

## Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	6,249.82
% change	0.06%
DS30 Index	2,116.81
% change	-0.07%
DSES Index	1,357.01
% change	0.06%
Turnover (BDT mn)	3,404.90
Turnover (USD mn)	32.12
% change	-16.95%
Market Capitalization (BDT bn)	7,749
Market Capitalization (USD bn)	73.10
% change	-0.37%

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

## International market snapshot

	Last closing
Dow Jones Industrial Average	34,827.70
% change	1.43%
Nikkei 225	33,341.56
% change	1.97%
FTSE 100	7,440.47
% change	0.20%

Source: Bloomberg

## Exchange rate

	Low (BDT)	High (BDT)
USD	111.00	111.00
EUR	118.74	118.78
GBP	136.29	136.30
INR	1.33	1.33

Source: BB

## Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average (%)
14-Nov-2023	7.25-9.25	7.99
13-Nov-2023	7.25-8.50	7.94

Source: BB

## Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	82.76	0.29%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	1,965.35	0.05%
Cotton, USd/lb.	81.10	-0.06%

Source: Bloomberg

## Macro

### Reg of new firms falls in first quarter

The number of new firm registrations in Bangladesh continued to decline in the first quarter of the ongoing fiscal year, reflecting growing concern over economic growth and entrepreneurship. The registration fell by 6.31 % during the July-October period in FY24. A total of 3,617 farms were registered during the period in question against 3,961 in FY23.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/reg-of-new-firms-falls-in-first-quarter-1699985844>

### Credit card transaction in taka drops 8%, in dollar rises 4.5%

The approaching national election and persisting economic uncertainty contributed to a 7.73% decline in credit card transactions in taka during September. Conversely, credit card transactions in dollars have witnessed a 4.52% increase amid the dollar crisis. Bangladeshis reduced their credit card spending in taka by Tk188 crore to Tk2,249 crore in September.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/credit-card-transaction-taka-drops-8-dollar-rises-45-739738>

## Stock

### Square Pharma posts Tk600cr profit in July-Sept

Square Pharmaceuticals Limited has reported a 9% growth in profit, amounting to Tk600 crore, in the July-September quarter of FY24. Square Pharma made a profit of around Tk1,900 crore in FY23. In FY23, its EPS stood at Tk21.41, which was 5% higher than the previous fiscal year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/square-pharma-posts-tk600cr-profit-july-sept-739590>

### Deep in loss in FY23, automakers don't hope for quick recovery

Representatives from all the four listed auto companies said restriction on imports, dollar shortage and inflation had shrunk the scope of business of motorised vehicles to an extent in FY23 that they had struggled to operate let alone make a profit. Demand for vehicles had fallen 40 % year-on-year in FY23, said industry insider.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/deep-in-loss-in-fy23-automakers-dont-hope-for-quick-recovery-1699983151>

### Desco incurs loss Tk151cr in July-Sept

The Dhaka Electric Supply Company (Desco) Limited incurred a loss of Tk151 crore in the July-September quarter of FY24. According to the company, bulk tariff increased by 28.08%, while the retail tariff rose by 15.76%. In the last fiscal year, Desco incurred a loss of Tk541 crore.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/desco-incurs-loss-tk151cr-july-sept-739582>

### **Earnings of Apex Footwear fall for drop in export**

Apex Footwear's earnings dropped 29 % year-on-year from Tk 3.15 crore to Tk 2.23 crore in the first quarter of this financial year. Its sales revenue dropped 17 % year-on-year to Tk 351.14 crore in July-September of FY24. Apex Footwear's EPS dropped to Tk 1.72 in the July-September 2023 from Tk 2.43 in the same period a year ago.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/earnings-apex-footwear-fall-drop-export-3469646>

### **ACI to form joint venture with London-based biscuits maker**

ACI Ltd announced that its board has approved an arrangement to form a joint venture company with London-based United United Biscuits Topco Limited to make biscuits here and serve customers. ACI will invest about Tk 50 crore in the next two years against its 49 % shareholding in the proposed company.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/aci-form-joint-venture-london-based-biscuits-maker-3469421>

### **Kohinoor Chemicals' profit up 22%**

Kohinoor Chemicals Company (Bangladesh) Ltd recorded a 22 % year-on-year increase in profit to Tk 9.98 crore for the first quarter of FY24. EPS increased to Tk 3.26 whereas it was Tk 2.66 last year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/kohinoor-chemicals-profit-22-3469766>

### **Bank and NBFIs**

#### **State banks' Tk 1,600cr stuck in ailing NBFIs**

Deposits of Tk 1,600 crore of four state-run commercial banks — Sonali, Rupali, Agrani, and Janata — have been stuck in several weak non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) as the latter have repeatedly failed to repay despite maturity owing to a persisting liquidity crisis.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/state-banks-tk-1600cr-stuck-ailing-nbfis-3469746>

#### **4 state-owned banks asked to eliminate capital shortfall**

The Bangladesh Bank on Tuesday asked four state-owned banks to recover from capital shortfall resulting from a surge in non-performing loans within these banks. At the end of June, Agrani Bank had the highest capital shortfall among the four state-run banks, amounting to Tk 3,768 crore, followed by Rupali Bank Tk 2,230 crore, Janata Bank Tk 2,189 crore and Sonali Bank Tk 10 crore.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/217687/4-state-owned-banks-asked-to-eliminate-capital-shortfall>

### **Insurance**

#### **Fire, marine dropped from bancassurance**

The government has finally accepted insurance companies' demand for excluding fire and marine insurance from the much awaited bancassurance. Bancassurance is set to be launched for all types of life insurance products, while among the non-life products, motor,

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travel, crop and health insurance policies can be sold through banks.  
<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/fire-marine-dropped-bancassurance-739694>

## Other

### JICA's green light to another \$500m credit for HSIA 3<sup>rd</sup> Terminal

Japan is likely to confirm some \$500 million in credit for doing the remaining work on the third terminal of the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA). Earlier in August 2020, the JICA confirmed 80 billion yen (nearly \$750 million) of the first installment.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/jicas-green-light-to-another-500m-credit-1699985057>

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We calculate our target price by weighting DCF, DDM, SOTP, asset-based and other relative valuation methods, and applying appropriate premiums/ discounts and/or other relevant adjustments.

Expected absolute returns are calculated as the % of difference between our target price and latest close price. Stock recommendations are based on absolute upside (downside) and have a 12-month horizon. Please note that future price fluctuations could lead to a temporary mismatch between upside/downside for a stock and our recommendation.

Recommendation Type	Holding period (if not otherwise mentioned)	Absolute Return Potential
Buy	12 Months	More than +15%
Neutral/ Hold	12 Months	Between -5% and +15%
Underweight	12 Months	Less than -5%

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<b>Bashundhara</b> +880 1718 106 217	<b>Mirpur-1</b> +880 1713 205 723	<b>Mirpur-12</b> +880 1911 197 188	<b>Banasree</b> +880 1701 205 075	<b>Uttara</b> +880 1913 128 156

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<b>Feni</b> +880 1324 243 210	<b>Khatungonj</b> +880 1713 205 742	<b>Chawkbazar</b> +880 1817 206 965	<b>Madhobdi</b> +880 1324 243 156	
	<b>Narayangonj</b> +880 1324 243 207	<b>Agrabad</b> +880 1324 243 198		