

## Key News

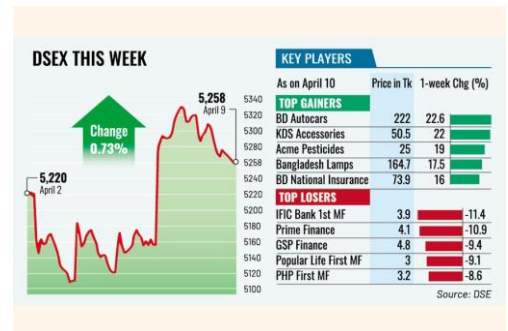
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## Stock Market & Company

### Stocks edge up amid US-Iran ceasefire

The Financial Express, Apr 11, 2026

- The benchmark equity index posted a marginal gain this week, as investors remained cautious amid shifting developments surrounding the US-Iran ceasefire and broader tensions in the Middle East.
- Market sentiment moved closely with geopolitical headlines throughout the week, as investors reacted swiftly to both optimism and renewed uncertainty, market operators said.
- The week began on a negative note, with broad-based sell-offs triggered by panic over newly announced government austerity measures aimed at addressing a potential energy crisis.
- However, sentiment improved in subsequent sessions as bargain hunters took positions in oversold large-cap stocks after the government decided to keep fuel prices unchanged. Optimism over a possible ceasefire between the United States and Iran further supported a three-day recovery streak.
- Despite the rebound, optimism proved short-lived. Fresh concerns over the sustainability of the ceasefire and fears of a possible blockade of the Strait of Hormuz dampened investor confidence once again.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/stocks-edge-up-amid-us-iran-ceasefire>

### Unlocking the frozen IPO pipeline: The case for lifting the 30% cap on debt repayment

The Business Standard, Apr 11, 2026

- Amid the prolonged fallout from the Russia-Ukraine conflict and emerging geopolitical risks from Iran-US tensions, Bangladesh's capital market is standing at a critical crossroads. For years, the narrative of our equity market centred on expansion and "new projects". However, in a high-interest-rate environment where the Taka's depreciation has inflated project costs, the priority must shift from growth to survival.
- To revitalise our thinning IPO pipeline, the newly appointed adviser to the Prime Minister on Investment

Year	Approx. Number of IPOs	Market Sentiment
2021	13	High liquidity, post-Covid recovery
2022	9	Initial impact of global conflicts
2023	2	Liquidity crunch and floor price woes
2024	5	Cautious return amid economic volatility
2025	0	High interest rates and regulatory shifts

and Capital Markets, Tanvir Ghani, along with the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), needs to rethink a fundamental constraint: the utilisation of IPO proceeds for debt repayment.

- The numbers tell a sobering story. Since the brief post-pandemic surge in 2021, appetite for Initial Public Offerings has sharply declined – from 13 IPOs in 2021 to zero in 2025. This stagnation is not merely a symptom of "poor quality" companies. Many robust, Tier-1 firms are currently over-leveraged, burdened by heavy debt taken for capital expenditure over the last four to five years. In the current climate, these firms cannot feasibly justify further expansion, yet they are bleeding from double-digit interest rates. The problem is structural, not reputational.
- The BSEC deserves credit for its recent efforts in modernising the valuation process for IPOs with premiums. By refining these methods to reflect intrinsic value, the Commission has finally addressed long-standing valuation anomalies. However, the next logical step – to truly breathe life into the market – is providing these corporates the flexibility to repair their balance sheets.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/unlocking-frozen-ipo-pipeline-case-lifting-30-cap-debt-repayment-1409061>

## National Tubes posts Tk5.57cr loss as sales halve

The Business Standard, Apr11 , 2026

- State-owned National Tubes Ltd, the country's only government-run steel pipe manufacturer listed on the stock exchanges, has reported a sharp decline in performance, with sales nearly halving in the first nine months of FY2025–26 amid weakening demand.
- According to company disclosures approved by the board on Thursday, the firm's net sales dropped 50% year-on-year to Tk18.15 crore during the July–March period, down from Tk36.24 crore in the same period of the previous fiscal year.
- The steep fall in revenue pushed the company into losses, reversing its profit trend from a year earlier.
- National Tubes posted a net loss of Tk5.57 crore for the nine-month period, compared to a profit of Tk2.66 crore in July–March of FY25. Its loss per share stood at Tk1.60.
- Operating cash flow also deteriorated significantly, with net operating cash flow per share falling to Tk0.17 as of March 2026, compared to Tk1.09 in the same period a year earlier.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/national-tubes-posts-tk557cr-loss-sales-halve-1409051>

## K&Q Bangladesh partners with Robi to expand digital voucher business

The Business Standard, Apr 011, 2026

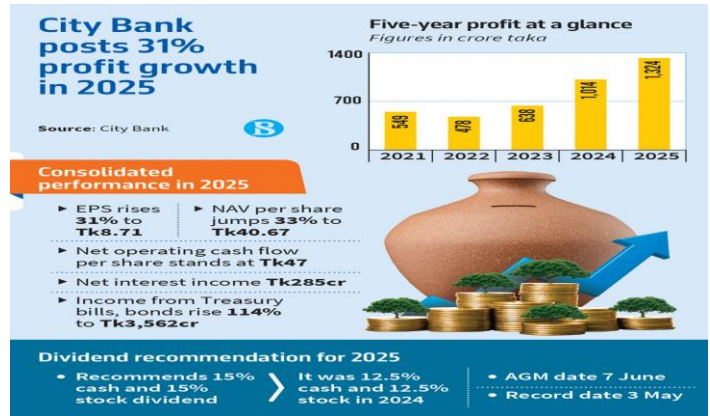
- According to disclosures from the Dhaka Stock Exchange, the partnership will allow the company to tap into Robi's extensive subscriber network, significantly enhancing its reach in the rapidly expanding digital payments and content ecosystem.
- K&Q Bangladesh Limited has entered into a direct operator billing agreement with Robi Axiata Limited to facilitate voucher sales for digital services such as Netflix, Google Pay and other platforms, a move expected to strengthen its revenue base and accelerate growth in the digital services segment.
- According to disclosures from the Dhaka Stock Exchange, the partnership will allow the company to tap into Robi's extensive subscriber network, significantly enhancing its reach in the rapidly expanding digital payments and content ecosystem.
- In addition to the latest agreement, the company has been actively expanding its footprint in the digital and technology space.
- Earlier this year, K&Q Bangladesh signed an agreement with Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited to act as an authorised partner and sales agent for Starlink satellite-based internet services in Bangladesh. Under this arrangement, the company will handle nationwide marketing, sales, implementation, and operational activities for the service.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/kq-bangladesh-partners-robi-expand-digital-voucher-business-1409046>

## City Bank posts record Tk1,324cr profit, declares 30% dividend

The Business Standard, Apr 011, 2026

- City Bank PLC has reported a record-breaking financial performance for 2025, posting a consolidated net profit of Tk1,324 crore, which represents a robust 31% growth from the Tk1,014 crore recorded in the previous year.
- The record profit was driven largely by a sharp rise in investment income from government securities.
- Reflecting the strong earnings, the bank's board of directors has recommended a 30% dividend for 2025, comprising 15% cash and 15% stock, up from the previous year's 25% total dividend, which included 12.5% cash and 12.5% stock. The annual general meeting is scheduled for 7 June, while 3 May has been set as the record date, according to a disclosure filed on the bank's website.
- The bank's latest financial disclosures reflect a remarkable turnaround over the past five years, with profits steadily climbing from Tk549 crore in 2021 to over Tk1,300 crore in 2025, underscoring its strengthening earnings base despite a challenging economic environment.
- Its earnings per share rose in tandem with profitability, increasing by 31% to Tk8.71, while net asset value per share surged by 33% to Tk40.67. Its net operating cash flow per share stood at Tk47, indicating strong liquidity support for the bank's operations.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/city-bank-posts-record-tk1324cr-profit-declares-30-dividend-1409041>

## Economy & Industry

### Labour law amendment to deprive many employees of protections: Experts

The Business Standard, Apr 011, 2026

- The latest amendment to the labour law has sparked concern among experts and labour leaders, who warn that key provisions introduced during the interim government have been rolled back, potentially depriving many employees of benefits and protections.
- The Labour (Amendment) Bill 2026, passed in the parliament on Thursday, has removed provisions that had brought officials and employees under the definition of workers, raising concerns that many will now be excluded from benefits such as gratuity, provident fund and other service entitlements.
- The bill was passed in parliament by voice vote after being placed by State Minister for Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Md Nurul Haque on behalf of Labour and Employment Minister Ariful Haque Chowdhury.
- The earlier amendment had been introduced through an ordinance issued on 17 November 2025 by the interim government.
- Experts said the removal of officials and employees from the worker definition would leave many without access to benefits guaranteed under the labour law. They also noted that the new amendment modifies a previous provision that stated workers could not be blacklisted, replacing it with a clause that workers cannot be "unfairly blacklisted."

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/labour-law-amendment-deprive-many-employees-protections-experts-1409086>

## Govt firmly committed to make country's economy advancing, inclusive, sustainable: Finance Minister

The Financial Express, Apr 011, 2026

- Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury today told the Jatiya Sangsad that the government is firmly committed to transforming Bangladesh's economy into an advancing, inclusive and sustainable one, while fulfilling its election pledges, achieving a trillion-dollar economy by 2034 and tackling emerging global challenges, including the ongoing war in the Middle East.
- Presenting a comprehensive statement in the House today under Section 300 of the Rules of Procedure, the finance minister said the government assumed office with a strong public mandate and immediately initiated steps to stabilize the economy, restore institutional strength and ensure equitable development for all citizens.
- "The people have placed their trust in us, and our responsibility is to deliver on that trust by building an advancing, inclusive and sustainable economy for Bangladesh," he told the House.
- The Finance Minister said the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has long served as a platform for fulfilling the expectations of the people under the leadership of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.
- He said BNP introduced multiparty democracy in this country and initiated the journey towards economic emancipation.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-firmly-committed-to-make-countrys-economy-advancing-inclusive-sustainable-finance-minister>

## International

### Stocks up, oil down over week on guarded optimism for Iran

The Daily Star, Apr 011, 2026

- Wall Street stocks rose sharply over the week and oil prices fell as a fragile truce was struck between the United States and Iran, with ceasefire talks due to start in Islamabad on Saturday.
- For the week, all three major US indices advanced by more than three percent. Oil prices retreated once again on Friday. For the week, they tumbled by approximately 13 percent.
- The New York Stock Exchange closed mixed for the day Friday -- the Dow Jones shed 0.6 percent, the Nasdaq gained 0.4 percent, and the broader S&P 500 index was flat, slipping 0.1 percent.
- "Markets are trading on a cautious tone ahead of the US-Iran ceasefire talks," Elias Haddad of Brown Brothers Harriman (BBH) said in a note.
- "For financial markets, the key issue is whether peak shipping security fear is now behind us."
- Official sources say the talks in Islamabad will cover Iran's nuclear enrichment and the free flow of oil through the Strait of Hormuz.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/stocks-oil-down-over-week-guarded-optimism-iran-4148861>

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## About Bank Asia Securities Ltd

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).

## BASL Research Team

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Mr. Shariful Alam Chowdhury  
Head of Research & Investments      tushar@basl-bd.com

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Mr. Shohidul Islam  
Research Analyst      shohidul@basl-bd.com

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Mr. Kawser Mohammad Emon  
Research Associate      emon@basl-bd.com

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Supervised by:  
Mr. Sumon Das, Chief Executive Officer

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## BASL Network

### Head Office

Hadi Mansion (2nd Floor)  
2, Dilkusha Commercial Area  
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh  
Phone: +88-02-9515826-28  
E-mail: info@basl-bd.com

### Dhanmondi Branch

Meher Plaza (1st Floor),  
House # 13/A, Road # 05  
Dhanmondi, Dhaka - 1207  
Phone: +8802-44611923-24

### Mirpur Branch

Nishi Plaza, plot # 01,  
Avenue-04, Section-06,  
Block-C  
Mirpur, Dhaka - 1216  
Phone: +8802-58055449,  
48032449

### Uttara Branch

House # 79/A, (4th Floor),  
Road # 07, Sector # 04  
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-  
1230  
Phone: +88-02-  
48958389,48958371

### Banani Branch

Nur Empori, Plot # 77 (1st  
Floor), Road No # 11,  
Banani,  
Dhaka-1213  
Phone: +88028836155,  
8836849

### Nikunja Branch

DSE Tower, Level 10, Room#  
200, Nikunja, Dhaka-1229  
Phone: +8809666702070

### Chattogram Branch

Bank Asia Bhaban (3rd  
Floor)  
39, Agrabad Commercial  
Area  
Chattogram-4001  
Tel : +8801730338091

### Khulna Branch

28, Sir Iqbal Road (1st Floor)  
Khulna  
Phone: +88-041-731208-9

### Bogura Digital Booth

Jamil Shopping Center (3rd  
Floor), 288/325 Rangpur  
Road,  
Bogura City Corporation,  
Bogura Sadar, Bogura.

### Rajshahi Digital Booth

Chamber Bhabon(2nd  
Floor), Station Road , Alok  
Moor,  
Rajshahi-6100.

For International Trade & Sales, please call at +8801993111666, +880 02 9515826, Ext: 101 at Business hour. For further query, write to us at [research@basl-bd.com](mailto:research@basl-bd.com).