

Key News

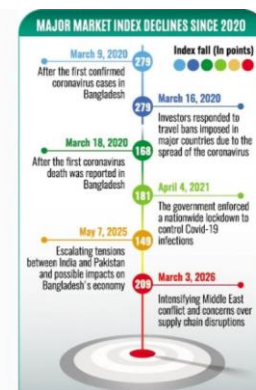
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Stock Market & Company

DSE sees biggest single-day fall in 6 years amid Middle East tensions

The Financial Express, Mar 04, 2026

- The stock index witnessed the biggest single-day fall for the first time in six years on Tuesday as panicked investors tried to exit the market amid the intensifying Middle East conflict.
- Investors were rattled, which was reflected in the intense selling pressure across the board as the market opened. The pressure escalated as the session progressed, instead of ebbing.
- The benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) finally slid 209 points, or 3.80 per cent, to 5,325, after recovering 72 points the previous day.
- Tuesday's index plunge is the biggest since March 18, 2020, the day when the coronavirus outbreak triggered a sharp fall.
- Investors remained wary of potential macroeconomic repercussions of the ongoing geo-political tension, particularly the risks of fuel and power supply disruptions within the country, said Akramul Alam, head of research at Royal Capital.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/dse-sees-biggest-single-day-fall-in-6-years-amid-middle-east-tensionsdse-sees-biggest-single-day-fall-in-6-years-amid-middle-east-tensions>

BAT Bangladesh share drops 9% as it declares record low dividend

The Business Standard, Mar 03, 2026

- British American Tobacco Bangladesh has recommended a 30% cash dividend for 2025, sharply lower than the 300% cash dividend it distributed in 2024.
- Following the disclosure, the company's share price fell by 8.94% to Tk242.30 today (3 March) at the Dhaka Stock Exchange.
- The company also reported a loss of Tk136 crore in the October–December quarter of 2025, reflecting a sharp deterioration in earnings amid declining cigarette sales and higher operating costs.
- In a statement, the company reported a 67% decline in earnings per share (EPS) for the year ended 31 December 2025, as profit came under significant pressure. The significant drop was mainly due to lower turnover and increased operating expenses. Costs rose as a result of inflationary pressures and higher levels of activity in certain parts of the business.
- Net operating cash flow fell by 81% compared to the previous year. The decline was largely driven by lower profit and higher cash outflows following an increase in excise duty, although some of the impact was offset by other factors.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bat-bangladesh-share-drops-9-it-declares-record-low-dividend-1376601>

Pioneer Insurance posts lower profit but declares higher dividends

The Business Standard, Mar 04, 2026

- Listed non-life insurance company Pioneer Insurance declared a 4.6 per cent lower profit of Tk 446.95 million in 2025, compared to the year before, despite higher revenue.
- According to a stock exchange filing on Tuesday, the company's earnings per share shrank to Tk 4.57 per share in 2025 from Tk 4.79 per share in 2024.
- Pioneer Insurance Company Limited provides comprehensive general insurance, including motor, fire, marine, and aviation.
- In 2025, it had to pay more claims than in the previous year, which is why profit fell this year, the company said.
- Despite the reduction in profit, Pioneer Insurance declared a higher dividend for investors this year.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/pioneer-insurance-posts-lower-profit-but-declares-higher-dividends>

Economy & Industry

Special loan facility for February wages of export-oriented industries: BB

The Daily Star, Mar 03, 2026

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has allowed banks to provide special term loans to export-oriented industries to help them pay workers' wages for February this year.
- In a circular today, the central bank said that global and domestic economic headwinds, coupled with declining exports, delays in opening letters of credit and liquidity stress, have disrupted production in many export-oriented industrial establishments.
- As a result, some firms are facing difficulties in paying workers' salaries and allowances on time, it added.
- To ensure uninterrupted production and sustain export capacity, banks have been instructed to extend term loans, outside existing working capital limits, to solvent units for disbursing February salaries.
- The loan amount cannot exceed the average wage and allowance payments of the preceding three months of the respective firm.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/special-loan-facility-february-wages-export-oriented-industries-bb-4119606>

NBR files GD over fraud using chairman's name

The Daily Star, Mar 03, 2026

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has filed a police complaint after discovering that a fraud ring was using the name of its chairman to demand money from individuals through fake email addresses.
- In a statement issued today, the revenue authority said the group had been sending threatening messages based on fabricated claims in an attempt to extort funds.
- The information circulated by the fraudsters is "completely false," it added.
- A general diary was lodged on March 3 with the Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station in Dhaka.
- The NBR urged its officials, employees, and members of the public to remain vigilant and to ignore any such fraudulent communications.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nbr-files-gd-over-fraud-using-chairmans-name-4119711>

NBR seeks FY27 budget proposals from businesses

The Daily Star, Mar 03, 2026

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has sought budget proposals from business organisations across the country as it begins preparations for the 2026-27 fiscal year budget.
- In a notification issued today, the revenue board said that work on the upcoming budget has already commenced.
- In line with its practice in recent years, the tax authority aims to formulate a participatory, people-oriented, and equitable budget by incorporating suggestions from taxpayers at different levels, chambers of commerce, trade associations, professional bodies, research institutions, and members of the intelligentsia.
- Business chambers and associations have been requested to submit their written proposals to the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) by March 15.
- A soft copy of the proposals should also be sent to the NBR via email at nbrbudget2026@gmail.com. The NBR said the initiative is intended to make revenue mobilisation more meaningful, analytical, and representative, adding that all interested stakeholders are encouraged to participate in the process.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nbr-seeks-fy27-budget-proposals-businesses-4119681>

International

Mideast war risks sending global economy into stagflation

The Daily Star, Mar 04, 2026

- An extended conflict in the Middle East after the US and Israel launched strikes on Iran could trigger global stagflation -- a troublesome blend of high inflation and anaemic growth -- due to spiking oil and gas prices, economists warned.
- The conflict has nearly halted traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, through which around 20 percent of global seaborne oil passes, with several ships attacked.
- Global oil prices shot higher on Monday, with the Brent crude international reference oil contract up nearly nine percent at \$79.30 per barrel at 1410 GMT.
- It briefly surpassed \$80 per barrel earlier in the day, and was up considerably from the \$61 per barrel at the start of the year.
- Economist Sylvain Bersinger said the war risks "creating a third oil shock after those in 1973 and 1979 and the 2022 gas shock".

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/mideast-war-risks-sending-global-economy-stagflation-4120111>

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