

Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	6,264.90
% change	-0.28%
DS30 Index	2,135.69
% change	0.02%
DSES Index	1,357.37
% change	-0.14%
Turnover (BDT mn)	5,319.31
Turnover (USD mn)	48.58
% change	6.23%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International Economy

Key US inflation measure ticks up

The key US inflation measure used by the Federal Reserve to set interest rates ticked up again in August, fueled by rising energy prices, according to government data published Friday. But aside from volatile food and energy costs, which are still paining Americans at grocery stores and gas pumps, inflation actually slowed last month to reach its lowest annual rate since 2021. This is a welcome development for policymakers hoping to slow price increases without crashing the economy.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/key-us-inflation-measure-ticks-3432446>

International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	33,895.00
% change	-0.81%
S&P 500	4,349.50
% change	-0.33%
Nikkei 225	32,067.51
% change	-0.92%
FTSE 100	7,608.08
% change	-0.21%

Source: Bloomberg

Bangladesh Economy

Big drops in remittance, exports make reserves struggle harsher

Inward remittances dropped to \$1.34 billion in September, lowest in 41 months, according to the Bangladesh Bank data, though August saw the highest number of workers going abroad in a single month and a record 11.3 lakh in FY23. The poor show of remittance met with another set of shocking numbers from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) on the same day unveiling that merchandise exports in September, worth \$4.31 billion, were the lowest in the past five months, despite posting a 10% growth year-on-year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/big-drops-remittance-exports-make-reserves-struggle-harsher-710382>

Exchange rate

	Low (BDT)	High (BDT)
USD	110.49	110.50
EUR	116.78	116.84
GBP	134.76	134.83
INR	1.33	1.33

Source: BB

Smart rate rises to 7.2pc to make funds costlier

Funds are set to be costlier as the regulator raises the benchmark rate SMART by 1.41- percentage points to 7.2 per cent from July's 7.1 per, with large-scale industries having to pay the highest. The central bank of Bangladesh prepares the SMART based on the treasury yields. Commercial banks use it as their benchmark rate or reference rate for fixing lending rates to be charged from borrowers. The SMART (six-month moving average rate of treasuries) was 7.1 per cent during July last. It was 7.14 per cent in August. And now it is 7.2 per cent.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/smart-rate-rises-to-72pc-to-make-funds-costlier-1696181766>

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average
01-Oct-23	6.00 - 7.75	6.60
27-Sep-23	6.00 - 7.75	6.58

Source: BB

Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	92.48	-0.40%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	1,843.33	-3.67%
Cotton, USD/lb.	87.59	0.39%

Source: Bloomberg

Default loans rise by Tk24,418cr in three months

Defaulted loans rose by around Tk24,418 crore in the three months through June due to the non-availability of deferral and reschedule facilities. According to data from the central bank, the total default loan in the banking sector stood at Tk1,56,039 crore in June, which was 10.11% of the total outstanding loans. The total default loan in the banking sector stood at Tk1,31,620 crore in March, which was 8.80% of the total outstanding loans.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/default-loans-rise-tk24418cr-three-months-710346>

Stocks plunge further as election, US visa worries mount

After exhibiting a mixed performance on Wednesday, Dhaka bourse equity indices plummeted at the beginning of the week as investors kept liquidating their holdings amid growing concerns over US visa sanctions and political issues. DSEX, the broad-based index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), fell by 19 points to 6,265 on Sunday, compared to the previous trading session. Shariah index DSES and blue-chip DS30 also settled in the red terrain at 1,357 and 2,136 points respectively. The market witnessed an increase in investor participation though, as the daily turnover rose by 26% to Tk531 crore.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-bourse-opens-positive-note-sunday-709994>

Ease of price restriction fuels block trade in large-cap stocks

Large-cap stocks have been dominating block board transactions since the regulator in November eased price restriction allowing buy-sell of shares at prices up to 10 per cent lower than the floor price on the platform. The same securities have seen investors reluctant to buy shares at the floor price in the main market. The completely opposite trend becomes apparent from the transaction volumes of stocks, such as Grammenphone, Renata, Square Pharma and Brac Bank on the main board and on the block board.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ease-of-price-restriction-fuels-block-trade-in-large-cap-stocks-1696178582>

Top tobacco company asked to pay Tk2,054cr in 'evaded tax'

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has served a notice on British American Tobacco Bangladesh (BATB), asking the country's largest tobacco manufacturer to pay Tk2,054 crore in "evaded tax". According to sources, the NBR has found evidence that BATB in 2016 evaded value-added tax (VAT) and supplementary duty of the said amount by concealing information. After receiving the report of an assessment committee formed in this regard, the revenue authority issued a letter on 21 September, directing its Large Taxpayers Unit (LTU-VAT) to take legal action to recover the amount.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/top-tobacco-company-asked-pay-tk2054cr-evaded-tax-710414>