

## Stock Market

### Stocks end 4-day losing streak on bargain hunting

New Age, April 17, 2018

- Dhaka stocks on Monday gained marginally, snapping a four-day bear run, as investors went for bargain hunting share purchases.
- The key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, DSEX, gained 0.19 %, or 11.06 points, to close at 5,784.67 points on Monday after losing 105 points in the previous four trading sessions.
- Some of the general investors kept selling shares amid lack of activity by the institutional investors.
- The market started to rebound after three hours of trading and the DSEX closed at positive territory in last one and half hours of bargain hunting purchases of institutional investors,
- The DSEX, which had gained 390 points in eight trading sessions, beginning from March 28 following the government announcement of a number of measures to increase money supply in the financial market.
- 'Institutional investors mostly slowed their trading activities in last four trading sessions.
- Together with early downtrend today [Monday], they saw an opportunity to buy shares at cheaper prices and went for bargain hunting,' said a stockbroker.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/39153/stocks-end-4-day-losing-streak-on-bargain-hunting>

### Insurance company directors fail to meet minimum shareholding requirement

Dhaka Tribune, April 17, 2018

- 142 directors in 40 listed insurance companies still do not own the minimum shares required by a 2011 BSEC directive
- A total of 142 directors including sponsor directors of 40 listed insurance companies do not hold a minimum 2% share in their own companies.
- They are holding their positions in violation of a 2011 Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) directive.
- According to the rule, each director must hold 2% shares of the company's total paid-up capital.
- As per a BSEC directive, to be a director in a listed company, one must have 2% share of paid up capital of the company.
- If an existing director holds less than 2% share, there will be a casual vacancy, which means they can no longer be a director.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2018/04/17/insurance-company-directors-fail-meet-minimum-shareholding-requirement/>

## Economy

### Banks donate BDT 163cr to PM's relief fund

The Daily Star, April 16, 2018

- Private banks donated BDT 163 crore for the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, at a programme at Gono Bhaban in Dhaka on Friday.
- Bank Asia Chairman A Rouf Chowdhury are seen handing over the funds to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasia.
- The Bangladesh Association of Banks, a forum of private banks' directors, has donated BDT 163 crore to the Prime Minister's Relief and Welfare Fund.
- The BAB circulated a letter to all private banks last month asking the 30 old banks to donate at least BDT 5 crore each and the 10 new banks BDT 1 crore each.
- The amounts were given from the banks' corporate social responsibility funds, according to the chief executives.
- The banks spent BDT 744 crore from their CSR funds in 2017, BDT 496 crore in 2016 and BDT 527 crore in 2015.



<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/banking/banks-donate-BDT-163cr-pms-relief-fund-1562911>

### PM gives nod to \$2.67b Chinese loan

The Financial Express, April 16, 2018

- All the formalities have been completed to get the highest amount of loan worth US\$ 2.67 Bn from China for Padma rail link project with the Prime Minister's seal of approval on Sunday.
- The Chinese President's approval to provide the loan under preferential buyer's credit was received in February.
- The Chinese loan for the Padma rail link project will bear 80 % of the commercial contract cost as proposed by a Chinese company.
- The BR signed the commercial contract with China Railway First Group Co. Ltd in August, 2016 under the government-to-government arrangement for constructing 225-kilometre rail link on both sides of Padma Bridge. The contract amount is \$ 3.13 Bn.
- According to EXIM Bank, its preferential loan covers 100 % of the project cost if the project cost ranges between US\$ 300 Mn and US\$ 400 Mn.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/pm-gives-nod-to-267b-chinese-loan-1523876480>

## **Idcol to help develop market for improved cooking stoves**

The Daily Star, April 17, 2018

- Infrastructure Development Company Ltd (Idcol) now plans to help develop a sustainable market for adoption of improved cooking stoves in Bangladesh.
- The Idcol's ICS Programme was initiated in 2013 with the aim of installing 1 Mn stoves by December 2018.
- The state-owned financial institution achieved the target in January 2017, and more than 1.48 Mn improved cook stoves were disseminated among the rural households till February 2018.
- The agency is implementing the ICS programme in 290 upazilas through 66 partner organisations (PO) with financial assistance from World Bank.
- The POs are mostly NGOs, microcredit institutions, and private organisations.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/idcol-help-develop-market-improved-cooking-stoves-1563607>

## **Lending rate may start to come down in 6 months: bank CEOs**

New Age, April 16, 2018

- Depending on deposit collection situation, the interest rate on bank loans may start to come down in six months when the reduced cash reserve ratio becomes effective, chief executives of a number of banks said on Sunday.
- The government and the Bangladesh Bank took a number of initiatives in an unprecedented manner in March this year with a view to cutting lending rate following pressures from bank owners.
- The policy relaxation to bring banks' lending rate down to single digit to facilitate business growth includes cutting CRR to 5.5 % from 6.5 %, allowing state-owned entities deposit up to 50 % of their funds in private banks and non-bank financial institutions and extending time to adjust ADR till March 31, 2019.
- In March, finance minister AMA Muhith said that the lending rate would come down to single digit within one month.
- The lending rate depends on deposit rate, argued chief executives of a number of banks.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/39080/lending-rate-may-start-to-come-down-in-6-months-bank-ceos>

## **NBR may trim tax revenue collection target by BDT 300b**

Dhaka Tribune, April 17, 2018

- The aggregate target for tax revenue collection has been set at BDT 2.48 trillion for the FY 2017-18.
- Mr Bhuiyan said the revenue collection needs more than 40 % growth over the corresponding year's collection to achieve the target.
- The NBR collected BDT 4.03 Bn income tax in the Halkhata festival.
- It may get another BDT 3.0 Bn as VAT during the festival, he said.
- The LTU income tax wing collected BDT 649 Mn as arrear and advance tax on the Halkhata Utsob.
- State minister for health and family welfare Dr Zahed Maleque attended the programme at LTU.
- Speaking at the programme, he urged the tax authority to bring the transport owners under tax net.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/nbr-may-trim-tax-revenue-collection-target-by-BDT-300b-1523935886>

## **BB eyes settlement in US cyber heist suit ahead of its own case**

The Daily Star, April 17, 2018

- An Ecuadorian bank and Wells Fargo have reached an out-of-court settlement over a 2015 cyber heist, providing a possible precedent for the Bangladesh central bank's planned suit to recover \$66 Mn still lost in one of the world's biggest such cases.
- Wells Fargo did not comment on the settlement, and a representative for Banco del Austro could not be immediately reached.
- Banco had sought to hold Wells responsible for authorizing the fraudulent transfer of \$12 Mn from its account in 2015.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/39152/bb-eyes-settlement-in-us-cyber-heist-suit-ahead-of-its-own-case>

## **International**

### **Asia stocks edge up on steady China GDP, earnings in focus**

Reuters, April 16, 2018

- The dollar was barely changed, with demand for safe-haven U.S.
- China's economy grew a welcome 6.8 % in the first quarter of 2018 from a year earlier.
- March industrial output missed expectations and first-quarter fixed-asset investment growth slowed, tempering equity market gains.
- MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan edged up 0.05 %.
- Australian stocks gained 0.5 %, South Korea's KOSPI dipped 0.1 % and Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.15 %.
- Shanghai rose 0.15 % and Japan's Nikkei was flat.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-global-markets/asia-stocks-edge-up-on-steady-china-gdp-earnings-in-focus-idUSKBN1HO01Z>

## China's Economic Growth Remains Robust Amid Strong Retail Sales

Bloomberg, April 17, 2018

- China's economic expansion held up amid robust consumer spending, underpinning global growth and giving authorities more room to purge excessive borrowing, while the industrial sector showed signs of modest slowdown.
- Steady growth offers support for President Xi Jinping's mission to shore up financial stability, one of Beijing's top goals along with reducing poverty and curbing pollution.
- The robust pace of expansion is a tailwind for the global economy which is seen maintaining its solid performance this year, providing needed support in the form of strong demand for China's exports.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-04-17/china-economic-growth-remains-robust-amid-strong-retail-sales>

## Oil prices ease

The Daily Star, April 17, 2018

- Oil prices slid on Monday amid relief that US-led strikes on Syria did not provoke an escalation in the conflict, easing investor fears about the security of crude oil supply.
- Russia holding back on any military riposte helped lift Wall Street, as did strong retail sales, but European equities closed lower as the region's key currencies strengthened against the dollar.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/oil-prices-ease-1563610>

## BASL NEWS

### 7th Anniversary of BASL Celebrated

Research & Development Team,

- 7th anniversary of Bank Asia Securities Limited (BASL) has been celebrated at Head Office on 17th April 2018.
- On that program, Mr. Arfan Ali, Honorable President & Managing director of Bank Asia and Director of Bank Asia Securities Limited has inaugurated the celebration program.
- On that program, The CEO of BASL Mr. Sumon Das (VP), Head of Operation Mr. Md. Anisul Alam Sarker (AVP), many officials of BASL and Honorable clients of BASL participated the program.



## Disclaimer

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## About Bank Asia Securities (BASL)

Bank Asia Securities Limited (BASL) is one of the leading full-service brokerage companies in Bangladesh. The company was formed in 2009 and running its operation as a majority owned subsidiary of Bank Asia Limited. BASL offers full-fledged standard brokerage services for retail, institutional and foreign clients with a dedicated team of skilled professionals. The company is currently providing the brokerage services under the membership of Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited (DSE).

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