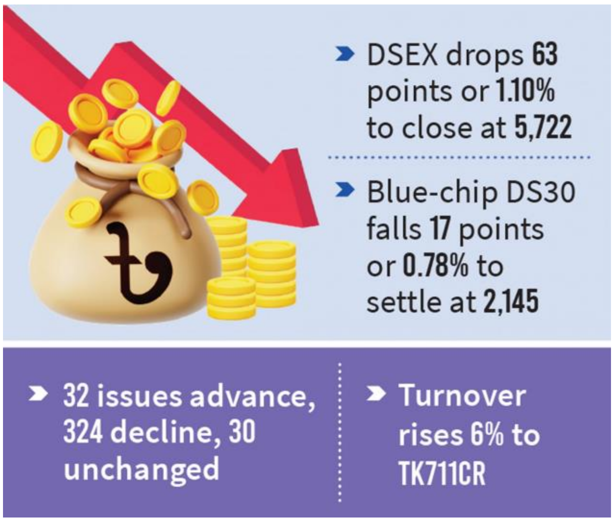
Key News

Stock Market & Company

DSEX plunges 63 points as energy crisis, earnings jitters rattle investors

The Business Standard, Aug 23, 2026



- The country's premier bourse started the week on a dismal note as the benchmark index shed over 60 points today (23 August), ending a temporary breather from the previous session.
- Investor sentiment was severely dampened by the ongoing energy crisis and uncertainty surrounding the upcoming earnings and dividend announcements for June-closing companies, according to market insiders.
- The benchmark DSEX index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) plummeted by 63 points, or 1.10%, to settle at 5,722. The blue-chip DS30 index followed a similar trajectory, falling 17 points to close at 2,145.
- Market breadth was overwhelmingly bearish, with 324 issues declining compared to only 32 advancing, while 30 remained unchanged.
- Despite the sharp fall in prices, market participation saw a slight uptick, with total turnover rising 6% to Tk711 crore.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dsex-plunges-63-points-energy-crisis-earnings-jitters-rattle-investors-1522931

BSEC conditionally approves 30% stake sale in Dominage Steel

The Business Standard, Aug 23, 2026

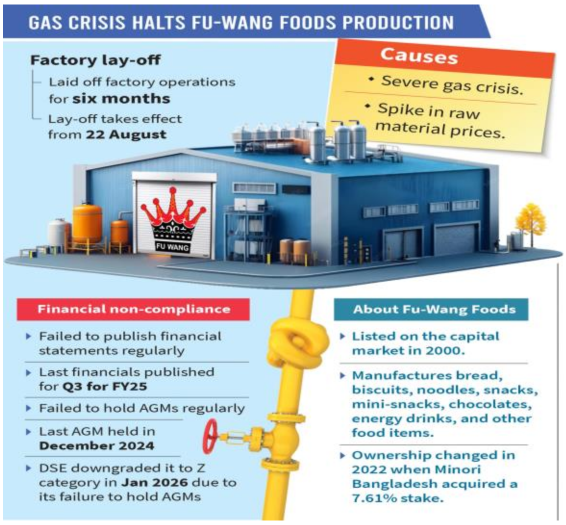
- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has conditionally approved a proposal by listed engineering company Dominage Steel Building Systems Limited to sell around 30% of its shares to new investors.
- At its latest commission meeting, the regulator approved the transfer of 30.78 million shares held by the company's sponsor-directors to Akij Resources Limited, Sheikh Jasim Uddin and Faria Hossain. However, the specific conditions attached to the approval were not immediately available.
- The proposed transaction will result in the transfer of a significant stake in the listed company to the new investors, subject to compliance with the conditions set by the securities regulator.
- The proposed transfer will give the new investors around a 30% stake in Dominage Steel. The transaction will be executed through an off-market negotiated transaction under CDBL Bye-Laws 11.6 through a matched transaction.

- The company's board of directors approved the proposed sale of the sponsor-directors' shares at a meeting held on 25 April. The company subsequently applied to the BSEC for approval of the transfer.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-conditionally-approves-30-stake-sale-dominage-steel-1522906

Fu-Wang Foods lays off factory amid gas shortage, raw materials cost hike

The Business Standard, Aug 23, 2026



- Fu-Wang Foods Limited, a publicly listed packaged food producer, has declared its factory lay-off driven by an acute gas shortage and a spike in raw material prices, according to a stock exchange filing.
- The lay-off for six months with an effect from 22 August, the filing stated on Sunday on the stock exchanges website.
- Citing a board decision made on Saturday, Fu-Wang Foods said the lay-off was caused by inadequate gas pressure and surging raw material costs.
- While the company did not disclose how many workers would be affected, its latest annual report for FY2023-24 listed a workforce of 1,126. The factory is located in Gazipur.
- According to a previous report by The Business Standard, a severe gas shortage is disrupting production across Gazipur's industrial belt, forcing factories to run costly diesel generators, shut gas-dependent units and resort to manual processes normally handled by machines.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/fu-wang-foods-lays-factory-amid-gas-shortage-raw-materials-cost-hike-1522921

BSEC fines five Regent Textile directors Tk100cr over IPO fund diversion

The Business Standard, Aug 23, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has imposed personal fines of Tk20 crore each on five directors of Regent Textile Mills Limited, totalling Tk100 crore, for failing to return Tk90 crore in misused initial public offering (IPO) funds to the company's bank accounts.
- The penalised board members are directors Yakub Ali, Yasin Ali, Tanvir Habib, Mashruf Habib and Salman Habib.
- According to an order issued by the securities regulator's enforcement division, the decision was finalised at a commission meeting after Regent Textile failed to deposit Tk90 crore within the deadline set in an earlier directive.
- The directors must pay the penalty within 20 working days of the order's issuance. Failure to comply within the given timeframe will attract an additional penalty of Tk10,000 per day for each director for as long as the default continues, according to the BSEC order.
- The enforcement action follows a regulatory investigation that found Regent Textile had diverted Tk80.11 crore (including accrued interest) from unutilised IPO proceeds to acquire a 99% stake in Legacy Fashion Limited, an entity owned and controlled by members of the same family.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-fines-five-regent-textile-directors-tk100cr-over-ipo-fund-diversion-1522871

BSEC moves to overhaul merchant banking rules after 30 years

The Business Standard, Aug 23, 2026

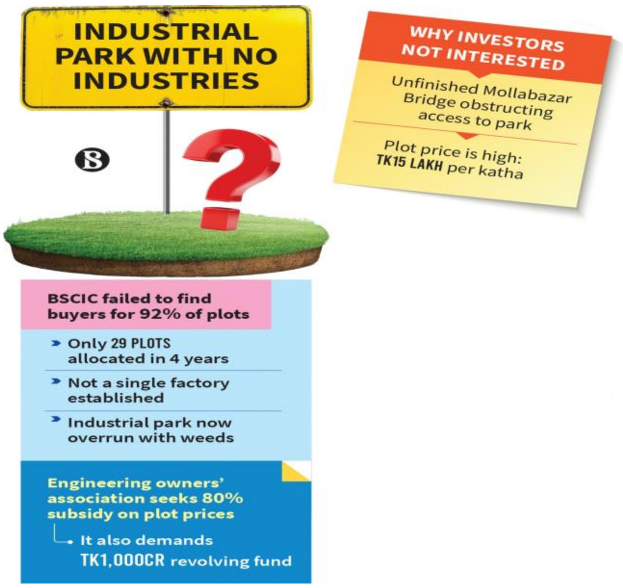
- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has moved to update the regulatory framework governing merchant bankers and portfolio managers after nearly three decades, aiming to strengthen licensing requirements, eligibility criteria, financial capacity, risk management and fiduciary duties towards investors.
- The commission has formed a four-member committee to review and amend the Securities and Exchange Commission (Merchant Banker and Portfolio Manager) Rules, 1996. The BSEC's Law Department's CMRRC Department recently issued an order in this regard.
- BSEC Director Md Mahmudul Haque has been appointed chairman of the committee. Its other members are Additional Director Mohammad Golam Kibria, Assistant Director Amit Kumar Saha and Assistant Director Md Mehran Ali, who will serve as member secretary.
- The committee has been tasked with reviewing the existing rules and submitting a report containing necessary amendment proposals within 30 working days.
- The move comes as the regulatory framework for merchant bankers and portfolio managers, introduced in 1996, has remained largely unchanged despite significant changes in the country's capital market and financial sector over the past three decades.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-moves-overhaul-merchant-banking-rules-after-30-years-1522891

Economy & Industry

Inside the Tk309cr engineering industrial park where no factories exist

The Business Standard, Aug 23, 2026



- The Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) has failed to allocate all its plots in the Tk300-crore industrial park in Munshiganj even four years after the completion of the project.
- The plan was to move the lathes, metal-cutting operations and toxic fumes from melting iron out of the congested surroundings of Old Dhaka along the Buriganga and bring them together.
- Only 29, or 8%, of its 361 plots spread across 50 acres of the government-funded Electrical and Light Engineering Industrial Estate – about 20 kilometres from Dhaka – have been allocated so far. Not a single factory has yet been established.
- A recent field visit and conversations with entrepreneurs revealed that the main reasons behind the industrial estate remaining largely vacant are the high price of plots and poor connectivity.
- Infrastructure facilities – including land development, roads, drains, electricity, water and gas connections – have already been put in place. But because no factories have been established, the industrial estate in Sirajdikhan, Munshiganj, has now become little more than a ghostly expanse overgrown with weeds.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/govt-targets-lofty-345pc-investment-gdp-ratio-for-fy27-1

Runner set to manufacture BYD cars in Bangladesh

The Daily Star, Aug 23, 2026

- Runner Automobiles PLC is set to manufacture cars of Chinese electric vehicle maker BYD in Bangladesh , marking a strategic shift for the company beyond its traditional two- and three-wheeler business.
- Runner has completed a technical agreement with BYD following a feasibility study, paving the way for local production of BYD electric cars.
- The company will invest in factory expansion and machinery for eletric vehicle (EV) manufacturing, according to a disclosure on the website of the Dhaka Stock Exchange today.
- The move comes as Runner's financial performance is recovering from a sharp downturn. Standalone revenue rose 28 percent to Tk 563 crore in FY2024-25, while operating profit increased to Tk 110 crore. Net profit recovered to Tk 7 crore from a loss of Tk 70 crore in FY2022-23.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/runner-set-manufacture-byd-cars-bangladesh-4254926

International

India gets $511.5m FDI under new policy for neighbours

The Daily Star, Aug 24, 2026

- India has received 29 foreign direct investment proposals worth 48.95 billion rupees ($511.5 million) under a new automatic route that allows investors from land-bordering countries, including China, to hold non-controlling stakes of up to 10 percent, the government said on Friday.
- The investments span information technology, artificial intelligence, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, data centres and transport services, India's commerce and industry ministry said.
- The disclosures offer an early indication of investor use of rules introduced in May that eased approval requirements for companies with limited, non-controlling ownership from countries sharing a land border with India.
- Under the revised framework, investors with non-controlling ownership of up to 10 percent from land-bordering countries, mainly China, may invest through the automatic route, subject to applicable sectoral caps and other conditions.
- Previously, foreign investors with any beneficial ownership linked to countries sharing a land border with India generally needed prior government approval under rules introduced in 2020, including where such ownership was small.
- "The 29 investments have been reported by investors/entities based in jurisdictions including Mauritius, the United States, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore, Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands," the ministry said in a statement.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/india-gets-5115m-fdi-under-new-policy-neighbours-4255076

BASL DAILY NEWS BUZZ

August 24, 2026

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