

Key News

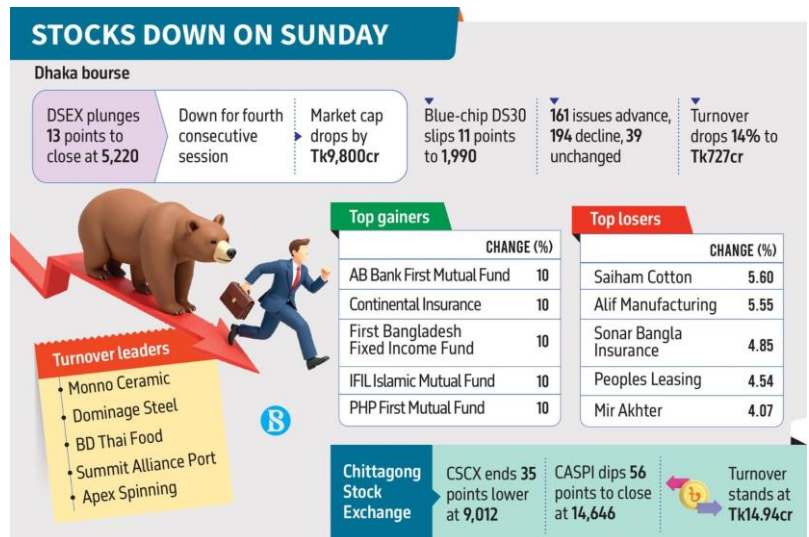
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Stock Market & Company

DSE market cap erodes by Tk9,800cr as losing streak hits fourth day

The Business Standard, May 10, 2026

- The country's premier bourse, the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), extended its losing streak for the fourth consecutive session today (10 May), as a lack of favourable catalysts and persistent selling pressure on major large-cap scrips dampened investor sentiment.
- The benchmark index opened the week on a dismal note, resulting in a significant erosion of the market's total valuation. In the last four consecutive sessions, the market capitalisation of the Dhaka bourse dropped by approximately Tk9,800 crore, settling at Tk6.76 lakh crore.
- The benchmark DSEX index shed 13 points today, or 0.25%, to close the session at 5,220. The downturn was more pronounced in the blue-chip segment, with the DS30 index slipping by 11 points to reach 1,990.
- The market breadth remained negative, as 194 issues declined compared to 161 that managed to advance, while 39 scrips remained unchanged on the DSE floor.
- According to the daily market review by EBL Securities, market participants are currently adopting a cautious "wait-and-see" approach, monitoring for a major catalyst that could drive a persistently favourable momentum. The market witnessed sustained selling pressure across influential stocks, although participation remained evident as some investors shifted their focus toward small-cap and momentum-driven scrips.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-market-cap-erodes-tk9800cr-losing-streak-hits-fourth-day-1435436>

Sonar Bangla Insurance declares 10% dividend as earnings surge 245%

The Business Standard, May 10, 2026

- The board of directors of Sonar Bangla Insurance Limited has recommended a 10% dividend, comprising 5% cash and 5% stock, for the financial year ended 31 December 2025.
- Despite the dividend declaration and a sharp rise in annual profitability, the general insurer's share price dropped by 4.85% yesterday (9 May) to settle at Tk35.30 on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) following the disclosure.
- The company reported a stellar performance for the full year 2025, with its consolidated earnings per share (EPS) skyrocketing by 245% to reach Tk0.69, up from the Tk0.20 recorded in 2024.
- During the same period, the consolidated net asset value (NAV) per share stood at Tk20.02, while the net operating cash flow per share improved to Tk1.22 from Tk1.17 in the preceding year.
- In its regulatory filing, the company said the stock dividend is aimed at reinvesting retained earnings to strengthen its paid-up capital base. The management also assured shareholders that the bonus shares will be issued from accumulated profits, not from any revaluation or capital reserves, thereby maintaining a healthy post-dividend balance sheet.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sonar-bangla-insurance-declares-10-dividend-earnings-surge-245-1435446>

Majority closed-end mutual funds face liquidation or conversion risk under new BSEC rules

The Business Standard, May 10, 2026

- A major shift is unfolding in Bangladesh's listed mutual fund sector following new regulations issued by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), putting most closed-end mutual funds at risk of liquidation or conversion into open-end schemes.
- According to market sources, out of around 34 listed closed-end mutual funds, at least 22 are now exposed to either liquidation or mandatory conversion into open-end funds under the new regulation.
- The situation has emerged after BSEC introduced a revised mutual fund guideline aimed at restructuring the country's long-criticised closed-end fund segment, which has long suffered from weak performance, low liquidity, and large discounts between Net Asset Value (NAV) and market price.
- Under the updated rules, if the unit price of a fund falls more than 25% below its issue price or NAV within a six-month period, the trustee will be required to call a Special General Meeting (SGM).



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/majority-closed-end-mutual-funds-face-liquidation-or-conversion-risk-under-new-bsec>

Focus shifts to commodity market to reduce equity dependence

The Business Standard, May 10, 2026

- To move the country's capital market beyond its share-dependent structure, the regulator and Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) have intensified efforts to launch a commodity derivatives market.
- Stakeholders say commodity derivatives could open a new horizon by introducing new products, risk management tools and a modern price discovery framework. However, the initiative has been delayed several times due to gaps in technology, legal readiness, broker preparedness and policy coordination.

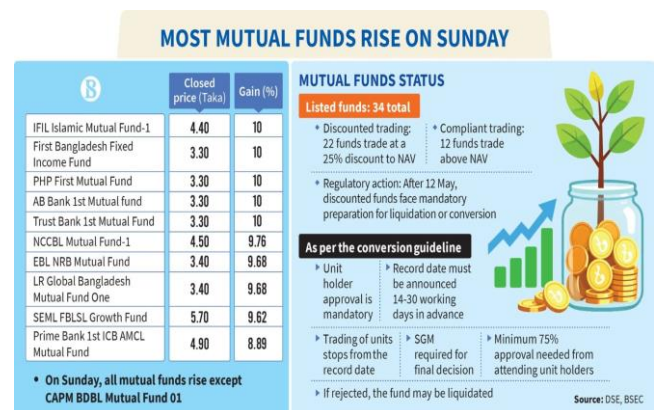
- These issues were highlighted at a workshop titled Commodity Exchange: Potential, Structure and Future, jointly organised in the capital on Sunday by the Capital Market Journalists' Forum and Chittagong Stock Exchange.
- Speaking as chief guest, Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission Commissioner Farzana Lalarukh said, "We want to take the capital market to a much higher level. But we also need to understand how prepared we really are. We want to move forward with full readiness."

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/focus-shifts-commodity-market-reduce-equity-dependence-1435431>

BSEC conversion guidelines trigger surge in mutual funds

The Business Standard, May 10, 2026

- Mutual funds rallied strongly today (10 May) after the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) issued detailed guidelines for converting closed-end mutual funds into open-end structures, raising investors' expectations of improved liquidity and potential valuation gains.
- All but one listed mutual fund closed higher during the session, while eight mutual funds secured spots among the top-10 gainers on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).
- Market participants said the latest regulatory move has revived interest in the long-struggling mutual fund sector, where most closed-end funds have traded at steep discounts to their net asset value (NAV) for years.
- Last Thursday, the securities regulator issued a comprehensive framework for converting closed-end mutual funds that face liquidation risks or mandatory transition into open-end structures.
- Under rules published in the official gazette on 12 November last year, trustees of closed-end mutual funds must convene a special general meeting (SGM) if the average trading price of a fund remains over 25% below the higher of its issue price or fair-value-based NAV for six consecutive months.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-conversion-guidelines-trigger-surge-mutual-funds-1435441>

Economy & Industry

FDI slips by 23.56pc in 9 months of FY26

The Financial Express, May 10, 2026

- Despite foreign investment increasing in Bangladesh in the last calendar year, it has decreased in the ongoing fiscal year, according to official data.
- The Bangladesh Bank estimate released on May 5 shows that net foreign direct investment (FDI) of \$1.77 billion came into the country last year. The amount stood at \$1.27 billion in 2024.
- This means the net FDI increased by slightly more than \$500 million in one year, marking a 36.36 per cent surge, reports bdnews.com.
- On May 6, the central bank released the current account balance (balance of payments or BoP) data for the nine months until March of the 2025-26 fiscal year, when the net FDI totalled \$1 billion.
- Over the same period in the last fiscal year, the country received \$1.31 billion in net FDI – a \$310 million or 23.56 per cent decline.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/fdi-slips-by-2356pc-in-9-months-of-fy26>

Hundreds of ADP projects to be axed for failing to meet ROI, job-creation and green standards: Finance Minister

The Financial Express, May 10, 2026

- Finance and Planning Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury on Sunday said the government has decided not to undertake projects that fail to ensure returns on investment, employment generation and environmental sustainability.
- He said many of the nearly 1,300 projects currently under the Annual Development Programme (ADP) do not meet these criteria and would be cancelled.
- The minister made the remarks while addressing the inauguration ceremony of a project at the Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) Auditorium as the chief guest.
- PKSF Chairman Zakir Ahmed Khan presided over the event marking the launch of the second phase of the Recovery and Advancement of Informal Sector Employment (RAISE-2) project.
- Financial Institutions Division Secretary Nazma Mobarek attended the programme as a special guest, while Acting World Bank Divisional Director for Bangladesh and Bhutan Dr Gail H Martin joined as the guest of honour.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/hundreds-of-adp-projects-to-be-axed-for-failing-to-meet-roi-job-creation-and-green-standards-finance-minister>

International

\$100b export target at risk without logistics reforms

The Daily Star, May 10, 2026

- Bangladesh's goal of reaching \$100 billion in export earnings by 2030 may not be achievable without major improvements in trade facilitation, port efficiency and logistics capacity, economist M Masrur Reaz warned yesterday.
- He said exports are currently around \$55 billion, but Bangladesh still faces high trade costs, long cargo waiting times, congestion and weak logistics infrastructure compared with regional competitors such as Vietnam and India.
- Bangladesh's export costs are about one and a half times higher than Vietnam's and, in some cases, nearly double those of India. M Masrur Reaz Chairman of PEB
- "Reaching \$100 billion in exports by 2030 or even by 2033 with the current trade facilitation and logistics capacity will not be possible unless we significantly improve efficiency, reduce time and cut costs," said Reaz, chairman of Policy Exchange of Bangladesh.
- He made the remarks at a roundtable titled "Integrated Port and Logistics Development for a Trade-Driven Bangladesh", organised by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) in Dhaka.
- Reaz said Bangladesh's export costs are about one and a half times higher than Vietnam's and, in some cases, nearly double those of India. He also noted that import processing takes significantly longer in Bangladesh.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/100b-export-target-risk-without-logistics-reforms-4171631>

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