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Stock Market & Company

Stocks slump as selling pressure mounts ahead of dividend season

The Business Standard, Oct 05, 2026

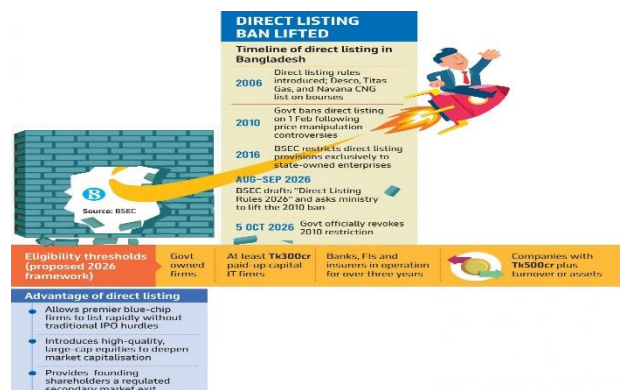
- Stocks on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) plunged today (5 October) as risk-averse investors dumped holdings across the board, extending the broad market's losing streak to a third consecutive session amid macroeconomic concerns and caution ahead of dividend declarations.
- The benchmark DSEX index fell 37 points to settle at 5,445, its lowest level of the day. The blue-chip DS30 index, comprising financially sound companies, also dropped 3 points to close at 2,081. Daily turnover on the exchange declined slightly to Tk537 crore.
- Market participants attributed the persistent weakness to anxiety surrounding the upcoming earnings and dividend announcements of June-ending listed firms, alongside broader macroeconomic uncertainties that kept investors firmly on the defensive.
- In its daily market review, EBL Securities said the ailing capital market witnessed another session of heavy selling pressure as investors remained cautious ahead of the corporate earnings season. Persistent domestic challenges kept investors defensive, limiting prospects for a sustainable near-term recovery.
- The review added that the broad index remained on a downward trajectory from the opening bell as broad-based selling swept across the trading floor, underscoring pervasive risk aversion.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stocks-slump-selling-pressure-mounts-ahead-dividend-season-1563746>

Govt lifts 16-year ban on direct listing

The Business Standard, Oct 05, 2026

- The Ministry of Finance has lifted a 16-year-old restriction on direct listing, allowing multinational, state-owned and high-value private companies to list on local stock exchanges without issuing an initial public offering (IPO).
- According to a ministry order issued today (5 October), the government revoked a circular issued on 1 February 2010 that prohibited direct listing of state-owned, private and foreign companies.



- The decision came after the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) recommended on 19 August 2026 that the restriction be withdrawn to support the sustainable development of the capital market.
- The move removes a long-standing regulatory barrier to direct listing by private-sector companies, potentially expanding the range of companies eligible to raise capital through the stock exchanges.
- In December 2016, the BSEC had instructed the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) to suspend provisions allowing the direct listing of unlisted securities of non-governmental companies.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/government-lifts-16-year-ban-direct-listing-clear-path-mnecs-large-firms-1563636>

Mutual fund investors urged to assess NAV before making decisions

The Business Standard, Oct 05, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has urged retail investors to assess a mutual fund's net asset value (NAV) per unit and overall financial health before investing, warning against buying units at prices significantly above their underlying asset values.
- In a press release issued today (5 October), the capital market regulator said units of some mutual funds are trading on the bourse at prices significantly higher than their NAV per unit.
- Describing the gap as an unusual price disparity, the commission said NAV per unit is a key indicator of a fund's intrinsic value. It is calculated by dividing the fund's total net assets by its total outstanding units.
- The regulator also cautioned that in the event of a mutual fund liquidation, unit holders have no scope to receive payout beyond the fund's actual net asset value, making purchases at inflated market prices inherently risky.
- In light of these developments, the BSEC advised general investors to verify the latest published NAV per unit and other relevant financial disclosures before investing.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/mutual-fund-investors-urged-assess-nav-making-decisions-1563736>

Transparent reporting, ownership structures key to restoring investor trust: Tanvir Gani

The Business Standard, Oct 05, 2026

- Truthful financial reporting, transparent ownership and control structures, predictable tax policies and stronger coordination among financial regulators are crucial to restoring investor confidence and attracting more domestic and foreign capital to Bangladesh, said Prime Minister's Special Assistant Tanvir Shahriar Gani.
- Speaking at a World Investor Week 2026 conference in Dhaka today (5 October), Gani said investors assess not only the potential returns from an investment but also the reliability of financial information, the ease of withdrawing or repatriating funds and the predictability of the tax regime.
- The conference, titled "Building Investor Confidence: The Role of Professional Bodies in Audit, Reporting, Governance and Risk Management", was jointly organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB), Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB), Institute of Chartered Secretaries of Bangladesh (ICSB), Insurance Institute of Bangladesh (IIAB) and ACCA at the ICAB auditorium in Kawran Bazar.
- "Global capital is highly mobile. Investors want to know where the opportunities are and whether they can trust those opportunities," he said.
- Gani emphasised the need to ensure credible and timely information for investors, particularly in the capital market, where confidence depends heavily on transparency and the quality of corporate disclosures.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/transparent-reporting-ownership-structures-key-restoring-investor-trust-tanvir-gani>

Apex Foods shares jump 19% as profit soars 121% in FY26

The Business Standard, Oct 05, 2026

- Shrimp exporter Apex Foods Limited reported that its profit in the 2025-26 fiscal year jumped more than 121% year-on-year, driven by higher revenue compared with the previous fiscal year.
- At the end of June 2026, Apex Foods' earnings per share (EPS) rose to Tk14.21, while its net profit stood at Tk8.10 crore, up significantly from Tk3.61 crore in FY25. The board of Apex Foods recommended a 20% cash dividend for shareholders, amounting to Tk2 per share.
- Despite the sharp increase in profitability, the company kept its dividend payout unchanged from FY25, when it also paid a 20% cash dividend.
- Following the annual corporate declaration, Apex Foods' share price soared 19% to Tk311.50 per share on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) today (5 October).
- According to regulatory orders, the daily circuit breaker limit for listed securities priced below Tk200 is usually 10%, while for those priced between Tk200 and Tk500, it is 8.75%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/apex-foods-shares-jump-19-profit-soars-121-fy26-1563726>

Economy & Industry

Apparel exporters are losing Russian buyers

The Daily Star, Oct 05, 2026

- Once a fast-growing market for Bangladeshi ready-made garment exporters, shipments to Russia have been falling in recent years after Western sanctions over the Ukraine war cut Moscow off from international payment systems and disrupted shipping routes.
- Before the Russia-Ukraine war began on February 24, 2022, exports to Russia were growing rapidly, driven mainly by strong demand for Bangladeshi garments, particularly sweaters and other knitwear.
- Garments accounted for more than 95 percent of Bangladesh's exports to the country. Local exporters hoped to raise annual apparel exports to Moscow to \$1 billion before the sanctions jeopardised the market.
- Bangladesh exported goods worth \$665.31 million to Russia in fiscal year 2020-21, shortly before the war began, according to Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) data. Exports remained high at \$638.30 million in fiscal year 2021-22, but began falling the following year and dropped to \$257.26 million in fiscal year 2025-26.



<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/apparel-exporters-are-losing-russian-buyers-4291416>

RANCON Lubricants to invest \$19.65m in special EZ

The Daily Star, Oct 04, 2026

- RANCON Lubricants Ltd plans to invest \$19.65 million to set up an industrial unit at the National Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Mirsharai, Chattogram.
- The company yesterday signed a 50-year land lease agreement with Invest Bangladesh Authority, the apex government agency responsible for promoting and facilitating investment, for 6.5 acres of developed land for the project. The planned investment is expected to create over 250 jobs.
- Nahian Rahman Rochi, member (investment development) of BIDA, and Imran Zaman Khan, managing director of RANCON Lubricants, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.
- "This is the first land lease agreement signed by Invest Bangladesh following the merger of three investment promotion agencies," Nahian said.
- Invest Bangladesh was formed by merging the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) and Public-Private Partnership Authority (PPPA) under the Invest Bangladesh Act, 2026. It began operations on August 23 as the country's apex investment promotion agency under the Prime Minister's Office.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/rancon-lubricants-invest-1965m-special-ez-4291296>

International

Mideast oil exports exceeded pre-Iran war levels: Kpler data

The Daily Star, Oct 04, 2026

- Middle East oil exports, excluding Iran, surpassed their pre-war levels last week, despite attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz, according to data from the maritime tracking firm Kpler.
- For the first time since the US and Israel launched their offensive against Iran at the end of February, the weekly average of shipments rose for several days above the pre-conflict average of 18 million barrels per day.
- Crude oil exports reached pre-war levels in September, with at least 16.5 million barrels leaving the region excluding Iran, Kpler said on Wednesday.
- "Forty percent now bypass Hormuz, and most crude crossing the strait changes tankers offshore," Kpler said, adding that most of the oil flowed through Saudi and United Arab Emirates pipelines.
- These figures include flows via the Red Sea, a route increasingly used to bypass the blockade Iran is attempting to impose on Hormuz -- where around a fifth of the world's petroleum supplies crossed before the conflict.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/mideast-oil-exports-exceeded-pre-iran-war-levels-kpler-data-4290861>

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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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