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Stock Market & Company

Dhaka bourse dips 41 points amid lack of catalysts

The Financial Express, Apr 14, 2026

- The Dhaka bourse closed Monday's session with a moderate loss of 41 points, as many investors opted for sell-offs while others remained on the sidelines in the absence of any visible market direction.
- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) opened the session on a positive note, but after half an hour the broad index, DSEX, began to decline and continued falling until mid-session amid investors' selling pressure.
- Later, a timid recovery was observed for a while, but it also fizzled out. Finally, the DSEX settled at 5,230 points, posting a loss of 0.77 per cent.
- Of the 390 issues traded, 123 advanced, 213 declined and 54 remained unchanged. The prime bourse posted a turnover of Tk 7.93 billion, 5.22 per cent lower than the previous session.
- Although market indices opened on a positive note, the momentum swiftly lost traction as jittery investor sentiment triggered broad-based sell-offs, reflecting a lack of confidence across the trading floor, said EBL Securities in a market review.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/dhaka-bourse-dips-41-points-amid-lack-of-catalysts>

Craftsman Footwear denies price-sensitive disclosure amid sharp share surge

The Business Standard, Apr 13, 2026

- Craftsman Footwear and Accessories 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 issued on 9 April 2026.
- The clarification follows a steep rally in the company's stock, which surged by 58% in just over a month, climbing to Tk41.40 on 12 April from Tk26.20 on 8 March.
- However, the stock saw a slight correction in the following session, declining by 3.14% today (13 April) to close at Tk39.70, indicating some profit-taking by investors.
- According to the insiders, market activity around the stock has also been influenced by recent disclosures from Prilink Securities Limited, which announced plans to offload a portion of its holdings in the SME-listed company.
- Earlier this month, the brokerage disclosed its intention to sell 7 lakh shares worth approximately Tk2.35 crore. The firm had also declared plans in March to sell 10 lakh shares, a transaction that was completed on 6 April.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/craftsman-footwear-denies-price-sensitive-disclosure-amid-sharp-share-surge-1410951>

Multinational dividends plunge Tk4,340cr in 2025 as earnings take a hit from macro headwinds

The Business Standard, Apr 13, 2026

- The year 2025 will be remembered as a period of significant contraction for dividend-seeking investors in Bangladesh's capital market, as multinational companies faced an unprecedented squeeze on profitability.
- Historically regarded as the bedrock of the Dhaka and Chattogram bourses for their consistent and generous payouts, these global giants saw their collective dividend distributions plummet by 46% compared with the previous year.
- Currently, out of the 13 multinational companies listed on the two stock exchanges, the status of dividend declarations remains mixed. While eight have already announced their payouts for the year, others are at various stages of their financial cycles.
- Bata Shoes and Marico Bangladesh have declared interim dividends but are yet to finalise their year-end figures. Meanwhile, firms such as Berger Paints and Marico follow a financial year that ends in March, meaning their full annual performance will not be clear for several more months. Heidelberg Materials also yet to declare its stance for 2025.
- Data from ten major multinational entities show they declared a total of Tk5,070 crore in dividends for the 2025 financial year, a sharp retreat from the Tk9,411 crore in 2024.

MNCs dividend in 2025				
COMPANIES	CASH DIVIDEND (%)		DIVIDEND AMOUNT (in crore taka)	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
Bata Shoe	44.5%	14.3% (interim)	60.87	19.54
BAT Bangladesh	300%	30%	1,620	162
Grameenphone	330%	215%	4,456	2,903
LafargeHolcim Bangladesh	38%	40%	441.32	464.55
Linde Bangladesh	4,500%	100%	684.82	15.22
Marico	3,840%	1,575% (interim)	1,209.6	496.13
RAK Ceramics	10%	10% (only for general shareholders)	42.80	11.95
Robi	15%	17.5%	785.69	916.64
Singer Bangladesh	10%	Nil	9.97	Nil
Unilever Consumer Care	520%	420%	100.22	80.95

DIVIDEND COMPARISON

10 MNCs declare Tk5,070cr in dividends for 2025

Down 46% from Tk9,411cr in 2024

MNCs DIVIDEND PAYOUT STATUS

13 MNCs listed on the stock exchanges

Two declare interim dividends

Eight declare dividends for 2025

Three are yet to declare dividends; of these, two follow a March-end financial year

Source: DSE

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/multinational-dividends-plunge-tk4340cr-2025-earnings-take-hit-macro-headwinds>

Pragati Insurance declares 27% cash, 3% stock dividend for 2025

The Business Standard, Apr 13, 2026

- Pragati Insurance has recommended a 27% cash dividend and a 3% stock dividend for the year ended 31 December 2025, reflecting a continued effort to reward shareholders while strengthening its capital base.
- In the previous year, the insurer paid 20% cash and 7% stock dividend for their shareholders.
- According to a disclosure on the stock exchange yesterday, the company will hold its Annual General Meeting on 18 June 2026 via a digital platform. For this, the record date has been fixed for 12 May 2026.
- Despite this declaration, the share price of the company decreased yesterday by 2.61% to Tk71 on the Dhaka stock exchange.
- End of December 2025, the company reported an earnings per share (EPS) of Tk5.31, marking a slight increase from Tk5.24 in the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/pragati-insurance-declares-27-cash-3-stock-dividend-2025-1410931>

Economy & Industry

Govt plans agro-industrial push in North Bengal to spur jobs

The Financial Express, Apr 14, 2026

- The government is preparing a broad initiative to expand industrialisation in the northern region, with a particular focus on agro-based industries aimed at generating employment.
- Prime Minister Tarique Rahman outlined the plan during a series of meetings on Monday at his office, starting at 11:00am, with leading entrepreneurs from the fruit, dairy, food and beverage, and poultry sectors.

- A total of 16 business leaders took part in the discussions, including Pran-RFL Group Chairman and CEO Ahsan Khan Chowdhury; Transcom Limited Group CEO Simeen Rahman; Nabil Group Managing Director and CEO Md Aminul Islam; TK Group Director Mohammad Mustafa Haider; Square Food & Beverage Ltd CEO Md Parvez Saiful Islam; Kazi Farms Managing Director Kazi Zahedul Hasan; BRAC Enterprises Managing Director Tamara Hasan Abed; Akij Venture Group Chairman Sk Shamim Uddin; Akij Food & Beverage Ltd CEO Sayed Johurul Alam; Lal Teer Seeds Ltd Director Tajwar M Awal; and Paragon Limited Managing Director Moshiur Rahman; among others.
- Finance and Planning Adviser Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir also attended the meeting.
- Prime Minister's Office sources said North Bengal is being viewed as a strategically important economic zone, with plans to unlock its potential through expanded industrialisation and development as an agro-processing hub.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-plans-agro-industrial-push-in-north-bengal-to-spur-jobs>

Restoring trust in Bangladesh's capital market: how blockchain and AI can end IPO fraud

The Daily Star, Apr 13, 2026

- The capital market in Bangladesh faces persistent problems with trust. IPO fraud and manipulation continue despite reforms, undermining investor confidence and impeding economic growth. Long-term stability and national development are at stake.
- The nation has learned painful lessons. An estimated \$27 billion in market value—roughly 22 percent of GDP at the time—was destroyed by the crashes of 1996 and, more catastrophically, 2010–2011. Millions of investors suffered losses, leaving social repercussions that still shape public perception of the stock market. The same structural flaws remain more than a decade later.
- Recent enforcement data highlight the severity. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) fined individuals nearly Tk 1,488 crore in the past 18 months for manipulation and misconduct. Yet only a fraction has been recovered due to lengthy legal battles. This gap between punishment and accountability sends the wrong signal: wrongdoing is costly on paper but not in practice.
- Systemic weaknesses drive these failures—coordinated trading through omnibus accounts, abuse of placement shares, diversion of IPO proceeds, and lack of real-time surveillance. Bangladesh's market capitalization remains low, around 6 percent of GDP in mid-2025, compared to over 100 percent in deeper, better-run markets. This underdevelopment hampers financing for infrastructure, SMEs, and industrial growth—key to Vision 2041 and the “Smart Bangladesh” agenda.
- Globally, fraud persists but is increasingly managed with technology. Scandals like Enron and Madoff spurred regulators to adopt AI for real-time surveillance. Exchanges are also testing blockchain-based settlement systems that are faster, cheaper, and more transparent. Emerging economies such as India and Brazil have embraced digital reforms, strengthening disclosure, monitoring, and enforcement.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/restoring-trust-bangladeshs-capital-market-how-blockchain-and-ai-can-end-ipo-fraud-4150846>

International

Oil rises 7% to above \$100

The Daily Star, Apr 14, 2026

- Oil prices climbed above \$100 a barrel on Monday as the US Navy prepared to block ships to and from Iran via the Strait of Hormuz, a move that could restrict Iranian oil exports, after Washington and Tehran failed to reach a deal to end the war.

- Brent crude futures rose \$6.67, or 7.0 percent, to \$101.87 a barrel by 0630 GMT after settling 0.75 percent lower on Friday. US West Texas Intermediate was up \$7.26, or 7.5 percent, at \$103.83 a barrel following a 1.33 percent loss in the previous session.
- “The market is now largely back to conditions before the ceasefire, except now the US will block the remaining up to 2 million barrels per day Iranian-linked flows through the Strait of Hormuz as well,” said Saul Kavonic, head of energy research at MST Marquee.
- President Donald Trump said on Sunday the US Navy would start blockading the Strait of Hormuz, raising the stakes after marathon talks with Iran failed to reach a deal to end the war and jeopardising a fragile two-week ceasefire.
- He added that the price of oil and gasoline may remain high through November’s midterm elections, a rare acknowledgement of the potential political fallout from his decision to attack Iran six weeks ago.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/oil-rises-7-above-100-4151051>

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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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