

## Key News

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## Stock Market & Company

### Stocks end higher ahead of Eid holidays as most shares gain

The Business Standard, Mar 16, 2026

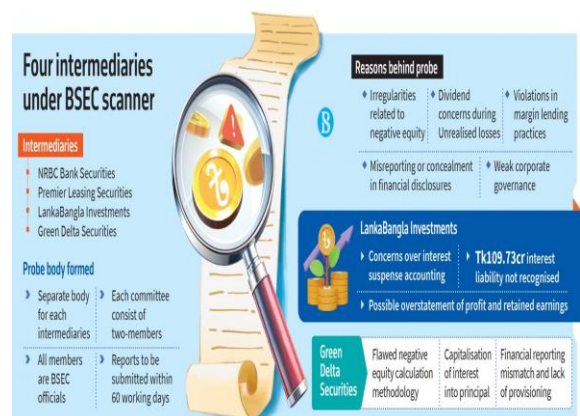
- Stocks closed in the green today, the last trading session before the Eid holidays, as a majority of listed companies posted gains, helping the market recover from the previous day's losses.
- The stock market goes on a seven-day leave from 17 to 23 March on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr and Shab-e-Qadr, and all trading activities and official operations will remain suspended during this period.
- According to the data, DSEX, the broad index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, recovered 34.8 points to settle at 5,354 points. On Sunday, stocks ended on a red as the market observed selling pressures that dragged DSEX by 49 points.
- Meanwhile, turnover, one of the major indicators of the market, declined 12% to Tk460 crore as investors' participation remained subdued ahead of the vacation.
- While the prices of the majority of stocks surged, the market capitalisation – the total value of shares of listed companies – rose by Tk2,627 crore to Tk7.06 lakh crore.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stocks-end-higher-ahead-eid-holidays-most-shares-gain-1388881>

### BSEC launches probe into 4 intermediaries over market irregularities

The Business Standard, Mar 16, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has launched investigations into four capital market intermediaries over allegations of serious irregularities, in a move aimed at protecting investors and ensuring market stability.
- Through separate orders, the regulator has initiated formal enquiries into NRBC Bank Securities Limited, Premier Leasing Securities Limited, Green Delta Securities Limited, and LankaBangla Investments Limited, operating as a merchant bank.
- Four enquiry committees were formed on 11 March to conduct the investigations.
- BSEC director and spokesperson Abul Kalam told TBS that the Commission had identified multiple inconsistencies in the operations of these firms, particularly relating to negative equity, margin lending practices, financial reporting, and corporate governance.



- He said such irregularities could increase market risks and harm general investors, prompting the regulator to take action. The Commission will take legal measures after reviewing the enquiry findings, he added.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-launches-probe-4-intermediaries-over-market-irregularities-1390406>

## Paramount Textile to install 9.81MW rooftop solar plant at Gazipur factory

The Business Standard, Mar 16, 2026

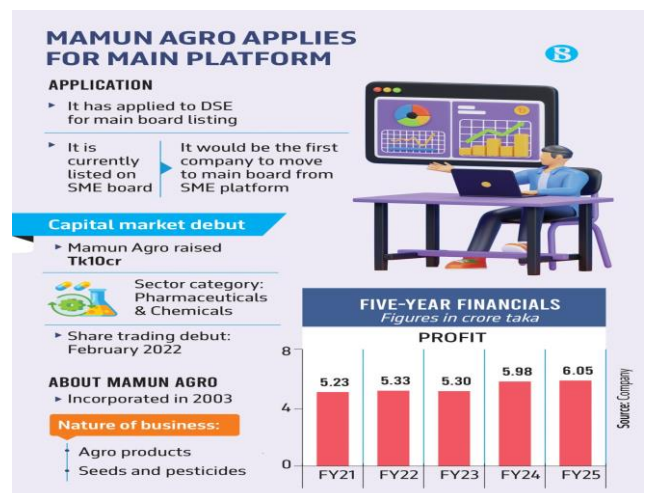
- With a view to ensuring sustainable business and reducing carbon emissions, Paramount Textile, a company listed on the stock exchanges, has decided to install a 9.81MW rooftop solar power plant at its factory in Gazipur.
- In this regard, Paramount Textile PLC will enter into a power purchase agreement (PPA) with Paramount Solar Limited, according to a disclosure published on the stock exchanges yesterday.
- Paramount Solar is a firm in which 99.99% of the total paid-up capital is held by Paramount Textile.
- Under the agreement, Paramount Solar will design, build, operate and manage the rooftop solar project under the OPEX model at a fixed tariff of Tk8.20 per kilowatt-hour, excluding VAT and AIT. The facility will be installed at the company's factory premises in Sreepur, Gazipur.
- The solar power generator will supply electricity generated from the project for 20 years from the date the photovoltaic system is commissioned and becomes operational.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/paramount-textile-install-981mw-rooftop-solar-plant-gazipur-factory-1388826>

## Mamun Agro seeks promotion to DSE main board from SME platform

The Business Standard, Mar 17, 2026

- Mamun Agro Industries, currently listed on the SME platform on the Dhaka Stock Exchange, has formally sought enlistment on the main board of the bourse, citing compliance with regulatory criteria, including paid-up capital exceeding Tk50 crore and more than three years of trading history.
- Confirming the development, Company Secretary Muhammad Imdadul Haque told TBS that the firm had completed all necessary requirements before submitting its application to the bourse recently.
- The company's move follows an earlier decision by its management and board in April last year to pursue an upgrade. Subsequently, shareholders approved the plan at an extraordinary general meeting held in mid-June, in line with regulatory provisions.
- A DSE official said the exchange would now review the company's application and supporting documents, adding that a final decision on the transfer to the main board would be taken by its board upon completion of the evaluation.
- Under the Qualified Investor Offer rules for small-cap firms, companies must apply for main board listing once their paid-up capital reaches at least Tk50 crore and they have been listed on the SME platform for a minimum of three years. Mamun Agro meets these conditions, with its paid-up capital standing at Tk52.50 crore against an authorised capital of Tk100 crore.



<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/mamun-agro-seeks-promotion-dse-main-board-sme-platform-1389626>

## Agrani Insurance recommends no dividend for 2025 amid sharp earnings drop

The Business Standard, Mar 16, 2026

- Agrani Insurance Company has recommended no dividend for shareholders for the year ended 31 December 2025, following a sharp drop in earnings compared with the previous year. In 2024, the company paid shareholders a 6% cash and 6% stock dividend.
- Announcing the annual disclosure today (16 March), the company's share closed at Tk21.20 on the Dhaka Stock Exchange. According to a price-sensitive statement, consolidated earnings per share (EPS) fell to Tk0.18 in 2025 from Tk1.45 in 2024, a decline that appears to have influenced the board's decision to withhold dividends.
- Despite lower earnings, cash flow performance improved. Consolidated net operating cash flow per share rose to Tk0.96 in 2025 from Tk0.58 in 2024, indicating stronger cash generation from core operations. However, the company's net asset value per share dipped slightly to Tk19.42 from Tk20.10 at year-end 2024.
- Agrani Insurance will hold its annual general meeting (AGM) on 14 May 2026, virtually. The record date for shareholder eligibility is 15 April 2026.
- Previously, in September 2024, the company withdrew its rights share application submitted in March 2024 due to unavoidable circumstances. In June 2021, the BSEC rejected an earlier rights share offer for failing to submit a Credit Information Bureau report.

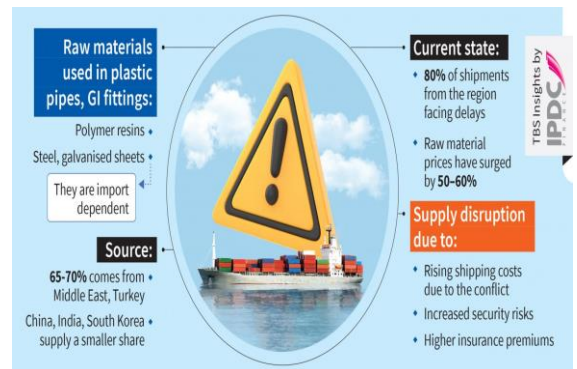
<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/agrani-insurance-recommends-no-dividend-2025-amid-sharp-earnings-drop-1388831>

## Economy & Industry

### Iran war disrupts raw material supply, makes plastic, GI fittings market unstable

The Business Standard, Mar 19, 2026

- Ongoing conflict in the Middle East has begun to impact Bangladesh's plastic and GI (galvanised iron) fittings market as it led to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. Shipments are being delayed, raising concerns among manufacturers.
- Industry insiders say a significant portion of raw materials – especially polymer resins used in plastic pipes and fittings, and steel or galvanised sheets used in GI products – are import-dependent. Around 65-70% of these materials come from the Middle East. Currently, nearly 80% of shipments from the region are facing delays, while raw material prices have surged by 50–60% in many cases.
- The traders attribute the disruption to rising shipping costs, higher insurance premiums and increased security risks due to the conflict. Shipping companies are exercising greater caution on certain routes, while insurance costs have also increased, extending delivery times.
- Local manufacturers are already feeling the strain, with production plans being disrupted. Many firms are now seeking alternative suppliers, while others are trying to build up additional inventories.

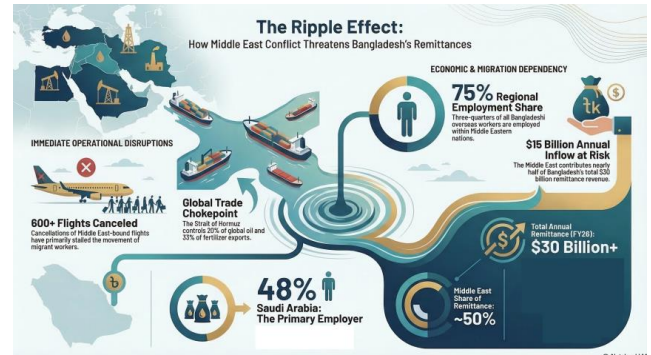


<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/iran-war-disrupts-raw-material-supply-makes-plastic-gi-fittings-market-unstable>

## Middle East tensions may slow remittance inflows: BB

The Daily Star, Mar 17, 2026

- Remittance inflows could slow due to migration disruptions and economic uncertainty in the Middle East, according to a Bangladesh Bank (BB) quarterly report on remittance published Monday.
- The escalating war in the Gulf region has already pushed up the prices of oil, liquefied natural gas, fertiliser, and sulphur, as Iran effectively controls the Strait of Hormuz—through which one-fifth of global oil exports and nearly one-third of global fertiliser shipments pass.
- The crisis has forced the cancellation of more than 600 Middle East-bound flights from Bangladesh, mostly affecting migrant workers.
- Since fiscal year 2014-15, 8.6 million migrants have found jobs abroad, with Saudi Arabia employing 48 percent of them. Overall, Middle Eastern nations—including Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, the UAE, and Kuwait—accounted for 75 percent of all overseas employment, according to the Bangladesh Economic Review 2025.
- The region contributed nearly half of the more than \$30 billion in remittance Bangladesh received in FY26.



<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/middle-east-tensions-may-slow-remittance-inflows-bb-4131016>

## International

### US green-lights delivery and sale of Iranian oil at sea

The Daily Star, Mar 16, 2026

- The US Treasury on Friday temporarily lifted sanctions on Iranian oil already loaded onto vessels, in Washington's latest step to stem a supply crisis over the Middle East war.
- The authorization allows for the delivery and sale of Iranian crude oil and other petroleum products loaded onto ships before March 20, and will last through April 19, the Treasury said in a statement.
- The move by the Office of Foreign Assets Control, which Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent had said Thursday was under consideration, follows a similar lifting of sanctions on Russian oil at sea.
- Iran's de facto, through which 20 percent of the world's oil and gas normally flows, and the numerous attacks on energy infrastructure in the Middle East, have sent crude oil prices soaring.
- Bessent described the move in a statement Friday as a narrowly tailored, short-term authorization that follows President Donald Trump's intention to "maximize the flow of energy to the world" and ensure market stability. "At present, sanctioned Iranian oil is being hoarded by China on the cheap," Bessent said in a statement.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/us-green-lights-delivery-and-sale-iranian-oil-sea-4133266>

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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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