

Key News

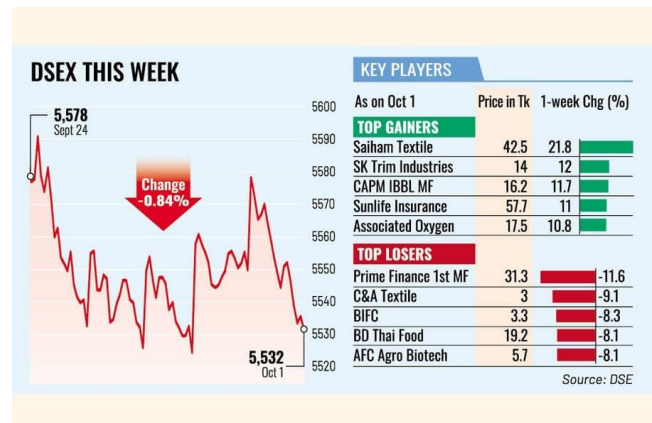
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Stock Market & Company

Weekly Market Review: Stocks fall as fuel hike, high borrowing costs unsettle investors

The Financial Express, Oct 03, 2026

- Stocks returned to the red this week, snapping a two-week rally, as a fresh fuel-price shock, persistently high borrowing costs and concerns over corporate earnings prompted investors to retreat to the sidelines.
- Market participants said the latest Tk 20-per-litre fuel-price increase emerged as a fresh concern for the equity market, with higher transport, production and distribution costs threatening to squeeze corporate profit margins.
- "The market was already under pressure, while the latest fuel-price hike emerged as a major concern for the equity market because of its potential impact on corporate earnings," said a leading stockbroker.
- He said the higher fuel costs could translate into slower earnings growth for many listed companies in the coming quarters.
- The concern was compounded by Bangladesh Bank's decision to keep its policy rate unchanged at 9.5 per cent until December, reinforcing expectations that borrowing costs would remain elevated for some time.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/weekly-market-review-stocks-fall-as-fuel-hike-high-borrowing-costs-unsettle-investors>

Ibn Sina Pharma to buy Tk57cr commercial space in Dhanmondi

The Business Standard, Oct 03, 2026

- Listed pharmaceutical company The Ibn Sina Pharmaceutical Industry PLC is set to invest Tk57.43 crore in a 24,321-square-foot commercial space in Dhanmondi, with the purchase price equivalent to about 72% of its net profit in the latest fiscal year.
- The company's board approved the purchase at its 342nd meeting on 30 September, according to a disclosure to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

- The property is located at Concord Lily Heights, Plot-8, Road-16 (Old 27), Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka. The purchase price of Tk57,43,01,158, excluding registration fees and other relevant charges, translates to around Tk23,615 per square foot.
- Ibn Sina Pharma reported a net profit of Tk79.45 crore in FY2025-26. For the same year, its board recommended a 77% cash dividend for shareholders, while its net asset value (NAV) stood at Tk144.56 per share.
- The company, however, did not disclose how it would finance the purchase or whether the new space will be used for business expansion, corporate operations, production or distribution facilities, or other purposes.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/ibn-sina-pharma-buy-tk57cr-commercial-space-dhanmondi-1561636>

CVO Petrochemical resumes regular operations after emergency maintenance

The Business Standard, Oct 03, 2026

- Insurance companies, customers and investors are facing confusion over fake circulars being circulated on social media using the name of the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA).
- The issue has also raised concerns in the stock market, as 58 insurance companies regulated by IDRA are listed there.
- Recently, IDRA identified a circular circulated on social media in its name as "completely fake, baseless and untrue". The regulator said it had neither issued the circular nor had any involvement with the document.
- The regulator is also preparing to file a general diary (GD) with Motijheel Police Station over the misuse of its name, according to sources familiar with the matter.
- Another fake circular was recently circulated claiming that several non-life insurance companies had submitted an application to IDRA.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/fake-idra-circulars-leave-insurers-customers-confused-1559016>

Confidence Power to kick off IPO roadshow on 18 October

The Business Standard, Oct 03, 2026

- Confidence Power and Energy PLC, a power-sector company under Confidence Group, will hold a roadshow on 18 October as it moves ahead with plans to raise capital from the primary market through an initial public offering (IPO) under the book-building method.
- According to company sources, the roadshow, aimed at institutional investors, will begin at 7pm at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka. Eligible investors will also be able to participate virtually through a dedicated digital platform.
- At the event, the company will present its financial performance, business outlook and planned capital expenditure to potential institutional bidders ahead of the share-price discovery process, according to the company.
- Under the book-building system, eligible institutional investors submit bids within the prescribed framework, and the bidding process is used to determine the cut-off price of the shares before the IPO is offered to other investors.
- The company has invited a broad range of eligible investors to the roadshow, including merchant banks, portfolio managers, asset management companies, stock dealers, commercial banks, financial institutions, insurance companies, fund managers, alternative investment funds, non-resident investors with registered security custodians, and recognised provident and pension funds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/confidence-power-kick-ipo-roadshow-18-october-1561621>

Charting ICB's comeback: Debt relief, capital reform and market innovation

The Business Standard, Oct 03, 2026

- To revitalise the economy and steer it towards the long-term trillion-dollar goal, the government has adopted the 3R strategy – Recovery and Stabilisation, Restoration, and Reconstruction for Acceleration.
- Aligned with this broader strategy, the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) has formulated a phased institutional restructuring and transformation plan.
- In the short term, it aims to ease financial pressures and restore operational capacity; in the medium term, boost revenue, diversify investments and expand business capacity; and in the long term, ensure sustainable growth and institutional transformation.
- The framework reflects ICB's efforts to strengthen its financial and operational sustainability in line with the broader objectives of the government's 3R strategy.
- After independence, trading on the Dhaka Stock Exchange resumed on 16 August 1976, following a five-year interruption. Just one and a half months later, on 1 October 1976, the ICB was established as the country rebuilt its economy.

ICB Financials in 15 years

Figures in crore taka



Indicator	FY11	FY26 till Dec
Total Borrowings	2,341	14,043
Annual Interest Expense	185	1,101
Portfolio at Cost	1,504	14,116
Portfolio at Market Value	3,023	8,609
Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	1,519	-5,507
Interest Expense as % of Income	28%	173%
Annual Gross Income	668	636

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/charting-icbs-comeback-debt-relief-capital-reform-and-market-innovation-1561616>

Economy & Industry

Uncertified LED bulbs grab half of Tk3,000cr market, squeezing compliant manufacturers

The Business Standard, Oct 03, 2026

- A Tk120 LED bulb bought from a roadside electronics shop in Dhaka's Moghbazar stopped working within a month, leaving its buyer with little recourse as the product came without a warranty, certification mark or printed price.
- Sajib Ahmed returned to the shop hoping to replace the defective 20-watt bulb, but a shop employee told him that such non-branded products came without any guarantee or warranty.
- The "Ketty" bulb had no visible Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) approval mark, certification mark (CM) licence number, warranty information, maximum retail price or expiry date.
- The incident highlights a broader problem in Bangladesh's lighting market, where low-cost, uncertified LED bulbs are increasingly competing with products made or marketed by companies that comply with regulatory and quality standards.
- Industry insiders estimate that 45-50% of Bangladesh's roughly Tk3,000 crore bulb market consists of unapproved or uncertified low-quality products.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/uncertified-led-bulbs-grab-half-tk3000cr-market-squeezing-compliant-manufacturers>

Productivity growth essential for sustainable industry, economy: Muktadir

The Business Standard, Oct 03, 2026

- Industries Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir today(1 September) said that there is no alternative to increasing productivity to ensure the sustainability of Bangladesh's industry and economy amid the country's deep integration with the global economy.
- "It is not possible to suddenly withdraw from the deep integration that Bangladesh has developed with the global economy. In the reality of global competition, there is no alternative to increasing productivity to ensure the sustainability of our industry and economy," he said.
- The minister was speaking as the chief guest at a roundtable discussion titled "Productivity Growth in Bangladesh: Challenges and Future Actions", organised by the National Productivity Organisation (NPO) and the daily Jugantor to mark National Productivity Day 2026 in the city.
- The minister emphasised the need to improve technology and skills to remain competitive in the global market.
- He said overlapping activities and duplication among government development projects must be eliminated to improve national productivity.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/productivity-growth-essential-sustainable-industry-economy-muktadir-1559626>

International

Gold prices fall

The Daily Star, Oct 04, 2026

- Gold prices fell on Friday, reversing earlier gains, as a stronger dollar and elevated US Treasury yields weighed on the non-yielding metal, leaving it on track for a weekly decline.
- Spot gold fell 0.9 percent to \$4,140.06 per ounce by 02:33 p.m. EDT, and was down about 3.4 percent for the week so far.
- US gold futures settled 1 percent lower at \$4,162.30.
- The US dollar edged lower, but was headed for a weekly gain, while yields on 10- and 30-year Treasuries hit their highest levels since 2002 on Thursday.
- Bullion fell after gaining over 1 percent earlier in the session after data showed US job growth slowed more than expected in September.
- US non-farm payrolls rose by 29,000 last month after a downwardly revised increase of 133,000 in August, the Labor Department's closely watched employment report showed on Friday.
- Economists polled by Reuters had forecast payrolls advancing 90,000 after a previously reported 162,000 surge in August.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/gold-prices-fall-4289621>

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