

## Key News

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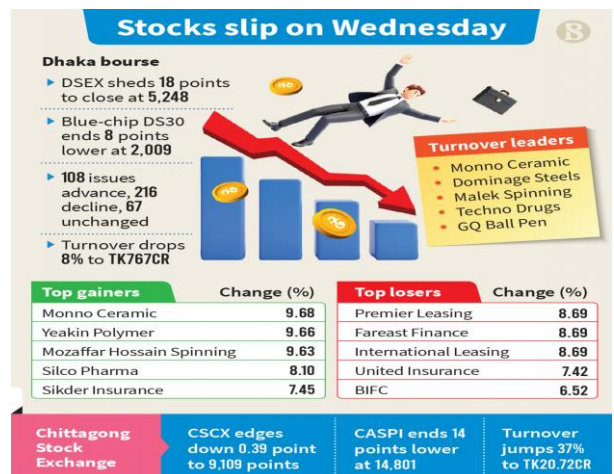
[ADB forecasts oil prices to be \\$96 this year](#)

## Stock Market & Company

### DSE market cap erodes by Tk6,300cr in three days as bearish trend continues

The Business Standard, May 06, 2026

- The bearish sentiment at the country's premier bourse intensified yesterday as the benchmark index extended its losing streak for the second consecutive session.
- Driven by broad-based selling pressure, the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) witnessed a significant erosion of its total valuation, with the market capitalisation dropping by approximately Tk6,300 crore over the last three trading sessions alone.
- By the close of today's (6 May) trading session, market capitalisation stood at Tk6.79 lakh crore, underscoring a cautious investor sentiment amid prevailing uncertainties and the absence of fresh catalysts to propel the indices higher.
- The benchmark DSEX index shed 18 points, or 0.34% yesterday, to settle at 5,248. The downturn was mirrored in the blue-chip segment, where the DS30 index, which comprises 30 prominent companies, ended 8 points lower at 2,009.
- Market breadth remained heavily skewed toward the bears throughout the session, with 216 issues declining against 108 gainers, while 67 scrips closed unchanged on the DSE floor.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-market-cap-erodes-tk6300cr-three-days-bearish-trend-continues-1431781>

### United Insurance profit halves on airport fire claim payouts

The Business Standard, May 07, 2026

- United Insurance Company Limited reported a sharp decline in profit in the first quarter (January–March) of the current year, with earnings falling by around 46% due to higher claim settlements.
- The information was disclosed yesterday (6 May) through the unaudited financial statements published on the website of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). Following the disclosure, the company's share price dropped 7.42% to Tk42.40 on the DSE.
- According to the report, earnings per share (EPS) stood at Tk0.24 for January–March 2026, compared to Tk0.45 in the same period last year, reflecting a 46% decline.

- The company's net profit for the quarter stood at Tk1.07 crore, down from Tk2 crore a year earlier.
- The company said two key factors drove the profit decline. First, it had to settle a significantly higher volume of insurance claims during the quarter, increasing overall expenses. Second, income from investments fell compared to the previous year, putting further pressure on earnings.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/united-insurance-profit-halves-airport-fire-claim-payouts-1431906>

## Bangladesh Startup Investment Co to launch on 12 May

The Business Standard, May 06, 2026

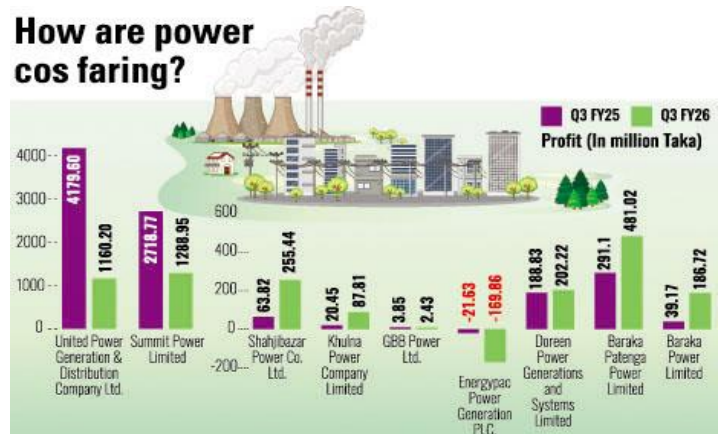
- The Bangladesh Startup Investment Company PLC (BSIC), a newly formed venture capital company owned by 39 commercial banks, is set to launch on 12 May.
- Officials said the BSIC aims to finance new, technology-driven and innovative ventures. However, it will not provide funding at the idea stage. Instead, the BSIC plans to invest in startups after they begin operations and show early signs of growth potential.
- A senior BSIC official told TBS that the Bangladesh Bank had instructed banks to allocate 1% of their net profit to BSIC, and the fund has been successfully collected.
- Each year, banks will contribute 1% of their annual net profit. Banks with higher profits will provide larger contributions. An estimated Tk150 crore to Tk200 crore will be added to the fund annually.
- The BSIC is beginning its journey with a capital base of Tk600 crore.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bangladesh-startup-investment-co-launch-12-may-1431811>

## Listed private power producers face earnings pressure amid policy shift

The Business Standard, May 06, 2026

- Listed private power producers are beginning to absorb a shock that is set to deepen as the government pivots away from costly rental and furnace oil-based plants toward LNG, coal, and renewable energy.
- The companies-except for Shahjibazar Power Co and Energypac Power Generation-witnessed a fall in revenue in the third quarter to March of FY26, against the backdrop of the government's unwillingness to renew power purchase contracts upon expiry. This led to partial utilisation of the plants. Meanwhile, some of these companies saw their finance costs rise, further eroding profits.
- Despite the decline in revenue, however, many of the companies posted higher profits in the third quarter of FY26 compared to the same quarter of the previous year, as they received income from subsidiaries or associate companies. In some cases, the cost of goods sold and finance costs were shown to be lower without any explanation.
- Overall, listed companies with older furnace oil-based plants are struggling more than non-listed ones operating efficient gas or LNG-based facilities, analysts said.
- Sector leader United Power Generation & Distribution Company Ltd. posted a notable decline in earnings on the back of lower electricity sales and higher finance costs.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/listed-private-power-producers-face-earnings-pressure-amid-policy-shift>

## Uttara Bank says stock dividend needs no BSEC approval

The Financial Express, May 06, 2026

- The stock dividend declared by Uttara Bank will not require approval from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), the bank said in a disclosure to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) today (6 May).
- According to the disclosure, the bank's board appointed Asif Rahman as a shareholder director at a meeting on 29 April. Rahman holds 2.42% shares in the bank, raising the board's cumulative shareholding to 30.531%.
- The bank said it recommended a 25% stock dividend for 2025 following Rahman's inclusion. It also noted that the position he filled had remained vacant from 29 July 2025 to 28 April 2026.
- Rahman's shares remain deposited in the block module of Central Depository Bangladesh Limited (CDBL). With his appointment effective from 29 April 2026, the board's collective shareholding has exceeded the regulatory threshold again.
- In this context, the bank said that since the board now meets the minimum required shareholding condition, the stock dividend does not require further approval from the BSEC.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/uttara-bank-says-stock-dividend-needs-no-bsec-approval-1431766>

## Economy & Industry

### What rapid reforms the pharma sector needs

The Daily Star, May 06, 2026

- Among the knowledge-driven industries that have placed Bangladesh on the global stage, the pharmaceutical sector stands out as one of its most notable success stories. Compared to many low- and middle-income countries, Bangladesh has achieved a strong balance between affordability, quality, and accessibility of medicines.
- This progress has strengthened public health security while positioning the country as a reliable global supplier of generic drugs.
- From the mid-1980s to the pre-Covid-19 period, the industry maintained impressive annual growth of 15-25 percent.
- This expansion was fueled by supportive government policies and the entrepreneurial drive of local firms. However, during and after the Covid-19 pandemic, the sector encountered significant challenges.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bb-raises-car-loan-ceiling-to-tk-8-million-for-electric-hybrid-vehicles>

### Inflation rises past 9% in April

The Daily Star, May 06, 2026

- Headline inflation in Bangladesh rose to 9.04 percent in April, up from 8.71 percent in March, driven largely by higher non-food costs, including fuel.
- Data released today by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) showed that both food and non-food components contributed to the increase, with non-food inflation remaining the main driver.
- Food inflation inched up to 8.39 percent in April from 8.24 percent a month earlier, reflecting continued pressure on essential commodity prices.
- Non-food inflation rose more sharply to 9.57 percent in April, compared to 9.09 percent in March, indicating sustained increases in costs related to fuel, transport, and other services.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/inflation-rises-past-9-april-4169071>

## International

### ADB forecasts oil prices to be \$96 this year

The Daily Star, May 06, 2026

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected that oil prices will remain high at \$96 per barrel in 2026, higher than the pre-war average of \$69 per barrel, as key infrastructure has been damaged and the ceasefire in the Middle East has not restored transit through the Strait of Hormuz.
- Prices may moderate to \$80 on average in 2027, according to an updated analysis by the ADB on the impact of the Middle East conflict on Asia and the Pacific released yesterday.
- In addition, fertiliser prices—especially those of urea, a key crop nutrient—have shot up, which together fuel inflationary expectations and increase fiscal pressure on nations, especially energy- and fertiliser-importing ones.
- As such, the multilateral lender has lowered its 2026 growth projections for developing Asia and the Pacific because the conflict has proved far more disruptive than its early stabilisation scenarios suggested.
- Regional GDP growth is forecast at 4.7 percent, a 0.4-percentage-point drop, while inflation estimates have been raised by 1.6 percentage points to reach 5.2 percent.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/adb-forecasts-oil-prices-be-96-year-4169126>

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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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