Morning News Snippet

May 08, 2025

Bangladesh market snapshot

	Last closing
DSEX Index	4802.42
% change	*-3.02%*
DS30 Index	1793.43
% change	*-2.20%*
DSES Index	1047.99
% change	*-3.85%*
Turnover (BDT mn)	5,165
Turnover (USD mn)	42.33
% change	*-6.05%*
Market Capitaliztion (BDT bn)	6,443
Market Capitaliztion (USD bn)	53
% change	*-1.54%*

Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange

International market snapshot

	Last closing
S&P 500	5,631.28
% change	*0.43%*
Nikkei 225	36,863.15
% change	*0.23%*
FTSE 100	8,559.33
% change	*-0.44%*

Source: Bloomberg

Exchange rate

	Low (BDT)	High (BDT)
USD	122.00	122.00
EUR	138.69	138.73
GBP	163.09	163.11
INR	1.45	1.45

Source: BB

Money market

Date	Call Money Rate Range (%)	Weighted Average (%)
07-May-2025	9.75-11.00	9.97
06-May-2025	9.50-11.00	9.95

Source: BB

Commodities

	Price	% Change
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	61.46	*0.56%*
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	3,404.93	*1.20%*
Cotton, USd/lb.	67.61	*0.34%*

Source: Bloomberg

Macro

Reserves fall to $20.29 billion after ACU payment

Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserve declined to $20.29 billion today, as per the calculation of the International Monetary Fund. Bangladesh has cleared a $1.88 billion payment to the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) for March-April imports. The forex reserve was at $22.06 billion before the ACU payment.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/reserves-fall-2029-billion-after-acu-payment-3889281

Fuel & Power

Govt plans to beef up LNG imports, cut gas allocation for power plants

The government has planned to enhance natural gas supply to industries for next four months (May-August) by cutting supplies to the power plants and increasing imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG). According to a roadmap drawn up at a meeting on Wednesday, the industries are expected to get an additional gas of 250 million cubic feet per day (mmcfd), Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan said after the meeting with business leaders at Bangladesh Secretariat. The country's industrial sector has long been suffering from severe gas supply disruptions amid less-than-required domestic production and imports of the energy. As a result, businesses allege, they have been suffering from production losses and losing competitiveness in the international markets.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/govt-plans-to-beef-up-lng-imports-cut-gas-allocation-for-power-plants-1746644810

Stocks

Reckitt Benckiser's profit rises marginally on revenue growth

Reckitt Benckiser (Bangladesh) posted a marginal 1.1 percent year-on-year increase in profit to Tk 153.35 million for the first quarter of 2025, supported by an 11.05 percent year-on-year growth in revenue. The earnings per share (EPS) of the multinational producer of toiletries and pharmaceutical products rose to Tk 32.45 for the first quarter of 2025 from Tk 32.10 for the same period a year ago, according to the price sensitive information published on Wednesday. In the three months to March, Reckitt Benckiser (Bangladesh) gained an 11.05 per cent year-on-year growth in revenue to Tk 1473.38 million on the back of an increase in demand.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/reckitt-benckisers-profit-rises-marginally-on-revenue-growth-1746641652

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LafargeHolcim Bangladesh reports Tk851cr revenue in Q1 2025

LafargeHolcim Bangladesh PLC, a frontline building material solutions provider, reported that its revenue grew by 3% to reach Tk851.50 crore in January-March quarter of 2025. In a statement issued on Wednesday (7 May), the multinational said its profits declined by 16% year-on-year to Tk139 crore during the quarter, primarily attributable to elevated energy cost and softening in cement prices. Iqbal Chowdhury, chief executive officer of LafargeHolcim Bangladesh, said, "In the first quarter, we achieved higher volume growth in two key business segments – cement and aggregates – reflecting our strong market performance and customer trust."

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/lafargeholcim-bangladesh-reports-tk851cr-revenue-q1-2025-1136656

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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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Office Premises

Head Office

Gulshan

Bulus Center

+880 2955 8481

Extensions of Head Office

Dilkusha	**Dilkusha (NIK Tower)**	**Dhanmondi**	**Nikunja**	**Mohammadpur**
+880 1701 205 090	+880 1701 205 000	+880 1713 205 703	+880 1701 205 013	+880 1324 243 212
Bashundhara	**Mirpur-1**	**Mirpur-12**	**Banasree**	**Uttara**
+880 1718 106 217	+880 1713 205 723	+880 1911 197 188	+880 1701 205 075	+880 1913 128 156

Branch Offices

Chattogram	**Sylhet**
+880 1701 205 038	+880 1713 205 760

Digital Booths

Khulna	**Barishal**	**Cumilla**	**Jashore**	**Gazipur**
+880 1717 411 466	+880 1713 205 762	+880 1324 243 163	+880 1324 243 203	+880 1324 243 165
Feni	**Khatungonj**	**Chawkbazar**	**Madhobdi**	
+880 1324 243 210	+880 1713 205 742	+880 1817 206 965	+880 1324 243 156	
	Narayangonj	**Agrabad**		
	+880 1324 243 207	+880 1324 243 198		