BASL DAILY NEWS BUZZ

August 09, 2026

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Key News

Stock Market & Company

Liquidation fears for weak NBFIs trigger sell-off as DSEX sheds 38 points

The Business Standard, Aug 09, 2026

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) extended its losing streak for a second consecutive session today (10 August), as panic over the potential liquidation of several non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) triggered a broad-based sell-off.
- The benchmark DSEX index fell 38 points, or 0.65%, to settle at 5,822. Bearish sentiment persisted throughout the session, with nearly 73% of traded issues closing lower, as investors remained cautious amid a lack of strong positive catalysts.
- The blue-chip DS30 index also faced significant pressure, falling 14 points to settle at 2,177. The day's trading reflected a sharp decline in market participation, as total turnover on the DSE dropped by 16% to Tk964 crore, compared to the final session of the previous week.
- This contraction in trading volume suggests that while sellers were active, buyers remained largely on the sidelines, waiting for clearer market directions, according to the market insiders.
- The overall market valuation suffered a heavy blow, with the market capitalisation of the Dhaka bourse declining by approximately Tk4,800 crore in a single day.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/liquidation-fears-weak-nbfis-trigger-sell-dsex-sheds-38-points-1510781

Loss-hit ICB introduces first-ever policy to value Tk14,983cr portfolio

The Business Standard, Aug 09, 2026

- The Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) has introduced its first-ever securities valuation policy to determine the fair value of its Tk14,983 crore investment portfolio, as the state-owned investment institution grapples with mounting losses and a severe financial crisis.
- The new policy aims to improve financial transparency and reduce the risk of overvaluation or undervaluation of assets, particularly its substantial holdings in non-listed securities whose fair values had not previously been systematically assessed.
- "As ICB currently faces a severe financial crisis, an initiative has been taken to assess the fair value of these assets, something that was never done before," an ICB official told The Business Standard on condition of anonymity.
- The state-owned investment banker has long served as a key institution in advancing industrial growth and deepening its capital market.
- From its inception, ICB has provided crucial institutional support to capital-starved firms through underwriting, bridge loans, and equity-backed financing.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/loss-hit-icb-introduces-first-ever-policy-value-tk14983cr-portfolio-1510776

United Insurance, Saiham, Alltex deny hidden triggers behind recent price surges

The Business Standard, Aug 09, 2026

- Three listed companies -- United Insurance, Saiham Textile and Alltex Industries -- have informed the Dhaka Stock Exchange that there is no undisclosed price-sensitive information (PSI) behind the recent "unusual" surge in their share prices and trading volumes.
- The companies issued the clarifications today (9 August) in response to formal queries from the premier bourse on 6 August, after their shares posted double-digit gains within a short span, raising concerns among market participants about speculative trading.
- United Insurance recorded the biggest rise of the three, with its share price soaring 60% to Tk67.10 between the end of June and the first week of August.
- While the company denied any hidden corporate developments, its latest half-yearly financial statements showed a notable improvement in profitability.
- Earlier, on 19 July, the general insurer reported earnings per share (EPS) of Tk1.99 for the January-June 2026 period, up from Tk1.66 in the same period a year earlier.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/united-insurance-saiham-alltex-deny-hidden-triggers-behind-recent-price-surges

Islami Insurance's H1 profit rises 30%

The Business Standard, Aug 09, 2026

- Islami Insurance Bangladesh Limited's earnings per share (EPS) rose 30.38% year-on-year in the first half of 2026, while its operating cash flow also improved significantly.
- According to unaudited financial statements disclosed on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), the insurer's net profit increased to Tk8.48 crore in January-June 2026, from Tk6.50 crore a year earlier. EPS rose to Tk2.06 from Tk1.58
- In the April-June quarter, Islami Insurance posted a net profit of Tk4.28 crore, compared with Tk3.21 crore in the same quarter of the previous year
- NOCFPS surged to Tk2.72 in the first six months, from Tk1.06 in the same period last year.
- The company's net asset value (NAV) per share stood at Tk25.75 as of 30 June, up from Tk23.62 at the end of December 2025, an increase of Tk2.13, or about 9%.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/islami-insurances-h1-profit-rises-30-1510766

Economy & Industry

Bangladesh pushes for EU trade deal, RCEP entry

The Daily Star, Aug 09, 2026

- Bangladesh is preparing to launch formal negotiations for a free trade agreement with the European Union while pressing ahead with its bid to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), as the country steps up its efforts.
- The dual push marks a significant step for the country. With chief negotiators appointed and diplomatic groundwork laid, Dhaka is positioning itself to cement formal trade ties with two of the world's most powerful economic blocs.
- Formal steps for the EU trade negotiations are expected to begin next month. Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir confirmed that an initial exchange of formal letters with the EU has already taken place, agreeing to enter negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA).
- "We are hopeful that we will get the date of engagement for the negotiation with the EU after August," Muktadir told The Daily Star.
- An additional secretary from the Ministry of Commerce has been named Bangladesh's chief negotiator, while the EU has similarly appointed its lead trade representative.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-pushes-eu-trade-deal-rcep-entry-4243941

Trade deficit hits three-year high at $27.3b

The Daily Star, Aug 09, 2026

- Bangladesh's trade deficit widened to a three-year high in fiscal year 2025-26, as import bills climbed even as export earnings stagnated, according to the latest Bangladesh Bank data.
- The deficit stood at $27.28 billion for the year, a jump of 34 percent from FY25, said the central bank.
- The country exported $43.85 billion worth of goods in FY26, almost unchanged from the previous year. Imports, meanwhile, rose 10.5 percent year-on-year to $71.14 billion, the largest annual import gain since FY22.
- "Definitely, it indicates weak external performance, and global factors are more responsible for this than domestic ones," said Khondaker Golam Moazzem, research director at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).
- He said imports grew mainly for inflationary reasons, particularly higher petroleum prices, while tariffs imposed by the Donald Trump administration, rising inflation in the West, and war-related supply disruptions have dampened orders from international buyers.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/trade-deficit-hits-three-year-high-273b-4243951

International

Dollar drops

The Daily Star, Aug 09, 2026

- The dollar fell against major currencies including the yen and euro on Friday after US employment unexpectedly declined in July, fueling concerns about the economy's strength and undermining the case for the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates.
- The US economy lost 23,000 jobs in July, the Labor Department said, compared with economists' expectations for an increase of 80,000 jobs, according to a Reuters poll.
- The US unemployment rate fell to 4.1 percent as the labor participation rate fell to a near a five-and-a-half year low of 61.4 percent. The dollar weakened against the yen after the report, shedding gains made in recent days in the aftermath of a historic intervention last week between Japanese and US authorities, which had pushed it to a 13-week low.
- It was last down 0.57 percent to 157.56 yen but on track for a weekly gain of about 0.10 percent.
- The euro was last up 0.39 percent against the dollar at $1.1568.t is on track for a weekly gain of 0.41 percent against the dollar.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/dollar-drops-4243836

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