

### Bangladesh Market

Major Indices	Last closing
DSEX Index	5,410.90
% change	-0.17%
DS30 Index	2,104.78
% change	0.14%
DSES Index	1,189.60
% change	0.43%
Turnover (BDT mn)	10,375.37
Turnover (USD mn)	85.36
% change	6.32%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

### International Market

Major Indices	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	44,922.27
% change	0.02%
S&P 500	6,411.37
% change	-0.59%
Nikkei 225	43,240.00
% change	-1.09%
FTSE 100	9,189.22
% change	0.34%

Source: Bloomberg

### Exchange rate

Major Currencies	Low (BDT)	High (BDT)
USD	121.48	121.55
EUR	141.48	141.57
GBP	163.88	164.00
INR	1.39	1.40

Source: BB

### Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average
19-Aug-25	9.60 - 11.00	9.98
18-Aug-25	9.60 - 11.00	9.97

Source: BB

### Commodities

Major Commodities	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	65.79	-1.22%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	3,314.35	-0.49%
Cotton, USD/lb.	67.56	-0.37%

Source: Bloomberg

## Market Summary

### Bangladesh Market

- The leading bourse of the country, DSEX, fell by 0.17% on the last trading day, closing at 5,410.90 points.
- The daily turnover increased by 6.32% on the last trading day.

### Global Market

- The majority of the global indices showed mixed performance on the last trading day; the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by 0.02%, the S&P 500 fell by 0.59%, and the FTSE 100 rose by 0.34%.
- One of the leading Asian market indices, NIKKEI 225, fell by 1.09% on the last trading day.

### Key Macro Indicators

- The value of BDT appreciated against the EUR and GBP, and depreciated against the USD and INR.
- The average overnight rate was 9.98%, standing between 9.60% and 11.00%.
- The price of oil futures decreased by 1.22%, the price of gold spot decreased by 0.49% and the price of cotton decreased by 0.37% on the last trading day.

## Bangladesh Macro Update

### Yield on long-term treasury bonds falls further

- ◆ The yield on long-term treasury bonds fell further on Tuesday, as banks preferred risk-free government securities to park their surplus liquidity amid subdued private sector credit demand.
- ◆ The cut -off yield, generally known as interest rate, on the 10-Year Bangladesh Government Treasury Bonds (BGTBs) came down to 10.26% on the day from 10.48%, according to the auction results.
- ◆ Earlier on July 22 last, the yield on the 10-Year BGTBs dropped to 10.48% from 12.35% on the same ground.
- ◆ Some banks prefer to invest their excess funds in BGTBs due to lower credit demand from the private sector ahead of the general election, according to a senior official of the Bangladesh Bank (BB).

#### News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/yield-on-long-term-treasury-bonds-falls-further-1755625595>

### Overvalued Taka likely to cut export, remittance earnings

- ◆ Local-currency taka again gets overvalued against the US dollar, as per July ratings, after remaining undervalued in two consecutive months, stoking concerns about Bangladesh's trade competitiveness on the volatile global market.
- ◆ The real effective exchange rate (REER), a key indicator for gauging foreign-exchange-market equilibrium, stood at 101.14 in July 2025.
- ◆ It was 98.61 in June and 99.27 in May, according to Bangladesh Bank data released Tuesday.
- ◆ Based on REER, the BDT was overvalued by BDT 1.71 against the dollar in the month under review. The exchange rate should have been 121.13 but it traded at BDT 122.84 during the period.
- ◆ In economics, a REER reading above 100 suggests that a local currency is overvalued against a basket of major trading partners' currencies, including the greenback.
- ◆ An overvalued currency typically erodes export competitiveness and slows remittance inflows though it makes imports cheaper.

#### News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/overvalued-taka-likely-to-cut-export-remittance-earnings-1755626509>

### Women's financial inclusion rises notably in five years

- ◆ Bangladesh has witnessed steady progress in women's financial inclusion over the past five years, marked by significant rise in the number of both deposit and loan accounts held by women in commercial banks.
- ◆ The number of female-owned deposit accounts surged from 33.45 million in 2019 to 55.32 million in 2024.
- ◆ As a share of total deposit accounts, women's participation increased from 30% in 2019 to 35% in 2024, according to Bangladesh Bank (BB) latest data.

- ◆ Even stronger growth was observed in women's access to credit.
- ◆ The number of female-owned loan accounts more than doubled during the period, from 918,480 in 2019 to over 2.15 million in 2024.
- ◆ This lifted women's share in total commercial bank loan accounts from 8.31% to 16.49%.

**News Source:**

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/womens-financial-inclusion-rises-notably-in-five-years-1755626887>

## Rice import begins at reduced duty

- ◆ Businesses yesterday began importing rice at a duty of only 2% after the government lifted the tariff to stabilise the domestic market, traders and the National Board of Revenue (NBR) officials said.
- ◆ The move came after the food ministry on August 10 permitted 242 traders to import 5 lakh tonnes, following recommendations from the tariff commission and other agencies.
- ◆ There was an ambiguity over the duty as customs officials initially informed that the rate was nearly 62.5% which previously prevented importers from releasing rice from customs.
- ◆ Importing rice with a 62.50% duty would push higher retail prices, which was not viable.
- ◆ According to NBR sources, a Statutory Regulatory Order (SRO) issued late last year waived 62.5% of import duties on rice.

**News Source:**

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rice-import-begins-reduced-duty-3966536>

## Sectoral Update

### Banks, NBFIs, and Insurance

## Higher NPLs reduce banks' capital adequacy to lowest in South Asia

- ◆ Higher classified loans have dragged the capital adequacy of Bangladesh's banking sector to the lowest level among neighbouring South Asian countries, officials said.
- ◆ The capital-to-risk-weighted-asset ratio (CRAR) fell drastically to 3.08% in 2024, driven largely by weak capital positions in state-owned commercial banks (SoCBs), specialized development banks (SDBs), and Islamic private commercial banks (PCBs), according to the Financial Stability Report (FSR) 2024.
- ◆ The banking sector faced heightened stress in 2024, particularly regarding capital adequacy, the central bank said in its latest FSR.
- ◆ The banking industry's CRAR decreased by 8.56% to 3.08% at the end of December 2024 from 11.64% a year ago, the BB data showed.

**News Source:**

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/higher-npls-reduce-banks-capital-adequacy-to-lowest-in-south-asia-1755626566>

## Capital shortfall narrows by Tk62,000cr as BB offers deferral

- ◆ Four more banks slipped into a capital shortfall in the January-March quarter, but the overall shortfall in the sector dropped by nearly BDT 62,000 crore within three months, a development that may appear like a miraculous turnaround of Bangladesh's fragile banking industry.
- ◆ The reality, however, is different. The Bangladesh Bank allowed as many as 28 banks to defer the recognition of their capital shortfall, thereby artificially lowering the reported deficit.
- ◆ According to a central bank report released on 19 August, at the end of December 2024, 19 banks faced a combined capital deficit of BDT 1.72 lakh crore.
- ◆ By March 2025, the shortfall had seemingly dropped to BDT 1.10 lakh crore, even as the number of banks with deficits increased from 19 to 23.
- ◆ Of them, six are state-owned, nine are private, seven are Islamic, and one is a foreign bank.
- ◆ The four banks that fell into capital shortfall are Premier Bank, Shimanto Bank, United Commercial Bank and Citizen Bank.

### News Source:

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/capital-shortfall-narrows-tk62000cr-bb-offers-deferral-1216076>

## Textile

### H1 2025 RMG exports to EU up 17.87pc

- ◆ Bangladesh's readymade garment (RMG) exports to the European Union (EU) during the first half (H1) of 2025 witnessed 17.87% growth, earning EUR 10.29 billion.
- ◆ In the same period last year, RMG exports to the EU fetched EUR 8.73 billion, according to the Eurostat data released on Monday.
- ◆ Of the 10.29-billion-euro earnings in H1 of this year, knitwear shipments rose by 21.1% to EUR 6.03 billion and woven garments by 13.6% to EUR 4.26 billion.
- ◆ Meanwhile, Bangladesh's major competitors, including China, Cambodia, and India, also sustained higher growth of 22.3%, 30.4%, and 15.4%, respectively, in apparel shipments to the EU from January to June of this year.
- ◆ Exporters and insiders said the higher growth indicates the EU demand for garments is increasing and the market situation has improved, while concerns remain over growing competition among the major apparel producers in Asia due to the latest US imposition of reciprocal tariffs.

### News Source:

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/h1-2025-rmg-exports-to-eu-up-1787pc-1755626626>

## Energy

### Govt approves LNG cargo, fertiliser, refined sugar procurement

- ◆ The government has approved the purchase of three cargoes of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the spot market at a total cost of BDT 1,442 crore, with the average price set at about USD 11 per million British thermal unit (MMBtu).

- ◆ The approvals came at a meeting of the Advisers Council Committee on Government Purchase at the Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday.
- ◆ The proposals were placed by the Energy and Mineral Resources Division.
- ◆ One cargo will be imported from M/S TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd of the United Kingdom at a unit price of USD 11.44 per MMBtu, with the cost amounting to BDT 481 crore.
- ◆ The second cargo will be procured from the same company, M/S TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd of the United Kingdom, at a unit price of USD 11.34 per MMBtu.

**News Source:**

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-buy-3-Ing-cargoes-spot-market-3966526>

## Capital Market

### DSE turnover tops BDT 10b

- ◆ The turnover of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) crossed BDT 10 billion on Tuesday as BDT 2 billion worth of shares from pharmaceutical and chemical companies changed hands.
- ◆ The DSE's market cap dropped by BDT 49.88 billion compared to the previous day, settling at BDT 7.11 trillion, down from BDT 7.16 trillion.
- ◆ The decline comes after four straight days of gains totalling BDT 77.05 billion.
- ◆ Turnover stood at BDT 10.37 billion, up from BDT 9.76 billion the previous day, and above the BDT 10 billion mark for the first time since August 3, when turnover had hit BDT 11.37 billion and BDT 10.63 billion on consecutive days.

**News Source:**

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dse-turnover-tops-BDT -10b-1755624686>

### No margin without regular income, BDT 5 lakh investment in stock market: Draft rules

- ◆ The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has published a draft of the new "Margin Rules (Repeal), 2025," which stipulates that to take margin loans for buying shares, an investor must have an average investment of at least BDT 5 lakh in a year.
- ◆ According to the draft law published today, students, homemakers, and retired individuals who do not have a regular income cannot be granted margin loans.
- ◆ Margin loans are loans provided by brokerage houses and merchant bankers to buy shares, and these groups typically have limited income or lack stable regular income.
- ◆ The rules have been put in place to mitigate risk and to protect these groups' finances.

**News Source:**

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/no-margin-without-regular-income-BDT 5-lakh-investment-stock-market-draft-rules-1216006>

## **BSEC scraps 2001 MF Rules, clears draft of new regulations**

- ◆ The BSEC decided to repeal the existing rules governing mutual fund operations in Bangladesh and adopt new regulations designed to enhance accountability and provide greater protection for investors.
- ◆ With the aim of ensuring maximum protection of investor and unit holder interests, the Commission decided to repeal the BSEC MF Rules, 2001.
- ◆ Instead, it decided to approve the draft of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Mutual Fund) Rules, 2025.
- ◆ Launched on September 30, 2021, with six companies, the DSE SME board debuted with a base index of 1,000 points.

### **News Source:**

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-scraps-2001-mf-rules-clears-draft-of-new-regulations-1755624621>