

## Stock Market

### Open-ended MFs boom as bourses stay bearish

The Financial Express, March 28, 2018

- The number of investors in their funds had risen fast in recent years, coming to nearly 13,000 until June 30, 2016 and booming by nearly 270 % to 35,000 in a year to June 30, 2017
- Mutual funds are expanding fast, totaling now 41 with their aggregate initial sizes amounting to BDT 207.35 bn.
- There were 37 closed-end funds traded on the exchanges and usually liquidated after a certain period.
- Until 2012, there had been only four open-ended funds, also dubbed growth fund, worth BDT 5.4 bn. Its fastest growth had been seen in last two years to December 2017, with 22 such funds being operationalized during the period.
- The ICB holds the biggest number of such funds, totaling 13 schemes, with the first one launched in 1981. And the number of investors in their funds had also risen in recent years, booming by nearly 270 % to 35,000 in a year to June 30, 2017.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/open-ended-mfs-boom-as-bourses-stay-bearish-152209651>

### Stocks plummet on selling frenzy amid liquidity crisis

New Age, March 28, 2018

- Dhaka stocks plummeted on Tuesday as a section of investors went for selling shares amid an acute liquidity crisis at the financial market.
- Dhaka Stock Exchange's key index, DSEX, slumped by 1.40 %, or 78.39 points, to close at 5,491.79 points after losing 10.39 points in the previous session, hitting fresh nine-month low.
- The market began to fall from the very beginning of the day that continued without any break as some investors maintained 'targeted' sell-offs to put pressure on Bangladesh Bank to relax the banks' exposure to the capital market while other went into panic selling, stockbrokers said.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/37729/stocks-plummet-on-selling-frenzy-amid-liquidity-crisis>

### Appollo Ispat's IPO project to start commercial operation April 1

The Daily Star, March 28, 2018

- The commercial operation of Appollo Ispat's environment-friendly IPO project will start from April 1, according to an official disclosure on Tuesday.
- The company has informed that the most advanced radiant tube furnace (RTF) technology based NOF-CGL plant having 72,000 MT capacities (per annum) will start its commercial operation from April 01, 2018.
- The estimated revenue of the project will increase by BDT 5,400 mn per annum with the utilisation of 80 % production capacity, said the disclosure.
- Cost of the project will be BDT 2,038.69 mn and its useful lives will be 15-20 years, it said.
- In 2013, the corrugated and galvanised sheet manufacturing company raised BDT 2.20 bn through issuing 100 mn ordinary shares of BDT 22 each, including BDT 12 as premium per share.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/appollo-ispats-ipo-project-to-start-commercial-operation-april-1-1522134858>

## Formation of clearing co hits snag as bourses fight for stakes

The Financial Express, March 28, 2018

- The formation process of a clearing and settlement company has run into trouble as Dhaka and Chittagong stock exchanges have sought 70 % stakes in total in the company, going beyond the ceiling of 65 %.
- Earlier, the Dhaka Stock Exchange sought the highest shareholding ceiling for a single bourse — 49 % — in the clearing and settlement company when the port city bourse did not mention any shareholding demand.
- The Chittagong Stock Exchange has recently demanded 21 % stake in the company making the process deadlocked as the DSE is unwilling to lower its demand, said a CSE official.
- The port city bourse has expressed its intention in a letter sent to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission and to the clearing company recently.
- The BSEC on June 13, 2017 gazetted the central counterparty rules under which stock exchanges would jointly hold 65 % of the company's shares with a provision that a single stock exchange would hold highest 49 % stake.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/37725/formation-of-clearing-co-hits-snag-as-bourses-fight-for-stakes>

## Listed ceramic makers' profit leapt in 2017

The Daily Star, March 28, 2018

- Listed ceramic companies saw higher growth in profit last year owing to an increase in demand from the real estate sector and export markets.
- Five companies are listed on the Dhaka Stock Exchange. Of them, three posted more than 150 % growth in profit in 2017 from a year earlier.
- Monno Ceramic's profit grew a staggering 676.38 % to BDT 4.27 crore, while Standard Ceramic's profit rose 209.24 % to BDT 1.17 crore.
- Shinepukur Ceramics's profit went up 188.86 % to BDT 3.82 crore and RAK Ceramics' 11.17 % to BDT 101.86 crore, the highest among the listed ceramic makers, according to an analysis of Prime Finance and data from the DSE. Only Fu-Wang Ceramic's profit declined -- by 36.49 % to BDT 8.07 crore.
- The ceramic industry caters to 85 % of the demand for the BDT 2,000-crore local market. Investment in the sector by local and foreign investors has already exceeded BDT 5,000 crore.
- At present, the production capacity of ceramic tiles stood at 12 crore square metres per year and for sanitaryware it is 75 lakh pieces.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/business/export/listed-ceramic-makers-profit-leapt-2017-1554334>

## Economy

### Nine banks suffer capital shortfall

The Daily Star, March 28, 2018

- Nine banks, which include eight state banks and the trouble-hit Farmers Bank, have failed to meet the minimum regulatory capital needs, in a worrying development for the government.
- As per the Basel III framework, banks have to keep at least 10 % of their capital against their risk-weighted assets.
- During the last quarter of 2017, the nine banks saw their capital shortfall swell by BDT 1,766 crore to BDT 19,466 crore, according to data from the Bangladesh Bank.
- Of the sum, the eight state banks accounted for BDT 17,442 crore; they are facing the capital shortfall although the government has provided them with BDT 14,505 crore since 2009.

BANKS' CAPITAL SHORTFALL	
As of Dec 2017; In crores of taka	
Krishi	7,777
Sonali	5,397
BASIC	2,656
ICB Islamic	1,495
RAKUB	813
Rupali	638
Farmers	283
BCBL	246
Janata	161
SOURCE: BB	

<http://www.thedailystar.net/business/banking/nine-banks-suffer-capital-shortfall-1554346>

## International

### Asian Stocks Fall After U.S. Tech Slump; Yen Slips: Markets Wrap

Bloomberg, March 28, 2018

- Escala Partners' Thomas Murphy discusses possible European anti-trust legislation against American tech companies
- Equities in Asia declined after a sell-off in technology shares spooked investors assessing threats to earnings growth for the industry that propelled last year's rally. The yen slipped and 10-year U.S. yields consolidated below 2.8 %.
- Stocks retreated across the region, with Samsung Electronics Co. and Tencent Holdings Ltd. the biggest decliners on the MSCI Asia Pacific Index. Earlier, American tech shares suffered their worst drop since the broad market correction in early February as investors were rattled by news from Nvidia Corp.
- Concerns over trade tensions, sparked by President Donald Trump's protectionist moves, have further stoked volatility that flared in early February amid high valuations and tighter liquidity.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-03-27/asia-stocks-tip-losses-after-u-s-tech-slides-markets-wrap>

## Saudi Aramco chief says IPO on track for 2018

The Daily Star, March 28, 2018

- The head of Saudi oil giant Aramco has said a much-anticipated IPO is on track for 2018, but declined to give a fixed date -- or venue.
- Saudi authorities plan to list five % of Aramco on an as-yet unspecified stock market, but the company has struggled to arrive at a \$2 trillion valuation sought by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.
- Investors are reportedly sceptical about the lengthy process of placing Aramco on a foreign stock exchange, potentially the largest stock sale ever, with New York, London and Hong Kong among the potential sites. Nasser, however, said there was "a lot of demand for the listing".
- The Aramco IPO plan is a pillar of the petro-state's "Vision 2030" reform programme, which aims to wean the economy off its reliance on oil revenues.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-business/saudi-aramco-chief-says-ipo-track-2018-1554325>

## BASL NEWS

### BASL Officials Participated in Bank Asia Agent Bank Divisional Campaign Program at Bogra

March 28, 2018

- To expand Bank Asia Securities operation with Bank Asia Agent Banking Division, a team of BASL participated on the Agent Banking Divisional Campaign program at Bogra. The key representatives of BASL were Mr. Anisul Alam Sarker (AVP) and Mr. Md. Obaidul Haque (Officer).



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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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