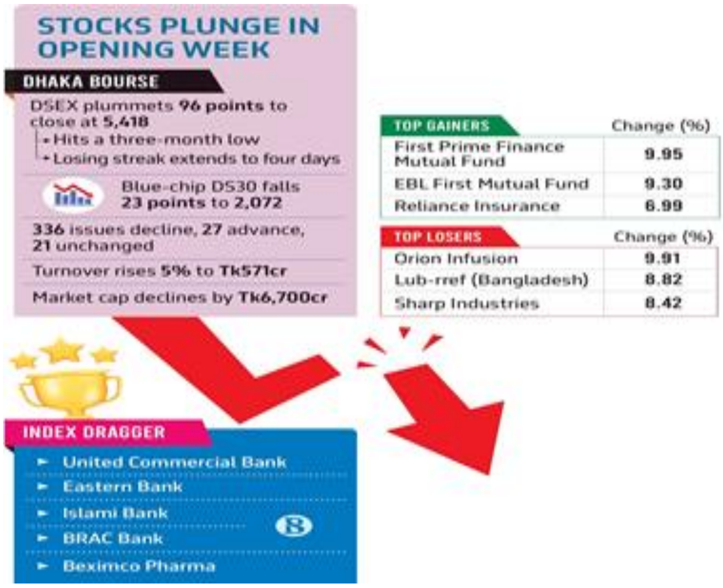
Key News

Stock Market & Company

DSEX loses 96 points as energy crisis, Middle East fears spark sell-off

The Business Standard, Sep 13, 2026



- Stocks on the Dhaka bourse plunged in the opening week of trading as concerns over the nationwide electricity and gas crisis, coupled with escalating tensions in the Middle East, triggered widespread selling and pushed the benchmark index to a three-month low.
- The DSEX fell 96 points, or around 1.7%, over the week to close at 5,418, extending its losing streak to four consecutive sessions. The blue-chip DS30 index also declined 23 points to settle at 2,072.
- Market breadth reflected the depth of the sell-off, with 336 issues losing value against only 27 gaining, while 21 remained unchanged. Despite the sharp fall in share prices, average daily turnover rose 5% to Tk571 crore, suggesting investors were actively offloading holdings amid mounting fears of further losses.
- The market's total capitalisation fell by around Tk6,700crore during the week.
- EBL Securities, in its daily market review, said the capital market showed no sign of reversing its bearish momentum as investors remained deeply concerned about the near-term economic outlook.
- Persistent gas and power shortages have raised concerns over industrial production and corporate profitability. The escalating conflict in the Middle East has added another layer of uncertainty, prompting investors to adopt a defensive stance and sell shares to limit portfolio losses, EBL Securities noted.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dsex-loses-96-points-energy-crisis-middle-east-fears-spark-sell-1541811

IDRA to settle Tk23cr in overdue insurance claims for 5,868 policyholders tomorrow

The Business Standard, Sep 13, 2026

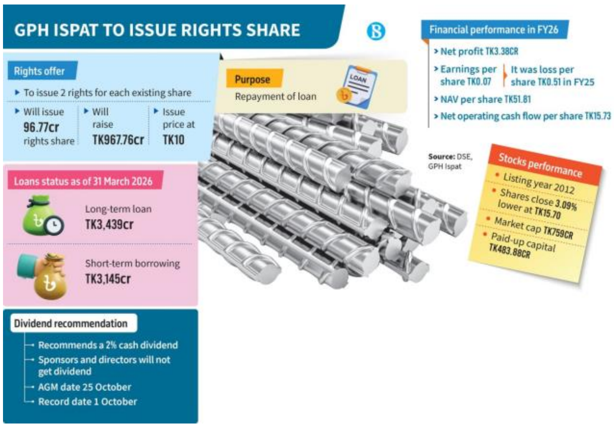
- The Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) will facilitate the disbursement of Tk23.03 crore in long-pending insurance claims to 5,868 policyholders tomorrow (14 September) under the second phase of its special claim settlement programme.
- According to the regulator, the claims totalling Tk23,03,56,971 pertain to policyholders of five life insurance companies.

- IDRA is arranging funds from various sources, including assets and security bonds of the concerned insurers, to settle legitimate claims that have remained unpaid for an extended period.
- Under the second phase, Padma Islami Life Insurance Company will pay around Tk12 crore to 3,600 policyholders.
- Homeland Life Insurance Company will settle Tk4.98 crore for 1,145 policyholders, while Fareast Islami Life Insurance Company will pay Tk5 crore to 580 policyholders.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/idra-settle-tk23cr-overdue-insurance-claims-5868-policyholders-tomorrow-1541826

GPH Ispat seeks Tk967.77cr rights issue to repay debt

The Business Standard, Sep 13, 2026



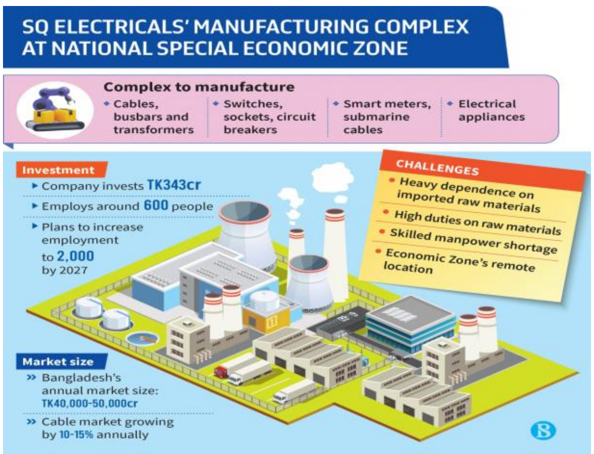
- GPH Ispat, one of the leading steel manufacturing companies in Bangladesh, will raise nearly Tk968 crore through issuing rights shares, mainly to repay bank loans amid sluggish demand and persistent energy shortages affecting the steel industry.
- The company's board approved the issuance of 967.77 crore rights shares at Tk10 each at a meeting held on Saturday, according to a disclosure to the stock exchanges.
- Under the proposed rights offer, existing shareholders will be entitled to receive two rights shares for every ordinary share they hold.
- The rights issue is expected to raise Tk967.77 crore, subject to approval from the company's shareholders at its annual general meeting (AGM) and final approval from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC).
- GPH Ispat will announce a separate record date to determine shareholders' entitlement to the rights shares after receiving the necessary regulatory approvals.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/gph-ispat-plans-tk968cr-rights-issue-repay-debt-1540996

Economy & Industry

SQ Group builds electrical industrial complex in Mirsarai to meet growing local demand

The Business Standard, Sep 14, 2026



- SQ Group is developing an integrated electrical products manufacturing complex at the National Special Economic Zone (NSEZ) in Mirsarai, Chattogram, as part of its plan to reduce import dependence and eventually enter export markets.
- The complex will manufacture cables, transformers and a growing range of electrical products, including busbars, switches, sockets, circuit breakers, smart meters, lighting products, electric fans, submarine cables and super-enameled wires.
- The group has invested around Tk343 crore in the project so far, developing the facility on approximately 20 acres of land.
- Mohammad Abdullah Al Masum, director and head of corporate sales at SQ Electricals, said the company wants to build a comprehensive electrical manufacturing hub at Mirsarai.

- "Our plan is to manufacture all kinds of electrical products here. Our slogan is total power solution," Masum told The Business Standard.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/sq-group-builds-electrical-industrial-complex-mirsarai-meet-growing-local-demand

BB issues guidance on implementation of Import Policy Order 2026–2029

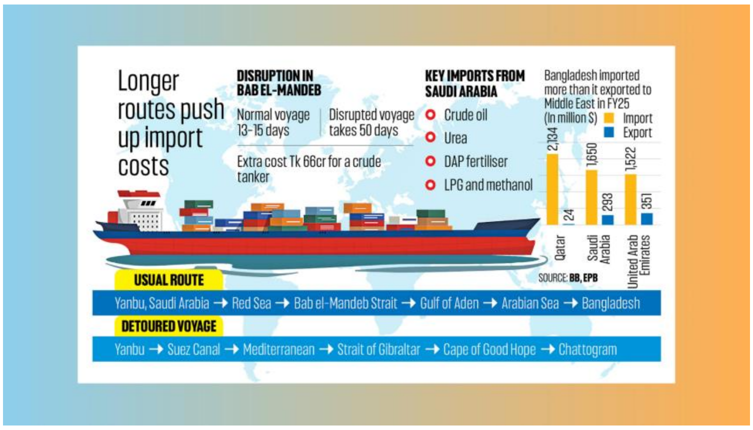
The Financial Express, Sep 13, 2026

- The central bank has issued a circular providing guidance on the implementation of the Import Policy Order (IPO) 2026–2029, issued by the Ministry of Commerce on August 24, 2026.
- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) asked Authorised Dealer (AD) banks that the Import Policy Order 2026–2029 will remain effective until December 31, 2029. The provisions of the Order will continue to remain applicable until a new Import Policy Order is issued.
- The circular highlighted several provisions of the new Import Policy Order relating to foreign exchange transactions, including the provision allowing import payments through open account arrangements, thereby providing greater flexibility to importers in settling import obligations.
- In line with paragraph 6(3) of the Order, the circular further stated that all permissible goods for industrial and commercial purposes may be imported through purchase and sale contracts without opening letters of credit (LCs), irrespective of value limits, subject to compliance with applicable foreign exchange regulations.
- Regarding export-oriented industries, the circular referred to paragraph 25 of the IPO 2026–2029, which provides provisions for import and procurement of production inputs used by export-oriented industrial enterprises.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/bb-issues-import-policy-implementation-guidelines

Red Sea tensions drive up import costs

The Daily Star, Sep 14, 2026



- A crude oil tanker of Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), MT Ninemia, arrived at Chattogram port from Saudi Arabia on Saturday.
- Carrying 1 lakh tonnes of oil, the ship sailed through the Suez Canal, the Mediterranean Sea and the Strait of Gibraltar before going around South Africa's Cape of Good Hope.
- To avoid the Bab el-Mandeb Strait amid tensions, the detour stretched to 50 days. Besides, it cost an additional Tk 66.63 crore.
- Had the vessel taken the regular route from Yanbu through the Red Sea and Bab el-Mandeb, the Indian Ocean and then to Bangladesh, the voyage from Yanbu to Chattogram would have taken around 13 to 15 days, officials said.
- After the US-Israel war on Iran led to disruption in the Strait of Hormuz, Bangladesh had been increasingly relying on shipping routes through the Red Sea for oil and other energy imports from the Middle East.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/red-sea-tensions-drive-import-costs-4272136

International

New report of attack on Strait of Hormuz shipping fans fears of threats to oil supplies

The Daily Star, Sep 13, 2026

- Maritime trackers received new reports of an attack on a ship in the Strait of Hormuz on Sunday, adding to concerns about Iran-related threats to energy supplies after Saudi Arabia shut down a vital oil pipeline.
- The British navy-affiliated agency UKMTO said it had a report of a projectile hitting a vessel as it moved through the Strait of Hormuz. The amount of damage and the status of the crew were unknown as of early Sunday, the agency said.
- UKMTO's report came the day after Saudi Arabia said it had temporarily closed its East-West pipeline as a precaution after a drone attack that both Baghdad and Riyadh said had originated in Iraq, where Iranian-backed militias operate.
- Ongoing attacks in the widening Middle East war could send energy prices even higher after a week that saw the cost of Brent crude surge back above $100 a barrel.
- The 1,200-km (745-mile) East-West pipeline running across the Arabian Peninsula has served as the main route out for global supplies of Middle East oil for the past six months while the Strait of Hormuz has been largely shut by war.
- It has been moving 4 million to 5 million barrels per day, amounting to 4% to 5% of global supply, sparing Saudi Arabia the brunt of the disruption that has crippled other Gulf oil and gas exporters.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/new-report-attack-strait-hormuz-shipping-fans-fears-threats-oil-supplies-4271516

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BASL Research Team

Mr. Shariful Alam Chowdhury Head of Research & Investments	tushar@basl-bd.com
Mr. Shohidul Islam Research Analyst	shohidul@basl-bd.com
Mr. Kawser Mohammad Emon Research Associate	emon@basl-bd.com
Supervised by: Mr. Sumon Das, Chief Executive Officer	

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 , Alokar 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.