BASL DAILY NEWS BUZZ

July 26, 2026

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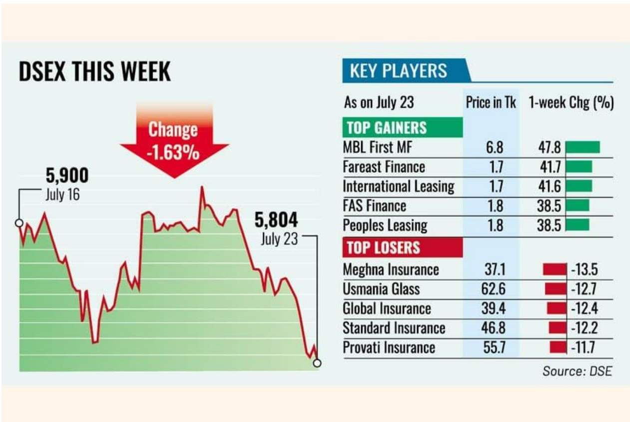
Stock Market & Company

Stocks retreat from near two-year high

The Financial Express, July 25, 2026

- Stocks fell sharply this week, snapping a three-week winning streak as investors rushed to lock in short-term gains amid uncertainty over proposed amendments to margin lending rules and renewed geopolitical tensions.
- The benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) retreated after touching a near two-year high above the 5,900-point mark, wiping out all the previous week's gains.
- Market operators said the strong rally in recent weeks encouraged many investors to book profits, while uncertainty surrounding the proposed margin financing rules prompted others to adopt a cautious stance.



- "The recent rally encouraged many investors to book profits, while uncertainty over the proposed margin rules prompted others to stay on the sidelines," said a leading stockbroker.
- He added that escalating tensions in the Middle East further weakened investor sentiment, prompting a broader risk-off mood across financial markets.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/stocks-retreat-from-near-two-year-high

Premier Bank posts Tk388cr H1 loss

The Business Standard, July 23, 2026

- Premier Bank PLC, a private sector lender, incurred a consolidated loss of Tk388.77 crore in the first half of 2026 as declining interest income and higher funding costs weighed on its financial performance.
- The bank reported a loss per share of Tk3.15 for January-June 2026, according to its quarterly financial statements.
- The losses widened significantly compared with the same period last year, when the bank posted a consolidated loss of Tk136.56 crore.
- The bank's net interest income turned negative at Tk315.85 crore during the first half of 2026, meaning its expenses on deposits and borrowings exceeded income generated from investments.
- Its investment income and other operating income declined during the period compared with the previous year. However, income from commission, exchange and brokerage activities showed a slight improvement.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/premier-bank-posts-tk388cr-h1-loss-1496246

Trust Bank's Q2 profit falls 13.3pc

The Financial Express, July 26, 2026

- Trust Bank PLC reported a 13.3 per cent year-on-year decline in consolidated profit for the second quarter (April-June) of 2026.
- According to the bank's price-sensitive information (PSI), its consolidated net profit after tax fell to Tk 923.8 million in the April-June quarter from Tk 1.06 billion in the same period a year earlier.
- Consequently, consolidated earnings per share (EPS) declined to Tk 0.93 for the quarter, compared with Tk 1.07 in the corresponding period of 2025.
- For the first half of 2026, consolidated net profit after tax dropped 11.8 per cent year-on-year to Tk 1.19 billion from Tk 1.35 billion in the same period last year.
- The bank's consolidated EPS for the January-June period fell to Tk 1.20 from Tk 1.36 a year earlier.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/trust-banks-q2-profit-falls-133pc

BAT Bangladesh Q2 profit doubles on sales growth, lower operating costs

The Financial Express, July 24, 2026

- British American Tobacco (BAT) Bangladesh reported strong earnings growth in the second quarter ended June 2026, with net profit more than doubling on higher sales and lower operating expenses despite continued pressure on cigarette volumes.
- The multinational tobacco company posted a net profit of Tk 2.03 billion for the April-June quarter, up from Tk 970 million in the corresponding period a year earlier.
- Earnings per share (EPS) rose to Tk 3.77 from Tk 1.80 a year earlier, according to the company's financial statements released on Thursday.
- The company attributed the sharp improvement in quarterly earnings to higher revenue and a significant reduction in operating expenses driven by efficiency gains.
- Net revenue, excluding supplementary duty and value-added tax (VAT), increased 8.4 per cent year-on-year to Tk 23.98 billion during the quarter.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/bat-bangladesh-q2-profit-doubles-on-sales-growth-lower-operating-costs

Singer swings to Q2 profit as lower finance costs offset weak demand

The Financial Express, July 26, 2026

- Singer Bangladesh returned to profitability in the second quarter (Q2) ended June 2026, buoyed by higher sales and lower finance costs, although weak consumer demand continued to weigh on its overall business performance.
- The multinational electronics and home appliance maker posted a net profit of Tk 136 million for the April-June quarter, marking a significant financial turnaround from a net loss of Tk 311 million recorded in the same quarter last year.
- Its earnings per share (EPS) stood at Tk 1.36, compared with a loss per share of Tk 3.11 a year earlier, according to the company's unaudited financial statements released on Thursday.
- Top-line growth also remained resilient. Revenue rose by 3.4 per cent year-on-year to Tk 8.4 billion, as the company maintained its market position amid a prolonged slowdown in consumer spending.
- The company, however, said sales remained below expectations as persistently high inflation, geopolitical uncertainties and adverse weather conditions continued to dampen demand for consumer electronics and home appliances.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/singer-swings-to-q2-profit-as-lower-finance-costs-offset-weak-demand

Economy & Industry

Akij enters commercial helicopter market

The Daily Star, July 26, 2026

- Akij Group has entered Bangladesh's commercial helicopter market through its subsidiary Akij Aviation Limited, launching charter operations with three helicopters.
- The fleet comprises a 5-seater Bell 505 for patient transportation and two Robinson R66 helicopters for passenger services, according to Air Commodore (retd) Md Mamunur Rashid, chief executive officer of Akij Aviation.
- Rather than operating on fixed routes, the company will provide charter services based on customer demand, covering corporate and business travel, tourism, industrial purposes, personal trips and medical emergencies, he said.
- Akij Aviation previously used its helicopters to transport executives, doctors and patients between the group's factories and hospitals. It has now opened the fleet to commercial charter services to help offset operating and maintenance costs.
- The move comes as demand for helicopter services has grown among industrialists and businesspeople for business travel and emergencies, according to Mamunur.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/akij-enters-commercial-helicopter-market-4232176

Classified loan accounts double to nearly 46 lakh as retail defaults surge

The Daily Star, July 25, 2026

- The number of classified loan accounts in the banking sector more than doubled in a year, reaching a staggering 45.83 lakh in March 2026, and the most dramatic surge was seen in retail loan accounts, according to the latest Bangladesh Bank (BB) report.
- The number of accounts with classified loans of up to Tk 1 crore rose to 45.43 lakh at the end of March this year, marking a sharp rise from 21.63 lakh accounts a year earlier.
- "This indicates a mass retail-level deterioration, which can stem from the rising cost of living and household indebtedness, a slowdown in SME activity, and weak repayment capacity in agricultural and small-trading segments," said the BB in its report, "Banking Sector Update," published on July 23.
- "Although high-value defaults create larger monetary shocks, the explosion in small-account defaults is a warning sign of widespread financial stress," it added.
- The central bank said overall nonperforming loans (NPLs) as a share of total outstanding loans increased to 32.7 percent in March this year from 24.6 percent a year ago and termed the rising NPL ratio alarming.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/classified-loan-accounts-double-nearly-46-lakh-retail-defaults-surge-4232161

International

Gold edges up

The Daily Star, July 26, 2026

- Gold edged up on Friday as Brent crude retreated from above $100 a barrel, while investors assessed developments in the Middle East conflict and their implications for inflation ahead of the US interest rate decision next week.
- Spot gold was up 0.1 percent at $4,052.78 per ounce by 4:10 p.m. EDT (2010 GMT), after falling about 2 percent in the previous session.
- Prices were up 0.9 percent for the week so far, supported by dip-buying earlier in the week.
- US gold futures for August delivery settled 0.5 percent higher at $4,070.80.
- “Gold and silver are carving out a base around $3,950 and $55, respectively, despite relentlessly higher yields,” said Tai Wong, an independent metals trader.
- “While a stop-loss move below can’t be ruled out on a sharp war escalation, gold feels ready to move back higher ... A Fed clearly on hold next week would help,” Wong said.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/gold-edges-4232301

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