

Key News

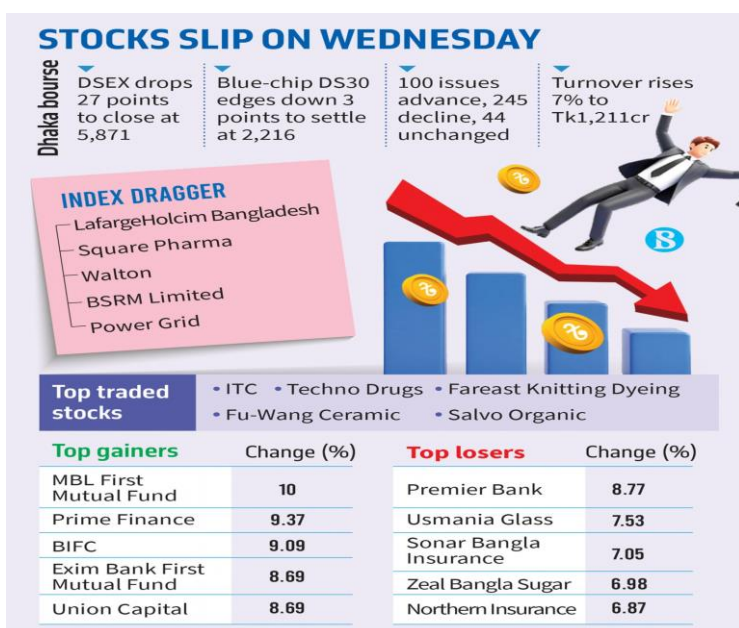
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Stock Market & Company

Late-session sell-off drags DSEX as insurance margin row rattles investors

The Business Standard, July 22, 2026

- The country's premier bourse returned to negative territory today (22 July) as a sharp final-hour sell-off erased early intraday gains.
- The benchmark DSEX index, which had successfully scaled past the 5,900-point threshold during the mid-session, ultimately succumbed to broad-based selling pressure, ending a volatile day with a 27-point decline.
- The DSEX settled at 5,871 points, reflecting the growing anxiety among investors regarding proposed regulatory changes and escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.
- The blue-chip DS30 index followed suit, edging down by 3 points to close at 2,216.
- Despite the fall in indices, market participation remained healthy, with turnover rising by 7% to reach Tk1,211 crore.
- The market's volatility was primarily driven by controversy over the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission's (BSEC) proposal to tighten margin lending rules for the insurance sector.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/late-session-sell-drags-dsex-insurance-margin-row-rattles-investors-1495276>

Union Capital's H1 losses widen on lower interest income, loan recoveries

The Business Standard, July 22, 2026

- Listed non-bank financial institution (NBFI) Union Capital Limited reported a wider loss in the first half of 2026 as lower interest income and weaker recoveries from non-performing and written-off loans weighed on its earnings.
- According to the company's unaudited financial statements published on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) website, its consolidated loss per share (EPS) widened to Tk2.12 for the January-June period, compared with a loss of Tk1.60 in the corresponding period last year.

- Despite the weaker financial performance, the company's share price rose 8.70% to Tk5 on the DSE today (22 July).
- The company's quarterly performance, however, showed some improvement. For the April-June quarter, Union Capital posted a consolidated loss per share of Tk1.18, down from a loss of Tk1.53 in the same quarter of 2025.
- Its operating cash flow also deteriorated during the period. Consolidated net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) turned negative at Tk0.18 for the first six months of 2026, compared with a positive Tk0.89 a year earlier, reflecting weaker cash generation from core operations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/union-capitals-h1-losses-widen-lower-interest-income-loan-recoveries-1495346>

Jamuna Bank profit jumps 22% to Tk378cr in H1

The Business Standard, July 22, 2026

- Jamuna Bank PLC has reported that its consolidated net profit jumped by 22% in the first half of this year.
- According to its price-sensitive statement approved at a board meeting today (22 July), the bank posted a consolidated net profit of Tk378.29 crore in January-June of 2026, significantly higher than Tk311.25 crore recorded in the same period of 2025.
- During the first half, its consolidated earnings per share stood at Tk4.03, which was Tk3.31 a year ago.
- The bank said net profit increased due to higher investment income and lower provisions against loans and advances compared to the previous period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/jamuna-bank-profit-jumps-22-tk378cr-h1-1495236>

Rupali Bank incurs Tk640cr loss in H1

The Business Standard, July 22, 2026

- Rupali Bank, a state-owned commercial bank, posted a consolidated loss of Tk640.56 crore in the first half of 2026, as lower interest income and higher borrowing costs weighed heavily on its financial performance.
- According to a price-sensitive disclosure approved at the bank's board meeting today (22 July), Rupali Bank recorded a consolidated loss per share (LPS) of Tk13.13 for the January-June period of 2026.
- The bank said the substantial loss was primarily driven by a decline in interest income alongside a sharp increase in borrowing costs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/rupali-bank-incurs-tk640cr-loss-h1-1495221>

BSEC, IMF discuss roadmap to strengthen Bangladesh's green bond market

The Business Standard, July 22, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have initiated high-level discussions to develop a stronger ecosystem for green, sustainability and other thematic bond markets in the country.
- The dialogue, aimed at aligning Bangladesh's capital market with global sustainable finance standards, took place at the BSEC headquarters in Dhaka yesterday (21 July) between the regulator and a six-member delegation from the IMF's Climate Policy Diagnostic Technical Assistance Mission.
- BSEC Commissioner Tanwir Habib Rahman led the regulatory team, while the IMF delegation was headed by mission team leader Suphachol Suphachalasai, according to a BSEC press release issued yesterday.
- The meeting focused on expanding the capital market's role in financing climate-resilient investments and sustainable development, with particular emphasis on promoting green and sustainability bonds to support environmentally friendly projects.

- The two sides reviewed existing policies and regulatory frameworks, including progress on the Sustainable Finance Taxonomy. Discussions covered strengthening external review mechanisms, improving impact-reporting transparency and refining bond verification processes to ensure compliance with international standards.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-imf-discuss-roadmap-strengthen-bangladeshs-green-bond-market-1495101>

Economy & Industry

Samsung resumes Bangladesh production, plans local phone launch in January

The Business Standard, July 22, 2026

- Samsung has resumed manufacturing operations in Bangladesh after a hiatus of about 18 months, with locally produced smartphones expected to return to the market in January next year.
- The restart signals a renewed push in Bangladesh's electronics manufacturing sector, where Samsung was the first global smartphone brand to assemble handsets locally through Fair Electronics.
- Production of Samsung refrigerators has already begun at the company's factory in Shibpur, Narsingdi, while washing machine production is scheduled to start in September. Air conditioners, televisions and smartphones are expected to enter production in early 2027.
- The South Korean ambassador to Bangladesh, Jijoon Kim, announced the development during his visit to the factory today (22 July). During a visit by South Korean Ambassador Jijoon Kim to the factory today. Samsung Bangladesh Managing Director Jungmin Jung and Fair Group Chairman Ruhul Alam Al Mahbub accompanied him during the tour.
- According to Fair Group, it became Samsung's official distribution partner in Bangladesh in 2014, established a local manufacturing facility in 2017 and launched the country's first locally manufactured Samsung smartphones in 2018.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/samsung-resumes-bangladesh-production-plans-local-phone-launch-january-1495421>

PM assures businesses of improving energy supply within a year

The Business Standard, July 22, 2026

- Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has assured business leaders that tangible improvements in the power and gas sector will be visible within a year to year-and-a-half, alongside plans to decide on installing a new floating LNG unit within a month.
- The assurance came today (22 July) during separate meetings with leaders of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA).
- While praising a series of business-friendly policy measures, including a Tk20,000 crore working capital facility, industrialists said new investments will not come in until the government resolves the existing severe gas shortfall that has left factories operating at a fraction of their capacity.
- Acknowledging that the inherited crisis cannot be solved overnight, the PM appealed for patience and announced a high-level committee tasked with recommending solutions to industry demands within a week.
- BGMEA President Mahmud Hasan Khan Babu told TBS that the association had highlighted the major challenges facing the RMG industry, particularly the energy crisis and the negative impact of the NBR audit process on businesses.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/decision-third-fsru-installation-within-month-pm-1495271>

International

US tariffs on Brazil take effect as Trump readies fresh flurry

The Daily Star, July 23, 2026

- A new US tariff targeting Brazil took effect Wednesday, while Washington's other trading partners brace for a fresh volley of duties as President Donald Trump's temporary global levies expire this week.
- The 25-percent Brazil tariff followed a year-long US investigation, with Washington accusing the Latin American giant of unfair trade practices.
- This has drawn sharp pushback, although Brazil's Vice President Geraldo Alckmin told a press conference Tuesday that Brazil will seek to resolve the issue through negotiations instead of retaliating.
- Various products like beef, coffee and aircraft parts will be exempted from the levy, and roughly half of Brazil's exports to the United States would remain excluded from the duty, estimates Valentina Sader of the Atlantic Council think tank.
- Nonetheless, the move comes as Trump makes a renewed push to use tariffs as leverage, sparking fears of retaliation and heightened tensions.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/us-tariffs-brazil-take-effect-trump-readies-fresh-flurry-4230206>

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