

Key News

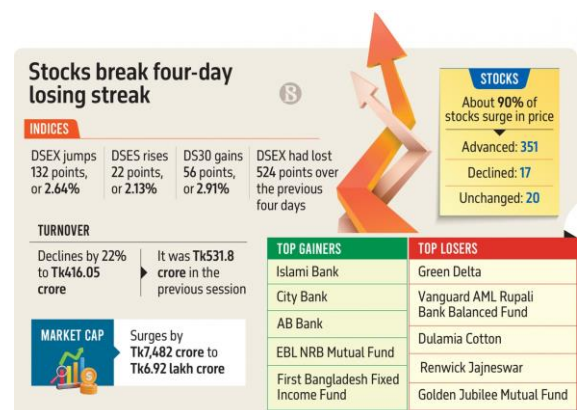
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Stock Market & Company

A day after bloodbath, stocks rebound

The Business Standard, Mar 09, 2026

- A day after a massive bloodbath at the Dhaka bourse, stocks rebounded yesterday as the sell-off largely subsided and buyers dominated the market.
- The DSEX, the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), surged 132 points, or 2.64%, with more than 90% of the traded stocks advancing on the bourse, although turnover fell by 22%, data showed.
- On Sunday (8 March), the first trading session of the week, stocks suffered the highest single-day fall in six years as escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East triggered panic selling across the market.
- The index plunged 231 points, or 4.42%, to close at 5,008, hitting a two-month low and marking the biggest one-day decline since the Covid-19 pandemic era.
- Market insiders said Sunday's sell-off was mostly panic driven assuming fuel crisis significantly may hit businesses due to Middle East conflict. After the conflict began, stocks witnessed bearish trends as cautious investors preferred to pull-off funds selling shares.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/day-after-bloodbath-stocks-rebound-1382251>

BATBC stock slides 21% in four sessions on weak earnings, lower dividend

The Business Standard, Mar 09, 2026

- The share price of British American Tobacco Bangladesh Company (BATBC) came under significant pressure after it reported a major loss and sharply reduced its dividend, triggering a negative investor reaction and a notable fall in the stock.
- Around the annual disclosure on 2 March, the company's share price dropped by nearly 21% in four consecutive trading sessions.
- The sharp fall came as the company, which has long been known for paying high dividends, significantly reduced its dividend payout this year, prompting many investors to sell their holdings.

- Even before declaring the dividend, its share price had fallen 7% and after the news was widely reported, selling pressure intensified further. In the trading sessions following the publication of the news, the share price declined by around 21%, reflecting investors' concerns over the company's weak earnings performance and lower dividend declaration.
- The company's share price today regained 2.41% to Tk216.80 on the Dhaka stock exchange, while the premier index DSEX rose 132 points in a positive sentiment.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/batbc-stock-slides-21-four-sessions-weak-earnings-lower-dividend-1382241>

Islami Bank eyes US investment in mCash

The Business Standard, Mar 09, 2026

- Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC has approved a proposal to bring little-known US-based B100 Holdings LLC as a strategic investor in its mobile financial services subsidiary mCash Ltd, aiming to strengthen the platform's capital base and expand its digital financial services.
- The decision was taken at a board meeting of Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC held at its head office in Dhaka on Sunday, according to a price-sensitive disclosure issued the same day.
- Under the proposal, the New York-based B100 Holdings will join as a strategic partner in mCash Ltd, which operates the bank's mobile financial services platform. The investment will be subject to compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and approvals from relevant authorities.
- Following the announcement, Islami Bank's share price rose 9.89% on the Dhaka Stock Exchange yesterday, reaching Tk41.10. The bank's market capitalisation increased by around Tk690 crore to Tk6,617 crore.
- According to the disclosure, the paid-up capital of mCash will be increased in phases to Tk500 crore. Islami Bank will retain at least 51% ownership of the subsidiary, while B100 Holdings may acquire up to 48.99% of shares through subscription, subject to approval from the mCash board and regulators.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/islami-bank-eyes-us-investment-mcash-1382266>

Islami Bank approves US-based B100 Holdings as strategic investor in mCash

The Business Standard, Mar 09, 2026

- Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC has approved a proposal to bring US-based B100 Holdings LLC as a strategic investor in its mobile financial services subsidiary mCash Ltd, according to a price sensitive disclosure issued yesterday (8 March).
- The decision was taken at the bank's board meeting held yesterday at its head office in Dhaka.
- According to the statement, the bank approved the onboarding of B100 Holdings as a strategic partner in mCash Ltd, which operates the bank's mobile financial services platform, subject to compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements.
- As part of the plan, the paid-up capital of mCash will be increased in phases to Tk500 crore, with Islami Bank maintaining a minimum 51% equity stake in the company. B100 Holdings may acquire up to 48.99% ownership through the subscription of shares, subject to approval from the mCash board and relevant regulatory authorities.
- The proposed investment is expected to strengthen the capital base of mCash and support the expansion of digital financial services under its mobile financial services platform.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/islami-bank-approves-us-based-b100-holdings-strategic-investor-mcash-1381231>

Experts push for reforms to deepen capital market

The Financial Express, Mar 09, 2026

- Market stakeholders and analysts on Sunday called for sweeping structural reforms to transform the stock market into a major source of long-term financing, reducing the economy's heavy reliance on bank loans.
- Building a deeper, more transparent capital and bond market is essential to address persistent imbalances in the country's financial system and ensure sustainable economic growth, they said.
- The experts made the call at a seminar titled 'Challenges and way forward for the new government in the stock market' held at a city hotel, with Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir, finance and planning adviser to the prime minister, as the chief guest.
- Khondoker Rashed Maqsood, chairman of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), and Abdur Rahman Khan, chairman of the National Board of Revenue, were present as special guests. Capital Market Journalists' Forum (CMJF) organised the event.
- Speaking at the seminar, Finance adviser Titumir said the government is planning structural reforms in the capital market, aimed at broadening ownership, attracting foreign investment and strengthening regulatory oversight.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/experts-push-for-reforms-to-deepen-capital-market>

Economy & Industry

Taka falls against dollar amid surging energy import costs

The Business Standard, Mar 09, 2026

- The taka weakened sharply against the US dollar yesterday (8 March), snapping six months of exchange rate stability as demand for greenbacks rose to meet growing energy import bills amid the Middle East war.
- In the inter-bank market, the dollar rose by as high as Tk0.25 in a single day to trade between Tk122.50 and Tk122.55 yesterday, compared with Tk122.30 on the last working day on Thursday, according to banking sources.
- The sudden rise in the dollar price has raised concerns about further inflationary pressure. Consumer inflation already climbed over 9% in February, the highest level in the past 10 months.
- Although the Bangladesh Bank had verbally instructed banks to keep the remittance exchange rate at a maximum of Tk122.45, most banks did not maintain the limit, according to industry insiders.

» Taka remained stable against dollar for six months

» Inter-bank dollar rate jumps by **Tk0.25** in a single day

» Dollar climbs to as high as **Tk122.55** on Sunday

» Rising energy import costs put pressure on exchange rate

» Weaker taka raises concerns over further inflation

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/taka-falls-against-dollar-amid-surging-energy-import-costs-1381146>

BB appoints observers to four more banks

The Business Standard, Mar 09, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank has appointed observers to four more private sector banks – National Bank Limited, Premier Bank Limited, IFIC Bank Limited, and Al-Arafah Islami Bank Limited.
- The central bank sent letters to the appointed observers today (9 March), officials familiar with the matter told The Business Standard.
- Munir Ahmed Chowdhury, director of the Bank Supervision Department-12, has been appointed observer at National Bank.

- Mohammad Anisur Rahman, director of the Islamic Banking Regulation and Policy Department, has been assigned to Al-Arafah Islami Bank.
- Meanwhile, ANM Moinul Kabir, director of the Payment Systems Department, has been appointed observer at Premier Bank, while AKM Kamruzzaman, director of the Forex Reserve and Treasury Management Department-1, will serve as observer at IFIC Bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-appoints-observers-four-more-banks-1381941>

International

Bangladesh floats tenders to buy 3 LNG cargoes

The Daily Star, Mar 09, 2026

- Bangladesh has floated tenders to buy three more liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes from the spot market for April delivery in a desperate race to secure gas amid deepening turmoil in the Middle East.
- State-run Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Co Ltd (RPGCL) sought delivery of the LNG cargoes in three phases between April 5 and April 13, a move that came four days after the company floated tenders to buy two cargoes of gas for March 15-16 and March 18-19 deliveries.
- Bangladesh had to buy two LNG cargoes from the spot market after failing to attract bidders for two consecutive days, although at more than double the normal rate.
- The move comes amid uncertainty over the timely arrival of LNG shipments from Qatar, as shipping in the Gulf remains severely disrupted after Tehran threatened to "set fire" to vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, while the US-Israeli war with Iran continues for a tenth day.
- Located between Oman and Iran, and connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea, the strait is one of the world's most important oil chokepoints.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-floats-tenders-buy-3-lng-cargoes-4124721>

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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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