

Key News

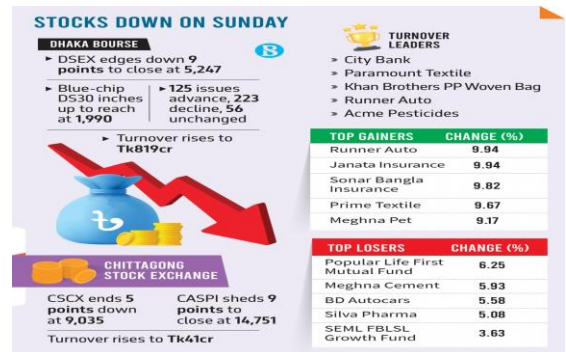
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Stock Market & Company

DSEX dips on fuel price adjustment, geopolitical jitters

The Business Standard, Apr 19, 2026

- The country's capital market began the week on a sluggish note today (19 April), as investors remained cautious following the recent adjustment in domestic fuel prices and ongoing uncertainty regarding the Middle East conflict.
- The benchmark DSEX index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) edged down by approximately 9 points to settle at 5,247.
- Market participants remained cautious, refraining from taking fresh positions and instead adopting a wait-and-see stance amid lingering geopolitical and macroeconomic uncertainties that continued to weigh on market momentum.
- Despite a relatively steady performance during the mid-session, the early optimism failed to hold as mounting selling pressure in major large-cap scrips eventually eroded the initial gains.
- EBL Securities, in its daily market review, noted that the recent hike in domestic fuel prices further reinstated investor caution.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dsex-dips-fuel-price-adjustment-geopolitical-jitters-1415896>

People's Leasing moves for legal action as Tk1,785cr remains unrecovered from ex-directors

The Business Standard, Apr 19, 2026

- Despite repeated notices and a High Court directive, People's Leasing and Financial Services has failed to recover any dues from four former directors who collectively owe Tk1,785 crore.
- The non-bank financial institution is now moving towards legal action to recover the long-overdue loans.
- "We sent multiple letters to the permanent addresses of the four directors requesting repayment but have not received any response," managing director Md Sagir Hossain Khan told The Business Standard. The court gave them six months to repay, but the January deadline passed without compliance.



- "Action is being taken under prevailing laws. Legal notices have already been served, but no response has been received. It has been decided to file cases, which are also in process," he added. "The company has also filed a fresh petition seeking further directions from the court."

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/peoples-leasing-moves-legal-action-tk1785cr-remains-unrecovered-ex-directors-1415951>

BD Lamps sees strong Q3 as profit soars 142pc

The Financial Express, Apr 20, 2026

- Bangladesh Lamps, widely known as BD Lamps, reported a sharp 142 per cent year-on-year growth in profit to Tk 2.73 million for the January-March quarter of FY26, driven by higher sales and improved cost efficiency.
- The electric and energy-saving bulb manufacturer secured earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 0.26 in Q3 of FY26, compared to Tk 0.11 in the corresponding quarter last year, according to a stock exchange filing on Sunday.
- The company attributed the strong quarterly performance to increased sales alongside a reduction in operating expenses.
- Revenue for the quarter grew by more than 11 per cent year-on-year to Tk 512 million, supported by robust demand for energy-saving LED tube lights and electrical accessories.
- Sales of LED tube lights increased by 13 per cent in the quarter compared to the same quarter a year ago, while electrical accessories recorded a significant 41 per cent year-on-year growth during the quarter.



<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/bd-lamps-sees-strong-q3-as-profit-soars-142pc>

Economy & Industry

Metropolitan Chamber seeks supportive, growth-oriented budget

The Business Standard, Apr 19, 2026

- Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) President Kamran T Rahman today (19 April) called for a "supportive and growth-oriented" national budget for fiscal year 2026-27, warning that businesses, particularly small and medium enterprises, are under severe strain from high inflation, sluggish investment, elevated interest rates and foreign exchange pressure.
- Speaking at a seminar of MCCI and the Economic Reporters' Forum (ERF) on budget priorities, he said the upcoming budget must be balanced and realistic, arguing that a sensible tax policy can simultaneously boost revenue, encourage investment and generate employment rather than punish businesses further.
- Kamran proposed full integration of the National Identity (NID) and Tax Identification Number (TIN) databases to expand the tax net, noting that though over one crore taxpayers hold TINs, fewer than half file returns.
- He also recommended introducing a symbolic minimum tax to bring new taxpayers into the fold and simplifying return filing through mobile applications.
- The MCCI chief urged the government to reconsider conditions tied to corporate tax benefits, especially restrictions on cash transactions.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/metropolitan-chamber-seeks-supportive-growth-oriented-budget-1415911>

Business leaders demand swift FBCCI polls

The Daily Star, Apr 19, 2026

- Business leaders have called for the urgent appointment of a private-sector administrator and swift elections at the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), warning that prolonged administrative uncertainty is weakening the country's apex trade body and undermining the interests of the private sector.
- They made the call at a meeting with Commerce Minister Khandker Abdul Muqtadir at the commerce ministry today.
- The FBCCI has been run by an administrator for the past two years following the political changeover on August 5, 2024.
- At today's event, Mohammad Hatem, president of the BKMEA, stressed the need to appoint an experienced businessperson as administrator of the FBCCI, instead of a government official, so that the concerns of the business community can be addressed more effectively.
- He emphasised greater engagement with businesses in policymaking, particularly in the trade and industrial sectors, and highlighted the need to ensure the federation remains active, inclusive, and responsive to all business groups.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/business-leaders-demand-swift-fbcci-polls-4155316>

REHAB elects new leadership for 2026-28 term

The Daily Star, Apr 19, 2026

- Preliminary results for the Real Estate and Housing Association of Bangladesh (REHAB) election were released yesterday. Md Ali Afzal, chairman of Glorious Lands and Developments, was elected president for the 2026-28 term.
- Afzal secured 232 votes, surpassing incumbent president Md Wahiduzzaman, managing director of Japan Garden City, who received 193 votes.
- Abdur Razzaque was elected senior vice-president with 216 votes, narrowly ahead of Liakat Ali Bhuiyan's 214. Abdul Latif finished third with 97 votes.
- Abu Khalid Md Barkatullah claimed vice-president (VP-2) with 255 votes, ahead of Md Jahangir Alam's 197. AFM Ubaidullah secured vice-president (VP-3) with 234 votes.
- Md Harunur Rashid won the vice-president (finance) post with 262 votes, the widest margin among all executive positions. His nearest rival, Sheikh Md Shoyeb Uddin, received 180 votes.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rehab-elects-new-leadership-2026-28-term-4155196>

International

Dollar falls to multi-week lows

The Daily Star, Apr 20, 2026

- The safe-haven US dollar dropped to multi-week lows on Friday as risk appetite soared after Iran said the Strait of Hormuz is open, boosting optimism that the Middle East conflict is winding down.
- In afternoon trading, the dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.3 percent to 97.96 after earlier dropping to 97.632, its lowest in seven weeks. The index was down 0.6 percent on the week, set for a second straight weekly decline. Over the past two weeks
- "The dollar's weakness is mainly about the market unwinding the geopolitical risk premium," said George Vessey, lead FX and macro strategist at Convera in London. "I don't think we are pricing in a fundamentally weaker US dollar because there are question marks around the Federal Reserve, what's the Fed's next move is going to be after inflation came out hotter than expected. But while global fertilizer prices have soared, US prices at New Orleans have remained about \$170 per short ton cheaper, providing buyers an opportunity to profit from the price difference.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/dollar-falls-multi-week-lows-4155521>

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