

## Key News

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## Stock Market & Company

### Stocks end flat after two-day recovery

The Business Standard, Mar 11, 2026

- Stocks ended almost flat today (11 March), with the DSEX – the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) – rising by 2.50 points after two days of recovery.
- Following the trading session in two-days, most of the stocks today increased but turnover fell 12% to Tk523.59 crore as investors remained watchful of the current situation.
- Within the two trading sessions (9 and 10 March), DSEX recovered 280 points to close at 5,290, mostly riding on large-cap blue-chip stocks, including banks.
- On Tuesday, the DSEX surged 148 points, fuelled by price gains in shares of banks and telecom sector stocks with 87% of issues advancing after absorbing the recent massive sell-offs.
- Earlier, stocks suffered a highest single-day fall in six years on Sunday, the first trading session of the week as escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East triggered panic selling across the market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stocks-end-flat-after-two-day-recovery-1384401>

### Paramount Textile's profit drops by 19% in Q2 amid lower revenue

The Business Standard, Mar 11, 2026

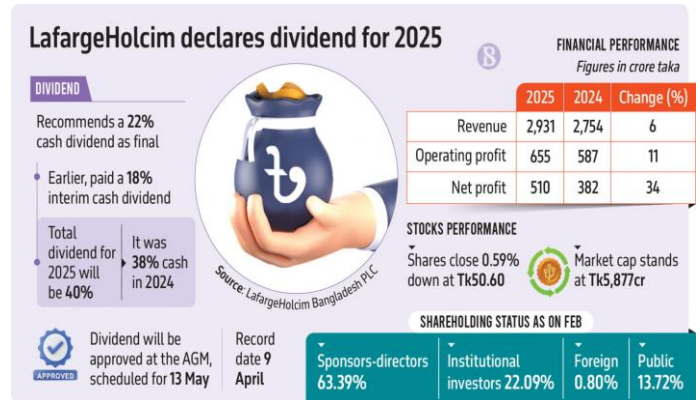
- Paramount Textile, a listed textile firm, has reported that its consolidated profit in the second quarter of the current fiscal year fell by 19% year-on-year due to a decline in revenue.
- During the October-December period, its consolidated profit declined to Tk20.77 with an earnings per share (EPS) of Tk1.16.
- At the same time of the previous fiscal years, its profit was Tk25.79 crore and an EPS of Tk1.44, according to its disclosures published on the stock exchanges website today (11 March).
- Following the disclosures, Paramount Textile's shares dropped by 3.95% to Tk51.10 each at the Dhaka Stock Exchange.
- In an explanation about declining profit, it said revenue decrease in this period in comparison with the corresponding period of last year."

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/paramount-textiles-profit-drops-19-q2-amid-lower-revenue-1384426>

## LafargeHolcim Bangladesh sees 34% jump in profit in 2025

The Business Standard, Mar 10, 2026

- LafargeHolcim Bangladesh PLC reported a strong financial performance in 2025, posting a 34% year-on-year rise in profit driven by higher sales, premium product demand and steady growth in its aggregates business despite a slowdown in the construction sector.
- According to the company's price-sensitive disclosure and press release issued on 11 March, the multinational cement maker recorded a net profit of Tk510 crore for the year, up from Tk382 crore in 2024. Revenue also increased by 6% to Tk2,931 crore from Tk2,754 crore a year earlier, while operating profit grew 11% to Tk655 crore from Tk587 crore.
- The company said the growth came amid steady business momentum and stronger customer engagement, even as the broader construction industry faced headwinds due to reduced public sector spending and tighter private credit conditions.
- Reflecting the improved profitability, LafargeHolcim recommended a total 40% cash dividend for shareholders for the year 2025. The payout includes an 18% interim cash dividend already distributed earlier in the year and a proposed 22% final cash dividend. The total dividend amounts to roughly Tk465 crore, equivalent to 40% of the company's paid-up capital.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/lafargeholcim-bangladesh-sees-34-jump-profit-2025-1384366>

## Safko Spinning owners to transfer shares amid financial struggles

The Business Standard, Mar 11, 2026

- The board of directors of Safko Spinning Mills has decided to sell the loss-making company, citing operational challenges, and plans to transfer its shareholdings to interested investors.
- The move aims to ensure business continuity and protect the interests of existing shareholders, the company said in a disclosure to the Dhaka and Chittagong stock exchanges today (11 March).
- The share transfer process is currently underway, with steps being taken to facilitate potential ownership changes. The initiative is expected to attract new investors who may acquire the stakes currently held by sponsor-directors, including SAKM Salim, SABM Humayun, Syed Saqeb Ahmed, SFAM Shahjahan, and Syeda Momena Begum.
- Following the announcement, Safko's share price rose 9.35% to Tk15.20 on the Dhaka Stock Exchange today.
- A team from the DSE had visited the company's factory on 3 February 2025 and found operations closed; production resumed on 31 August last year. The company's auditor issued a qualified opinion, noting significant financial stress.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/safko-spinning-owners-transfer-shares-amid-financial-struggles-1384421>

## Paramount Insurance to pay 10% cash dividend for 2025

The Business Standard, Mar 11, 2026

- Paramount Insurance Company, a non-life insurer listed on the stock exchanges, has recommended a 10% cash dividend for 2025, despite a marginal decline in profit.
- According to disclosures made today (11 March), the company posted a net profit of Tk8.90 crore for 2025, down 1.87% from Tk9.07 crore in 2024. Earnings per share (EPS) fell slightly to Tk2.19 from Tk2.23 last year. The company had also paid a 10% cash dividend in 2024.
- The insurer's shares were last quoted at Tk51.30 each. Data from the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) showed that Paramount shares had risen sharply in recent trading sessions, from an average of Tk41 to Tk58 by mid-February. Following sell-offs amid the Middle East conflict, the price dropped to Tk46 on 8 March but has since rebounded to around Tk51 over the past three trading sessions.
- At the end of 2025, the company's net asset value (NAV) per share increased to Tk28.16 from Tk27.26 in 2024, while net operating cash flow per share declined to Tk1.79 from Tk2.91.
- Paramount Insurance has scheduled its annual general meeting for 18 May through a digital platform, with 21 April set as the record date for shareholders.

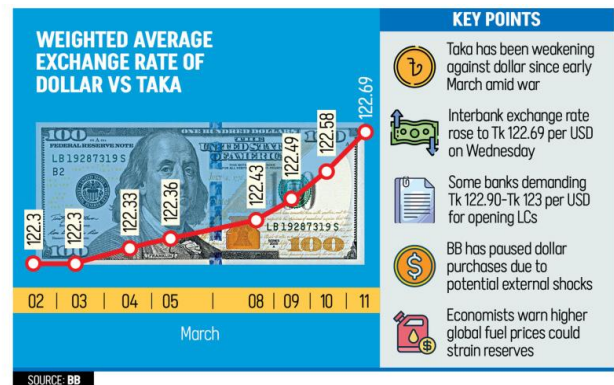
<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/paramount-insurance-pay-10-cash-dividend-2025-1384376>

## Economy & Industry

### War on Iran rattles Bangladesh dollar market

The Daily Star, Mar 12, 2026

- The US dollar exchange rate against the taka held almost flat through late February before beginning a slow, gradual climb into March.
- The shift in the curve comes as taka started to weaken with the beginning of the US-Israel's war against Iran in March and the subsequent conflicts across the Middle East, mainly because cautious banks began trading the greenback among themselves at higher rates. This latest fall of taka has revived memories of the 2022-23 currency stress.
- At that period, heavy import bills, rising global commodity prices amid the Russia-Ukraine war, and slower remittance inflows and export earnings coincided with a rapidly depleting foreign currency reserve.
- This time, however, the forex reserve stands at a much more comfortable level and dollar flow to the local market remains almost normal. But banks have shifted into a cautious mode triggered by the war in the Middle East.
- The commercial lenders fear a prolonged war could again push up import bills, while a large share of expatriate Bangladeshis in the Gulf might send less money home.



<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/war-iran-rattles-bangladesh-dollar-market-4126721>

## BGMEA wants single-digit interest rates for exporters

The Daily Star, Mar 12, 2026

- Garment exporters have urged the central bank governor to bring export loan interest rates down to single digits and provide easier loan conditions for small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
- They emphasised that if incentive funds are not released promptly and regularly, many factories may soon be forced to shut down, which would negatively impact the labour market, according to a statement from the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) issued yesterday.
- In a meeting with Md Mostaqur Rahman, governor of Bangladesh Bank (BB), BGMEA leaders said that due to liquidity shortages, many factories are struggling to pay workers' wages and utility bills, including electricity.
- Mahmud Hasan Khan, president of BGMEA, led the business delegation. He stated that due to instability in the global economy and various domestic constraints, the country's garment industry is currently going through a difficult period.
- The leaders strongly urged the continuation and enhancement of policy support measures, particularly an increase in cash incentives, to help safeguard the industry during this critical period and encourage the emergence of new entrepreneurs.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bgmea-wants-single-digit-interest-rates-exporters-4126631>

## International

### Oil prices seesaw

The Daily Star, Mar 12, 2026

- Oil prices rebounded on Wednesday as markets doubted whether the International Energy Agency's reported plan for a record release of oil reserves could offset potential supply shocks from the US-Israeli conflict with Iran.
- Brent futures traded up 59 cents, or 0.7 percent, at \$88.39 a barrel by 0727 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) traded 98 cents higher, or 1.2 percent, at \$84.43 a barrel.
- Both contracts extended losses in early Asian trade, after plunging more than 11 percent on Tuesday, despite US crude prices leaping 5 at the market's opening.
- The IEA's proposed drawdown would exceed the 182 million barrels of oil that IEA member countries put onto the market in two releases in 2022 when Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the WSJ said, citing officials familiar with the matter.
- In a note to clients, Goldman Sachs analysts said that a stockpile release of that size would offset 12 days of the investment bank's estimated 15.4 million barrel-per-day Gulf exports disruption.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/oil-prices-seesaw-4126666>

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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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