

Key News

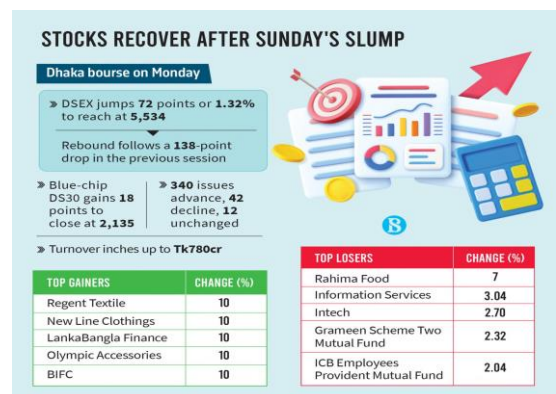
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Stock Market & Company

Dhaka bourse rallies on speculation over BSEC leadership change

The Business Standard, Mar 02, 2026

- The Dhaka stock market rebounded sharply yesterday, shrugging off a global selloff triggered by escalating tensions in the Middle East, as speculation over a potential change in the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) leadership spurred buying interest among local investors.
- Market insiders said optimism surrounding the possible resignation of BSEC Chairman Khondoker Rashed Maqsood drove the rally throughout the session, even though no official announcement was made.
- The benchmark DSEX index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) jumped 72 points, or 1.32%, to close at 5,534, recovering from a steep 138-point fall in the previous session caused by concerns over the Iran-US-Israel conflict.
- The blue-chip DS30 index gained 18 points to settle at 2,135. Market breadth turned strongly positive, with 340 issues advancing against 42 decliners, while 12 remained unchanged.
- Turnover inched up to Tk780 crore, indicating improved participation, and the bourse's market capitalisation rose by around Tk4,000 crore.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-bourse-rallies-speculation-over-bsec-leadership-change-1375571>

Stocks rebound after panic sell-off triggered by Iran strikes

The Business Standard, Mar 02, 2026

- Stocks staged a strong recovery this morning (2 March), rebounding from the previous session's panic-driven sell-off sparked by escalating tensions involving Iran, the US and Israel.
- By 10:40am, the benchmark DSEX index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) had surged 65 points to 5,527, signalling renewed investor confidence.
- The blue-chip DS30 index also advanced sharply, gaining 19 points to 2,136. Market breadth was overwhelmingly positive, with 345 issues advancing against just 14 decliners, while 21 stocks remained unchanged.
- Turnover stood at Tk149 crore during the session, reflecting robust investor participation as bargain hunters returned to the market following the earlier dip.

- The rebound suggests investors are regaining confidence after the initial shock from geopolitical developments, with many viewing the previous sell-off as an opportunity to accumulate fundamentally strong stocks at lower valuations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stocks-rebound-after-panic-sell-triggered-iran-strikes-1374766>

BSEC removes LR Global from six mutual funds to protect investors

The Business Standard, Mar 02, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has removed LR Global Bangladesh Asset Management Company Limited as the asset manager of six mutual funds over regulatory violations and alleged mismanagement.
- The decision was approved at a recent board meeting of the commission, according to a disclosure published by the Dhaka Stock Exchange today (2 March).
- In a statement, the regulator said the action was taken in the interest of investors and to safeguard public funds after its investigation found breaches of securities laws, violations of the Mutual Fund Rules, 2001, and failure to fulfil fiduciary responsibilities.
- The affected funds are DBH First Mutual Fund, Green Delta Mutual Fund, AIBL First Islamic Mutual Fund, LR Global Bangladesh Mutual Fund-1, NCCBL Mutual Fund-1, and MBL First Mutual Fund.
- Trustees of the respective funds have been directed to initiate necessary legal and administrative measures. Meanwhile, the process to cancel LR Global's registration as an asset manager is underway.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-removes-lr-global-six-mutual-funds-protect-investors-1375591>

Rahima Food relegated to 'Z' status over non-operational period

The Business Standard, Mar 02, 2026

- Under a directive of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), any listed issuer that stays out of operation, production, or exploration for a continuous period of at least six months is classified as non-operational.
- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has downgraded Rahima Food Corporation Limited, a concern of City Group, from the 'B' category to the 'Z' category after the company remained out of production for six consecutive months.
- Under a directive of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), any listed issuer that stays out of operation, production, or exploration for a continuous period of at least six months is classified as non-operational.
- The six-month threshold, however, excludes periods spent on renovation or BMRE (Balancing, Modernisation, Rehabilitation and Expansion), as well as disruptions caused by force majeure.
- Following the downgrade, the company's share price fell 7% to Tk126.20 on the DSE yesterday, placing it among the session's top losers.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/rahima-food-relegated-z-status-over-non-operational-period-1375581>

BAT Bangladesh incurs Tk136cr loss in Oct-Dec 2025

The Business Standard, Mar 02, 2026

- British American Tobacco (BAT) Bangladesh Company Limited reported a loss of Tk136 crore in the October–December quarter of 2025, marking a sharp deterioration in earnings amid declining cigarette sales and higher operating costs.
- According to the company's financial statements approved at a board meeting held today (2 March), the multinational tobacco manufacturer posted a loss per share of Tk2.53 in the fourth quarter of last year.
- For the full year ended December 2025, the company's earnings per share stood at Tk10.81, representing a 67% decline compared to the previous year.
- The steep fall in profitability prompted the board to recommend a 30% cash dividend for 2025, significantly lower than the 300% cash dividend distributed in 2024.

- The company has scheduled its annual general meeting for 30 April to seek shareholder approval for the audited financial statements and the proposed dividend. The record date has been fixed for 1 April.

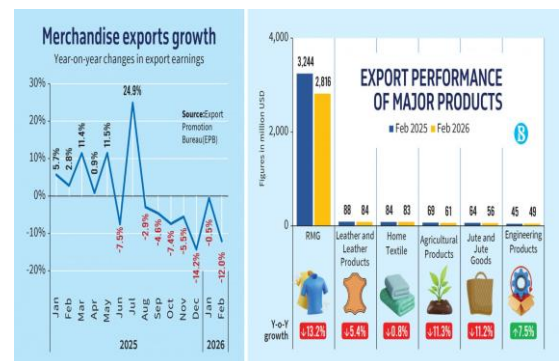
<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bat-bangladesh-incurs-tk136cr-loss-oct-dec-2025-1375466>

Economy & Industry

Exports shrink for seventh month as February shipments plunge

The Business Standard, Mar 02, 2026

- Bangladesh's export earnings remained in negative territory for the seventh consecutive month, as February shipments fell sharply due to weak global demand and ongoing geopolitical uncertainty.
- Exports in February fell sharply to \$3.50 billion, down 20.81% from January and 12.03% year-on-year, according to data released by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) today (2 March).
- Total exports in the first eight months of FY26 (July-February) declined 3.15% year-on-year to \$31.9 billion.
- Ready-made garments (RMG), which account for over 80% of the country's export earnings, dropped 3.73% year-on-year to \$25.80 billion during the period.
- February alone saw RMG earnings fall 22.1% month-on-month and 13.21% year-on-year, reflecting weaker order flows and shipment volatility. Within the sector, knitwear exports fell 4.56%, while woven garments declined 2.79%.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/exports-shrink-seventh-month-february-shipments-plunge-1375386>

BGMEA halts new dealings with Aditya Birla-linked firm over unpaid \$426,830 export bill

The Business Standard, Mar 02, 2026

- Bangladesh's garment exporters' body has instructed its members to suspend new business dealings with an Indian company linked to the Aditya Birla Group after it allegedly failed to clear export dues of \$426,830 owed to a Bangladeshi manufacturer.
- In a letter to members last month, the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) said no new transactions should be undertaken with Styleverse Lifestyle Pvt Ltd and its related entities until the outstanding payment to Ducati Apparels Ltd is settled.
- It also warned that no UD or UP certificates should be issued in favour of the company without prior approval from the association.
- According to BGMEA sources, Styleverse Lifestyle Pvt Ltd is a sister concern of the Aditya Birla Group, with the Indian conglomerate holding a 51% stake in the company.
- Md Khayer Mia, managing director of Ducati Apparels Ltd, told The Business Standard that the Indian buyer had been sourcing products from his company for about two and a half years, initially in small quantities.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bgmea-halts-new-dealings-aditya-birla-linked-firm-over-unpaid-426830-export-bill-1375496>

International

European gas prices surge over 20% on Iran conflict

The Daily Star, Mar 02, 2026

- European gas prices soared more than 20 percent Monday on fears that the Iran war will cut supplies in the Gulf region, notably exports from Qatar.
- The Dutch TTF natural gas contract, considered the European benchmark, rocketed to 38.885 euros, having earlier gained more than 22 percent.
- Despite the surge, the price was below the level it reached in January during the northern hemisphere winter.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/european-gas-prices-surge-over-20-iran-conflict-4118636>

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BASL Research Team

Mr. Shariful Alam Chowdhury
Head of Research & Investments tushar@basl-bd.com

Mr. Shohidul Islam
Research Analyst shohidul@basl-bd.com

Mr. Kawser Mohammad Emon
Research Associate emon@basl-bd.com

Supervised by:
Mr. Sumon Das, Chief Executive Officer

BASL Network

Head Office

Hadi Mansion (2nd Floor)
2, Dilkusha Commercial Area
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Phone: +88-02-9515826-28
E-mail: info@basl-bd.com

Dhanmondi Branch

Meher Plaza (1st Floor),
House # 13/A, Road # 05
Dhanmondi, Dhaka - 1207
Phone: +8802-44611923-24

Mirpur Branch

Nishi Plaza, plot # 01,
Avenue-04, Section-06,
Block-C
Mirpur, Dhaka - 1216
Phone: +8802-58055449,
48032449

Uttara Branch

House # 79/A, (4th Floor),
Road # 07, Sector # 04
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-
1230
Phone: +88-02-
48958389,48958371

Banani Branch

Nur Empori, Plot # 77 (1st
Floor), Road No # 11,
Banani,
Dhaka-1213
Phone: +88028836155,
8836849

Nikunja Branch

DSE Tower, Level 10, Room#
200, Nikunja, Dhaka-1229
Phone: +8809666702070

Chattogram Branch

Bank Asia Bhaban (3rd
Floor)
39, Agrabad Commercial
Area
Chattogram-4001
Tel : +8801730338091

Khulna Branch

28, Sir Iqbal Road (1st Floor)
Khulna
Phone: +88-041-731208-9

Bogura Digital Booth

Jamil Shopping Center (3rd
Floor), 288/325 Rangpur
Road,
Bogura City Corporation,
Bogura Sadar, Bogura.

Rajshahi Digital Booth

Chamber Bhabon(2nd
Floor), Station Road , Alok
Moor,
Rajshahi-6100.

For International Trade & Sales, please call at +8801993111666, +880 02 9515826, Ext: 101 at Business hour. For further query, write to us at research@basl-bd.com.