

## Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+0.33%) gained 16.54 points and closed the week at 4,995.32 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+0.56%) gained 9.52 points and stood at 1,710.72 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+0.03%) gained 0.31 points and stood at 1,126.62 points. The large cap index CDSET (+0.27%) gained 2.74 points and closed at 1,003.56 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of +12.18%, +13.04%, +12.68%, +11.54%, respectively.

**Total Turnover During The Week (DSE):** BDT 45.5 billion (USD 536 million)

**Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV):** BDT 9.1 billion ( $\Delta\%$  Week: -.4%)

**Market P/E:** 16.1x

### Daily Index Movement during the Week:

Market performed five sessions during this week. Market performed negatively in the first session by 0.14% and turned positive by 0.64% in the second session. Market again closed in the negative territory by -0.42% and -0.38%, respectively. In the last session, market rounded by 0.65%.

### Sectoral Performance:

- Financial sectors posted mixed performance today. Mutual Fund booked the highest gain of 11.95% followed by NBF1 (+4.37%), and Bank (+1.14%). Life Insurance experienced the highest loss of 4.34% followed by General Insurance (-0.48%).

- Non-financial sectors posted mixed performance today. Engineering booked the highest gain of 22.40% followed by Fuel & Power (+0.99%), and Pharmaceutical (+0.58%). Telecommunication experienced the highest loss of 1.22% followed by Food & Allied (-0.45%).

### Macroeconomic arena:

- The interest rate spread in the country's banking system increased slightly in August 2020 as banks further slashed rates on deposits but charged a little bit higher on lending. The weighted average spread between lending and deposit rates offered by commercial banks rose to 2.87 in August from 2.77% in July 2020.

- The country's current account balance saw a surplus during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, reaching over USD 3 billion during the July-August period of the current fiscal year. The amount was only USD 204 million during the same period of the last fiscal year. During July and August of fiscal year 2020-21, the country's trade deficit narrowed by 66% to USD 698 million with a significant decrease in import payments.

- The central bank has extended for three more months the suspension of rigid rules for classification of loans to help the businesses overcome the damaging effect of the Covid-19 pandemic. All banks not to be harsh while classifying loans until December 31 next. The original deadline for the facility was due to expire on September 30 next. This is the second extension.

- The number of mobile phone subscribers has nearly doubled over the last eight years, thanks to the government's commitment and push to digitize the country. However, the number of users witnessed a slight decrease in the last seven months from January to July. The number of users stood at 164.282 million at the end of July 2020, down from 165.572 million at the end of December 2019.

### Stock Market arena:

- The securities regulator has revised margin loan ratios which recently were defined keeping pace with the movement of benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) issued a directive on revised margin loan ratios which will come into effect from January 1, 2021. The BSEC issued the directive cancelling its previous directive, which included revised margin loan ratio, issued on September 21.

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission may not allow tenure extension to any more mutual funds without the permission of unit-holders. A senior BSEC official said that the commission would issue a directive in this matter soon. The current commission is not willing to leave the extension decision on asset managers alone but wants consent from unit-holders before approving tenure extensions.

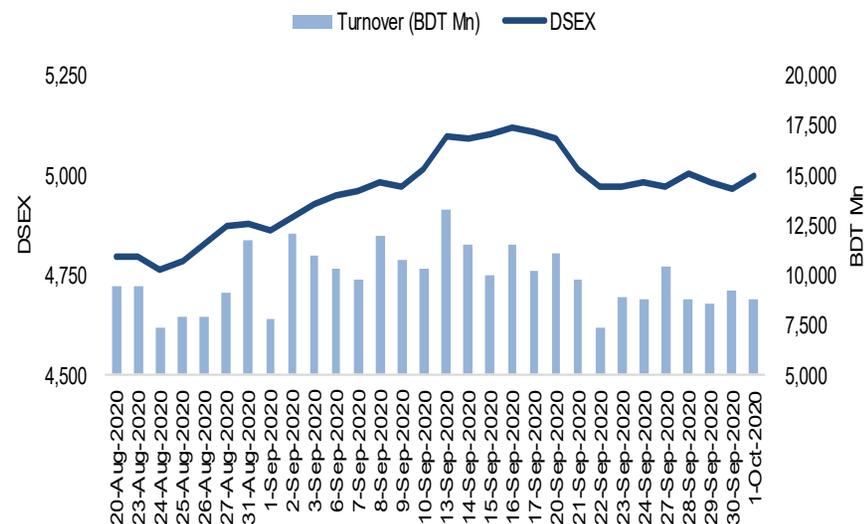
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing	Opening	$\Delta$ (Pts)	30-Dec-2019	$\Delta\%$ Week	$\Delta\%$ YTD
DSEX	4,995.32	4,978.78	+16.54	4,452.93	+0.33%	+12.18%
DS30	1,710.72	1,701.20	+9.52	1,513.35	+0.56%	+13.04%
DSES	1,126.62	1,126.31	+0.31	999.83	+0.03%	+12.68%
CDSET	1,003.56	1,000.82	+2.74	899.76	+0.27%	+11.54%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	%Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	4,033,955	3,946,516	
	Mn USD	47,481	46,451	+2.2%
Turnover	Mn BDT	45,548	45,737	
	Mn USD	536	538	-0.4%
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	9,110	9,147	-0.4%
	Mn USD	107	108	-0.4%
Volume	Mn Shares	1,843	1,874	-1.6%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in last four weeks



**Associate:**  
**Md. Rafiqul Islam**  
 (880) 1708805229  
 mrafiquislam@bracepl.com

**Associate:**  
**Md Mahirul Quddus**  
 (880) 1709636546  
 mmahirul.quddus@bracepl.com

**Table 3: Top Ten Gainers**

Company Name	Close	Open	Δ%	Mcap	Vol (mn)	P/E	P/B
WALTONHIL	813.8	567.0	+43.5%	246,523	27.9	17.4x	3.1x
SEMLLECMF	9.9	7.7	+28.6%	495	151.6	NM	1.1x
PTL	67.8	52.8	+28.4%	10,014	1,123.5	14.5x	3.1x
PHPMF1	6.8	5.3	+28.3%	1,917	109.3	NM	0.7x
EBL1STMF	7.2	5.7	+26.3%	1,042	62.3	NM	0.8x
EBLNRBMF	6.9	5.5	+25.5%	1,547	66.9	NM	0.7x
GSPFINANCE	20.9	18.0	+22.8%	2,984	584.3	15.9x	0.9x
TRUSTB1MF	6.8	5.6	+21.4%	2,064	279.4	NM	0.7x
UNIONCAP	8.9	7.4	+20.3%	1,536	38.3	NM	1.7x
CAPMIBLMF	13.4	11.2	+19.6%	896	132.4	NM	1.5x

**Table 4: Top Ten Losers**

Company Name	Close	Open	Δ%	Mcap	Vol (mn)	P/E	P/B
TUNGHAI	4.2	4.9	-14.3%	448	11.1	NM	0.4x
RINGSHINE	6.7	7.8	-14.1%	3,352	168.8	9.2x	0.4x
CNATEX	3.8	4.3	-11.6%	909	33.0	NM	0.3x
FAMILYTEX	4.0	4.5	-11.1%	1,417	32.9	NM	0.3x
UNITEDINS	47.6	53.5	-11.0%	2,118	105.9	40.9x	1.5x
FEDERALINS	21.0	23.5	-10.6%	1,421	387.2	29.2x	1.8x
MERCINS	29.6	33.1	-10.6%	1,276	137.6	25.5x	1.6x
DELTALIFE	75.2	84.0	-10.5%	9,306	94.2	NM	NM
GQBALLPEN	194.0	216.5	-10.4%	1,732	145.3	NM	1.4x
BIFC	6.4	7.1	-9.9%	644	3.7	NM	NM

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

Company Name	Close	Open	Δ%	Mcap	Vol (mn)	P/E	P/B
BXPBARMA	119.2	114.5	+4.1%	48,342	1,796	14.1x	1.6x
BEXIMCO	25.9	24.1	+7.5%	22,697	1,636	24.0x	0.4x
SANDHANINS	33.6	31.1	+8.0%	3,686	1,257	NM	NM
PTL	67.8	52.8	+28.4%	10,014	1,124	14.5x	3.1x
BRACBANK	41.4	41.5	-0.2%	54,891	952	15.2x	1.2x
NITOLINS	72.4	67.2	+7.7%	2,911	842	12.5x	2.6x
ASIAPACINS	48.9	45.0	+8.7%	2,071	786	24.9x	2.3x
SONARBAINS	48.5	49.3	-1.6%	1,942	762	17.4x	2.4x
EASTLAND	35.1	31.9	+10.0%	2,858	754	27.7x	1.8x
LANKABAFIN	23.2	21.6	+7.4%	12,501	744	40.0x	1.2x

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

Top 10 Most Appreciated Stocks	Close	Δ% YTD	Mcap (BDT Mn) (mn BDT)	P/E
BXPBARMA	119.2	+71.8%	48,342	14.1x
ACI	259.9	+43.2%	14,911	NM
ISLAMIBANK	27.2	+42.4%	43,792	8.3x
MJLBD	89.1	+40.8%	28,223	15.2x
LANKABAFIN	23.2	+35.3%	12,501	40.0x
MARICO	2,172.7	+29.8%	68,440	25.9x
BSRMLTD	62.1	+27.3%	14,660	11.2x
IDLC	57.4	+26.4%	21,643	16.4x
GLAXOSMITH	2,198.1	+25.2%	26,479	25.6x
BARKAPOWER	28.3	+24.7%	6,228	12.0x

**Table 6: Sector Indices**

Sector Name	Week Close	Week Open	Year Open	%Δ Week	%Δ YTD
Banks	1,343.97	1,328.83	1,319.28	+1.14%	+1.87%
NBFIs	2,032.33	1,947.17	1,565.13	+4.37%	+29.85%
Mutual Funds	813.17	726.33	591.17	+11.95%	+37.55%
General Insurance	3,091.63	3,106.51	1,927.02	-0.48%	+60.44%
Life Insurance	2,133.30	2,230.11	2,194.70	-4.34%	-2.80%
Telecommunication	4,618.39	4,675.61	3,993.59	-1.22%	+15.65%
Pharmaceuticals	2,983.90	2,966.84	2,492.51	+0.58%	+19.71%
Fuel & Power	1,778.81	1,761.45	1,515.21	+0.99%	+17.40%
Cement	1,295.36	1,339.65	1,132.29	-3.31%	+14.40%
Services & Real Estate	1,054.31	1,057.85	886.70	-0.33%	+18.90%
Engineering	3,553.59	2,903.34	2,257.22	+22.40%	+57.43%
Food & Allied	13,551.62	13,612.70	12,121.49	-0.45%	+11.80%
IT	2,206.90	2,187.73	1,823.13	+0.88%	+21.05%
Textiles	1,175.27	1,165.52	1,042.04	+0.84%	+12.79%
Paper & Printing	5,492.76	5,573.85	5,233.20	-1.45%	+4.96%
Tannery	1,694.39	1,706.98	1,826.45	-0.74%	-7.23%
Jute	10,178.61	10,446.72	11,393.28	-2.57%	-10.66%
Ceramics	444.10	451.15	459.10	-1.56%	-3.27%
Miscellaneous	1,989.47	1,977.99	1,745.96	+0.58%	+13.95%

**Table 7: Sector Trading Matrix**

Sector Name	Daily average this Week	Daily average last week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	P/E	P/B
Banks	599.9	599.7	+0.0%	6.9%	8.2x	0.7x
NBFIs	902.4	805.3	+12.1%	10.3%	NM	2.7x
Mutual Funds	584.1	458.4	+27.4%	6.7%	NM	0.8x
General Insurance	2,378.6	2,276.2	+4.5%	27.2%	20.1x	1.6x
Life Insurance	528.8	491.5	+7.6%	6.0%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	84.1	224.2	-62.5%	1.0%	13.4x	8.2x
Pharmaceuticals	925.0	981.0	-5.7%	10.6%	18.8x	2.5x
Fuel & Power	279.0	362.5	-23.0%	3.2%	12.0x	1.4x
Cement	104.2	142.1	-26.7%	1.2%	33.0x	2.0x
Services & Real Estate	66.1	89.1	-25.7%	0.8%	23.2x	0.9x
Engineering	519.4	676.3	-23.2%	5.9%	17.2x	1.7x
Food & Allied	209.6	225.9	-7.2%	2.4%	19.7x	6.0x
IT	138.8	177.2	-21.7%	1.6%	21.6x	2.4x
Textiles	817.3	661.3	+23.6%	9.3%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	39.3	76.3	-48.6%	0.4%	267.2x	1.1x
Tannery	37.8	46.7	-19.1%	0.4%	NM	1.7x
Jute	20.5	36.7	-44.1%	0.2%	NM	8.5x
Ceramics	66.8	159.7	-58.2%	0.8%	64.8x	1.6x
Miscellaneous	441.5	446.2	-1.1%	5.1%	25.8x	1.2x

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

Top 10 Least Appreciated Stocks	Close	Δ% YTD	Mcap (mn BDT)	P/E
BRACBANK	41.4	-22.1%	54,891	15.2x
ECABLES	157.0	-21.2%	3,768	NM
GHAIL	17.6	-10.2%	3,799	16.8x
UNIQUEHRL	39.9	-9.1%	11,747	26.8x
HEIDELBCEM	151.7	-7.9%	8,572	NM
DBH	92.6	-6.8%	14,274	17.8x
SINGERBD	169.8	-5.9%	16,930	23.8x
MTB	24.1	-4.5%	16,105	11.5x
PRIMEBANK	17.4	-4.4%	19,702	16.6x
RUNNERAUTO	57.1	-4.0%	6,483	12.2x

## Important News: Business & Economy

### Interest rate spread rises in August

- The interest rate spread in the country's banking system increased slightly in August 2020 as banks further slashed rates on deposits but charged a little bit higher on lending. The weighted average spread between lending and deposit rates offered by commercial banks rose to 2.87 in August from 2.77% in July. It was 4.07% in March. The weighted average rate on deposits fell to 4.95% in August from 5.02% in July while such rate on lending rose to 7.82% from 7.79%, revealed the Bangladesh Bank statistics.
- Senior bankers, however, predicted that the spread may improve further in the near future if the falling trend in interest rates on deposits continues. Most of the banks have already slashed their interest rates on all types of deposits because of a higher inflow of liquidity in the market, they explained. Pubali Bank managing director and CEO said that the spread might increase further in September following maturity of FDRs (fixed deposit receipts) that were collected earlier with higher rates. He also expected that loans and advances would increase in September as businessmen are showing interest to expand their businesses. But some 'good borrowers' have already urged to sanction their loans at below 9.0% interest rates, he added.
- Yield on advances has increased slightly as the central bank has suspended adverse classification of any loans until December 31 this calendar year, said a senior executive of a leading private commercial bank (PCB) while explaining the increased lending rates. Interest rates on deposits might fall further because excess liquidity in the banking system has maintained an upward trend in recent months, he added.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/interest-rate-spread-rises-in-august-1601489152>

### Banks' profit soars, on paper

- Net profit in the banking sector soared 33.60% year-on-year to BDT 24.24 billion in the first half of 2020 despite a collapse in business and a feeble recovery of loans due to the onslaught of the coronavirus pandemic. The increase in the profit came at a time when the majority of indicators in the financial sector has been on the decline because of the economic slowdown brought on by the crisis and banks face an uphill struggle to recover both defaulted and unclassified loans. This led experts to call the jump in the net profit a mirage as the profit has just increased on paper.
- The central bank has given a loan moratorium facility to borrowers for this year to help them avoid the default zone. The ongoing economic hardship and the moratorium facility have put an adverse impact on the loan recovery of banks. But lenders are transferring the interest of the loans, which is yet to be realized, to their income books enlarging the profit artificially. Such interest is treated as an accrued interest in banking norms. Banks are allowed to show the accrued interest as income, but such amounts have to be treated as an interest in suspense if loans become defaulted.
- On Monday, the central bank extended the loan moratorium facility. It also indicated that it would instruct how much of the accrued interest could be shown as income for the year. The Bangladesh Bank is working on it. Net profit in banks will decline at the end of this year and the banking regulator will issue a clear instruction to this end, a BB official said. The central bank should take the issue seriously, or else directors of private banks will enjoy dividends from public deposits, said the executive director of the Policy Research Institute

of Bangladesh.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/banks-profit-soars-paper-1970421>

### Import orders drop by 20% in August

- Bangladesh's import orders dropped by nearly 20% or USD713.01 million in August last due to lower demand particularly for apparel and clothing because of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Opening of letters of credit (LCs), generally known as import orders, came down to USD2.88 billion in August from USD3.59 billion a month ago, according to the central bank's latest data. On the other hand, the settlement of LCs, generally known as actual import, in terms of value, fell by more than 4.0% to USD3.13 billion in August from USD3.27 billion in the previous month.
- The country's overall imports have maintained a falling trend in recent months mainly due to unexpected lower global economic recovery from the pandemic, a senior official of the Bangladesh Bank (BB) said. He also said the overall economic activities are improving gradually in Bangladesh but this improvement may depend on the global economic recovery. After analyzing the data for the last six months, it was found that the falling trend in imports started in April this year following the spread of coronavirus in different parts of Bangladesh.
- Imports increased in June just after reopening of the overall business activities across the country but the declining trend in imports started again from July 2020. Bangladesh's overall economic activities remained almost halted during the 66-day coronavirus shutdown that started from March 26. And it was lifted on May 31. Quoting the figures of the first two weeks of this month, another BB official said overall imports are expected to increase by the end of this month. Echoing the BB official, the managing director and chief executive officer of Pubali Bank Limited said that businessmen have already started discussion on receiving fresh loans for boosting their businesses.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/import-orders-drop-by-20pc-in-aug-1601400480>

### Recovery still a long way off for steel makers

- A return to normalcy for Bangladesh's steel manufacturing sector is still a far cry as factories have been forced to limit their operations due to declining demand amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, according industry insiders. Most of the steel makers are running below 50% capacity and selling 60-grade mild steel (MS), commonly used in construction, at prices lower than production cost in order to stay afloat during this difficult time, they said. Besides, manufacturers are facing a raw material shortage as the supply of steel scraps is inadequate despite a fall in demand.
- As much as 90% of the raw materials used by the sector is imported from the US, UK, Canada, Italy and Australia, all of whom are yet to fully resume their economic activities since declaring nationwide shutdowns in March to contain the coronavirus outbreak. Over the last six months, the sector's losses have amounted to around BDT 60.00 billion, said the president of the Bangladesh Steel Mill Owners Association (BSMOA). They are facing losses due to low demand and a 15% price hike for steel scraps in the global market, he added.
- Hossain, also managing director of the Anwar Group of Industries, went on to say that unhealthy competition in the domestic market has emerged as everybody wants to make a

quick buck off their finished products. The price for 60-grade MS rods has declined by about 15% at the factory level, hitting BDT 53,500 per tonne while it was BDT 61,500 per tonne during the pre-pandemic era. Manufacturers have been compelled to sell at low prices in order to make up operational costs, the managing director said. However, this is not a suitable model for the long run and may cause many businesses to collapse.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/recovery-still-long-way-steel-makers-1969833>

### Export readiness fund seeks applications for grants

- A government fund looking to boost exports from Bangladesh is seeking applications from prospective firms for grants to be used to improve their production capacity. To diversify exports, the commerce ministry is implementing the Export Competitiveness for Jobs (EC4J) Project, which is supported by the World Bank. The project is designed to enhance the growth and competitiveness of four sectors and to create more and better job opportunities: leather and leather goods, footwear, light engineering products and plastics.

- One of the components of the EC4J is the Export Readiness Fund (ERF), a USD10 million matching grant programme, which provides financial support to firms to identify gaps, catalyse investment and improve environmental, social and quality (ESQ) standards, and, thus, improve competitiveness in the export markets, said the project director of the EC4J. Launched in January, the ERF began providing support to Bangladeshi firms with ESQ compliance assessments under its funding Window 1. The fund will today roll out the Window 2 and Window 3, according to a media invitation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/export-readiness-fund-seeks-applications-grants-1969841>

### Country's current account balance exceeds USD 3 billion in Jul-Aug

- The country's current account balance saw a surplus during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, reaching over USD 3 billion during the July-August period of the current fiscal year. The amount was only USD 204 million during the same period of the last fiscal year. According to the latest data of the central bank, during July and August of fiscal year 2020-21, the country's trade deficit narrowed by 66% to USD 698 million with a significant decrease in import payments. Trade deficit was USD 2.05 billion during the same period of the previous fiscal year 2019-20. Data shows that during the first two months of the current fiscal year, the country's import payment decreased by around 14%, while export earnings increased by 2.39%.

- A central bank official said remittance plays an important role in increasing foreign currency reserves, which then helps strengthen the forex market. During July-August, remittance grew by around 50% to USD 4.56 billion compared to the same period last year. Meanwhile, the country's private sector credit also grew and that had a positive impact on export growth, the Bangladesh Bank official said. In August, private sector credit increased by 9.36% year-on-year, while the growth was 9.20% in July.

- The executive director of the Policy Research Institute said that balance of payment is showing an unusual trend because of the changing international trade pattern during pandemic. So, it cannot clearly be said how the recent surplus of current account balance can help the country's international trade strengthen. But it is a good sign that there are some positive trends in foreign trade, such as the decreasing trade deficit.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/countrys-current-account-balance-exceeds-3bn-jul-aug->

138820

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/narrowing-trade-deficit-not-wholly-good-1969249>

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117550/july-aug-trade-deficit-narrows-as-export-rebounds-import-falters>

### Respite for borrowers until December this year

- The central bank has extended for three more months the suspension of rigid rules for classification of loans to help the businesses overcome the damaging effect of the Covid-19 pandemic. It issued a notice Monday asking all banks not to be harsh while classifying loans until December 31 next. The original deadline for the facility was due to expire on September 30 next. This is the second extension. The concession that came into effect for the first time on March 19 was made effective until June 30. But it was extended for another three months until September 30 to help the businesses battered by the pandemic.

- Besides, the repayment of all loan instalments has been deferred from January 01 to December 31, officials said. The central bank, however, said it will issue a new directive on the provisioning of such loans and advances for the period. The directive is expected to issue within October or November, the executive director of the BB added. The banks are allowed to provide interest rebate facility to the borrowers to encourage them to repay loans, the central banker said regarding the possible impact on cash flow for relaxation of such policies.

- A former chairman of the Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB), welcomed the BB's latest move, saying it is necessary for revamping business activities across the country. Another BB official said, all types of borrowers will be benefited by the relaxation. He also said the banks will also not be allowed to impose any penal interest on such loans.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/respite-for-borrowers-until-dec-this-year-1601314648>

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/another-breather-borrowers-1969229>

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117552/borrowers-get-relief-in-repay-till-december>

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/banking/borrowers-not-be-labelled-defaulters-non-payment-till-december-bb-138793>

### Locally made LPG cylinders get a cut in VAT

- The revenue authority has reduced value added tax (VAT) on locally made cylinders for storing liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in order to allow domestic manufacturers to better compete with imported cylinders and enable users to afford bottled gas. The VAT rate for locally-made LPG cylinders has been slashed to 5% from 15%, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) said in a notice issued at the end of last week. The benefit will remain effective until June 30, 2021, the NBR added.

- The move follows pleas from domestic manufacturers of LPG cylinders after the government imposed 15% VAT on local manufacturing from the beginning of fiscal 2020-21 in July. Until the last fiscal year, there was no VAT on locally made LPG cylinders. The chairman of the East Coast Group, which has an LPG cylinder production plant, said that imports became cheaper than local cylinders after the imposition of 15% VAT. Omera Cylinders is a concern of East Coast Group.

- Bangladesh has 11 companies producing LPG cylinders and their combined production capacity is 8.5 million units whereas the annual requirement is 6.5 million units, according

to Chowdhury, also president of the LPG Operators Association of Bangladesh. In recent years, local manufacturing of LPG increased as more companies joined the foray to profit from the growing demand for bottled gas for cooking and small industries because of the fast-depleting reserves of natural gas, unavailability of firewood, rising income of consumers and rapid urbanisation. Bangladesh now annually uses 1 million tonnes of LPG.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/locally-made-lpg-cylinders-get-cut-vat-1969241>  
<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/vat-on-local-lpg-cylinder-cut-to-50pc-1601310824>  
<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117554/nbr-cuts-vat-on-lpg-cylinder-production-to-5pc>

### **Stimulus packages fueling private credit growth**

- Private sector credit growth extended its gains for the second straight month in August driven by loans given under the stimulus packages aimed at reviving the economy. The year-on-year credit growth stood at 9.36% in August, up 9.20% from a month earlier. Credit growth had decreased in the two years to April before increasing in May and declining once again in June. It started an upward trend in July, a sign of the steady recovery process of the country's economy.

- The outstanding loans in the private sector stood at BDT 11.02 trillion as of August in contrast to BDT 10.95 trillion in the previous month. The implementation of various stimulus packages has given a boost to the country's private sector credit growth, said the managing director of Pubali Bank. Banks have so far disbursed 80% of the BDT 330.00 billion that has been allocated for the large industries and service sector under the central bank's stimulus package

- Lenders have been sitting on excess liquidity for the last couple of months as the central bank has injected funds into the market in different forms to revive the economy, said the managing director of Dhaka Bank. In addition, credit demand from the private sector is yet to reach a strong position as had been in the pre-Covid-19 period, he said. Despite that, banks are looking for avenues for investment to keep the wheel of their profitability moving, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/stimulus-packages-fuelling-private-credit-growth-1968737>

### **Microfinance institutions (MFIs) to get more money to lend under stimulus package**

- Microfinance institutions (MFIs) will receive more funds from banks under the government's BDT 30.00-billion stimulus package for distribution among the pandemic-hit clients after the central bank raised the ceiling on the loans they can secure from commercial lenders. On April 20, Bangladesh Bank unveiled the refinance scheme for low-income professionals, marginal farmers and micro-enterprises to keep them afloat. Marginal businesses and farmers with no access to banks and non-bank financial institutions will be allowed to get loans from the revolving fund.

- At the time, the central bank had said a bank could lend up to 30% of last three years' average loan to an MFI or 2% of the BDT 30.00 billion stimulus package, or whichever was lower. But yesterday the central bank raised the ceiling from 2% to 5%, according to a circular. Under the package, the BB will initially provide the fund to banks at 1% interest, which they will lend to MFIs at 3.5% interest. The MFIs will be allowed to charge a maximum of 9% interest to borrowers.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/mfis-get-more-money-lend-under-stimulus-package-1968721>  
<https://tbsnews.net/economy/banking/microfinance-institutions-get-more-refinancing-scheme-138448>

### **July-August tax revenue collection up slightly**

- The government's tax revenue collection improved slightly in the July-August period of this fiscal year (FY), 2020-21, with a nominal growth over the corresponding period of last FY. It happened so, as the economy started reviving following an improvement in the Covid-19 pandemic situation. In this July, the tax revenue collection growth was in a negative territory, at 6.77%, compared to the previous year. In August, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) achieved a 7.85% growth in revenue collection over the corresponding month of previous year, said provisional data of the board. The government's tax revenue collection in the July-August period of FY 21 was 0.16% higher than the matching period of last fiscal.

- When contacted, Director General of the NBR's Research and Statistics Wing said the revenue collection achieved a positive growth in this July-August period mainly due to increase in import, intensified efforts of taxmen, and revival of economic activities.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/july-aug-tax-revenue-collection-up-slightly-1601229194>  
<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117447/tax-collection-falls-BDT-10784cr-short-of-target-in-july-aug>

### **Number of mobile phone users nearly doubles in 8 years**

- The number of mobile phone subscribers has nearly doubled over the last eight years, thanks to the government's commitment and push to digitize the country. However, the number of users witnessed a slight decrease in the last seven months from January to July, when the Covid-19 pandemic hit the country and elsewhere across the globe, the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) data shows. The number of users stood at 164.282 million at the end of July 2020, down from 165.572 million at the end of December 2019, the data reveals.

- The subscribers of Grameenphone (GP) stood at 76.084 million -- the highest -- followed by Robi Axiata Limited (49.100 million), Banglalink Digital Communications Limited (34.417 million), and Teletalk Bangladesh Ltd (4.681 million) as of July 2020, the BTRC data revealed.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/number-of-mobile-phone-users-nearly-doubles-in-80-yrs-1601056933>

### **Bangladesh Bank (BB) caps interest rate on credit card loans**

- The central bank yesterday capped the interest rate on credit card loans at 20% in a relief for clients as they would get rid of the burden of higher interest amid the pandemic. Banks charge between 25% and 27% interest on credit card loans, way higher than the 9% interest rate ceiling applicable for all loan products in Bangladesh. The previous instruction of the central bank helped banks enjoy more than 25% interest against their disbursed loans through credit cards. The new directives would be effective from October 1.

- The credit card operation of banks is highly costly. Besides, a large number of employees has been recruited to run the operations. Banks have to offer various discounts, buy-one-get-one offers and lounge facilities at airports to attract and retain customers. So, their cost of operation is high in this business. So, the latest instructions will create an impediment to offering such discounts as profits from the credit card operations will be on the decline in the coming days, they said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-caps-interest-rate-credit-card-loans-1967125>  
<https://tbsnews.net/economy/banking/interest-rate-credit-card-not-more-20-137257>

### **Bangladesh saw 2nd highest retail cigarette sales in 2019: Study**

- Around 83.5 billion cigarette sticks were sold in Bangladesh last year – nearly 97% of that to retail customers and the rest illegally. Bangladesh's retail cigarette sales were the second-highest among 36 countries in the index while China topped the list (87.5 billion). Last year, only 28.35 billion cigarette sticks were sold at retail in Pakistan and 28 billion in India.

- One possible explanation for this could be the volume of illicit trade. Bangladesh had the least illicit cigarette sales in 2019. And the sales of illicit cigarette in India were about 43 times higher than that in Bangladesh in that year and 28 times in Pakistan.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-saw-2nd-highest-retail-cigarette-sales-2019-study-137605>

### **Cement industry rebounds**

- The cement industry has made a significant comeback after the reopening of the economy in early June from an unprecedented collapse in demand in April and May amid coronavirus-induced nationwide shutdown. The industry's revival has been fueled by the resumption of work in the infrastructure and construction sector which has returned to near-normal.

- According to industry insiders, around 70% of the cement manufacturers have entered the growth trajectory since June in spite of a 52% decline in sales in the April-May period. The sectoral growth in the three months from June to August is a healthy 6.60%. However, overall, the sector suffered a negative 6.98% growth in the January-August period of this year. The sector achieved an 11% growth in June compared to the same period last year. After experiencing a slowdown in July due to flooding in many parts of the country, the industry attained a 9% growth in August.

Currently, there are 35 cement factories in the country with a production capacity of 80 million tonnes of cement. The country has a demand for 35 million tonnes which would add 11 million tonnes more in the next three years. Around 81% of the cement market is controlled by 10 leading companies. Some BDT 420 billion has been invested in this sector. Of that, around BDT 300 billion is from bank loans. More than 0.1 million people are working in this sector.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/industry/cement-industry-rebounds-137650>

### **Consumer electronics companies predict grim outlook for 2020**

- The home electronics sector is suffering from a landslide in demand with the sales likely to stay below 70% of annual target as consumers are reluctant to spend on luxury items amid the ongoing pandemic, according to various market players. To give a boost to the

business, the electronics companies are now looking forward to the online retail platforms to send the consumers' desired products to their doorsteps. This will help manufactures make at least enough revenue to survive the Covid-19 fallout, industry insiders said.

- Local producers and retailers believed that the market size for consumer electronics could have reached around USD 3 billion in 2019. However, despite all the promotional offers such as cash backs and discounts on offer, consumer electronics could not even achieve its minimum sales target during this year's Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Azha. The deputy general manager of marketing at Transcom Digital fears that there might be a negative growth in sales this year due to the lasting effects of the coronavirus. He also assumes that Transcom's sales target will be stuck at 60 to 70% this year.

- And although the sale of washing machines and kitchen electronics has increased significantly, the share of revenue these products account for is negligible. The general manager of Esquire Electronics, the sole local distributor of Japanese electronic brands General and Sharp, said sales of consumer electronics started to pick back up in June but not significantly.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/consumer-electronics-companies-predict-grim-outlook-2020-1968177>

### **Half of stimulus loans disbursed so far**

- Banks have so far disbursed BDT 462.53 billion under the Bangladesh Bank-supervised eight incentive packages among the ones announced by the government to offset the economic losses caused by Covid-19 pandemic. According to the latest data from the central bank, about BDT 256.48 billion was disbursed till September 20 under a loan package of BDT 330 billion for affected industries and the services sector. The distribution rate is about 78%. Though the package disbursement rate for large industries is satisfactory, the same for small and medium enterprises is not. As of August 31, only around 20% of the BDT 200 billion working capital loan was distributed in favor of 11,183 affected small (including cottage industries) and medium enterprises.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/banking/half-stimulus-loans-disbursed-so-far-138028>

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

#### **MFs to require unit-holders' consent to get tenure extension**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission may not allow tenure extension to any more mutual funds without the permission of unit-holders. A senior BSEC official said that the commission would issue a directive in this matter soon. The regulator has recently returned a proposal submitted by a mutual fund for tenure extension and asked the fund to obtain consent from unit-holders in order to get approval, he said. The current commission is not willing to leave the extension decision on asset managers alone but wants consent from unit-holders before approving tenure extensions.

- The current commission also wants to avoid legal complexities and save the interest of the unitholders, BSEC officials said. A number of funds sought the BSEC's permission to extend tenure by 10 more years, but the commission has put the decision on hold.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117268/mfs-to-require-unit-holders-consent-to-get-tenure->

[extension](#)

### Securities regulator finds anomalies in Golden Harvest's use of funds

- The stock market regulator has sought documents and explanations from Golden Harvest Agro Industries about its utilisation of funds it had collected from investors by issuing right shares. In 2019, the company raised BDT 899.3 million by issuing 89.9 million right shares for business expansion.
- Sources said the company paid BDT 11.1 million to Braintrain Studio Ltd and BDT 89.1 million to Max Trading Ltd for its infrastructure development. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has found that the same person holds the post of managing director at both Golden Harvest and Braintrain Studio. That means the payment between the companies is known as a related party transaction, which is permissible only upon approval by investors. However, the company made the transaction without following due process. Asked about the related party transaction, an official of the company did not comment.
- According to the fund utilisation report, Golden Harvest has yet to use BDT 346.1 million, but bank statements show it has only BDT 116.2 million in hand. As per the cash flow statement, the company paid BDT 410 million as advance finance to contract farmers, a sister concern and others, said sources.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/securities-regulator-finds-anomalies-golden-harvests-use-funds-138001>

### Lub-rref to set up country's first lube oil refinery

- In a bid to make Bangladesh self-reliant in lubricants production, Lub-rref (Bangladesh) Ltd., a local producer of lube oil, will set up a state-of-the-art base oil refinery with an investment of BDT 4.00 billion to increase production capacity in order to meet domestic demand. Lub-rref also wants to export the oil after meeting domestic demands, as global demands, driven by the growth of global automotive production, have been rising.
- Currently, Bangladesh consumes 120,000 tons of lubricants, of which 104,000 tons are imported. This project will boast a production capacity of 70,000 tons per annum, so it will reduce dependency on imports and the surplus could possibly be exported as well, he added.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2020/09/26/lub-rref-to-set-up-country-s-first-lube-oil-refinery>

### Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) vows to rein in rumors

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) will take strict measures against the spread of misinformation on the stock market as it leads to gambling and has an overall negative impact on general investors, according to a senior regulatory official. They are bringing a number of Facebook pages and other websites under our radar to monitor whether they spread stock market related information or advice, he said. As per regulations, no one is allowed to provide advice on investment strategies without securing an advisory certificate from the stock market regulator.
- They will shut down all the pages that are spreading rumours and we will take legal

actions against them as well, the BSEC official added. The BSEC recently urged investors to disregard any possible rumours as it could adversely affect their investment strategies.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bsec-vows-rein-rumours-1968709>

### Ring Shine shuts factory for one month as export orders decline

- The management of the Ring Shine Textiles Ltd closed its factory for one month until October 25 due to decline in export orders. The management has decided to lay-off factory due to worldwide impact of prevailing Covid-19 pandemic, declining orders from foreign buyers, and shortage of imported raw materials, the company said in a posting through Dhaka Stock Exchange website. The factory will be reopened as usual from October 26, 2020, according to the disclosure.
- The company's IPO fund account was suspended for six months and the management could not use this fund as the securities regulator subsequently requested the Bangladesh Bank to freeze the IPO account of the company on charges of irregular cash disbursements. Recently, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has withdrawn the embargo on the use of the initial public offering (IPO) fund of Ring Shine Textiles.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ring-shine-shuts-factory-for-one-month-as-export-orders-decline-1601221888>

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/ring-shine-textiles-declares-one-month-layoff-orders-decline-138397>

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117450/ring-shine-shuts-factory-for-one-month-within-1-year-of-listing>

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2020/09/27/ring-shine-factory-to-remain-shut-till-october-25>

### Energypac eyes bigger footprint in autogas industry: Managing Director

- Energypac Power Generation Limited (EPGL), one of the leading power engineering companies in Bangladesh, is set to invest more in LPG business from its IPO proceeds to grab a significant share of the growing LPG market. The Md & CEO of Energypac believes because of the countrywide construction of residential buildings without access to piped gas, demand for LPG will be more than double in the next five years. Autogas is the common name for LPG when it is used as a fuel in vehicles. Autogas is also widely known as a "green" fuel. The government has also stepped forward as part of the ongoing efforts to make LPG more available as a primary fuel source for vehicles in Bangladesh where reserves of natural gas are depleting fast.
- The company has been working in the sectors of power generation, energy, infrastructure, commercial automotive, industrial and commercial building and assembling and manufacturing. Its energy and power division supplies generators, alongside providing operations, maintenance and installation services. The motor vehicle division of the company imports, assembles and sells branded commercial vehicles and agro machinery.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/energypac-eyes-bigger-footprint-in-autogas-industry-1601221973>

### Trust Bank to issue BDT 4 billion bond

- Trust Bank Ltd is due to issue a BDT 4 billion bond and its proceeds would be regarded as

Additional Tier 1 capital of the issuer. Issuing a redeemable non-convertible unsecured subordinated bond is expected to help the commercial bank fulfil its Basel III requirements. Previously, on June 28 this year, the bank decided to issue a perpetual bond of BDT 4 billion.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/banking/trust-bank-issue-BDT400-crore-bond-138400>

### **Energypac Power's cut-off price fixed at BDT 35 each**

- The cut-off price of Energypac Power Generation Limited (EPGL) shares has been fixed at BDT 35 each through electronic bidding by eligible investors. As per the book building method, eligible investors took part in the price discovery of the shares by bidding for 72 hours - from 5:00pm on September 21 to 5:00pm on September 24. During this period, 239 institutional and eligible investors offered different prices to buy the company's shares. Among them, most bids were BDT 40 and BDT 25.

- The eligible investors will buy 50% or worth BDT 750 million shares at the cut-off price which has been set at BDT 35 each through electronic bidding, as per the book building method. The remaining 50% shares will be opened to the IPO participants, including general investors and non-resident Bangladeshis, at a 10% discount on the cut-off price, meaning the general investors will get IPO shares at BDT 31.50 each.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/energypac-powers-cut-off-price-fixed-at-BDT-35-each-1601309840>

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117532/energypac-shares-set-at-BDT-35>

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2020/09/28/cut-off-price-of-energypac-power-shares-set-at-BDT35>

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/energypac-powers-cut-price-set-BDT35-138757>

### **Lub-rref IPO bidding begins October 12**

- A 72-hour bidding process to fix the share price for the initial public offering (IPO) of Lub-rref (Bangladesh) Ltd will begin on October 12. The bidding – a requirement for going public under the book-building method – will take place between 5pm on October 12 and 5pm on October 15 on the Dhaka Stock Exchange, said the company secretary of the local lubricant manufacturer. The local lubricant manufacturer is due to use the BDT 1.50 billion IPO fund to install new machinery at its plant and repay some of its expensive bank loans.

- Currently, BNO Lubricants – a brand of the company – sells around 10,000 tonnes of lubricants annually for BDT 1.75 billion, said a company official. Bangladesh's lubricant market, with an average 5% growth, has now risen to an annual demand of 120,000 tonnes, and the annual turnover is around BDT 60 billion, the prospectus added. Currently, 60% of Lub-rref's lubricants are made of responsibly recycled lubricants, while the remaining 40% are made out of imported base oil – the key raw material for lubricant.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/lub-rref-ipo-bidding-begins-october-12-138784>

### **Lub-rreff aims to make Bangladesh 'self-reliant in lubricant production'**

- Lub-rref, a local lubricant producer, is set to invest BDT 4.00 billion to establish the country's first state-of-the-art base oil refinery with an aim to meet the growing demand for lubricants from both home and abroad. Base oils are a raw material used to produce various lubricants, such as grease, motor oil and metal processing fluids. Of the total investment, BDT 1.20 billion would come from equities and return earnings while the rest

will be financed through foreign loans.

- Bangladesh consumes around 0.12 million tonnes of lubricants annually, of which 1.04 tonnes is met through imports while about 0.16 tonnes is produced locally, according to the company's data. Meanwhile, Lub-rref aims to export its products after meeting domestic needs in order to capture a greater share of the rising global demand, which is being driven by the growth of automotive production worldwide. The new project, being established right on the brink of the Karnaphuli river, will have an annual production capacity of about 70,000 tonnes.

- About 60% of BNO lubricant products are being used by the automotive sector while 35% is used by various industries, including power transformers, power plant factories and industrial generators. The remaining 5% is used by the marine sector for their engines, according to company data. Lub-rref's paid up capital was BDT 1.00 billion and its revenue rose 11.6% to BDT 1.53 billion in 2018-19.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/lub-rreff-aims-make-bangladesh-self-reliant-lubricant-production-1969237>

### **Intraco wants 6 more months to utilise IPO funds**

- Publicly-held company Intraco Refueling Station Limited wants another six months to implement its initial public offering (IPO) project. The company is soon going to apply to the securities regulator for the time extension, according to a company official. Intraco, which is engaged in the fuel business through oil pumps, raised BDT 300 million from the stock market in 2018 in order to establish a bottling plant at Chattogram's Patenga. However, the company later changed the project and decided to purchase a newly-built liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinder manufacturing factory located at Sadar Dokkhin in Cumilla. The company's IPO utilisation period expired on May 31 this year.

- Meanwhile, the company has also applied to the High Court, seeking permission for merging its five subsidiaries, including: Abbas & Elias Enterprises, East End Automobiles Ltd, M Hye & Co CNG Refueling Station Ltd, Good CNG Refueling Station Ltd, and Nessa & Sons Ltd. The merger will help Intraco avail a corporate tax waiver by 10%. And the subsidiaries will be able to float their shares on the stock market too.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/intraco-wants-6-more-months-utilise-ipo-funds-138754>

### **Digital submission of IPO proposals in the offing**

- A specific time-frame of approving IPO proposals will be mentioned in a uniform law. Presently, a move is underway to bring the activities of the securities regulator and operations of the capital market under a single act and the specific time-frame will be mentioned in the new law to be enacted accommodating the Securities and Exchange Ordinance, 1969 and the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission Act, 1993, a commissioner of the securities regulator said.

- Besides, the securities regulator is likely to introduce digital submission of IPO proposals so that the issuers can check the updates of their proposals online, he added. Meanwhile, the securities regulator has cleared backlogs of IPO (initial public offering) proposals, many of which remained pending for more than two years, to ensure timely approval of the IPOs in coming days.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/digital-submission-of-ipo->

[proposals-in-the-offing-1601309687](#)

### 41 firms yet to comply with 30% shareholding rules

- Forty-one publicly listed companies have not yet ensured a 30% shareholding by their sponsors and directors as required by the stock market regulator. As per the securities regulator's directive, sponsors or promoters and directors must jointly hold a minimum 30% shares of the paid-up capital of a company all the time.
- The regulator came up with the order in the aftermath of the stock market crash in 2010. The move was aimed at making the directors responsible and loyal to small investors, as it was seen that many directors had sold off their shares right before the debacle. On July 29 this year, the new leadership of the securities regulator asked 44 listed companies to ensure that their sponsors and directors jointly hold at least 30% shares in their own companies within the next 60 days.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/41-firms-yet-comply-30-shareholding-rules-138862>  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2020/09/28/30-shareholding-rule-41-listed-companies-yet-to-comply>

### Apex Tannery reports higher loss per share

- Apex Tannery Limited has reported a loss per share at BDT1.19 for the year ended June 30,2020, resulting in a BDT.022 loss compared to BDT1.41 in earnings per share in the previous year. During the period, the company's earnings per share (EPS) fell compared to the same period last year due to sales dropping as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Amid declining profitability, the company's board of directors on Monday declared only a 12% cash dividend for the last fiscal year, which was their lowest in six years. Meanwhile, they have also decided to sign a deal with three companies for selling its finished leather.
- The three companies are FB Footwear Ltd, Footbed Footwear Ltd, and Nuovo Shoes (BD) Ltd, as some directors of Apex Tannery are also directors in those three companies, according to the disclosure. Net profit and earnings per share decreased mainly due to collapse in export demand for leather and an 80% sales drop from April to June period earlier this year due to the pandemic, said the company. This crash in sales revenue was much higher that could not be overcome by cost reduction, and thus resulted in negative earnings.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2020/09/29/apex-tannery-reports-higher-loss-per-share>

### Margin loan ratios revised

- The securities regulator has revised margin loan ratios which recently were defined keeping pace with the movement of benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) issued a directive on revised margin loan ratios which will come into effect from January 1, 2021. The BSEC issued the directive cancelling its previous directive, which included revised margin loan ratio, issued on September 21.
- As per revised ratio, margin loan will be distributed at a ratio of 1:0.75 if the DSE broad index DSEX exists below 4,000 points. The ratio 1:0.75 indicates that a client having margin account will be provided with margin loan of BDT 0.75 against his deposit of BDT 1.0 if the DSEX exists below 4000 points. The margin loan ratio will be 1:0.50 if the core index

hovers between 4,001 points and 7,000 points.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/margin-loan-ratios-revised-1601394587>  
<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117651/bsec-revises-margin-loan-rules-again>

### Draft prospectus of SAML Income Unit Fund approved

- The securities regulator has approved the draft prospectus of SAML Income Unit Fund whose initial size will be BDT 100 million. At the meeting, the securities regulator has also decided to start de-listing process of two listed debentures and four companies of OTC (over-the-counter) market to settle the claims of shareholders. As per the BSEC approval, SAML Income Unit Fund will raise BDT 90 million from the unit holders selling units of BDT 10 each. The sponsors will contribute remaining BDT 10 million of the open-end mutual fund.
- Shahjalal Asset Management is the sponsor and asset manager of SAML Income Unit Fund. As per another decision, BD Zipper 14% Debenture, BD. Luggage 14% Debenture and four other companies of OTC market will be de-listed. The four companies which will be de-listed are: Bangladesh Chemical Industries, Bangladesh Dyeing & Finishing, Bangladesh Luggage Industries and Bangladesh Zipper Industries.
- Besides, the securities regulator will appoint two independent directors at Union Capital. Union Capital was placed in 'Z' category from 'B' category with effect from August 04, 2020 as the company recommended 'no dividend' dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2019. After the company's shifting in 'Z' category, the company held discussion with the securities regulator.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/draft-prospectus-of-saml-income-unit-fund-approved-1601482965>  
<https://www.newagebd.net/article/117746/bsec-decides-to-delist-4-otc-cos-2-debentures>  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2020/09/30/bsec-resolves-to-delist-four-companies-from-otc-market>  
<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/bsec-appoint-two-independent-directors-union-capital-139750>