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Stock Market & Company

DSEX reclaims 5,700 mark after 22 months

The Business Standard, June 28, 2026

- The country's premier bourse witnessed a robust surge today (28 June) as the benchmark index reclaimed the 5,700-mark for the first time in nearly 22 months.
- Driven by sustained investor interest in equities and an improving market outlook, the DSEX, the broad index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, rose by 66 points or 1.17% to settle at 5,719.
- Market insiders said the day's trading was characterised by resilient participation across the board, bolstered further by the allure of tax rebate benefits and easing geopolitical concerns that had previously weighed on investor sentiment.
- Market activity saw a significant spike as daily turnover jumped by 24% to reach Tk1,371 crore, compared to the previous session.
- According to the daily market review by EBL Securities, the bourse opened on a positive note and maintained its upward momentum throughout the session. A major catalyst for the day's performance was a substantial trade volume in Beximco Limited, which rebounded sharply from a prolonged slump to hit its upper circuit breaker.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dsex-reclaims-5700-mark-after-22-months-1474571>

DBL Group eyes stock market listing for two units, plans four to five more over next four years

The Business Standard, June 28, 2026

- One of Bangladesh's leading industrial conglomerates, DBL Group, is preparing to list two of its sister concerns on the country's capital market as part of a broader strategy to strengthen corporate governance and gradually bring more of its businesses under public ownership.
- The two companies are Parkway Packaging and Printing Limited and Thanbee Print World Limited. Both have already signed agreements with a local merchant bank to manage their Initial Public Offering (IPO) process.
- According to the group's roadmap, if the IPOs of these two companies are completed successfully, another four to five companies will be listed on the stock exchange over the next four years.
- Speaking to The Business Standard, DBL Group Vice Chairman M A Rahim said the group is currently preparing to bring both companies to the capital market. He noted that a similar attempt was made around one and a half years ago during the tenure of the interim government, but the process stalled after the regulator raised several queries.
- "We responded to all of them. However, as the process became prolonged, we realised it was unlikely to move forward at that time. So, we decided to put the initiative on hold," he said.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dbl-group-eyes-stock-market-listing-two-units-plans-four-five-more-over-next-four>

Popular Life Insurance recommends 20% cash dividend for 2025

The Business Standard, June 28, 2026

- Popular Life Insurance, a listed insurer, has recommended a 20% cash dividend for its shareholders for 2025.
- Despite a 42% decline in its earnings per share (EPS) compared to the previous year, the company recommended the same dividend it had paid earlier, according to data published today (28 June) on the stock exchange's website.
- Following the dividend declaration, its shares price declined by 1.12% to close at Tk61.60 each at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).
- Calculating its outstanding shares with the EPS, Popular Life Insurance profit stood at Tk8.88 crore, a significantly down from Tk15.32 crore in 2024.
- According to disclosure, the net asset value per share of Popular Life Insurance stood at Tk78.10 at the end of 2025, and its net operating cash flow per share stood at negative at Tk18.86.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/popular-life-insurance-recommends-20-cash-dividend-2025-1474561>

DSE inspection team finds Active Fine Chemicals' factory shuttered

The Business Standard, June 28, 2026

- The production operations of Active Fine Chemicals Limited, a listed pharmaceutical ingredient maker, remain entirely suspended, according to an inspection by the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).
- The findings were revealed following a physical visit to the company's factory premises on 25 June, according to a regulatory disclosure filed with the bourse today (28 June).
- Despite the disclosure, the company's share price remained unchanged at Tk7.20 at the close of trading today.
- Repeated attempts by The Business Standard to obtain comments from the company's management were unsuccessful, as the managing director did not answer phone calls and the company secretary's phone remained unreachable.
- Active Fine Chemicals, the country's first local producer of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) – key raw materials for the pharmaceutical industry – has been in steady decline for several years.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-team-finds-active-fine-chemicals-production-remains-shut-1473916>

Apex Spinning resumes full-scale production, shares rise 2.3%

The Business Standard, June 28, 2026

- Apex Spinning and Knitting Mills Limited, a 100% export-oriented vertically integrated apparel manufacturer, successfully resumed full factory operations yesterday (27 June).
- The restart follows a temporary production freeze triggered by escalating labour unrest earlier in the week. In a regulatory disclosure filed with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday, the company confirmed that its board and management decided to revive full-scale manufacturing activities after constructive discussions with relevant stakeholders helped restore order on the factory floor.
- The temporary shutdown was imposed on 23 June under Section 13(1) of the Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006, after the management alleged that workers had made unlawful demands over service benefits.
- Following the latest announcement that a conducive working environment has been restored, investors reacted positively on the capital bourse. Apex Spinning's share price rose by 2.34% to close at Tk363.70 during yesterday's trading session.
- The quick resolution brings relief to the Tk307-crore market-cap company, which has been navigating a challenging financial year. During the July-March period of FY26, Apex Spinning's revenue fell 9.28% year-on-year to Tk383 crore, while its net profit dropped 15.20% to Tk2.14 crore.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/apex-spinning-resumes-production-after-labour-unrest-1473951>

Economy & Industry

World Bank approves \$250m project to strengthen Bangladesh's public institutions

The Business Standard, June 28, 2026

- The World Bank has approved a \$250 million project to help Bangladesh strengthen key public institutions through digital transformation, improved governance and greater transparency.
- Approved on 12 June 2025, the Strengthening Institutions for Transparency and Accountability (SITA) project will support reforms in five major government institutions to improve public financial management, domestic revenue mobilisation, procurement, data systems and auditing, according to a World Bank factsheet.
- The project aims to modernise the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the National Board of Revenue (NBR), the Planning Division, the Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority (BPPA) and the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG).
- According to the World Bank, stronger public institutions are essential for sustaining Bangladesh's economic growth, creating jobs and achieving long-term development goals.
- The project will support the BBS in developing an integrated national data ecosystem to improve the production and use of high-quality data for evidence-based policymaking.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/world-bank-approves-250m-project-strengthen-bangladeshs-public-institutions-1474366>

Bangladesh's first short-term sukuk oversubscribed by 10 times

The Daily Star, June 28, 2026

- The government is going to float its first short-term sukuk, a shariah-compliant investment instrument similar to bonds, as strong demand builds among both individual and institutional investors looking for short-term returns.
- For the government, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) will hold auctions on June 28 for the nine-month tenure instrument to raise Tk 5,500 crore. The amount will be used for the development of important rural infrastructure.
- "We have been receiving a huge response to investment in sukuk, as reflected in the bids. This means that there is demand in the market," said Istequenal Hussain, director of the Debt Management Department of BB. The move comes amid continued strong appetite for sukuk.
- Yesterday, the central bank raised Tk 5,600 crore through an auction for a sukuk issued to finance the rehabilitation of rural infrastructure damaged by Cyclone Amphan and floods. It received bids worth Tk 44,490 crore, nearly eight times the target amount.
- Last month, the BB received bids worth 12 times the face value of a Tk 5,900 crore sukuk from banks, finance companies and individuals. Interest in the shariah-compliant instruments has been rising since their launch in December 2020. So far, the government has raised around Tk 48,000 crore through sukuk issuance. The total will cross Tk 53,000 crore after the upcoming short-term auction.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-issue-first-short-term-sukuk-rural-infrastructure-4205646>

International

Asia's vendors grapple with rising costs of ever-present plastics

The Daily Star, June 29, 2026

- Food vendors across Asia who rely on plastics for everything from bags to cups and containers are grappling with their rising costs, the result of the energy crisis sparked by the Middle East war.
- While the United States and Iran have reached a deal to halt the conflict, it will take time for markets to recover and supply flows to return to normal, with persistent concerns over traffic through the economically vital Strait of Hormuz.
- At Taipei's Songjiang market, chicken vendor Li Yu-ping, 52, said in early June that the price of plastic bags had jumped nearly 60 percent, while the cost of plastic trays had risen by a third.
- "We use them everywhere," she said of the bags. "Our food containers are also plastic, all disposable." Wary of hiking prices, "all of this has become a cost for the vendors", she said. A key raw material for many of these plastic goods is ethylene, which is derived from naphtha, an oil by-product. Around 60 percent of the naphtha imported to Asia comes from the Gulf.
- Faced with tight supply and soaring prices due to the monthslong closure of the Strait of Hormuz, petrochemical companies mainly in South Korea and Japan have scaled back production capacity, sending the cost of basic goods such as plastic bags surging.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/asias-vendors-grapple-rising-costs-ever-present-plastics-4210636>

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