

## Key News

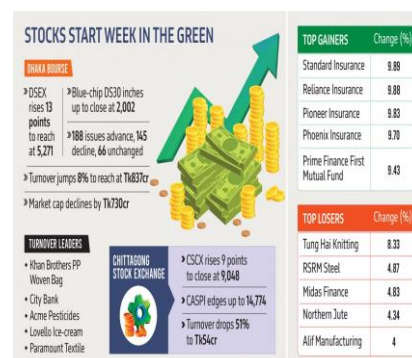
- [Insurance stocks shine as DSE opens week on a positive note](#)
- [Acme Pesticides yet to respond to DSE query amid 66% share price surge](#)
- [SME production plunges by 30% as energy crisis, soaring costs hit hard](#)
- [Brokers seek three-month extension for margin rule compliance amid sell-off fears](#)
- [Bangladesh Autocars denies undisclosed price-sensitive info amid 91% share surge](#)
- [Middle East war may dent Bangladesh's growth, RMG output and exports: Sanem](#)
- [Bangladesh's direct tax spending fell 8% in FY23](#)
- [Economic shock of Middle East war to cast shadow over IMF, World Bank meetings](#)

## Stock Market & Company

### Insurance stocks shine as DSE opens week on a positive note

The Financial Express, Apr 12, 2026

- The Dhaka stock market began the week on a cautiously optimistic footing, with insurance stocks leading a broad-based rally that helped the benchmark index close in positive territory despite lingering geopolitical concerns and mixed investor sentiment.
- The DSEX, the prime index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), gained 13 points to settle at 5,271, while the blue-chip DS30 index edged higher to close at 2,002.
- Market activity reflected a moderate level of participation, with 188 issues advancing against 145 decliners, while 66 securities remained unchanged.
- Turnover also saw an uptick, rising 8% to Tk837 crore, although overall market capitalisation declined by Tk730 crore, indicating selective buying rather than a broad market surge.
- According to EBL Securities, the market managed to post modest gains as investors returned to take positions in December-closing stocks, driven by expectations of favourable corporate earnings announcements. This renewed buying interest helped offset persistent concerns surrounding the fragile global backdrop.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/insurance-stocks-shine-dse-opens-week-positive-note-1410036>

### Acme Pesticides yet to respond to DSE query amid 66% share price surge

The Financial Express, Apr 12, 2026

- Acme Pesticides Limited has yet to respond to a query from the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) regarding an "unusual" surge in its share price and trading volume, amid regulatory scrutiny over financial irregularities.
- According to the DSE, a formal query was sent to the company on 8 April following a rapid increase in its stock value. The company's share price stood at Tk16 on 1 March but climbed to Tk26.60 by the end of trading on 12 April—a 66% jump in less than six weeks. As of 12 April, the company had not provided any explanation for the movement.
- This comes as the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) is moving to recommend action against the company's top management. A BSEC inquiry report, set to be forwarded to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), alleges that directors, officials and placement shareholders acquired shares worth Tk23.39 crore without actual payments being made.

- The list of beneficiaries includes former National Board of Revenue (NBR) member Matiur Rahman, alongside various corporate and institutional investors. The regulator has named Chairman Shanta Sinha, Managing Director Reza-Ur-Rahman Sinha and other officials in connection with the allocations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/acme-pesticides-yet-respond-dse-query-amid-66-share-price-surge-1410046>

## SME production plunges by 30% as energy crisis, soaring costs hit hard

The Business Standard, Apr 13, 2026

- Bangladesh's Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) sector is witnessing a sharp decline in activity, with production down by as much as 30% in recent weeks amid the global energy crisis, rising raw material costs, and frequent load-shedding.
- Mirza Nurul Ghani Shovon, President of the National Association of Small and Cottage Industries of Bangladesh (NASCI), told The Business Standard that the situation is becoming untenable for many small-scale manufacturers.
- "The energy crisis has pushed many institutions to the brink of closure. In many cases, production has already dwindled by 25% to 30%," Shovon said.
- He noted that without a stable power supply, factories are unable to meet their production target, leading to a massive drop in output across the board.
- The sector, which contributes over 28% to the national GDP and employs roughly three crore people, is currently navigating its toughest period since the pandemic.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/sme-production-plunges-30-energy-crisis-soaring-costs-hit-hard-1410076>

## Brokers seek three-month extension for margin rule compliance amid sell-off fears

The Business Standard, Apr 12, 2026

- The DSE Brokers Association of Bangladesh (DBA) has requested a three-month extension from the capital market regulator to comply with newly introduced margin rules, citing concerns that the current April deadline could trigger massive sell-offs and further destabilise an already distressed market.
- In a formal letter to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, the DBA – a primary intermediary representing brokerage firms of the Dhaka Stock Exchange – urged the regulator to move the compliance deadline from 30 April to 31 July 2026.
- The commission formulated Margin Rules 2025, which came into effect on 1 November, and introduced several critical requirements aimed at strengthening risk management, investor protection, and overall market stability.
- However, in the newly introduced rules, three key provisions require compliance within six months by 30 April.
- Saiful Islam, president of DBA, told The Business Standard, "The timeframe mandated in the rules is insufficient for compliance; that is why we have sought an extension."

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

## Bangladesh Autocars denies undisclosed price-sensitive info amid 91% share surge

The Business Standard, Apr 12, 2026

- Bangladesh Autocars Limited has said there is no undisclosed price-sensitive information behind the recent sharp rise in its share price and trading volume, responding to a query from the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) issued on 9 April.



- In a statement published on the DSE website today (12 April), the company said it is not aware of any unreported development or material information that could explain the unusual movement in its stock.
- The clarification follows a steep rally in the company's shares, which jumped 91% between 8 March and 12 April, reaching Tk240.60. Over the same period, its market capitalisation rose by Tk49.53 crore.
- Despite the surge, valuation indicators have raised concerns among market observers. DSE data shows the company's price-to-earnings ratio climbed to 2,406 based on unaudited financials, while the audited price-to-earnings for FY25 stood at 1,336, well above the commonly accepted threshold of around 40.
- Analysts say the company's small capital base has contributed to the volatility. It has a paid-up capital of Tk4.32 crore and 43 lakh shares outstanding, limiting free float and making the stock more susceptible to speculative trading. Sponsors and directors hold about 30% of the shares, further tightening supply.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bangladesh-autocars-denies-undisclosed-price-sensitive-info-amid-91-share-surge>

## Economy & Industry

### Middle East war may dent Bangladesh's growth, RMG output and exports: Sanem

The Daily Star, Apr 13, 2026

- The war in the Middle East could weigh on Bangladesh's economy, disrupting output in key sectors, particularly the readymade garment (RMG) industry, according to a study by the South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (Sanem).
- Releasing the findings of a simulation study today, Sanem said supply disruptions of oil and gas from the Middle East and a surge in energy prices amid the US-Israel conflict with Iran could affect transport, energy-intensive manufacturing, and food production.
- The research organisation warned that the closure of the Strait of Hormuz has triggered a severe energy crunch, exposing Bangladesh's vulnerability to supply chain disruptions originating in the region.
- At least one-fifth of global oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) passes through the strait, which has effectively been shut following the escalation of hostilities. The disruption has sharply reduced vessel movement through the route.
- The situation has been further aggravated by production disruptions in Qatar due to recent attacks, Sanem said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/middle-east-war-may-dent-bangladeshs-growth-rmg-output-and-exports-sanem-4147791>

### Bangladesh's direct tax spending fell 8% in FY23

The Daily Star, Apr 13, 2026

- Bangladesh's direct tax expenditure, comprising rebates, exemptions, and concessional tax rates, declined by 8 percent year-on-year to Tk 1.07 lakh crore in the 2022–23 fiscal year, according to government data.
- The tax expenditure, often viewed as implicit subsidies extended through the tax system, stood at 2.39 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) in FY23, down from 2.9 percent a year earlier. The National Board of Revenue (NBR) published the expenditure report today.
- Corporate income tax accounted for the bulk of the expenditure at Tk 73,989 crore, representing 69 percent of the total.
- These benefits were largely concentrated in sectors such as microcredit and social welfare, power and energy, and garments, textiles, and accessories.
- Among corporate tax expenditures, the highest allocation went to the microcredit and social welfare sector, amounting to Tk 12,589 crore, or 17.01 percent of the total corporate tax expenditure.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladeshs-direct-tax-spending-fell-8-fy23-4147746>

## International

### Economic shock of Middle East war to cast shadow over IMF, World Bank meetings

The Daily Star, Apr 12, 2026

- Top finance officials from around the world will convene in Washington this week under the shadow of the war in the Middle East, which has delivered a third major shock to the global economy after the Covid pandemic and Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.
- Top International Monetary Fund and World Bank officials last week said they would downgrade their forecasts for global growth and raise their inflation predictions as a result of the war, warning that emerging markets and developing countries will be hit hardest by higher energy prices and supply disruptions.
- Before the Iran war broke out on February 28, both institutions had expected to lift their growth forecasts given the resilience of the global economy - even in the wake of major tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump beginning last year. But the war has delivered a series of shocks that will slow progress on recovering growth and beating back inflation.
- The World Bank's baseline estimates now projects growth in emerging markets and developing economies of 3.65 percent in 2026, down from 4 percent in October, but sees that number dropping as low as 2.6 percent if the war lasts longer. Inflation in those countries was now forecast to hit 4.9 percent in 2026, up from the previous estimate of 3 percent, and could spike as high as 6.7 percent in the worst case.
- The IMF warned last week that about 45 million additional people could also face acute food insecurity if the war persists and continues to disrupt fertiliser shipments needed now.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/economic-shock-middle-east-war-cast-shadow-over-imf-world-bank-meetings-4150021>

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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).

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