

Bangladesh Market	
Major Indices	Last closing
DSEX Index	5,270.57
% change	0.98%
DS30 Index	2,030.16
% change	1.67%
DSES Index	1,161.65
% change	1.30%
Turnover (BDT mn)	7,222.99
Turnover (USD mn)	59.20
% change	-16.08%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International Market	
Major Indices	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	44,502.44
% change	0.40%
S&P 500	6,309.62
% change	0.06%
Nikkei 225	40,377.50
% change	1.48%
FTSE 100	9,023.81
% change	0.12%

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate		
Major Currencies	Low (BDT)	High (BDT)
USD	121.60	122.02
EUR	142.92	143.45
GBP	164.50	165.18
INR	1.41	1.41

Source: BB

Money market		
Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average
22-Jul-25	9.60 - 11.00	9.99
21-Jul-25	9.70 - 11.00	10.02

Source: BB

Commodities		
Major Commodities	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	68.59	-0.90%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	3,427.52	0.91%
Cotton, USD/lb.	68.25	0.22%

Source: Bloomberg

Market Summary

Bangladesh Market

- The leading bourse of the country, DSEX, rose by 0.98% on the last trading day, closing at 5,270.57 points.
- The daily turnover decreased by 16.08% on the last trading day.

Global Market

- The majority of the global indices showed positive performance on the last trading day; the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by 0.40%, the S&P 500 rose by 0.06%, and the FTSE 100 rose by 0.12%.
- One of the leading Asian market indices, NIKKEI 225, rose by 1.48% on the last trading day.

Key Macro Indicators

- The value of BDT depreciated against USD, EUR, GBP and INR.
- The average overnight rate was 9.99%, standing between 9.60% and 11.00%.
- The oil futures decreased by 0.90%, gold spot increased by 0.91% and cotton increased by 0.22% on the last trading day.

Bangladesh Macro Update

ADB to lend \$100m to boost BD SMEs

- ◆ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is set to provide a USD 100 million loan to support Bangladesh's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as they are largely deprived of formal lending, officials said on 22nd July.
- ◆ Negotiations between the Bangladesh government and the Manila-based lender are scheduled for 24th July to finalise the financial assistance under the proposed "Second Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Development Project (Phase II).
- ◆ Since SMEs in Bangladesh are often excluded from the country's conventional banking system, the ADB loan will enhance their access to funding, facilitating business expansion, according to a senior official of the Economic Relations Division (ERD).
- ◆ The second phase of the SME Development Project (SMEDP-II) includes a USD 100 million loan from ADB's ordinary capital resources (OCR).
- ◆ It aims to scale up activities launched under the first phase by increasing the number and size of commercially viable cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises (CMSMEs), and supporting employment in the sector.

News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/adb-to-lend-100m-to-boost-bd-smes-1753205520>

Bond yields tumble as liquidity-rich banks flock to BGTBs

- ◆ In a striking shift, the yield on long-term treasury bonds plunged by 187 basis points in a single day, as banks scrambled to park surplus liquidity in risk-free government securities amid tepid credit demand from the private sector.
- ◆ The cut-off yield, generally known as the interest rate, on the 10-Year Bangladesh Government Treasury Bonds (BGTBs) dropped to 10.485 on Tuesday, down from 12.355, according to the auction results.
- ◆ The sharp fall in yields on government securities-particularly the long-tenure BGTBs-was driven by active bidding from some liquidity-rich commercial banks, market operators said.
- ◆ They explained that banks are trying to reduce their valuation losses by pushing yields on these instruments to lower levels.
- ◆ It's an abnormal behaviour in the fixed income market that will not support the development of a deep and vibrant secondary market, according to a senior treasury official at a leading private commercial bank.

News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bond-yields-tumble-as-liquidity-rich-banks-flock-to-bgtbs-1753205327>

Economy expanded 50% in eight years, but jobs grew only 11%

- ◆ Over the past eight years until fiscal year 2023-24, the country's economy grew by more than 50%, painting a rosy picture of performance by major sectors, while the expansion did not translate into job creation.

- ◆ Employment grew by only 11% during the period, making a clear case of "jobless growth", a term that economists have been using in recent years to refer to the paradox of growing gross domestic product (GDP) without much job creation.
- ◆ Our growth failed to meet the demand for jobs, according to Abdullah Nadvi, research director at non-governmental research organisation Unnayan Shamannay.
- ◆ He said that although the country's economic performance has been lauded globally, it has not translated into the expected rise in job opportunities.
- ◆ In his presentation at the event, held at the organisation's office, Nadvi pointed out that while GDP had grown fivefold, employment had increased by barely a fifth of that.

News Source:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/economy-expanded-50-eight-years-jobs-grew-only-11-3945686>

Precision farming can raise yields by 25%

- ◆ Bangladesh can boost crop yields by at least 25% through the adoption of modern technology in a cultivation method known as "precision agriculture", according to a Dutch environmental and soil scientist.
- ◆ Precision agriculture, also known as precision farming or smart farming, is a modern approach to agriculture that uses data, technology, and targeted management to optimise crop production and reduce waste.
- ◆ During an interview with The Daily Star recently, Prof Jetse Stoorvogel of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Open University in the Netherlands, explained that the approach involves collecting information about variables in crop fields, such as soil conditions, weather patterns, and crop health, and using this data to make informed decisions about resource applications and management.
- ◆ The country is in a unique position where agricultural production continues to rise, unlike in many countries where growth has plateaued or declined, according to the professor.

News Source:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/precision-farming-can-raise-yields-25-3945721>

Sectoral Update

Banks, NBFIs, and Insurance

Slow deposit growth deepens liquidity strain in most banks

- ◆ Deposit growth in banks has continued to fall in recent months, intensifying liquidity crunch amid persisting economic slowdown, said officials and bankers.
- ◆ They attributed the declining trend in deposit inflows to multiple factors, including higher inflation, sluggish economic activity, and a growing trust deficit among depositors following widespread loan irregularities in some banks during the previous government regime.
- ◆ This leads to an increase in the volume of currency outside the banking channel, ultimately prompting the lenders to increasingly rely on the central bank's available repo facility to meet their fund obligations, according to them.

- ◆ According to the latest data of Bangladesh Bank (BB), total deposit in the banking system stood at BDT 18.32 trillion by end of May, marking a 7.77% year-on-year growth from BDT 17.01 trillion in May 2024.
- ◆ Even in December 2023, the deposit growth was recorded at 11.04%, but since then, the growth rate has been falling consistently-dropping to 8.51% in March and 8.21% in April this year.

News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/slow-deposit-growth-deepens-liquidity-strain-in-most-banks-1753205285>

Telecommunication

Mobile subscribers rise by 10 lakh in May

- ◆ The number of mobile subscribers in Bangladesh grew by 10 lakh in May, driven primarily by net additions from the country's two largest operators, Grameenphone and Robi Axiata.
- ◆ With the increase, total mobile subscriptions reached 18.76 crore at the end of May, according to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC).
- ◆ The growth marks a modest rebound following several months of decline.
- ◆ Between July 2023 and March 2024, the industry shed nearly 1 crore subscribers, largely due to higher taxes on new SIMs.
- ◆ Grameenphone, the largest telecom operator in the country, added 7 lakh subscribers in May, pushing its total to 8.61 crore.

News Source:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/mobile-subscribers-rise-10-lakh-may-3945716>

Energy

BD inks first short-term LNG deal with Oman's OQ Trading

- ◆ The government has signed its first-ever short-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply deal with OQ Trading International of Oman, aiming to boost the country's gas supply and reduce dependence on the volatile spot market.
- ◆ The new sales and purchase agreement (SPA), signed on Tuesday, will allow Bangladesh to import one LNG cargo per month from August 2025 through December 2026, totalling 17 cargoes.
- ◆ This marks the first time Bangladesh is entering a short-term LNG deal with any global supplier.
- ◆ Petrobangla Secretary Md Amzad Hossain signed the agreement on behalf of the state-run energy corporation.
- ◆ Under the deal, Bangladesh will import five LNG cargoes in 2025 and 12 in 2026.

News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bd-inks-first-short-term-lng-deal-with-omans-oq-trading-1753201322>

Capital Market

DSEX hits eight-month high as blue-chips lead market rally

- ◆ In a bullish turn driven by renewed investor optimism, the benchmark DSEX index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) soared by 50 points on Tuesday (22 July), closing at 5,270, its highest level in eight months.
- ◆ This marks the sixth straight session of gains for the index, which has now added 209 points over that period.
- ◆ The last time DSEX crossed the 5,300 mark was on 18 November last year.
- ◆ Despite the index rally, market participation dipped slightly, with daily turnover falling by 16% to BDT 722 crore, indicating some caution among retail investors.
- ◆ Blue-chip stocks powered the uptrend, as the DS30 index jumped 1.67% to close at 2,030 points.

News Source:

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dsex-hits-eight-month-high-blue-chips-lead-market-rally-1194486>

Investors putting money in closed companies raises alarm

- ◆ The recent recovery of the stock market shows promise but raises alarm at the same time as non-operational companies' stocks have been flying high on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) alongside blue-chip scrips.
- ◆ Most of these small-cap firms have been witnessing losses pile up and there is no sign of recovery in the foreseeable future.
- ◆ These firms have failed to pay dividends for years.
- ◆ till, their stocks have been soaring, mostly driven by speculation.
- ◆ The price appreciation of the junk stocks gives a message that market manipulators are still active in the secondary market despite stricter punitive measures taken by the newly-formed commission against wrongdoers.

News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/investors-putting-money-in-closed-companies-raises-alarm-1753200670>

Govt, BSEC meet to fast-track listing of state-owned power firms

- ◆ In an effort to revitalise the capital market, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) held a meeting with the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources to explore the direct listing of profitable state-owned enterprises (SOEs) from the power and energy sector.
- ◆ The discussions focused on bringing financially sound and profitable government-owned entities from the energy sector directly to the capital market through the direct listing method bypassing the traditional IPO route.
- ◆ BSEC emphasised that listing fundamentally strong SOEs would inject fresh dynamism into the market, broaden investment opportunities, and enhance investor confidence.

- ◆ The regulator also noted that it is working proactively with relevant agencies to ease the procedural bottlenecks for such listings.
- ◆ In response, BSEC has undertaken a number of initiatives, including engaging with ministries and regulators, to implement those instructions effectively.

News Source:

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/govt-bsec-meet-fast-track-listing-state-owned-power-firms-1194591>

Why Bangladesh's capital market is poised for a bull run

- ◆ As Bangladesh emerges from years of economic turbulence, a rare alignment of factors is setting the stage for its capital market to roar back to life.
- ◆ From a stabilising macroeconomic backdrop to structural reforms and improving external balances, the conditions are falling into place for a long-awaited bull run.
- ◆ For investors willing to look beyond short-term fluctuations, this could be a once-in-a-generation opportunity.
- ◆ For years, rigid administrative controls on interest rates, exchange rates, and stock prices stifled market dynamics and eroded investor confidence.
- ◆ But since mid-2024, decisive policy shifts under the interim government have begun to reverse that trend.

News Source:

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/why-bangladeshs-capital-market-poised-bull-run-1193996>