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Stock Market & Company

Dhaka stocks slip

The Daily Star, Sun Aug 14, 2025

- The DSEX, the benchmark index of the bourse, fell 55.43 points, or 1 percent, to close at 5,468.35, according to DSE data.
- The Shariah-based DSES dropped 0.91 percent to 1,185.39, while the blue-chip DS30 went down 1.02 percent to 2,129.04.
- Turnover, a key indicator of investor activity, stood at Tk 732.56 crore, down from Tk 778.32 crore in the previous session.
- Market breadth was negative, with 67 issues advancing against 275 declining, while 56 remained unchanged.
- Among the major sectors, non-bank financial institutions registered the highest loss of 2.37 percent, followed by banks (1.26 percent), telecommunications (1.19 percent), fuel and power (1.14 percent), engineering (0.59 percent), food and allied (0.53 percent) and pharmaceuticals (0.11 percent), BRAC EPL said.
- In other segments, mutual funds saw seven issues advance and 11 decline; corporate bonds posted three gainers and one loser; while the government bond market remained inactive.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/dhaka-stocks-slip-3985541>

ADN Telecom signs MoUs with South Korean firms for EVs, smart traffic systems and solar street lights

The Business Standard, Sun Sept 14, 2025

- According to the company's statement filed on the Dhaka Stock Exchange toay, the agreements cover three key initiatives: assembling and supplying electric three-wheelers, introducing intelligent traffic management and AI-based traffic signal solutions, and implementing solar streetlight projects across the country.
- As part of the MoUs, ADN Telecom will begin preliminary steps to set up assembly facilities and drive sustainable technology ventures, particularly in Hi-Tech Parks. Its South Korean partners will provide advanced technology,

equipment, and technical expertise, while ADN will focus on facilitating project execution and market development, read the statement.

- The collaborations will be executed through joint ventures to be established in Bangladesh, with the objective of ensuring technology transfer, creating local employment, and building long-term operational sustainability.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/adn-telecom-signs-mous-south-korean-firms-evs-smart-traffic-systems-and-solar-street>

Economy & Industry

Forex reserves rise to \$30.59 billion

The Financial Express, Sun Sept 14, 2025

- The country's foreign exchange reserves rose further on Sunday, reaching US\$30.59 billion, according to data released by the Bangladesh Bank (BB).
- Measured under the International Monetary Fund's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition (BPM6), the reserves stood at \$25.75 billion, the central bank said.
- Just three days earlier, on Thursday, reserves were reported at \$30.57 billion in gross terms and \$25.67 billion under the BPM6 standard.
- In July 2025, exports surged by more than 27 per cent year-on-year to \$4.43 billion, while remittance inflows totalled \$6.27 billion during the first two months of the fiscal year (July-August 2025-26).
- At the same time, imports have also been rising. Import payments in July 2025 were \$6.27 billion, reflecting an increase of 19.49 per cent compared with the same month a year earlier.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/forex-reserves-rise-to-3059-billion>

Banks' retained earnings negative of Tk 7,421cr

New Age, Sun Sept 14, 2025

- The retained earnings of Bangladesh's banking sector have plunged into negative territory, exposing the depth of financial stress that has gripped the industry.
- According to Bangladesh Bank data, the sector's retained earnings dropped to Tk 7,421 crore negative by March 31, 2025 from Tk 1,722 crore positive in December 2024.
- Out of 62 scheduled banks, 17 reported negative retained earnings, underlining the widespread nature of the crisis.
- Among individual banks, Bangladesh Krishi Bank recorded the steepest erosion, with negative retained earnings of Tk 17,926 crore as of March 31, 2025.
- BASIC Bank followed with Tk 5,645 crore in negative retained earnings, while Padma Bank stood at Tk 5,225 crore, National Bank at Tk 4,891 crore, Global Islami Bank at Tk 3,630 crore, and Janata Bank at Tk 3,595 crore.
- Other banks in negative territory included Rajshahi Krishi Bank with Tk 2,750 crore, ICB Islami Bank with Tk 2,080 crore, AB Bank with Tk 1,901 crore, Bangladesh Commerce Bank with Tk 1,618 crore, and First Security Islami Bank with Tk 1,027 crore.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/276045/banks-retained-earnings-negative-of-tk-7421cr>

US may further cut tariffs if trade gap narrows

The Daily Star, Mon Aug 15, 2025

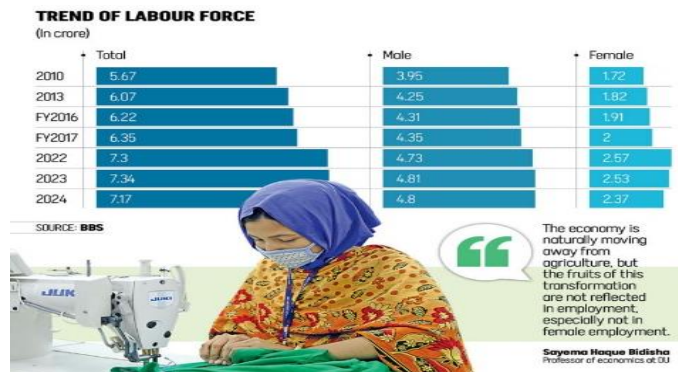
- A further cut in tariffs would depend on increased imports of US products to help reduce the roughly \$6 billion trade gap.
- Bangladesh sells goods worth more than \$8.2 billion annually to the American market while importing about \$2 billion in return.
- On wheat imports from the US, he said American wheat contains 10 to 15 percent more protein than Russian wheat and is currently cheaper. This, he said, is likely to encourage private sector buyers to source wheat from the US.
- The US team arrived in Dhaka earlier in the day for a three-day visit. Commerce ministry sources said the US delegation may also meet with top officials of the chief adviser's office, Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain and Foreign Secretary Asad Alam Siam.
- Bangladesh is the third-largest garment exporter to the US market after China and Vietnam, with a 9.3 percent share of the \$81 billion American apparel import.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/us-may-further-cut-tariffs-if-trade-gap-narrows-3985551>

Women's participation in labour force falling

The Daily Star, Mon Aug 15, 2025

- Bangladesh's labour force shrank by 17 lakh in just one year, with women accounting for most of the decline, according to the final report of the BBS's Labour Force Survey 2024.
- The report shows that the total labour force stood at 7.17 crore in 2024, down from 7.34 crore the previous year. Male participation remained largely unchanged at 4.8 crore, compared with 4.81 crore in 2023. Female participation, however, fell sharply from 2.53 crore to 2.37 crore over the same period.
- This marks the first contraction in the country's labour force since 2010. Between 2010 and 2023, the labour force expanded by more than 1.6 crore, driven largely by rising female participation, which grew from 1.72 crore in 2010 to 2.53 crore in 2023.
- To increase labour force participation among educated urban women, he emphasised the need to create more opportunities in modern service sectors, including education, healthcare, finance, and hospitality.



<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/womens-participation-labour-force-falling-3985961>

International

UK, US to sign multibillion-dollar tech deal

The Daily Star, Mon Aug 15, 2025

- This agreement aims to bolster collaboration between the two nations' trillion-dollar tech sectors, enhancing opportunities for businesses and consumers on both sides of the Atlantic.
- While the final details were still being negotiated, the embassy said the partnership will focus on key technologies, including artificial intelligence, semiconductors, telecommunications, and quantum computing.
- "Cutting-edge technology such as AI and quantum computing will transform our lives," UK Technology Secretary Liz Kendall, who was appointed to her role on September 5, said in a statement.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/uk-us-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-deal-3985941>

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