

Key News

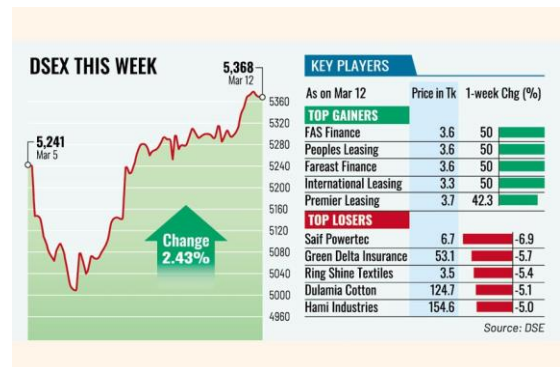
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Stock Market & Company

Stocks gain, but investors remain wary

The Financial Express, Mar 14, 2026

- The benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSEX) rebounded this week, paring some of the previous week's steep losses as bargain hunters returned to scoop up undervalued blue-chip stocks, even though overall sentiment remained cautious amid escalating Middle East conflict.
- The week began in turmoil on Sunday, with the DSEX plummeting 232 points, or 4.42 per cent, marking its largest single-day decline in six years. The sharp sell-off was triggered by intensifying conflict in the Middle East.
- Despite the bearish start, the market demonstrated resilience over the subsequent four trading sessions of the week. Buoyed by signs of a potential de-escalation in the conflict and easing local concerns regarding immediate fuel shortages in Bangladesh, investor confidence gradually returned. Import/export consultation
- At the end of the week, the DSEX had recovered 128 points, or 2.43 percent, to settle at 5,368. This weekly gain provided a partial cushion against the 359-point loss recorded in the previous week.
- Market analysts attributed the turnaround to value-seeking behaviour rather than a full restoration of bullish sentiment.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/stocks-gain-but-investors-remain-wary>

RD Food former chairman plans total exit from company

The Business Standard, Mar 14, 2026

- SM Fakhar-Uz-Zaman, one of the sponsors and former chairman of Rangpur Dairy and Food Products Ltd, widely known as RD Food, has announced plans to sell his entire shareholding in the company through the stock market.
- He disclosed his intention to sell 1.05 lakh shares of RD Food at the prevailing market price through the public market on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) within the next 30 working days, according to a disclosure filed with the bourse.
- Fakhar-Uz-Zaman, the founder of the company, served as chairman from 2004 to 2017.
- Over the past few years, however, he has gradually reduced his ownership in the company. Market sources said Fakhar-Uz-Zaman began offloading shares in 2019 when he held nearly 10% of the company's shares.
- Once the announced sale is completed, the former chairman will fully exit the company's shareholding.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/rd-food-former-chairman-plans-total-exit-company-1386911>

Junk NBFIs stocks rebound despite liquidation fears

The Business Standard, Mar 14, 2026

- Struggling under heavy classified loan burdens, several non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) have emerged as top performers in the stock market, posting sharp price increases in February after months of steep declines triggered by liquidation concerns.
- According to data from the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), the share prices of eight troubled NBFIs surged between 145% and 224% during the month, even though most of them remain under severe financial distress and face potential liquidation.
- The rally came after their share prices had earlier plunged to historic lows amid continuous sell-offs driven by investor fears that shareholders could lose their entire investments if the institutions were wound up.
- At one point, the share prices of some NBFIs dropped below Tk1 for the first time in the history of Bangladesh's capital market.
- In response, the DSE introduced a new trading rule for such ultra-low-priced stocks. The bourse fixed the minimum price movement (tick size) for shares trading below Tk1 at Tk0.01, while the existing tick size for equities priced above Tk1 remains Tk0.10.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/junk-nbfi-stocks-rebound-despite-liquidation-fears-1386906>

BSEC forms enquiry committee against Navana Pharma over board dispute

The Business Standard, Mar 13, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has formed an investigation committee to examine allegations of irregularities surrounding board meetings and a leadership dispute at Navana Pharmaceuticals.
- The securities regulator took the decision on 8 March and issued an official notification on 10 March, directing a four-member committee to conduct a detailed probe into the matter.
- The committee consists of Lutful Kabir, additional director of the commission, Delowar Hossain, additional director, Motiur Rahman, assistant director, and Nizam Uddin, assistant director. The committee has been instructed to submit its report to the commission within seven working days, considering the urgency and importance of the issue.
- The dispute stems from developments during the company's 65th board meeting held on 28 January. After approving the official agenda items, the meeting was formally closed by chairman and independent director Saiqa Mazed.
- However, after the meeting was adjourned, another faction of the board reportedly convened and elected Javed Kaiser Ally as the new chairman and Sayeed Ahmed as the managing director, while also replacing the company secretary.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-forms-enquiry-committee-against-navana-pharma-over-board-dispute-1385576>

Pubali Bank decides to raise \$10cr green bond

The Business Standard, Mar 13, 2026

- Pubali Bank has approved a plan to raise \$10 crore through the issuance of a five-year green bond as part of its strategy to strengthen sustainable and environmentally responsible financing.
- The decision was taken at a meeting of the bank's board of directors held on Wednesday at its Gulshan corporate branch, according to a price sensitive information disclosure issued on the same day.
- On Thursday, the share price of the lender increased by 0.53% to Tk37.80 on the Dhaka stock exchange.
- According to the disclosure, the proceeds from the bond will be used to finance projects that contribute to environmental sustainability and support green development initiatives.

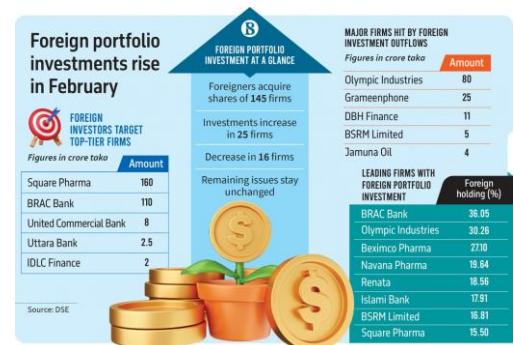
- The bank said the bond programme will follow the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) Green Bond Principles, which provide internationally recognised guidelines for transparency, disclosure, and reporting in green bond issuance.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/pubali-bank-decides-raise-10cr-green-bond-1385566>

Foreigners prefer Square Pharma, BRAC Bank in February, but pull back from Olympic, GP

The Business Standard, Mar 13, 2026

- Foreign investors increased their exposure to several blue-chip stocks in February, particularly in the banking and pharmaceutical sectors, while pulling back from companies including Olympic Industries, Grameenphone (GP) and DBH Finance.
- Data from the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) show that foreign portfolio investment rose last month, with overseas investors purchasing shares in a number of top-tier companies led by Square Pharmaceuticals and BRAC Bank.
- Square attracted the largest foreign inflow, with overseas investors buying shares worth about Tk160 crore during February. The purchases increased foreign shareholding in the pharmaceutical giant to 15.50% from 14.70% in January.
- BRAC Bank ranked second in terms of foreign investment inflow. Foreign investors bought shares worth around Tk110 crore, raising their ownership in the bank to 36.72% from 36.05% a month earlier.
- Other companies that recorded smaller increases in foreign investment included United Commercial Bank, Uttara Bank and IDLC Finance.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/foreigners-prefer-square-pharma-brac-bank-february-pull-back-olympic-gp-1385561>

Economy & Industry

RMG products fetch higher prices in EU than US

The Financial Express, Mar 14, 2026

- Bangladeshi-made major garment items get higher prices in the European Union (EU) market compared to the US due to different pricing and margin strategies based on preferential market access, according to a RAPID study.
- "On average, firms forprop ten apparel products obtain 5.0 per cent to 18 per cent higher prices in the EU than in the US market," said Jillur Rahman, lecturer of the Department of Development Studies at Dhaka University.
- Citing an example, he, also deputy director of Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID), said exporters receive about 20 per cent to 27 per cent higher prices for T-shirts in Germany than in the US, while trousers command a 9.0 per cent to 15 per cent price premium in the German market.
- He attributed a systematic price differential between preferential (EU) and non-preferential (US) markets, consistent with destination-specific pricing behaviour.
- Mr Rahman was presenting the findings at a consultation event held on Saturday at the conference room of the Department of Development Studies at the DU in the city.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/rmg-products-fetch-higher-prices-in-eu-than-us>

US launches trade probe into Bangladesh, 15 others

The Daily Star, Mar 12, 2026

- The US has launched a new investigation into Bangladesh and some of its biggest trading partners after the Supreme Court struck down a key part of President Donald Trump's tariff policies last month.
- On Wednesday, US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said the Section 301 unfair trade practices probe could lead to new levies against countries including China, the European Union, India, Japan, South Korea and Mexico by this summer, reports BBC.
- The probe could allow the US to impose import taxes on goods from any of the countries found to have engaged in unfair trade practices.
- Greer said he hoped to conclude the investigations before new temporary tariffs imposed by Trump in late February expire in July.
- "The United States will no longer sacrifice its industrial base to other countries that may be exporting their problems with excess capacity and production to us," Greer said in the announcement.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/us-launches-trade-probe-into-bangladesh-15-others>

International

Dollar rises broadly

The Daily Star, Mar 14, 2026

- The US dollar rose across the board on Friday, set for a second straight weekly gain, as the war in the Middle East drove investors toward safe-haven assets and weighed on energy-sensitive currencies such as the euro.
- President Donald Trump said the US was going to be hitting Iran "very hard over the next week", shortly after issuing a partial 30-day waiver for purchases of sanctioned Russian oil, hoping to ease prices fuelled by the US-Israeli war on Iran.
- A sharp and prolonged rise in oil prices would severely hurt the economies of Japan and the euro zone, which are heavily reliant on crude imports, while the United States would be relatively insulated, having been a net crude exporter for almost a decade.
- "Global investors are unwinding cross-border exposures, pushing money into safe havens, and punishing currencies issued by net energy importers," said Karl Schamotta, chief market strategist at Corpay in Toronto.
- The euro was 0.6 percent lower against the dollar at \$1.14395. The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of currencies, was up 0.7 percent at 100.35. The index is up 1.5 percent for the week.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/dollar-rises-broadly-4128706>

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