BASL DAILY NEWS BUZZ

August 16, 2026

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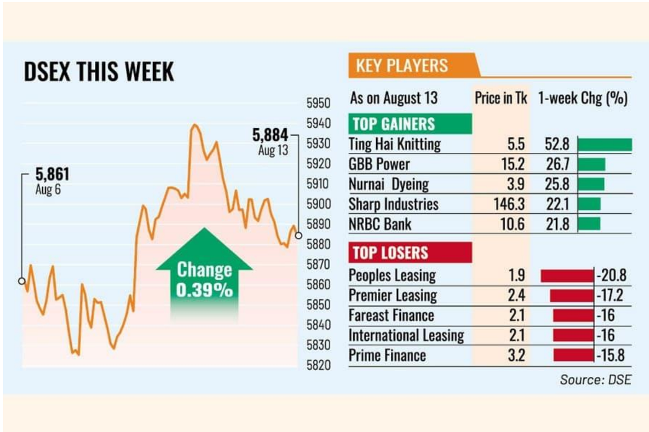
Stock Market & Company

Stocks edge up on selective buying

The Financial Express, Aug 15, 2026



- Stocks returned to positive territory this week as renewed buying interest in selected sectors helped the benchmark index recover, although persistent domestic and geopolitical uncertainties kept investors cautious.
- The market opened the week under selling pressure as investors booked profits following recent gains. Selective buying, however, emerged in small-cap and momentum-driven stocks as investors remained uncertain about the market's near-term direction.
- Market sentiment improved in the middle of the week amid optimism that the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) might relax its margin loan rules. The expectation triggered broad-based buying, briefly lifting the benchmark index above the 5,900-point mark.
- However, the buying momentum failed to sustain in the final trading sessions as investors moved to realise profits. Concerns over the proposed regulatory changes, the ongoing energy crisis and broader macroeconomic and geopolitical uncertainties once again weighed on market sentiment.
- A leading stockbroker said investors remained cautious due to several domestic and external factors, including concerns over disruptions to gas supplies and lingering geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/stocks-edge-up-on-selective-buying

Dhaka Bank to raise Tk300cr via perpetual bond to bridge capital gap

The Business Standard, Aug 15, 2026

- Dhaka Bank PLC has decided to raise Tk300 crore through the issuance of a contingent-convertible perpetual bond to strengthen its capital base and ensure compliance with international Basel-III standards.
- The decision was finalised during the bank's board meeting held on Thursday, according to a price-sensitive disclosure.
- The bank said the fresh capital will be categorised as Additional Tier-1 capital. This strategic move is aimed at addressing a marginal shortfall in the bank's core capital.
- According to its half-yearly unaudited report for 2026, the bank's Tier-I capital (going concern capital) stood at 8.19%, which is below the 8.50% threshold mandated by the Bangladesh Bank. While the bank's total capital ratio remained

compliant at 12.66% – slightly above the 12.50% requirement – the issuance is necessary to reinforce its primary capital layer.

- Industry analysts suggest that the new bond will provide a much-needed buffer to stabilise cash flows and support future asset growth.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-bank-raise-tk300cr-perpetual-bond-bridge-capital-gap-1515921

City Bank eyes Tk3,000cr capital ceiling, plans to expand board

The Business Standard, Aug 15, 2026

- The board of directors of City Bank PLC has proposed increasing the bank's authorised capital by 50% to Tk3,000 crore, creating room to strengthen its paid-up capital amid new Bangladesh Bank dividend requirements.The decision was taken at a board meeting last Thursday, according to a price-sensitive disclosure.
- The proposal would raise the authorised capital from Tk2,000 crore to Tk3,000 crore, divided into 300 crore ordinary shares with a face value of Tk10 each. It requires shareholder approval at an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) and subsequent regulatory clearance.
- The bank has scheduled the EGM for 4 October 2026 at 3pm through a digital platform. The record date for determining shareholders eligible to vote has been set for 6 September.
- The move comes as City Bank prepares to meet Bangladesh Bank's new capital requirements. In a circular issued on 23 May, the central bank said commercial banks with paid-up capital below Tk2,000 crore will be barred from declaring cash dividends from 31 December 2026.
- City Bank's current paid-up capital is Tk1,749.40 crore, leaving a Tk250 crore gap to the required threshold. The bank paid a 15% cash dividend and a 15% stock dividend for 2025.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/city-bank-eyes-tk3000cr-capital-ceiling-plans-expand-board-1515896

BSEC rejects Brain Station 23's bid to convert SME listing into IPO

The Business Standard, Aug 13, 2026

- Brain Station 23 PLC cannot convert its existing application to list on the SME Board through a Qualified Investor Offer (QIO) into an initial public offering (IPO) application for the main market, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has said.
- In a letter to the company, the commission said the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Qualified Investor Offer by Small Capital Company) Rules, 2022 contain no provision for converting a QIO application into an IPO application.
- Brain Station 23 had applied on 28 October 2025 to list on the SME Board through the QIO route. It later wrote to the BSEC on 5 July, requesting that its application be converted into an IPO bid for the main market instead. The BSEC turned down the request, saying the existing rules do not allow such a conversion.
- Earlier, in 2024, Brain Station 23, the developer of City Bank's digital banking platform City Touch, planned to raise Tk5 crore through a QIO on the SME Board. The company had proposed issuing 50 lakh shares at a face value of Tk10 each.

- LankaBangla Investments was appointed as the issue manager for the QIO. Of the funds to be raised, Tk4.70 crore was planned to be spent on purchasing computers and IT equipment, including laptops, desktops, MacBook Pros, network switches, application servers, storage servers and Wi-Fi equipment.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-rejects-brain-station-23s-bid-convert-sme-listing-ipo-1514591

BSEC eases mutual fund custodian rules for foreign banks

The Business Standard, Aug 13, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has resolved a technical bottleneck that had been hampering foreign-owned banks serving as custodians for mutual funds.
- However, the regulator has now allowed local management committees at these banks to authorise signatories for mutual fund bank and securities accounts, addressing a structural mismatch between BSEC rules and how multinational banks are organised.
- Under the BSEC (Mutual Fund) Rules, 2025, signatories for mutual fund accounts were required to be nominated by the custodian's board of directors. But many foreign-owned banks operating in Bangladesh do not maintain a local board, given their global corporate structures.
- Instead, their Bangladesh operations are typically overseen by a "Management Committee" or designated "Nominated Persons," who function as the highest local decision-making authority in the absence of a board.
- The BSEC's move brings the rule in line with this reality, clearing the way for these banks to continue operating as custodians without the earlier procedural hurdle.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-eases-mutual-fund-custodian-rules-foreign-banks-1514581

Economy & Industry

CSE fully ready to launch commodity exchange, says MD

The Daily Star, Aug 16, 2026

- The Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) is fully prepared to launch a commodity exchange, with preparations across the market ecosystem in their final stage, the bourse's Managing Director M Shaifur Rahman Mazumdar said yesterday.
- A standard commodity exchange will help manage price volatility and could make a significant contribution to Gross Domestic Product, he said in a keynote paper at a seminar on commodity exchange operations, held at the MS Trade Centre in Khatunganj, Chattogram.
- The CSE, in collaboration with the Khatunganj Trade and Industries Association, organised the seminar, according to a press release.
- Shaifur stated that neighbouring countries, including India, Pakistan and Myanmar, already have commodity exchanges.
- "An effective commodity market is an essential part of Bangladesh's financial system. It will create new investment opportunities and add a new dimension to the country's existing financial market," he said.
- The CSE MD said he hoped the Khatunganj Trade and Industries Association, along with its member businesses and institutions, would make the necessary preparations to participate in the new platform and contribute to the economy by joining the upcoming commodity market.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/cse-fully-ready-launch-commodity-exchange-says-md-4248566

RMG exports to EU fall 16.43% in Jan-Jun

The Daily Star, Aug 16, 2026

- Bangladesh's ready-made garment (RMG) exports to the European Union (EU) fell 16.43 percent year-on-year to €8.64 billion in the January-June period of 2026, according to Eurostat, the bloc's statistical office.
- During the six months, the volume of exports fell 8.22 percent year-on-year, while prices decreased 8.94 percent.
- In June, the volume of goods shipped to the EU from Bangladesh rose 6.53 percent compared with the same month of the previous year, but export value fell 5.31 percent, according to Eurostat data.
- The EU's apparel imports from the world also fell 9.7 percent year-on-year in the first half of 2026 to €41.1 billion. The volume of imports fell 6.4 percent, while the average price decreased 3.53 percent.
- During the same period, exports from Vietnam to the EU grew 0.36 percent to €2.06 billion. Interestingly, Vietnam shipped 11.52 percent less goods while raising prices by 13.43 percent.
- Shipments from China, Turkey, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Cambodia to the EU also fell during the period.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/rmg-exports-eu-fall-1643-jan-jun-4248511

International

Oil climbs over $1 on tanker attacks

The Daily Star, Aug 13, 2026

- Crude oil futures climbed over $1 a barrel on Friday on tanker attacks and a lack of progress on a peace agreement between the Trump administration and Iran's leadership.
- Brent futures settled at $88.52 a barrel, up $1.45, or 1.67 percent. US West Texas Intermediate crude futures finished at $82.40, up $1.15, or 1.42 percent.
- Brent and WTI were on track for weekly gains of 6.0 percent and 5.4 percent, respectively.
- "We're getting a rally going into the weekend after new attacks on tankers and lack of progress on a cease-fire agreement," said Andrew Lipow, president of Lipow Oil Associates.
- A "day of reckoning" may come if traffic in the strait of Hormuz remains constrained, through which 20 percent of global supply can pass, Lipow said.
- "Crude oil prices might be $80 a barrel, but diesel prices are $180 a barrel and gasoline is $130 a barrel and that's what's hitting the consumer," Lipow said.
- On Thursday, the US said it could maintain a naval blockade of Iran indefinitely and increase economic pressure on Tehran in response to stalled ceasefire talks.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/oil-climbs-over-1-tanker-attacks-4248531

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