

Bangladesh Market

Major Indices	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,831.41
% change	-0.46%
DS30 Index	1,859.86
% change	-0.50%
DSES Index	1,000.81
% change	-0.79%
Turnover (BDT mn)	3,031.43
Turnover (USD mn)	24.78
% change	-19.33%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International Market

Major Indices	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	47,954.99
% change	-0.34%
S&P 500	6,774.76
% change	-0.37%
Nikkei 225	49,001.50
% change	-0.77%
FTSE 100	9,837.77
% change	1.58%

Source: Investing.com

Exchange rate

Major Currencies	Low (BDT)	High (BDT)
USD	122.30	122.31
EUR	143.57	143.62
GBP	163.58	163.63
INR	1.35	1.35

Source: BB

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average
18-Dec-24	9.90-11.00	10.01
17-Dec-24	9.80-11.00	10.00

Source: BB

Commodities

Major Commodities	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	59.82	0.23%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	4,332.40	-0.20%
Cotton, USD/lb.	63.51	0.13%

Source: Investing.com

Market Summary

Bangladesh Market

- The leading bourse of the country, DSEX, fell by 0.46% on the last trading day, closing at 4,831.41 points.
- The daily turnover fell by 19.33% on the last trading day.

Global Market

- The majority of the leading global indices fell during the last trading day.
- One of the leading Asian market indices, NIKKEI 225, posted a 0.77% loss.

Key Macro Indicators

- The BDT remained stable against the majority of the currencies.
- The average overnight rate stood at 10.01%, standing between 9.90% and 11.00%.
- The price of oil futures rose by 0.23%, gold price fell by 0.20%, and cotton price rose by 0.13% yesterday.

Global Market

Asian markets rise as US inflation eases

- Asian markets rose Friday as a below-forecast read on US inflation boosted hopes for another interest rate cut next month, while blockbuster earnings from chip firm Micron helped soothe nerves over a tech bubble.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/asian-markets-rise-as-us-inflation-eases-1766162647?date=20-12-2025>

Economic Outlook

Bangladesh Bank plans to raise reserves to \$35b by year-end: Governor

- Bangladesh Bank aims to boost foreign exchange reserves to about \$35 billion by the end of this year, up from around \$32.48 billion currently, with steps already taken helping stabilise the financial sector, the central bank governor said at a seminar.
- The governor acknowledged ongoing governance weaknesses in the banking sector. Still, he expressed hope that non-performing loans would decrease soon and highlighted efforts to maintain confidence and stability.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-bank-plans-raise-reserves-35b-year-end-governor-4061551>

Govt's treasury bill borrowing up 4.3% in Nov

- The Bangladesh government issued Tk 31,289.13 crore in short-term treasury bills during November 2025, marking a 4.3 % rise compared to October, according to Bangladesh Bank data. Four auctions were held in November with average cut-off interest rates of 9.99 % (91-day), 10.03 % (182-day), and 10.01 % (364-day) treasury bills, reflecting demand and liquidity in the banking system.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govts-treasury-bill-borrowing-43-nov-4062776>

Savings certificate yields lowered twice, further cuts in Jan

- The government reduced profit (interest) rates on National Savings Certificates (NSCs) earlier this year, in January and June, as part of efforts to lower the cost of high-cost domestic borrowing. Because the yield is now linked to the average six-month Treasury Bill rate (which has fallen), further reductions are expected in January 2026, making NSCs less attractive to investors.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/savings-certificate-yields-lowered-twice-further-cuts-in-jan-1766081054>

Fiscal space shrinks as subsidy burden rises

- Bangladesh's expenditure on subsidies and incentives jumped to Tk 1,086.72 billion in FY25, up 49.2% from the previous year, and now accounts for nearly 20% of the government's operating budget. The increase has been driven by rising costs in sectors like power, agriculture and energy, as well as a weaker taka that raised import costs for fertilisers and fuel, straining public finances.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/fiscal-space-shrinks-as-subsidy-burden-rises-1766168334>

Sectors

Banks, NBFIs, and Insurance

Rafat Ullah Khan becomes MD of Al-Arafah Islami Bank

- Mohd Rafat Ullah Khan has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC for a three-year term starting 18 December 2025. He previously served as the bank's Additional Managing Director and Chief Risk Officer.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/rafat-ullah-khan-becomes-md-al-arafah-islami-bank-4061721>

Prime Bank clients to get discounts on JBS Holdings' flats

- Prime Bank PLC has signed a strategic agreement with JBS Holdings Limited that will allow Prime Bank customers to receive special discounts when purchasing residential flats from JBS Holdings, making premium properties more financially accessible to the bank's clients.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/prime-bank-clients-get-discounts-jbs-holdings-flats-4062631>

Fuel & Power

NBR moves to shift VAT on LPG at import stage to cut tax evasion

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has moved to simplify the taxation process for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) by proposing a 10% Value Added Tax (VAT) levy at the import stage, simultaneously exempting VAT currently imposed across various local production and trading levels to combat tax evasion.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/nbr-moves-shift-vat-lpg-import-stage-cut-tax-evasion-1312826>

Textile

Lack of tax incentives deters RMG firms from going public

- Most listed companies pay taxes at rates ranging from 20 per cent to 22.5 per cent depending on their paid-up capitals. But the effective tax rate for profit-making RMG companies stands above 30 per cent.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/lack-of-tax-incentives-deters-rmg-firms-from-going-public-1766252580>

Capital Market

Nuzhat Anwar appointed MD of DSE

- Prior to her new appointment, Nuzhat worked at the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, according to a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/nuzhat-anwar-appointed-md-dse-4061736>

Dhaka stocks slide deeper into red amid political uncertainty

- The country's capital market extended its losing streak last week, with share prices sliding sharply as persistent political uncertainty and the continued absence of institutional investors weighed heavily on sentiment, pushing key indices further into negative territory.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-stocks-slide-deeper-red-amid-political-uncertainty-1314801>

BDCOM Online declares 10% dividends

- BDCOM Online Ltd, one of the leading ICT solutions providers in Dhaka, has declared a 10 percent dividend, including a 5 percent cash dividend, for the year that ended on June 30, 2025.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/bdcom-online-declares-10-dividends-4061711>

Eastern Bank gets BSEC nod to issue Tk800cr subordinated bond

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has approved Eastern Bank PLC's proposal to issue a Tk800 crore subordinated bond, paving the way for the private commercial bank to further strengthen its capital base under the Basel III framework.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/eastern-bank-gets-bsec-nod-issue-tk800cr-subordinated-bond-1313486>

City Group steps in to revive dormant Rahima Food through contract manufacturing deal

- City Group has extended a lifeline to its struggling listed subsidiary Rahima Food Corporation Ltd by bringing it back into operational activity through a contract manufacturing arrangement with City Edible Oil, offering fresh hope for the long-idle company and its shareholders.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/city-group-steps-revive-dormant-rahima-food-through-contract-manufacturing-deal>

BD Welding shares nearly double as hunt for new investor raises revival hopes

- Shares of Bangladesh Welding Electrodes Limited (BD Welding) surged nearly 96% over the past month as investors reacted to the company's disclosure that it is actively seeking a new investor to revive its long-shuttered operations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bd-welding-shares-nearly-double-hunt-new-investor-raises-revival-hopes-1314791>

Auditor flags Tk1.4cr dividend shortfall at Metro Spinning

- The auditor of listed textile company Metro Spinning has identified a dividend shortfall of Tk1.40 crore in the firm's designated bank account, citing regulatory non-compliance and financial stress.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/auditor-flags-tk14cr-dividend-shortfall-metro-spinning-1314786>

RACE-managed mutual funds under BSEC investigation over alleged irregularities

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has initiated a wide-ranging investigation into mutual funds and special purpose vehicles managed by Bangladesh RACE Asset Management PCL, citing long-standing allegations of irregularities, weak governance and risks to investors' interests.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/race-managed-mutual-funds-under-bsec-investigation-over-alleged-irregularities>

DSE inaugurates information help desk

- Dhaka Stock Exchange PLC (DSE) yesterday (11 December, 2025) inaugurated the DSE Information Help Desk to make its information services more effective and accessible.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-inaugurates-information-help-desk-1313076>