

Bangladesh Market

Major Indices	Last closing
DSEX Index	4,826.47
% change	-0.10%
DS30 Index	1,853.59
% change	-0.34%
DSES Index	999.10
% change	-0.17%
Turnover (BDT mn)	2,932.08
Turnover (USD mn)	23.97
% change	-3.28%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International Market

Major Indices	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	47,954.99
% change	0.38%
S&P 500	6,834.50
% change	0.88%
Nikkei 225	49,507.21
% change	1.03%
FTSE 100	9,897.42
% change	0.61%

Source: Investing.com

Exchange rate

Major Currencies	Low (BDT)	High (BDT)
USD	122.30	122.30
EUR	143.19	143.23
GBP	163.58	163.67
INR	1.37	1.37

Source: BB

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average
21-Dec-24	9.80-11.00	10.02
18-Dec-24	9.90-11.00	10.01

Source: BB

Commodities

Major Commodities	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	60.47	1.09%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	4,338.55	0.14%
Cotton, USD/lb.	63.75	0.38%

Source: Investing.com

Market Summary

Bangladesh Market

- The leading bourse of the country, DSEX, fell by 0.10% on the last trading day, closing at 4,826.47 points.
- The daily turnover fell by 3.28% on the last trading day.

Global Market

- The majority of the leading global indices rose during the last trading day.
- One of the leading Asian market indices, NIKKEI 225, posted a 1.03% gain.

Key Macro Indicators

- The BDT appreciated against the majority of the currencies.
- The average overnight rate stood at 10.02%, standing between 9.80% and 11.00%.
- The price of oil futures rose by 1.09%, gold price rose by 0.14%, and cotton price rose by 0.38% last day.

Economic Outlook

BB slashes provisioning rates to boost agri, CMSME lending

- Bangladesh Bank has cut loan provisioning requirements by setting a uniform low rate of 0.50% for all unclassified short-term agricultural and CMSME (Cottage, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) loans to encourage more bank lending to these sectors. This provision reduction is effective immediately and will stay in place until December 31, 2026.
- The move eases financial burdens on banks, as previous rules required higher provisioning rates (1% for standard loans and 5% for Special Mention Accounts), to boost credit flow and participation by commercial banks in financing farmers and small business entrepreneurs.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/nrb-bank-holds-12th-annual-general-meeting-1766336703>

Gold prices break all records

- Gold prices in Bangladesh have reached a new all-time high, with the Bangladesh Jewellers Association (Bajus) announcing that 22-carat gold will be sold at Tk 218,116 per bhuri starting tomorrow, surpassing the previous record of Tk 217,381 per bhuri.
- This latest increase continues a trend of rising gold prices, driven by recent upswings in both domestic and global markets, as the precious metal is seen as a safe-haven investment during periods of economic uncertainty.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gold-prices-break-all-records-4063421>

NBR misses Jul-Nov revenue target despite 15% growth

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) posted a 15% year-on-year increase in tax collection for July–November of the current fiscal year (FY26), collecting Tk 1,48,137 crore, with gains across VAT, income & travel taxes, and customs duties.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nbr-misses-jul-nov-revenue-target-despite-15-growth-4063531>

Sectors

Banks, NBFIs, and Insurance

NRB Bank holds 12th Annual General Meeting

- NRB Bank PLC successfully held its 12th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in a hybrid format at The Westin Dhaka, presided over by the bank's Founder & Chairman, Iqbal Ahmed, where shareholders approved the audited financial statements for the previous year and took key decisions regarding the bank's operations.
- Shareholders also approved important corporate actions, including the declaration of dividends, appointment of statutory and corporate governance auditors for 2025, and fixation of their remuneration, with participation from the bank's directors, executives, and stakeholders both in person and online.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/nrb-bank-holds-12th-annual-general-meeting-1766336703>

Capital Market

Bargain hunting fails to lift Dhaka bourse as institutional silence prolongs slump

- The benchmark DSEX edged down by nearly five points to close at 4,826, marking a cumulative loss of 137 points over the past five trading days and underscoring the fragile state of investor confidence.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bargain-hunting-fails-lift-dhaka-bourse-institutional-silence-prolongs-slump-1315756>

Auditor flags dividend mismatch and tax discrepancies at RD Food

- The auditor of Rangpur Dairy & Food Products Limited, popularly known as RD Food, raised flags over a mismatch in unclaimed dividends in banks and discrepancies in deferred tax calculations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/auditor-flags-dividend-mismatch-and-tax-discrepancies-rd-food-1315736>

General insurance policyholders struggle as Tk3,363cr claims pending

- While insurance is supposed to provide protection during critical events such as accidents, fires, or business losses, many policyholders are not receiving timely compensation, leaving them in severe financial and psychological uncertainty.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/insurance-policyholders-struggle-compensation-tk3363cr-claims-pending-1315716>

Why BSRM remains profitable while GPH Ispat slips into losses amid adversities

- Economies of scale are helping Bangladesh Steel Re-Rolling Mills (BSRM) make profits during a tough period of sluggish market demand, while GPH Ispat has slipped into the red.
- The steel industry navigated one of its toughest phases in FY25 as construction in both the public and private sectors faced a setback, energy costs escalated, interest rates increased, and the dollar-taka exchange rate came under further upward pressure. Moreover, the banking sector faced tighter liquidity.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/why-bsrm-remains-profitable-while-gph-ispate-slips-into-losses-amid-adversities-1766335978>