

## Weekly Market Update

### Capital Market Overview

The market closed positive this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+0.01%) gained +0.64 points and closed the week at 5,259.11 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (-0.34%) closed in red and lost 6.26 points and stood at 1,859.10 points. The shariah based index DSES (-0.46%) also closed in red and stood at 1,210.46 points. DSEX, DS30 and DSES all posted negative YTD return of -15.78%, -18.58%, and -12.96% respectively.

**Total Turnover During The Week (DSE)** : BDT 26.0 billion (USD 312.3 million)

**Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV)**: BDT 5.2 billion (Δ% Week: +7.6%)

**Market P/E**: 16.62x

**Market P/B**: 2.13x

### Daily Index Movement during the Week:

The market performed five sessions during this week. Market opened this week with a negative movement of -0.37% in the first session and remained negative in the second session and third session respectively by -0.27% and -0.39%. In the fourth session market rebounded by +0.73% and in the last session, market continued to be positive by +0.32%.

### Sectoral Performance:

- All the financial sectors showed negative performance this week except General Insurance (+0.01%). Life Insurance experienced the highest loss by 1.72% followed by Banks (-1.06%), Mutual Funds (-0.95%) and NBFIs (-0.94%).

- Non-financial sectors showed mixed performance this week. Engineering posted the highest gain by 0.78% followed by Pharmaceuticals (+0.47%). Power experienced the highest loss by 4.48% followed by Telecommunication (-0.66%) and Food and Allied (-0.05%).

### Macroeconomic arena:

- Export earnings during the first four months of the current fiscal year (FY) experienced growth of 18.65% compared to the corresponding period last year, as it stood at USD 13.65 billion. The export performance was 12.57% higher than the quarterly target set for this fiscal.

- Private sector credit growth fell slightly down to 14.67% in September on a year-on-year basis from 14.95% a month ago, due to lower demand for loans ahead of the national elections. This growth was more than 2.0% points lower than the Bangladesh Bank (BB)'s target of 16.8% for the first half of the current fiscal year.

- Bangladesh's remittance inflow experienced a rise in October after its decline in September this year as the country received USD 1.239 billion in remittance from Bangladeshis living in various countries while it had received USD 1.138 in September.

- Inflation came down to the lowest in 18 months, after falling in every month so far this year, to 5.40% in October due to the continuous fall in food prices. October's inflation figure was 3 basis points lower from September.

### Stock Market arena:

- Almost 64% of the listed non-bank financial institutions (NBFI) witnessed huge drops in their earnings in the first nine months of the year due to interest rate cutbacks as 14 of the 22 NBFIs saw their earnings per share (EPS) plummet in this period. Liquidity crunch in the first half of the year, so banks and NBFIs faced problems in achieving a good loan growth.

- Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has approved the IPO (initial public offering) proposal of Runner Automobiles which will raise a capital worth BDT 1.0 billion under book building method at a cut off price of BDT 75 for each share.

- The number of 4G customers of Grameenphone has reached to the mark of 5 million within the eight months of introduction of the service. With the addition of the 4G users, now over 36 million customers use the internet in Grameenphone's network making it the largest internet service provider in the country.

- Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) have the decision to suspend the trading of Khulna Power Company Ltd (KPCL) shares with effect from Wednesday considering the interests of investors. The decision came a result of the information in the declaration disseminated to sell the shares by the corporate director of the KPCL.

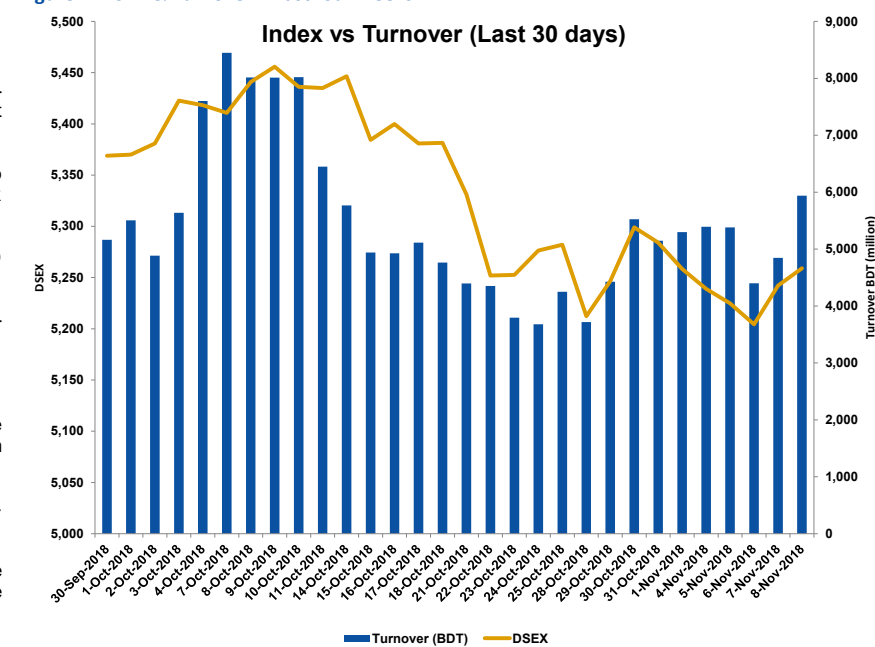
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing	Opening	Δ(Pts)	31-Dec-2016	Δ% Week	Δ%YTD
DSEX	5,259.11	5,258.48	0.64	6,244.52	0.01%	-15.78%
DS30	1,859.10	1,865.36	-6.26	2,283.23	-0.34%	-18.58%
DSES	1,210.46	1,216.05	-5.59	1,390.67	-0.46%	-12.96%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	%Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	19,023,710.6	19,157,828.5	-0.7%
	Mn USD	228,842.9	230,456.3	
Turnover	Mn BDT	25,957.5	24,117.0	7.6%
	Mn USD	312.3	290.1	
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	5,191.5	4,823.4	7.6%
	Mn USD	62.5	58.0	
Volume	Mn Shares	670.4	671.8	-0.2%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in last four weeks



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**Table 3: Top Ten Gainers**

Company Name	Close	Open	Δ%	Mcap (mn BDT)	Vol (mn BDT)	P/E	P/B
Hakkani Pulp & Paper	72.10	51.70	39.5%	1,369.9	36.45	NM	2.5x
Saiham Textile	56	42.10	32.8%	5,062.4	432.36	54.8x	3.0x
M.L. Dyeing Limited	43.60	33.10	31.7%	6,993.9	257.97	31.5x	2.0x
Imam Button	30.80	23.70	30.0%	237.2	8.46	NM	3.7x
Northern Jute	839.10	664.70	26.2%	1,797.4	56.01	196.4x	11.1x
Wata Chemicals Limited	412.80	328.40	25.7%	3,765.4	187.85	105.0x	6.0x
Jute Spinners	116.00	92.30	25.7%	197.2	4.65	NM	NM
Prime Textile	40.80	33.80	20.7%	1,558.6	326.81	39.2x	1.0x
Rupali Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	48.90	40.80	19.9%	1,410.7	192.47	NM	4.9x
H.R. Textile	44.30	37.50	18.1%	1,120.8	109.65	30.9x	3.1x

**Table 4: Top Ten Losers**

Company Name	Close	Open	Δ%	Mcap (mn BDT)	Vol (mn BDT)	P/E	P/B
Stylecraft Limited	865.70	3,306.80	-73.8%	4,370.9	8.19	151.5x	13.7x
United Power Generation & Distribution Company Ltd	271.90	318.20	-14.6%	130,263.8	590.68	31.2x	11.3x
Peoples Leasing	4.90	5.70	-14.0%	1,398.7	8.45	NM	0.7x
Khulna Power Company Limited	98.40	111.90	-12.1%	35,550.4	1,128.80	19.4x	4.0x
Regent Textile Mills Limited	16.80	18.90	-11.1%	1,940.4	77.95	14.2x	0.7x
National Housing Fin. and Inv. Ltd.	46.50	51.30	-9.4%	4,947.2	190.65	20.3x	3.0x
Nurani Dyeing & Sweater Limited	20.60	22.70	-9.3%	1,880.8	598.78	34.9x	1.8x
Pharma Aids	593.40	651.00	-8.8%	1,851.4	498.11	62.6x	14.0x
MJL Bangladesh Limited	95.30	103.70	-8.1%	30,186.5	64.69	14.5x	6.3x
Global Insurance Ltd.	12.40	13.40	-7.5%	456.1	6.68	25.1x	1.1x

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

Company Name	Close	Open	Δ%	Mcap (mn BDT)	Vol (mn BDT)	P/E	P/B
Khulna Power Company Limited	98.40	111.90	-12.1%	35,550.4	1,128.80	19.4x	4.0x
SK Trims & Industries Limited	43.00	38.50	11.7%	3,010.0	786.03	56.7x	3.7x
VFS Thread Dyeing Limited	58.70	57.90	1.4%	4,972.8	747.02	35.2x	3.4x
In Tech Online Ltd.	62.50	55.50	12.6%	1,763.6	658.61	63.3x	6.2x
BBS Cables Limited	122.80	119.10	3.1%	16,946.4	604.56	41.0x	7.4x
Nurani Dyeing & Sweater Limited	20.60	22.70	-9.3%	1,880.8	598.78	34.9x	1.8x
United Power Generation & Distribution Company Ltd	271.90	318.20	-14.6%	130,263.8	590.68	31.2x	11.3x
Intraco Refueling Station Limited	36.30	32.80	10.7%	2,722.5	574.71	NM	2.9x
Saiham Cotton Mills Limited	22.30	19.60	13.8%	3,317.7	530.45	21.0x	1.3x
Dragon Sweater & Spinning Ltd.	28.30	26.50	6.8%	3,742.7	504.85	25.7x	2.0x

**Table 8: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe**

Top 10 Most Appreciated Stocks	Close	Δ% YTD	Mcap (mn BDT)	P/E
Berger Paints	1,220.10	18.28%	56,585.7	28.0x
Summit Power	42.00	16.99%	44,850.8	10.3x
Mutual Trust Bank	36.20	16.36%	20,755.7	14.2x
Singer Bangladesh	214.30	9.62%	16,435.6	30.1x
Marico Bangladesh Limited	1,163.10	5.15%	36,637.7	25.4x
Padma Oil Co.	250.50	4.81%	24,607.3	12.1x
Delta Life Insurance	111.80	3.90%	13,835.3	NM
BATBC	3,311.00	-2.66%	198,660.0	26.2x
Delta Brac Housing	130.00	-4.41%	15,840.7	20.2x
Jamuna Bank	17.20	-4.62%	12,886.7	7.2x

**Table 6: Sector Indices**

Sector Name	Week Close	Week Open	Year Open	%Δ Week	%Δ YTD
Banks	1367.34	1381.95	1848.21	-1.06%	-26.02%
NBFIs	2095.76	2115.70	2714.85	-0.94%	-22.80%
Mutual Funds	627.61	633.60	788.81	-0.95%	-20.44%
General Insurance	1362.18	1362.00	1592.30	0.01%	-14.45%
Life Insurance	1994.34	2029.32	1834.85	-1.72%	8.69%
Telecommunication	5213.81	5248.20	6494.31	-0.66%	-19.72%
Pharmaceuticals	2592.24	2580.15	2821.05	0.47%	-8.11%
Fuel & Power	1778.97	1862.48	1527.27	-4.48%	16.48%
Cement	1649.15	1692.31	2280.58	-2.55%	-27.69%
Services & Real Estate	1055.65	1028.93	1224.11	2.60%	-13.76%
Engineering	2898.58	2876.26	3166.83	0.78%	-8.47%
Food & Allied	14086.74	14093.22	15304.34	-0.05%	-7.96%
IT	1402.48	1399.63	1484.41	0.20%	-5.52%
Textiles	1469.20	1384.83	1222.72	6.09%	20.16%
Paper & Printing	10566.83	9873.64	1013.11	7.02%	943.01%
Tannery	2525.45	2499.49	2642.41	1.04%	-4.43%
Jute	12840.12	10698.76	8867.22	20.01%	44.80%
Ceramics	607.04	590.13	597.46	2.87%	1.60%
Miscellaneous	1837.48	1825.77	1725.62	0.64%	6.48%

**Table 7: Sector Trading Matrix**

Sector Name	Daily average this Week	Daily average last week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Banks	261.8	107.9	142.69%	5.19%	8.8x	1.0x
NBFIs	224.5	35.1	539.02%	4.45%	20.1x	2.0x
Mutual Funds	13.2	3.7	259.76%	0.26%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	58.3	9.1	537.01%	1.15%	12.4x	0.9x
Life Insurance	121.0	26.5	356.77%	2.40%	NM	8.3x
Telecommunication	46.2	15.8	191.79%	0.92%	22.9x	16.9x
Pharmaceuticals	629.5	87.5	619.02%	12.47%	19.5x	3.2x
Fuel & Power	711.8	99.7	614.17%	14.11%	15.0x	2.3x
Cement	63.3	11.6	447.95%	1.25%	18.5x	3.0x
Services & Real Estate	148.4	12.8	1061.43%	2.94%	26.7x	0.9x
Engineering	566.6	80.3	605.74%	11.23%	22.4x	2.1x
Food & Allied	116.9	13.1	792.57%	2.32%	28.6x	10.1x
IT	222.4	13.7	1519.45%	4.41%	27.1x	2.9x
Textiles	1,258.2	120.0	948.28%	24.93%	23.0x	1.3x
Paper & Printing	65.0	7.5	770.59%	1.29%	NM	5.7x
Tannery	66.0	10.9	505.11%	1.31%	19.3x	3.1x
Jute	19.5	2.8	594.01%	0.39%	NM	5.4x
Ceramics	100.6	38.2	163.28%	1.99%	29.3x	2.3x
Miscellaneous	353.3	28.6	1134.74%	7.00%	26.4x	1.2x

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

Top 10 Least Appreciated Stocks	Close	Δ% YTD	Mcap (mn BDT)	P/E
AB Bank	11.60	-47.51%	8,794.3	5.8x
EXIM Bank	9.80	-43.02%	13,840.1	4.7x
Lafarge Surma Cement	43.20	-38.20%	50,171.3	22.5x
United Airways (BD) Ltd.	2.90	-37.60%	2,401.5	12.4x
IFIC Bank	10.70	-36.99%	14,324.5	9.1x
City Bank	30.80	-36.01%	29,814.0	7.3x
Islami Bank	23.60	-35.52%	37,995.8	8.5x
Rupali Bank	34.60	-35.19%	13,027.5	NM
Prime Bank	16.60	-33.36%	18,795.9	8.6x
Eastern Bank	34.10	-33.27%	25,165.8	9.3x

## Important News: Business & Economy

### Remittance inflow marks rise in October

- The country's remittance inflow marked a rise in October after its decline in September this year.
- As per the statistics provided by the Bangladesh Bank, the country received USD 1.239 billion in remittance from expatriate Bangladeshis living in various countries while it had received USD 1.138 in September. In August, the remittance earning was USD 1.411 billion.
- The central bank data shows that six state-owned commercial banks -- Agrani, Janata, Rupali, Sonali, BASIC and BDBL-- received USD 299.36 million from expatriate Bangladeshis while two state-owned specialised banks - BKB and RAKUB - got USD 14.57 million.
- The maximum remittance came through private commercial banks as they received USD 913.30 million while the nine foreign banks USD 8.88 million, reports UNB.
- Among the private commercial banks, Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited (IBBL) led the chart as it received USD 224.50 million, followed by Dutch-Bangla Bank's USD 93.51 million and Mutual Trust Bank's USD 51.83 million

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/remittance-inflow-marks-rise-in-oct-1541601729>

### Asian Development Bank (ADB) to provide USD 200 million loan to improve rural road network

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide more than USD 200 million as credit to help improve rural road network for 51.5 million people in Bangladesh.
- Guided by the Seventh Five Year Plan, the government has embarked on an effort to improve the country's rural road network, aiming to increase the% of rural roads classified as good during the period of the Five Year Plan from 43% in 2016 to 80% in 2020.
- ADB's project will support this by improving about 1,700 kilometers of rural roads to all-weather standards in 34 districts, the press release said.
- The total cost of the project, which is due for completion in November 2023, is USD 285.31 million. ADB will provide a concessional loan of USD 100 million and a regular loan of USD 100 million.
- The government will provide the remaining USD 85.31 million, according to the release.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/adb-to-provide-200m-loan-to-improve-rural-road-network-1541588912>

### Exporters to get BDT 11.25 billion in incentives

- The government released the second installment of cash incentives totalling BDT 11.25 billion for disbursement among exporters in the current fiscal year (FY), 2018-19.

- This installment covers the October-December period of the fiscal year.
- Of the total amount, BDT 1.25 billion will go to the jute and jute product sub-sector.
- In the current fiscal, the government has decided to release a total of BDT 45.00 billion in cash incentives for the exporters.
- At present, a total of 36 export-oriented sectors are receiving cash incentive on their export earnings.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/exporters-to-get-BDT-1125b-in-incentives-fe-report-1541612285>

### Commercial SMSs to boom on election campaigning

- Commercial short message service industry is set to get a boost thanks to political campaigns ahead of the 11th parliamentary election.
- At present, ten million commercial SMSs are sent in a day through mobile operators, land phone companies and internet protocol-based telephony service providers, but the number is expected to double over the next two months, according to sector operators.
- Mobile operators, which have cornered a 50% share of the market, send commercial SMSs worth about BDT 50 million a month, with banks leading the chart, followed by mobile financial service operators and retail stores.
- According to said a senior executive of a mobile operator, the mobile operator has already got a good number of pre-orders for November and December, he said, adding that the SMS-based political campaigning will start in earnest once the election schedule is announced.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/call-drop-lower-developed-worlds-1657279>

### Remittance inflow rises by 12% in first four months of FY'19

- The inflow of wage earners remittances crossed USD 5.0 billion in the first four months of the current fiscal year (FY) due to depreciating mode of the local currency against the USD in the recent months.
- The inward remittances rose by 12.17% to USD 5.11 billion during the July-October period of FY 2018-19 from USD 4.55 billion in the same period of the previous fiscal.
- The money sent home by Bangladeshis working abroad amounted to USD 1.24 billion in October 2018, up by USD 99.45 million from the previous month's level, according to the central bank's latest statistics.
- In September last, the remittances stood at USD 1.14 billion. It was USD 1.16 billion in October 2017.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/remittance-inflow-rises-by-12%-in-first-four-months-of-fy19-1541526939>

## July-October exports beat expectations

- Export earnings from the country's merchandise shipments during the first four months of the current fiscal year (FY) stood at USD 13.65 billion, marking an 18.65% growth over the corresponding period of last fiscal, according to official data.
- The exports fetched USD 11.50 billion during the July-October period of the FY 2017-18. The export performance was 12.57% higher than the quarterly target set for this fiscal, data showed.
- The single month earnings in October last grew by 30.53% to USD 3.71 billion from USD 2.84 billion in 2017, according to the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) data. The October performance also surpassed the target set for the month by 32.68%.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/july-oct-exports-beat-expectations-1541524900>  
<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/export-earnings-jump-30%-october-1657276>  
<http://www.newagebd.net/article/55316/exports-jump-186%-in-4-months-as-oct-earnings-hit-record>

## Cabinet Okays export policy for 2018-21

- The cabinet on Tuesday approved the draft 'Export Policy 2018-21' aiming at bringing dynamism in export activities and enhancing competitiveness in trade and commerce to strengthen Bangladesh's position across the globe in competitiveness.
- as per the new export policy incentives would be provided for exporting non-traditional products having at least 30% value addition instead of 40% .
- In the new policy, 100% export-oriented readymade garment industry would be allowed to send samples worth maximum USD 20,000 free of cost per year and the same facility would be applicable for leather and leather products.
- The authorized capital of the corporation under the existing law was only BDT 60 million. In the proposed law, the authorized capital has been increased to BDT 10.00 billion divided into some 1.00 billion shares having a face value of BDT 10 each.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/55318/cabinet-okays-export-policy-for-2018-21>  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2018/11/06/cabinet-approves-export-policy-2018-21>

## Bangladesh Bank (BB) frames guidelines to help cut non-performing loans (NPLs)

- The central bank has introduced guidelines on the Internal Credit Risk Rating System (ICRRS), aiming to reduce the volume of classified loans through maintaining credit risk exposure within acceptable levels.
- The guidelines along with a model will be a valuable addition to the credit risk management tools, which will help the banks develop and maintain a better-quality credit portfolio, officials said.
- According to senior official of the Bangladesh Bank (BB) it will also play an important role

in reducing non-performing loans (NPLs) in the country's banking sector.

- Some 20 sub-sectors under four key sectors have been included in the model considering financial risks and efficiency of the borrow management, the central banker explained.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-frames-guidelines-to-help-cut-npls-1540922136>

## Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) set to borrow USD 1.0 billion from Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to purchase oil

- Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) is going to take out USD 1.0 billion hard-loan from Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to purchase oil.
- The standing committee on non-concessional loans, headed by Finance Minister, may approve the proposal for the high-interest loan to be taken from Islamic Trade Financing Cooperation (ITFC), the commercial wing of IDB said.
- The interest rate for the six-month period ITFC's USD 1.0 billion loan will be 4.5% (mark-up), 0.7% points higher than the last loan taken from the same lender.
- Previously, BPC borrowed money from ITFC at 3.8% rate in order to import oil. It also lowered borrowing from ITFC over last few years for the higher rate of interest.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bpc-set-to-borrow-10b-from-idb-to-purchase-oil-1541525195>

## Call drop lower than developed world's

- Mobile phone operators yesterday said the industry average for call drops is about 0.8%, which is lower than the average of the developed world and within the ceiling of the telecom regulator.
- According to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), a 2% call drop is acceptable while the International Telecommunication Union's tolerable level was 3%.
- Two weeks ago, the BTRC published a report showing that there were 2.22 billion call drops between September last year and September this year and the operators were supposed to give back 693.8 million minutes to the affected subscribers for free as compensation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/call-drop-lower-developed-worlds-1657279>

## July-September overall imports up 8.0%

- The country's overall imports grew by more than 8.0% in the first quarter (Q1) of the current fiscal year (FY), 2018-19, following a 78.62% increase in fuel oil import.
- The actual import in terms of settlement of letters of credit (LCs) rose to USD 12.83 billion during the July-September period of FY 19. It was USD 11.83 billion in the same period of the previous fiscal, according to the central bank's statistics.

- But opening of LCs, generally known as import orders, increased by only 0.35% to USD 14.75 billion in Q1 of FY 19 from USD 14.70 billion in the corresponding period of FY 18.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/july-sept-overall-imports-up-80pc-1541440013>

### **Inflation falls further in October**

- Inflation came down to 5.40% in October, the lowest in 18 months, on the back of a continuous fall in food prices.
- Last month's inflation figure was 3 basis points lower from September, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).
- The last time the inflation rate was lower than this was back in March 2017, when it stood at 5.39%.
- Overall inflation has fallen every month so far this year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/inflation-falls-further-october-1656850>

### **Bangladesh Bank's intervention fails to stabilize exchange rate**

- The foreign exchange market has been going through volatility because of the widening demand-supply gap of US dollars amid high import expenditure and low export earnings.
- The average bills for collection (BC) selling rate, used for import payments, were BDT 83.90 per dollar yesterday, which was BDT 83.80 at the beginning of October.
- The rising demand for dollar compelled the Bangladesh Bank to devalue the local currency gradually throughout last month, from BDT 83.78 to BDT 83.85 per dollar.
- Moreover, the central bank has sold around USD 435 million in the market in the past four months since July to meet the growing demand.
- The scarcity of greenbacks prompted private banks to sell the dollar to importers at a rate of up to BDT 85 last month, which was beyond their own declaration rate, in violation of Bangladesh Bank's rule.
- The breach was identified during an investigation conducted by the central bank in the first week of October.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bbs-intervention-fails-stabilise-exchange-rate-1656856>

### **National Board of Revenue (NBR) to revive e-payment of income tax**

- National Board of Revenue has decided to revive and bolster the currently dysfunctional online payment system of income tax during the upcoming countrywide income tax fair.
- Taxpayers will be able to pay their income taxes during the week-long tax fair and afterwards using any types of credit and debit cards of any bank under the improved

system, NBR officials said.

- Under the previous e-payment system, taxpayers could pay their income tax only using the pre-paid card of Sonali Bank and Q-cash cards.
- Online payment system of NBR for income tax remained inactive for last few months due to technological problem as well as lack of initiative from the tax authorities.
- The consolidated turnover on the bourse declined by 14% to BDT 127.37 billion in October from BDT 148.10 billion in September.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/55190/nbr-to-revive-e-payment-of-income-tax>

### **Export of agro-products rises 27%**

- The country's export earnings from processed agro-products crossed USD 635 million in fiscal year (FY) 2017-18, thanks to the growing global demand.
- The amount was around 27% higher than that of USD 500 million in FY '17, according to the Bangladesh Agro-Processors Association (BAPA).
- It has registered a 502% rise in the last six years.
- Experts said the sector is poised to grow at a much higher rate with local firms' penetration of new export destinations.
- Quality products, cheap labor, competitiveness, government's policy support and cash incentives have helped promote this emerging sector.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/export-of-agro-products-rises-27%-1541356886>

### **National Board of Revenue (NBR) faces BDT 110 billion revenue shortfall in first quarter**

- The revenue board has faced a BDT 110 billion shortfall against its target in the first quarter of the current fiscal year as the government allocated less for the development projects.
- Tax collection has not increased as expected in the July-September period of the fiscal as the release of funds against public sector projects remained poor in the first two months, said chairman of the National Board of Revenue (NBR).

[http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/nbr-faces-BDT\\_-110b-revenue-shortfall-in-first-quarter-1541353622](http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/nbr-faces-BDT_-110b-revenue-shortfall-in-first-quarter-1541353622)

[http://www.newagebd.net/article/55097/tax-collection-falls-BDT\\_-11430cr-short-of-target-in-jul-sept](http://www.newagebd.net/article/55097/tax-collection-falls-BDT_-11430cr-short-of-target-in-jul-sept)

### **Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) starts gauging radiation level on trial basis**

- Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission has started measuring the level

of radiation emitted from base transceiver stations of mobile phone operators on trial basis with its newly imported devices.

- The commission has so far checked radiation level in a couple of places in Dhaka last week.
- The commission would check radiation level based on complaints as the BTRC officials are now ready to operate the equipment.
- As the guidelines on limiting radiation from BTSs of mobile phone operators are yet to be finalized eight months after drafting, the telecom regulator is following standards set by the International Telecommunication Union, World Health Organization and International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection in measuring the level of radiation.
- Until the guidelines are finalised, the commission would continue to follow the standards set by ITU, WHO and ICNIRP in determining whether the mobile phone operators or any other organisations are emitting any sort of harmful radiation or not.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/55095/btrc-starts-gauging-radiation-level-on-trial-basis>

### Remittance inflow rises by 11.9% in July-October

- Remittance inflow in the first four months of the current fiscal year rose by 11.9% year-on-year, topping USD 5 billion, because of rise in value of the dollar against the taka.
- Expatriate Bangladeshis sent home USD 5.1 billion in July-October in the current FY2018-2019 against USD 4.55 billion during the same period of last FY2017-2018, according to Bangladesh Bank data released on Thursday.
- BB officials said that expatriate Bangladeshis were encouraged to send home money as they were getting good return because of rising value of the dollar against the taka.
- Besides, the economic situation of Middle Eastern countries, from where Bangladesh receives majority of remittance, has improved in recent months because of rising prices of fuel oils.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/54971/remittance-inflow-rises-by-119pc-in-july-oct>

### Government moves to raise export earnings from IT industry to USD 5.0 billion by 2021

- Speaker of the Jatiya Saangsad said the government has taken steps to raise export earnings from the IT industry to USD5.0 billion by 2021 by producing and utilising skilled manpower.
- The government is establishing Hi-Tech IT Parks across the country, including Pirganj, aiming at increasing income from the IT sector and creating employment opportunity of youths in the sector, she added.
- According to her, Local and foreign investors will come forward to invest at the IT Park in Pirganj after completion of its construction works to create new employment opportunities for the young generations.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/trade-market/govt-moves-to-raise-export-earnings-from-it-industry-to-50b-by-2021-1541093439>

### Private credit growth inches lower in September

- Private sector credit growth fell slightly in September due to lower demand for loans ahead of the national elections.
- Most of the banks are maintaining a 'go-slow' policy for loan disbursement as they will need to comply with the central bank's revised advance-deposit ratio (ADR) rules to be effective by March 2019.
- The growth in credit flow to the private sector came down to 14.67% in September 2018 on a year-on-year basis from 14.95% a month ago, according to the central bank's latest statistics.
- The private sector credit growth was 15.87% in July 2018.
- This growth was more than 2.0% points lower than the Bangladesh Bank (BB)'s target of 16.8% for the first half (H1) of the current fiscal year.
- The total outstanding loans with the private sector rose to BDT 9,187.45 billion in September 2018 from BDT 8,012.25 billion a year ago. It was BDT 9,101.66 billion in August 2018.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/pvt-credit-growth-inches-lower-in-sept-1541095128>

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/private-credit-growth-hits-33-month-low-1655083>

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2018/11/01/private-sector-credit-growth-dips>

### Garment company to invest USD 15 million in Ishwardi Export Processing Zone (EPZ)

- Sterling Classicwears Limited, a Bangladeshi company, will invest USD15 million to set up a garment manufacturing industry in Ishwardi Export Processing Zone (EPZ).
- This local venture will employ 3677 people and produce 15 million pieces of garments items.
- The Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority and the Sterling Classicwears Limited signed an agreement in this regard at BEPZA Complex in Dhaka on Thursday.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/54759/local-rmg-co-to-invest-15m-in-ishwardi-epz>

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/ict-dept-inks-BDT-80b-deal-with-chinese-firm-1540744218>

### External debt servicing doubles in first quarter (Q1)

- Foreign debt servicing has almost doubled in the first quarter (Q1) of the current fiscal year (FY), 2018-19.

- The government's borrowing of short-term hard loans has increased over the years.
- Economic Relations Division (ERD) officials said the government repaid USD 614.37 million interest and principal of outstanding loans during the July-September period of the current fiscal.
- In the corresponding period of FY '18, the debt servicing was USD 333.44 million against the medium- and long-term outstanding external loans.
- The government has been borrowing a hefty buyers' credit from China, some hard-term export credit agency (ECA) loan and non-concessional medium- and short-term loans over the years.
- Concessional lenders World Bank (WB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) also increased interest rates and cut the loans' maturity.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/external-debt-servicing-doubles-in-q1-1541095089>

### **National savings tools sales cross half of annual target in three months**

- Sales of national savings certificates increased further in July-September of the fiscal year of 2018-2019 compared with that in the same period of the previous fiscal year due mainly to higher returns from NSCs than bank deposits.
- As per the latest Directorate of National Savings report, the net sales of NSCs increased by 5.65%, or BDT 7.18 billion, to BDT 134.12 billion in July-September of FY19 against BDT 129.64 billion in the same period of FY18.
- In September this year, the net sales of NSCs increased by 18.79%, or BDT 6.89 billion, to BDT 43.55 billion against BDT 36.66 billion in the same month last year.
- The sales of NSCs have already crossed half of the government target (BDT 261.97 billion) for the current 2018-19 fiscal year.
- The government after the budget approval has announced that it would not cut interest rates on NSCs before the national elections likely to be held by the end of December this year. Besides the announcement from the government, high interest rates on NSCs compared with fixed deposit rates of banks were another reason for the high sales of the saving tools. Also the implementation of the single-digit deposit and lending rates would affect the savers and they preferred making investments on the NSCs rather than keeping money in the banks.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/54750/natl-savings-tools-sales-cross-half-of-annual-target-in-three-months>

### **Bangladesh's burgeoning pharmaceutical sector: Ruling local market, stock business, and expanding abroad**

- According to the Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI), there has been an upward trend in the domestic market for pharmaceutical products over the past few years, and market size now stands at around BDT200 billion

• Bangladesh is the only least developed country around the globe that meets up to 97% of its demand for pharmaceutical products, with a market size of nearly BDT200 billion, through local companies, policymakers and industry insiders have said.

• In addition, Bangladeshi pharmaceutical products are being exported to 199 countries, and generated over USD 100 million in the last fiscal year.

• Due to healthy earnings per share (EPS) and dividends, pharmaceutical stocks continue to attract both long-term and institutional investors.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2018/11/03/bangladesh-s-burgeoning-pharmaceutical-sector-ruling-local-market-stock-business-and-expanding-abroad>

### **Government body to simplify export procedures**

• The government has formed an inter-ministerial body to lower the number of documents required for exports as part of easing doing business in line with the standards set by the World Bank.

• The move comes a day after Bangladesh ranked 176th among 190 nations in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index-2019, which drew widespread criticism.

• In the ranking, Bangladesh was behind all South Asian nations, including war-ravaged Afghanistan.

• The committee has been tasked with lowering the number of required documents to seven from the current 11 in case of exports.

• The committee will examine whether the bill of lading and site draft can be merged as one document, minimizing commercial invoice and purchase order packing list in one document, and consolidating letter of credit, bill of exchange, and insurance certificate into one document.

• The committee will also work on fixing modalities and preparing a policy to simplify using documents in electronic and digital format. They will also take necessary measures to clearly mention the number of required documents in the export policy or manual.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/govt-body-to-simplify-export-procedures-1541179857>

### **Petrobangla revises Bangladesh's gas demand upward by 8.39%**

• Petrobangla has revised upward the country's natural gas demand projection by 8.39% to 1.346 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) in the current fiscal year (FY), 2018-19, riding on LNG import.

• The previous projection of natural gas demand for FY 2019 was around 1.24 Tcf. Petrobangla unveiled the gas demand projection in its latest annual report, published last week, said a senior official of the state-run organisation.

• According to Petrobangla, natural gas demand will be the highest to the tune of around 657 billion cubic feet (Bcf) in power sector. It will be followed by industry sector 253 Bcf, captive power plants 152 Bcf, household 133 Bcf, fertiliser 98 Bcf, CNG filling stations 41

Bcf, commercial sector 9.0 Bcf, and tea estate sector 2.0 Bcf.

- The country consumed around 970 Bcf of natural gas in FY 2018.
- As of October 29, Bangladesh's overall natural gas supply is hovering around 3.03 Bcf per day.
- Of the total gas supply, the IOCs are supplying around 1.65 Bcf of gas, which is 50.7% of the supply.
- Besides, the local gas producing companies are supplying 1.05 Bcf of gas, which is 32.3%, and the remaining 327 mmcf is being supplied as re-gasified LNG, Petrobangla statistics reveals.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/petrobangla-revises-bd-gas-demand-upward-by-839pc-1541095481>

### **Chinese labor market beckons Bangladeshi workers**

- China has the potential to be a destination for Bangladesh to export labor, thanks to its rising wages, shrinking workforce and ever expanding production capacity in the world's second-largest economy.
- Chinese authority has also been seeking foreign workforce easing existing strict foreign workers' recruitment policy.
- The decision was made as the commission found that checking quality of services provided by the telecom operators including access network service providers in extensive volume would be difficult for the regulator to check with its existing manpower.
- According to the embassy official in Beijing, timely bilateral negotiations at the highest level between the two friendly nations can pave the way for opening up new avenue for Bangladesh's manpower exports.
- A number of large Chinese manufacturing firms recently made inquiries with the embassy whether it can help them to import unskilled or semiskilled manpower in China.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/chinese-labour-market-beckons-bd-workers-1541180735>

### **Clothing exports to US grow by 5.84% in nine months**

The country fetched USD.16 billion from shipping apparels to the US market between January and September period of 2018 against USD3.93 billion in the same period of the last year, according to data from the Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA), a wing of the US Department of Commerce.

- During the period, Bangladesh shipped 1.50 billion square metres of apparels, which were 1.43 billion during the first nine months of 2017.
- The US imported textiles and apparel worth USD4.34 billion from Bangladesh during January to September period, the data showed.

- On the other hand, Chinese apparel exports witnessed a negative growth of 0.05% to USD20.40 billion during the same period.
- Meanwhile, the garment exports of Vietnam grew by 6.10% to USD9.23 billion and Cambodia witnessed 13.09% rise to USD 1.82 billion during the same period.
- India's apparel exports to the US stood at USD3.01 billion marking a 3.84% growth during the period.
- Experts and exporters said both orders and investment might be shifting from China to other Asian destinations such as Bangladesh and Vietnam.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/clothing-exports-to-us-grow-by-584pc-in-nine-months-1541264378>

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/apparel-exports-us-rise-6pc-1655959>

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/54973/apparel-exports-to-us-rises-by-584pc-in-nine-months>

### **Bangladesh may get 'competitive' edge: Bangladesh Bank assessment**

- The ongoing US-China trade tension may create a short-term "competitive advantage" for Bangladesh in both import and export sectors, according to an assessment of the Bangladesh Bank.
- But it will depend on how Bangladesh addresses the issues such as infrastructural changes, competition from other countries, financing readiness, skilled labour shortage, and depreciation of the Chinese currency, the report added.
- About 7.0% of the country's total current exports are found identical to those of China that faced US tariff.
- Also, the report said some 33% of the country's total import items are identical to Chinese exports under US Tariff, which is 37% in the case of similar products.
- The Trump administration has so far imposed tariff upto 10% on the Chinese products, which may be increased to as high as 25% by January 2019.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-may-get-competitive-edge-bb-assessment-1541263973>

### **Community Bank Bangladesh of police becomes 59th scheduled bank**

- Bangladesh Bank has listed as scheduled bank the newly-approved Community Bank Bangladesh Ltd of Bangladesh Police Kalyan Trust amid criticisms that the sector was already overcrowded with the presence of so many banks.
- The acknowledgement came from the central bank in a notification on Thursday, three days after its board of directors decided to award the banking licence to the Police Kalyan Trust.
- With the notification the number of scheduled bank stood at 59.
- On the same day, the BB in another notification also allowed the Community Bank



Bangladesh Ltd to be remained out of purview of a provision of the bank company act that imposed restriction on transfer of share within the directors and shareholding by a director not exceeded more than 10%.

- Community Bank became the third scheduled banks to be run by agencies linked with the country's law and armed forces.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/54975/community-bank-bangladesh-of-police-becomes-59th-scheduled-bank>

### **Most non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) post fall in nine-month earnings per share (EPS)**

- The earnings of most of the non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) fell in the nine months to September last compared to that of the corresponding period of last year.
- According to the un-audited financial statements for the January-September period, 2018, the consolidated earnings per share (EPS) of 17 NBFIs out of 23 declined, according to statistics from the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).
- Market insiders said lack of new investments, thanks to a liquidity shortage, cast a gloom over the NBFIs during the period.
- The huge amounts of provisioning due to non-performing loans and losses from capital market investments, he said, ate into the profits of the NBFIs.
- The capital market was a major source of income for the financial institutions. But almost all the NBFIs incurred losses from stock investments due to the market fall.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/most-nbfis-post-fall-in-nine-month-eps-1541090637>

### **House Building Finance Corporation pushes for banking license**

- State-run house building financier urged the government to convert it into a bank so that the corporation can contribute more while averting fund crisis.
- The transformation is required for the development of the housing finance sector, said the head of the corporation.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/house-finance-corp-pushes-for-banking-licence-1541095586>

### **Poor return raises concern for insurers**

- The insurance sector's returns on investment in fixed assets such as land, buildings, floors and flats have been minimal, raising concerns among the regulator on insurers' capacity to settle claims.
- In the first quarter of the year, life insurance companies invested BDT 24.70 billion, or 8.48% of their total fund, in fixed assets and the return was only BDT 100 million, which is 0.40% of the investment.

- Thirty-two life insurance companies invested BDT 139.49 billion in government securities, from which the return was 2.62%, or BDT 3.65 billion, in the first quarter of the current year, according to the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA).

- Life insurance companies have a total BDT 291.18 billion of life fund remained invested in different sectors.

- The highest portion of the insurance fund— about 48%—was invested in government securities as insurers are mandated to invest at least 30% of their fund in the instrument.

- Moreover, investment in government securities is more secure and companies can withdraw funds anytime, she said. Life insurance companies have invested BDT 90.28 billion in fixed deposits, which was 31% of the total fund as of March this year. The return from the investment was almost 2% in the January-March quarter, according to the IDRA.

- The development has left the regulator concerned as it is hurting policyholders' interest and eroding the capacity of insurers to meet claims. The regulator has asked insurance companies to invest policyholders' money wisely and boost the return on investment (ROI).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/poor-return-raises-concern-insurers-1655968>

### **Teletalk to inject BDT 55.54 billion to boost network**

- Teletalk is set to go on a massive investment haul to expand its network and upgrade its existing infrastructure with the view to getting it up to speed with its nimble-footed competitors.

- The operator is now dealing with five separate projects involving BDT 55.54 billion to establish 6,800 new towers with a mixture of 2G, 3G and 4G capability and upgrade 5,494 of its existing towers to 3G and 4G, according to a document of the parliamentary standing committee.

- The funding for the projects will come from various sources: its own, loans from the government and other countries.

- The flurry of projects comes as the operator lags behind its competitors, all of whom are private players.

- As of September, Teletalk has 3.94 million active SIMs, yielding the operator a 2.53% market share.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/telecom/news/teletalk-inject-BDT-5554cr-boost-network-1656340>

### **Earnings of listed non-bank financial institutions (NBFI) sink**

- Almost 64% of the listed non-bank financial institutions (NBFI) witnessed huge drops in their earnings in the first nine months of the year due to interest rate cutbacks, huge provisioning against default loans and losses from capital market.

- Some 14 of the 22 NBFIs saw their earnings per share (EPS) plummet between the months of January and September.

- BD Finance, FAS Finance, GSP Finance, IDLC, Islamic Finance, LankaBangla, Midas, National Housing, Phoenix and Premier Leasing saw their EPS decline during the quarter.
- There was a liquidity crunch in the first half of the year, so banks and NBFIs faced problems in achieving a good loan growth, according to the managing director of IDLC Finance.
- According to the central bank data, the credit growth stood at 14.67% in September, the lowest since December 2015, when the growth was 14.19%. Most of the NBFIs have exposure in the capital market, so the index's downward trend affected their profitability, according to Khan. DSEX, the prime index of the DSE, declined 886 points, or 16.50%, in the first nine months of the year, according to data from the DSE. In contrast, a year earlier the index soared 1,009 points or 19.85%.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/earnings-listed-nbfis-sink-1657690>

### **Number of GP's 4G customers reaches 5.0 million**

- The number of 4G customers of Grameenphone has reached to the mark of 5 million within the eight months of introduction of the service in the country.
- This is a notable achievement for the company given the high price of 4G devices and relatively low penetration of such devices in the ecosystem, it said.
- Bangladesh in February this year introduced 4G mobile phone services in the country to provide high-speed internet in the hands of the people.
- Currently, over 36 million customers use the internet in Grameenphone's network making it the single largest internet service provider in the country.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/55361/number-of-gps-4g-customers-reaches-50-lakh>  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2018/11/08/grameenphone-secures-five-million-4g-customers>

### **Important News: Capital Market**

#### **M.I. Cement Factory Ltd. (Crown Cement) signed a MoU with PowerChina International Group**

- M.I. Cement Factory Ltd. (Crown Cement) signed a MoU with PowerChina International Group Limited, the main contractor of Dhaka-Narayanganj Railway Project.
- Under the deal, Crown Cement will supply cement to the Dhaka-Narayanganj Railway Project.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/mi-cement-factory-ltd-crown-cement-signed-a-mou-with-powerchina-international-group-1541611268>

#### **Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) suspends trading of Khulna Power**

- Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has suspended the trading of Khulna Power Company Ltd (KPCL) shares with effect from Wednesday considering the interests of investors.
- The decision of the premier bourse came following a declaration regarding sale of substantial amount of shares by a corporate director.

- There was gap of information in the declaration disseminated to sell the shares by the corporate director of the KPCL. The DSE suspended the company's share trading considering the interest of investors.

- Summit Corporation, one of the corporate sponsor-directors of the KPCL, expressed its intention on November 4 to sell above 18.06 million shares out of its total holding of above 63.73 million shares of the company at prevailing market price in the public market through Stock Exchange (DSE) within next 30 working days.

- Normally, the sales of substantial amount of shares by sponsor-directors are executed in block market to avoid any negative impact in public market.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dse-suspends-trading-of-khulna-power-1541610949>  
<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/kpcls-trading-suspended-1657684>  
<http://www.newagebd.net/article/55362/dse-suspends-kpcl-trading-to-halt-sponsor-summits-share-sales>  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2018/11/07/khulna-power-suspended-from-dhaka-stock-exchange>

#### **Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) approves IPO of Runner Automobiles**

- The securities regulator has approved the IPO (initial public offering) proposal of Runner Automobiles which will raise a capital worth BDT 1.0 billion under book building method.
- On completion of relevant process of determining cut-off price, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) gave its final approval to the company's IPO proposal on Tuesday.
- As per the BSEC approval, Runner Automobiles will offload above 13.93 million shares to raise BDT 1.0 billion.
- The fund will be utilized for the purpose of research and development works, purchasing machinery, repaying bank loans and bearing the IPO expense.
- The cut-off price of the shares of Runner Automobiles has already been fixed at BDT 75 each as discovered by eligible investors (EIs) through bidding under the book building method.
- Of 13.93 million shares, above 8.33 million shares will be issued to the EIs at cut-off price. Remaining 5.59 million shares will be issued to general investors through public offering at a price of BDT 67 each.
- The securities regulator also approved two proposals of raising capital by two banks.

- United Commercial Bank will raise a capital worth BDT 8.0 billion through redeemable non-convertible floating rate subordinate bond having a tenure of seven years.

- Shahjalal Islami Bank will raise a capital worth BDT 6.0 billion through Mudaraba Redeemable Floating Rate Subordinate Bond having a tenure of seven years.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-approves-ipo-of-runner-automobiles-1541526871>  
<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/runner-automobiles-ipo-gets-nod-1657267>  
<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/ucb-gets-green-light-issue-bond-1657270>  
<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/shahjalal-islami-bank-issue-bond-1657273>  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2018/11/06/bsec-approves-runner-ipo-BDT-1400-crore-in-bonds-for-2-banks>

### Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) to resume supportive operations from today

- The state-run Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) will resume much-talked investment in the capital market from today (Wednesday) as part of the corporation's market supportive measure.
- On July 17, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) approved the ICB's proposal of raising fund amounting to BDT 20 billion through issuing non-convertible fixed rate subordinate bond.
- As per the BSEC's condition set under Section 2CC of Securities and Exchange Ordinance, 1969, the state-run corporation will invest at least BDT 15.0 billion afresh in listed securities to boost the country's capital market.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/icb-to-resume-supportive-operations-from-today-1541526846>

### Summit to operate three river terminals in India

- Summit Alliance Port East Gateway (SAPEGIL), a Bangladeshi firm, has won the work to operate three river terminals in India.
- The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) in its first-ever public private partnership handed over the three terminals to SAPEGIL, a subsidiary of Summit Alliance Port Ltd, on a supply, operate and maintain model.
- The terminals are Garden Reach terminal in Kolkata and Gaighat and Kalughat terminals in Patna.
- SAPEGIL will have the right to collect user fees as per the tariff rates notified by the IWAI for a period of 30 years. Under the revenue sharing arrangement, SAPEGIL will retain 61.70% of the revenues and the rest the IWAI from the seventh year of operation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/summit-operate-three-river-terminals-india-1656853>

### Matin Spinning to install 3 generators

- The board of directors of Matin Spinning Mills has approved a proposal of purchasing three gas generators for increasing captive power generation and saving power cost.
- Total cost of generators and installation cost is estimated at BDT 231 million.
- After installation of the new generators, the company is expected to save BDT 75 million

(approximately) per year, the disclosure said.

- The board of directors of the spinning company has also recommended 17% cash dividend for the year ended on June 30, 2018.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/matin-spinning-to-install-3-generators-1541433155>

### Government's tax receipts from Dhaka Stock Exchange DSE drop by 14% in October

- The government's revenue collection from Dhaka Stock Exchange dropped by 13.90% or BDT 30 million in October due to a decline in turnover on the bourse.
- In October, National Board of Revenue received just BDT 189.4 million in taxes that included BDT 127.3 million as tax on turnover and BDT 62.1 million as tax on sponsor-directors' capital gains from share sales.
- In September, the government's tax receipts from the bourse were BDT 220 million when BDT 148.0 million was collected as taxes on turnover and BDT 66.9 million as taxes on sponsor-directors' profit from share sales.
- Under the Income Tax Ordinance 1984, the government collects 0.05% tax on turnover from brokerage houses (the brokerages collect the fund from investors on their daily transactions), and 5% tax on capital gains made by sponsor-directors and placement-shareholders.
- The consolidated turnover on the bourse declined by 14% to BDT 127.37 billion in October from BDT 148.10 billion in September.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/55096/govts-tax-receipts-from-dse-drop-by-14%-in-oct>

### GSK's earnings nosedive on pharma unit closure

- GSK Bangladesh incurred a huge loss in the third quarter because of the closure of its pharmaceuticals unit in the country.
- The shutting down of the pharmaceutical operations involves a significant amount of costs in terms of severance payment to employees, impairment of non-current assets and inventory write-off.
- These expenses affected the financial result of the entity leading to a significant deviation between earnings per share (EPS) and net asset value (NAV).
- Continued losses in recent years forced GlaxoSmithKline to close the medicine manufacturing unit in July after more than six decades of operation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gsk-earnings-nosedive-pharma-unit-closure-1656313>

### Shepherd Industries to invest BDT 250 million in Shepherd Textile

- The board of directors of Shepherd Industries has decided to invest BDT 250 million in

paid-up capital of Shepherd Textile, a non-listed company, subject to approval of the securities regulator.

- The board has approved the selling of approximately 453 decimals land of Shepherd Industries located at Bhaluka, Mymensingh and 2 floors (5th & 6th) of Head office building measuring 708.40 square meter along with proportionate land located at Uttara to Shepherd Textile in consideration of 2,500,000 ordinary shares at BDT 100 each of the company.
- The said investment is expected to contribute an additional profit of approximately BDT 50 million towards overall profitability of the company.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/shepherd-industries-to-invest-BDT-250m-in-shepherd-textile-1541356057>

### First Security Bank to issue BDT 7.0 billion bond Mobile app launched

- The board of directors of First Security Islami Bank has decided to issue fully redeemable non-convertible "Mudaraba Subordinated Bond".
- The non-convertible subordinated bond will be BDT 7.0 billion and fund will be raised through private placement with seven years' maturity.
- The bank will issue the bond for raising fund to meet capital requirement under Basel III and strengthen its regulatory capital base.
- The First Security Islami Bank Limited (FSIBL) has launched its mobile app 'FSIBL Cloud' at the time of the 19th anniversary celebration on Thursday.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/first-security-bank-to-issue-BDT-70b-bond-mobile-app-launched-1540482727>

### Job cut fear grips Grameenphone (GP) employees

- More than 600 permanent employees of Grameenphone might lose their jobs as the leading mobile phone operator is moving towards managing its network through a third party.
- Grameenphone Employees Union (GPEU) demanded immediate scrapping of the plan, running in the form of a "Common Delivery Centre" (CDC) project, and placed a 12-point demand for enhanced job security.
- Last month, the operator advertised a request seeking quotations to outsource the network management operations.
- GP's parent company Telenor implemented similar projects in its ventures in Malaysia and Myanmar and jobs of a huge number of employees in those countries were terminated. If GP can implement the CDC project in Bangladesh, only a handful of people will be required in the operator's technology team and more than 600 people will lose their jobs.
- GP, however, said in an increasingly complex business environment, it needs to sharpen operational focus and embrace new operating models from time to time to extract the full benefit of new technologies. The operator said it would continue to train its employees to

prepare them for a digitally transformed industry and workplace.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/job-cut-fear-grips-gp-employees-1655953>

### Most listed banks' profits tumble in third quarter (Q3)

- As many as 60% of the banks listed on the stock exchanges have seen their profits tumble in the third quarter of the year because of higher provisioning requirement against default loans, lower interest rates and slow credit growth.
- Of the 30 banks listed, 18 saw their earnings per share (EPS)—an indicator of profitability—plummet between the months of July and September. EPS informs how much money shareholders would receive for each share of stock they own if the company distributed all of its net income for the period.
- Bad performance, bad management and bad governance led the profits to tumble, according to a former Bangladesh Bank governor.
- All the banks are saddled with large amounts of bad loans, so they have to keep provisioning against them.
- Some banks are averse to providing loans ahead of the national election fearing political tension, which has slowed down credit growth

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/most-listed-banks-profits-tumble-q3-1655971>  
<http://www.newagebd.net/article/54855/most-of-listed-banks-report-profit-fall-in-jan-sept>  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2018/11/01/banks-earnings-per-share-saw-fall-in-q3>

### AB Bank signs deal with NAGAD

- AB Bank Limited signed an agreement with Third Wave Technologies Limited (NAGAD) recently, according to a statement.
- Under this agreement, AB Bank through its cash management service will facilitate the collections through NAGAD's nationwide distributors.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/ab-bank-signs-deal-with-nagad-1541091080>

### BRAC Bank posts 4.28% growth in Jan-Sept profit

- BRAC Bank Limited posted a Year on Year growth of 4.28% in profit after tax in the nine months to September 30 last, the bank said in statement on Thursday.
- The bank reported a profit after tax (PAT) of BDT 3,916 million during the January-September period on a solo basis compared to BDT 3,755 million during the corresponding period of 2017.
- The bank's solo Earnings per Share (EPS) during the January-September period improved to BDT 3.65 from BDT 3.51 during the same period of 2017.
- The solo net asset value (NAV) per share of the bank at the end of September 30, 2018

rose to BDT 28.07 from BDT 22.90 in the same period of 2017.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/brac-bank-posts-428pc-growth-in-jan-sept-profit-1541090833>  
<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/brac-banks-profit-goes-428pc-1655038>

### **KDS Accessories posts 31% revenue growth**

- KDS Accessories, a Chittagong-based leading garment accessories producer, maintained a steady sales and profit growth since listing on the bourses.
- The garment accessories maker posted a 31% year-on-year revenue growth for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2018.
- The company' total revenue stood at BDT 2.1 billion for the year ended on June 30, 2018 which was BDT 1.6 billion in the previous year, according to the company's latest annual report.
- During the period, the company's net profit stood at BDT 133.0 million which was BDT 126.0 million in the previous year, registering an increase of 5.56% review under the period.
- The board of directors and shareholders of the company approved 10% cash and 5% stock dividend for the year ended on June 30, 2018 at the annual general meeting (AGM) held on October 25.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/kds-accessories-posts-31pc-revenue-growth-1541258100>