-repay-tk700cr-wage-loans-1320281>

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