

Telcos' investment shrinks but revenue rises: Investment by mobile operators hit a six-year low in fiscal 2016-17 after being on a descent for the past four years even though the sector's revenue is growing every year. In fiscal 2016-17, the mobile operators' investment declined 14.94% year-on-year to BDT 46.26 bn while their revenue grew 3.77%, according to a report of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission. Mobile operators blamed the regulatory uncertainties for the shrinking investment.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/business/telcos-investment-shrinks-revenue-rises-1519594>

Current account deficit hits a 15-year high: The country's current account deficit reached a 15-year high in the first five months of the fiscal year on the back of higher import payments and moderate export growth. In the July-November period of 2017-18, the deficit stood at USD 4.43 bn, way higher than USD 683 mn recorded in the same period a year ago, according to data from the central bank. The deficit is the highest since 2002-03, as data related to the current account before the year was not available from the central bank's documents and website.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/business/current-account-deficit-hits-15-year-high-1519591>

Mobile operators to apply for 4G licences today: Mobile phone operators, including state-run Teletalk and now out-of-service Citycell, will be applying for 4G licence within the deadline at noon today as the government plans to hold the spectrum auction on February 13. A top official of Citycell, which stopped providing service in October last year, confirmed it yesterday, saying they are preparing to re-enter the telecommunication business. Senior officials of Teletalk and the remaining three private operators also informed of their preparations. Though the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has put a provision in the 4G guideline to facilitate participation of new entities to deliver the fastest data service, there is no new prospective candidate, said Shahjahan Mahmood, chairman of the telecom regulator.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/business/mobile-operators-apply-4g-licences-today-1519585>

DSE aims to automate OTC market by March: The Dhaka Stock Exchange has targeted to automate the trading system of its over-the-counter market by March this year after amending the existing OTC rules. The trade volume at the OTC market of the country's premier bourse increased to BDT 72.65 crore in 2017 from BDT 4 crore in the previous year. Market experts, however, said the volume was scanty and the OTC market remained almost non-functional since its introduction in 2009.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/32402/dse-aims-to-automate-otc-market-by-march>

Lafarge, Holcim merge Bangladesh operations: Lafarge Surma Cement Limited, a listed company at Dhaka Stock Exchange, and Holcim Cement (Bangladesh) Limited have finally completed their merger in Bangladesh as all the required procedures and filings have been completed. The operations of the entities, however, will remain separate as Holcim Cement (Bangladesh) has become a subsidiary of LafargeHolcim Bangladesh Limited, the changed name for Lafarge Surma Cement, due to acquisition of the entire Holcim shares by Lafarge.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/32284/lafarge-holcim-merge-bangladesh-operations>

Bangladesh mulls retaining China DFQF access, not APTA scheme: Bangladesh might opt for duty-free and quota-free market access in China rather than trade preferences under the Asia Pacific Trade agreement as the DFQF scheme offers more benefits for export to the East Asian country. Officials of the commerce ministry said the government might continue to avail the DFQF scheme following recommendations that came from the stakeholders particularly exporters. They said Bangladesh Tariff Commission was working on the issue to prepare a study report and the decision would be finalized after receiving the report.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/32491/bangladesh-mulls-retaining-china-dfqf-access-not-apta-scheme>

Index Summary

	11/01/18	10/01/18	Point Change	% Change
DSEX	6,179.32	6,172.45	6.88	0.11%
DS30	2,260.25	2,253.50	6.74	0.30%
DSES	1,391.55	1,387.97	3.58	0.26%

Market Activities

	11/01/18	10/01/18	% Change
Mkt. Turnover (BDT mn)	3,815.1	4,393.1	-13.16%
Mkt. Turnover (USD mn)	47.35	54.52	-13.16%
Total No of Trade	89,042	99,298	-10.33%
Trade Volume (mn)	92.82	114.81	-19.16%

Market Valuation

	11/01/18	10/01/18	% Change
Mkt. Capitalization (BDT bn)	4,209.1	4,202.9	0.15%
Mkt. Capitalization (USD bn)	52.24	52.16	0.15%
Trailing Market P/E*	16.84	16.81	0.18%
Annualized Market P/E**	18.38	18.34	0.18%
Market P/BV	2.45	2.44	0.18%
Dividend Yield	3.09%	3.09%	-0.17%

Stocks plunge after 2-week rise over BB move jitters: Dhaka stocks plunged last week after a two-week gain as investors felt jittery following a Bangladesh Bank move to lower banks' advance deposit ratio, stockbrokers said. Investors apprehended that a cut in the ADR ratio could reduce the fund flow to the capital market, they said. DSEX, the key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, lost 1.96%, or 123.52 points, over the week to close at 6,179.32 points on Thursday after gaining 120 points in the previous two weeks. Market operators said the market fell in the first four trading sessions of the week as investors preferred to take out their investment from the market to avoid any unexpected losses.

<http://www.newagebd.net/article/32493/stocks-plunge-after-2-week-rise-over-bb-move-jitters>

FDI slightly up in Jan-Sept: Net inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) increased marginally in the first nine months of 2017, according to the latest statistics of the central bank. It showed that net inflow of FDI stood at USD 1.49 bn in January-September period of 2017 while the amount was USD 1.47 bn in the same period of 2016. The latest statistics also revealed that some USD 0.93 bn (USD 934.85 mn to be precise) came as reinvested earnings of the existing Multinational Entities (MNEs) operating in the country.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/fdi-slightly-up-in-jan-sept-1515818452>

Power sector seeks BDT 46.18 bn more: Power sector has sought BDT 46.18 bn more in the revised annual development budget (RADP) as some ongoing projects on electricity generation, transmission and distribution need money beyond the allocations. Officials said the additional amount is equivalent to 18% of the fund allocated in the original budget. The power sector got BDT 214.58 bn in the original ADP for the current fiscal year (2017-18). The Planning Commission (PC) has started work to revise the BDT 1.64 trillion original ADP. The recast is expected to be finalised by next month (February).

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/power-sector-seeks-BDT-4618b-more-1515814937>

FM pins hope on achieving revenue in FY18: The finance minister (FM) expressed hope that the government would be able to achieve the revenue target for the fiscal 2017-18 (FY-18). He expressed his optimism on Wednesday while talking to the journalists on the sidelines of the Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase (CCGP) meeting held at the Cabinet Division in the capital city. Mr AMA Muhith said, "During the July-November, the revenue collection was not good. But, I think the scenario will be changed and the revenue collection process will expedite as people is showing their willingness to pay taxes."

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/fm-pins-hope-on-achieving-revenue-in-fy18-1515593175>

সাংগাহিক রিটার্নে দর কমেছে ১৯ খাতে: বিদায়ী সপ্তাহে ঢাকা স্টক এক্সচেঞ্জে (ডিএসই) দর (রিটার্ন) কমেছে ১৯ খাতে অন্যদিকে দর বেড়েছে শুধুমাত্র সিরামিক খাতে এই খাতে দশমিক ০৪ শতাংশ দর বেড়েছে লংকাবাংলা সিকিউরিটিজ লিমিটেড সূত্রে এ তথ্য জানা গেছে সূত্র জানায়, আলোচ্য সপ্তাহে সবচেয়ে বেশি দর কমেছে ব্যাংক খাতে এই খাতে ৩ দশমিক ৯২ শতাংশ দর কমেছে

<http://www.arthosuchak.com/archives/405868/>

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