

CHAMBER NEWS

ISSUE 5 ■ May 2025

**Bangladesh and ASEAN Membership
Why it Matters**



METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, DHAKA

একটি



স্কয়ার
পণ্য

Kool®

লঃ লাস্টিং
ফ্রেশনেসে
GET NOTICED!



২৪ ঘণ্টা ওডোর
প্রটেকশন



নন-স্টিকি
ফর্মুলা



স্কয়ার পণ্য দেশের জন্য

স্কয়ার টয়লেট্রিজ লিমিটেড

Chamber Building

122-124, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

Phone : +880-2-223385208-10 & +880-2-223354129-31 (PABX)

Email : sg@mccibd.org, Web : www.mccibd.org



VISION

- Be the leading voice serving responsible business



MISSION

- Become the leading Chamber for providing research and analysis related to business in Bangladesh
- Attract quality membership, representative of a cross section of business
- Effectively respond to changing business environment
- Collaborate with local and international institutions
- Engage and communicate regularly with our stakeholders
- Promote best practices that benefit business and society



VALUES

- Fairness
- Integrity
- Respect
- Equal Opportunity



CORE COMPETENCIES - ORGANIZATION

- Research based Policy Advocacy
- Networking
- Business Intelligence



CORE COMPETENCIES – PEOPLE

- Professional
- Innovative
- Adaptable
- Team Player
- Proactive
- Communication & Interpersonal Skills

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025

PRESIDENT

MR. KAMRAN T. RAHMAN

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT

MR. HABIBULLAH N. KARIM

VICE-PRESIDENT

MS. SIMEEN RAHMAN

DIRECTORS

MR. TANVIR AHMED

MR. SYED TAREQUE MD. ALI

MR. MOHAMMAD NASER EZAZ BIJOY

MR. TAPAN CHOWDHURY

MS. UZMA CHOWDHURY

DR. ARIF DOWLA

MR. MD. SAIFUL ISLAM

MR. ARDASHIR KABIR

MR. ANIS A. KHAN

MR. ADEEB HOSSAIN KHAN, FCA

MR. HASAN MAHMOOD, FCA

MR. GOLAM MAINUDDIN

SECRETARY-GENERAL & CEO

MR. FAROOQ AHMED

DISCLAIMER

The Chamber News is published for private circulation by Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka. The Chamber assumes no responsibility for the correctness of items quoted in the bulletin although every effort is made to give information from sources believed to be reliable.

CONTENTS

Chamber News / Issue 5 / May 2025

EDITORIAL

03

Bangladesh and ASEAN Membership: Why It Matters



ARTICLE

04

Strategic management: Concept, examples, and trends for business success

MEMBER EVENTS

08

ACI Motors launched two new tractor models



CORPORATE

13

NATIONAL

15

\$260 million FDI commitments at Bangladesh Investment Summit



INTERNATIONAL

17

COMMODITIES

19

COUNTRY PROFILE

20

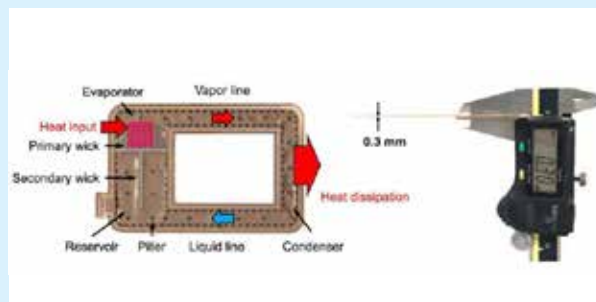
USA



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

22

Ultra-thin cooling solution for mobile devices



REVIEW

23

- Export earnings
- Import Payments (C&F)
- Inflow of Remittances
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
- Foreign Exchange Reserves
- Exchange Rate
- Tax revenue collection
- Capital Market
- Price Situation

STATISTICS

27

- Export Performance of Bangladesh
- Commodity-Wise Import Payments
- Balance of Payments (BOP)
- Fresh opening and settlement of import LCs
- Production of selected industrial items on large scale
- Capital market snapshot
- Consumer price index: National
- Consumer price index: Rural
- Consumer price index: Urban
- Wage rate index by sectors: National
- Wage rate index by sectors: Dhaka Division
- Wage rate index by sectors: Chattogram Division

EDITORIAL

Bangladesh and ASEAN Membership: Why It Matters

Bangladesh has long contemplated joining the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). In light of recent global developments and growing uncertainty, this pursuit has gained renewed urgency. Viewed from any perspective, exploring this path appears timely and worthwhile.

Established in 1967, ASEAN is a regional bloc focused on promoting economic and security cooperation. It currently comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. By 2025, ASEAN is projected to have a combined nominal GDP of \$4.249 trillion and a per capita income of \$6,209, making it the world's largest regional bloc outside Europe. The group's commitment to trade liberalization, technological investment, and global supply chain integration has significantly transformed its member economies.

As Bangladesh approaches its LDC graduation, it must strategize for the post-transition phase, when it will no longer benefit from concessionary tariffs in major export markets. Forecasts suggest that exports could decline by 7–14% after graduation. Furthermore, global trade uncertainties have risen, driven by geopolitical unrest and tariff escalations, particularly involving the United States. Against this backdrop, looking eastward for new opportunities seems not just wise, but necessary.

The potential benefits of ASEAN membership extend far beyond access to a regional market of over 680 million people. Membership would amplify Bangladesh's voice on the geopolitical stage as part of a powerful alliance. Additionally, ASEAN members are all signatories to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)—joining RCEP could boost Bangladesh's exports by 17% and GDP by 0.26%,

according to a Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission report. ASEAN membership could also significantly enhance foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows.

Bangladesh's strategic location strengthens its bid. It could serve as a bridge between South and Southeast Asia, offering ASEAN improved access to the Bay of Bengal and major global trade routes. Moreover, Bangladesh's well-established ready-made garments (RMG) sector could complement ASEAN's broader manufacturing ambitions.

To ensure a smooth transition beyond LDC status, Bangladesh must diversify and expand its bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. To date, Bangladesh has signed one bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), two regional Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), and five regional PTAs—primarily within South Asia. However, intra-regional trade in SAARC remains under 5% of total trade, while it exceeds 25% in ASEAN and over 60% in the EU. Integration with ASEAN could therefore open vast new trade opportunities.

That said, challenges remain. Many ASEAN countries have more advanced industries—particularly in electronics, pharmaceuticals, light engineering, and semiconductors. Integration would expose Bangladeshi industries to tougher competition. It would also require significant policy realignment with ASEAN's trade and investment frameworks. Moreover, the visible and hidden costs of integration must be carefully assessed.

The future is not predetermined; it is shaped by the choices we make today. In a world defined by uncertainty and rapid change, having more strategic options is an advantage. Regardless of whether Bangladesh ultimately joins ASEAN, seriously evaluating this opportunity and charting a proactive course of action is critical for its future.

ARTICLE

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT: CONCEPT, EXAMPLES, AND TRENDS FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

Did you know that 67% of well-formulated strategies fail due to poor execution? Or are companies with effective strategy management 2.5 times more likely to achieve industry-leading performance? In today's cutthroat business arena, the difference between thriving and merely surviving often boils down to one critical factor: how well you manage your strategy.

WHY IS STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

Poor strategic management can lead to:

- Loss of market share
- Missed growth opportunities
- Wasted resources
- Employee disengagement
- Business failure

Effective strategic management, however, can:

- Build competitive advantage
- Drive growth and profitability
- Improve adaptability
- Strengthen alignment across the organization

Ready to master the art and science of strategy management?

Let's explore how you can turn your strategic vision into tangible business success, avoiding the pitfalls that ensnare so many companies. Instead, chart a course for long-term prosperity and growth.

WHAT IS STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT?

Strategic management is how a company plans, puts into action, and checks its big-picture decisions. It's an ongoing process that helps a business reach its long-term goals. Simply put, it's about making sure what your company can do matches what the market needs, so you can stay ahead of your competitors over time. As The Harvard Business Review explains, strategy management can be the differentiator that helps you come out on top, even in the most volatile markets. Let's look at a few types of strategic management.

FIVE TYPES OF STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT:

Corporate Strategy: Defines the overall direction and scope of the entire organization, including decisions about which industries or markets to compete in and how to allocate resources across different business units.

Business Strategy: Focuses on how a specific business unit within a larger organization will compete in its particular market or industry.

Functional Strategy: Outlines how each functional department (like marketing, finance, or HR) will support the broader business strategy through specific objectives and actions.

Operating Strategy: Details the day-to-day operational decisions, policies, and actions needed to deliver the functional and business strategies effectively.

Competitive Strategy: Determines how a company will gain and maintain competitive advantage in its industry or market, often through differentiation, cost leadership, or focus strategies.

KEY COMPONENTS OF STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

Strategic management involves three crucial stages that work together to guide a company toward its long-term goals:

Strategy Development

Analyze your current position: Take a close look at where your business stands right now. This involves understanding your strengths and weaknesses, as well as the opportunities and threats in your market.

Develop your strategic vision: Figure out where you want your business to go in the long run. This includes setting clear, ambitious goals that give your company direction.

Formulate your strategy: Create a plan to get from where you are to where you want to be. This means choosing the best approach to achieve your goals, given your current situation and resources.

Strategy Execution

Implement your strategy: Put your plan into action. This involves assigning tasks, allocating resources, and making sure everyone knows their role in achieving the company's goals.

Strategy Evaluation

Monitor and adjust: after you implement strategic management, track of how well your strategy is working and make changes as needed. This involves setting up ways to measure success, regularly checking your progress, and being ready to adapt your strategy if things aren't going as planned.

THE FIVE STAGES OF STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

The three components of strategic management — development, execution, and evaluation — can be further broken down into five clear, actionable steps:

Analyze your business's current position

Understanding where your business stands is the first important step in planning for its future. Start by looking at what your company does well (strengths) and what it needs to improve (weaknesses). Also, think about good opportunities out there for your business and any dangers or challenges it might face.

Next, take a close look at what your company has and can do. Think about the skills of your team, the tools and technology you use, how much money you have, and anything special that makes your business unique. Ask yourself: What makes us different? Finally, look at what's happening around your business. What are the latest trends in your industry? What are your competitors doing? How might big changes in the economy or society affect your business? Keep an eye out for new ideas or technologies that could change how things work in your industry.

By looking carefully at all these things inside and outside your business, you'll get a clear picture of where you stand. This helps you make smart plans that use what you're good at, fix what needs work, take advantage of good opportunities, and protect your business from possible problems. What about other businesses? Where do we need to get better?

Develop your strategic vision

Developing your strategic vision is about creating a clear picture of where you want your business to be in the future. Start by defining your long-term goals. This involves looking ahead for 5-10 years and imagining what success looks like for your company. Be specific and ambitious but realistic. Consider factors like market position, revenue targets, product offerings, and geographic reach.

Next, craft a compelling vision statement that encapsulates these goals. This should be a concise, inspiring declaration

of what your company aspires to become or achieve. A good vision statement is forward-looking, challenging, and memorable. Involve key stakeholders in this process to ensure buy-in and alignment across the organization.

Finally, align your mission with your vision. Your mission statement describes your company's purpose and how you aim to achieve your vision. Review your existing mission statement (or create one if you don't have it) to ensure it supports and complements your newly crafted vision. This alignment ensures that your day-to-day operations and long-term aspirations are in harmony.

Throughout this process, encourage open discussion and debate within your team. Your strategic vision should be the result of careful consideration and collective input, reflecting not just the leadership's aspirations but the shared dreams and values of the entire organization. Remember, a well-developed strategic vision serves as a guiding light for all future decision-making and strategy formulation.

Formulate your strategy

Formulating your strategy is about making a clear plan to reach your goals. Start by coming up with different ideas on how to get there. Think creatively, and don't rule out any ideas at first.

Next, look closely at each idea to see if it's doable. Think about what you'll need to make it happen, what risks you might face, and what you could gain. Ask people from different parts of your company what they think. This helps you see each idea from many angles.

Finally, pick the best ideas. Choose the ones that make the most sense for your company right now. Look for plans that use what you're good at and help fix what needs work. They should also take advantage of opportunities in the market and protect you from threats.

Remember, it's okay to choose more than one idea. Often, a mix of different plans works best. Keep in mind that you might need to change your plan as you go along. Things change, and your strategy should be able to change, too. Make sure everyone in your company understands the plan and knows how they can help make it happen.

Implement your strategy

Putting your strategy into action is all about making your plans real. Start by deciding who and what you need to make it happen. This means giving people the right jobs, money, and tools to do the work.

Next, make sure your company is set up in a way that helps your strategy work. You might need to change how teams are organized or create new roles. The goal is to make it easy for everyone to work together towards your big goals.

Lastly, break down your strategy into smaller steps. Create a clear plan that shows what needs to be done, who's responsible, and when it should happen. Think of it like a road map that everyone can follow. Set deadlines for each task to keep things moving forward.

Remember, good communication is key. Make sure everyone understands the plan and knows what they need to do. Be ready to help solve problems and make changes if things aren't working as expected. Implementing a strategy takes time and effort, but with clear plans and teamwork, you can turn your ideas into real results.

Monitor and adjust

Keeping track of your progress and making changes when needed is crucial. Start by setting up ways to measure how well you're doing. These are called key performance indicators, or KPIs for short. They're like signposts that tell you if you're on the right track.

Next, make it a habit to check on your progress regularly. This could be weekly, monthly, or quarterly, depending on your business. Look at your KPIs and ask yourself: Are we meeting our goals? What's working well? What's not working?

Finally, be ready to make changes. If something isn't working, or if the market changes, don't be afraid to adjust your plan. This might mean tweaking your goals, changing how you do things, or even rethinking parts of your strategy.

Remember, a good strategy isn't set in stone. It should be flexible enough to adapt to new challenges and opportunities. By keeping a close eye on your progress and being willing to make changes, you can keep your business on the path to success, even when things around you change.

REAL-WORLD EXAMPLE: NETFLIX

Now that we've clarified the theory, let's see what the strategy management process looks like in practice. Let's examine how a successful company, Netflix, leveraged effective strategic management to drive growth and innovation:

NETFLIX

Netflix's strategic approach exemplifies a continuous loop of development, execution, and evaluation. Here's a comprehensive illustration:

Strategy Development

In the early 2000s, Netflix identified the limitations of its DVD rental business model and anticipated the rise of internet video streaming. This foresight led to a strategic pivot towards digital streaming services. The company's initial strategy was to leverage its existing DVD rental customer base while gradually introducing streaming content.

Execution

Netflix executed this strategy by investing heavily in technology infrastructure to support high-quality streaming. They also secured licensing deals with major studios to build a vast library of streaming content. Key steps included:

Technology Investment: Developing a robust streaming platform that could handle large volumes of traffic.

Content Acquisition: Securing rights to popular movies and TV shows to attract and retain subscribers.

User Experience: Enhancing the user interface to make content discovery seamless and enjoyable.

Evaluation

As the streaming service gained traction, Netflix continuously monitored performance metrics, including subscriber growth, viewer engagement, and content consumption patterns. For example, they used data analytics to understand viewing habits and preferences, which informed decisions about content acquisition and production.

Adaptation Based on Evaluation

Insights from the evaluation phase revealed that original content significantly drove subscriber growth and retention. Recognizing this, Netflix adapted its strategy to focus more on producing original content. This led to the development of Netflix Originals, starting with "House of Cards" in 2013. The success of original programming reinforced the decision to invest further in content creation.

Strategy Development

The shift towards original content was a strategic adaptation based on evaluation insights. Netflix's strategy development became increasingly data-driven, leveraging advanced analytics to predict what types of content would be successful.

They continuously refined their content strategy, focusing on genres and formats that resonated most with their audience.

This continuous loop of strategy development, execution, evaluation, and adaptation has allowed Netflix to stay ahead in a highly competitive industry, transforming from a DVD rental service to a global leader in digital streaming and content production.

The case studies on Netflix illustrate how strategic management can drive significant business transformation and success. By adopting innovative approaches, leveraging data analytics, embracing new technologies, focusing on original content, and implementing adaptive organizational structures, Netflix has achieved sustainable growth and maintained a competitive advantage in the rapidly evolving entertainment industry. This continuous loop of strategy development, execution, evaluation, and adaptation serves as a model for other companies aiming to thrive in dynamic markets.

EMERGING TRENDS IN STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

The basic idea of strategy management hasn't changed much over time, but how companies actually do it has. New trends are changing how businesses handle the main parts of strategy management. Here are some important trends shaping how companies will manage their strategies in 2024:

Agility and Adaptability: This trend aligns closely with Quantive's emphasis on an "Always-On Strategy" approach. Quantive's platform is designed to help businesses pivot quickly in response to market changes, which is crucial for long-term success.

AI and Big Data Analytics: Quantive's StrategyAI platform leverages advanced analytics for more informed strategic decision-making. This trend is at the core of Quantive's value proposition.

Digital Transformation: As businesses rethink their processes in the digital age, Quantive's tools can help them manage this transformation strategically.

Continuous Performance Monitoring: Quantive's real-time tracking of strategic KPIs enables proactive adjustments, which is essential in today's fast-paced business environment.

Scenario Planning: Given increasing global uncertainties, Quantive's platform could potentially assist in developing flexible strategies that can adapt to various potential scenarios.

Stakeholder Capitalism: While not explicitly mentioned in relation to Quantive, their comprehensive approach to strategy management could help businesses create value for all stakeholders.

Innovation Focus: Quantive's platform could support businesses in setting up and managing dedicated innovation initiatives as part of their overall strategy.

These trends align with Quantive's mission to empower organizations with strategic agility and data-driven decision-making capabilities. Companies aiming to thrive in dynamic markets.

ACTIONABLE TIPS FOR STRATEGIC EXCELLENCE

Encourage cross-functional collaboration with digital tools: Create task forces with employees from different departments and use project management tools like Quantive StrategyAI's Whiteboards for visual thinking and idea sharing.

Foster a culture of innovation: Encourage creative thinking and embrace new ideas. Promote a culture where experimentation is valued, and failure is seen as a learning opportunity. Establish initiatives like innovation labs and idea management systems to support this mindset.

Keep stakeholders engaged: Regularly update stakeholders on strategic progress and changes to keep them engaged, aware of strategic developments, and ready to pivot. This involves scheduling frequent strategy review meetings, sending out progress reports, and creating transparent communication channels.

Stay flexible and ready to change: Make sure your business plans can bend without breaking. Keep an eye on what's happening in your market and be ready to shift gears when needed. Regularly check how your plans are working, and don't be afraid to make changes. Think of your strategy as a living thing that needs to grow and adapt, not a rigid set of rules. By staying nimble, you'll be better prepared to handle unexpected challenges and seize new opportunities as they arise.

Source: <https://quantive.com>

MEMBER EVENTS

ACI MOTORS



In a continued push to modernize agriculture, ACI Motors launched two new Sonalika tractor models—the Sonalika 35RX and Sonalika All Rounder SS-55 (12F+3R)—on Pahela Boishakh. The nationwide launch spanned 15 locations, with the main event in Manikganj.

- The Sonalika 35RX features power steering for easier handling in both farming and transport.
- The SS-55 includes a high-low-medium gear system and turbocharged engine, ideal for uneven terrain and heavy loads.

Attendees—including customers, farmers, and dealers—experienced live demonstrations of the new models. Subrata Ranjan Das, Deputy Managing Director of ACI Motors, attended alongside senior officials from government and private sectors

BRAC BANK



BRAC Bank, in partnership with BRAC University (BRACU) and Daffodil International University (DIU), celebrated the graduation of 68 women entrepreneurs from its accelerator program Uddokta 101. A total of 38 women from BRACU and 30 from DIU successfully completed the program,

The three-month certification program included training on:

- Business, finance, and managerial skills
- Team-building and mental health awareness
- A factory visit for hands-on learning

Key attendees included Syed

Abdul Momen, BRAC Bank DMD and Head of SME, along with faculty leaders:

- Dr. Nusrat Hafiz, Assistant Professor and Director, Women Empowerment Cell, BRACU
- Dr. Masum Iqbal, Dean, Faculty of Business and Entrepreneurship, DIU

IPDC FINANCE



IPDC Finance, in collaboration with the World Bank's We-Fi initiative, organized Joyee Corporate Connect on March 18–19, 2025. The two-day fair connected women entrepreneurs (WEs) with corporate buyers, promoting:

- Supplier diversity
- Inclusive economic growth
- Sustainable business practices

Timed with Women's Day and Independence Day, the event featured:

- A marketplace with clothing, handicrafts, cosmetics, healthcare, leather goods, tea, and eco-friendly products
- Business support services through Joyee's partner, Shahin's Helpline

Key stakeholders, including officials from the SME Foundation, and We-Fi's partners CThree Sixty and Innovision, reaffirmed their commitment to fostering an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem.

IFIC BANK



IFIC Bank signed a special Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Farazy Hospital Limited. Under this agreement, IFIC Bank customers, cardholders, employees, and their family members will receive discounted medical services from Farazy Hospital. The MoU was signed by Ms. Ferdousi Begum, Head of SME & Retail Products at IFIC Bank, and Dr. M. Mokter Hossen, Managing Director of Farazy Hospital. From IFIC Bank, the event was graced by the presence of Deputy Managing Director (DMD) & Head of Branch Business Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, DMD & Chief Credit Officer Mr. Iqbal Parvez Chowdhury, DMD & Chief of HR & Logistics Mr. K.A.R.M. Mostafa Kamal, Head of Operations Mr. Helal Ahmed, and Chief Financial Officer Mr. Dilip Kumar Mondol.

EDOTCO BANGLADESH



EDOTCO Bangladesh signed an MoU with Narayanganj City Corporation (NCC) to launch Street Furniture (SF)—a next-generation telecommunications infrastructure aimed at improving mobile coverage in urban areas. This public-private partnership supports smart city development by integrating telecom solutions into the urban landscape, addressing growing demand for reliable connectivity. The collaboration also reflects Bangladesh's commitment to becoming a Smart Nation, with a focus on sustainable digital infrastructure.

MUTUAL TRUST BANK



To mark World Autism Awareness Day 2025, MTB Foundation and PFDA-Vocational Training Centre Trust (PFDA-VTC) unveiled a training module on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The program is designed to help teachers, parents, and caregivers better support children with ASD in areas like boundaries, consent, hygiene, and social communication. It aligns with SDGs 3 (Health), 4 (Education), 5 (Gender Equality), and 10 (Reduced Inequality). Key attendees included: Samia Chowdhury, CEO, MTB Foundation, Jannatul Ferdous, Health Systems Specialist, UNICEF, Dr. S.M. Asib Nasim, Advisor, PFDA-VTC Begum Nur Jahan Dipa, Principal, PFDA-VTC.

EASTERN BANK PLC



EBL has partnered with Shishu Sasthya Foundation, Bangladesh (SSF,B) to improve pediatric care for underprivileged families, donating Tk 6.1 million to upgrade two wards with modern equipment, nursing stations, and oxygen systems. The project aims to serve 2,400 children annually. Present at the cheque handover were: Ahmed Shaheen, Additional MD, EBL, Engineer Reza Karim, Secretary General, SSF,B, Dr. A.K.M. Shamsuzzaman, Joint Secretary General, Prof. Dr. Shah Mahfuzur Rahman, Executive Board Member, Mohammad Jannat, Deputy Director, SSF,B.

STANDARD CHARTERED BANGLADESH



In partnership with Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS), Standard Chartered Bangladesh has completed a series of agricultural initiatives in Bogura, Gaibandha, Rangpur, Joypurhat, Sirajganj, Patuakhali, Pabna, and Faridpur. The bank contributed over Tk 63 million to these climate-adaptive farming initiatives.

Key outcomes:

- Benefitted over 100,000 farmers
- Established 300 polyhouses for high-value sapling production
- Distributed 1,500 kg of vegetable seed and 300 kg of watermelon seed
- Brought 280 hectares of fallow land under onion cultivation and 330 hectares under sunflower production

SYNGENTA BANGLADESH



Syngenta Bangladesh officially received Membership Certificate from the United Nations Global Compact Network Bangladesh —marking a new chapter in its journey towards sustainability and responsible business practices. Hedayet Ullah, Managing Director, Syngenta Bangladesh, received the certificate from Ms. Shahamin Zaman, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network Bangladesh. Other officials of UNGC and the Syngenta Bangladesh country leadership team were also present at the ceremony.

SOUTHEAST BANK PLC



As part of its Special Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, Southeast Bank PLC. has extended financial assistance to the farmers in three significant areas: “Increase yield in agricultural sector”, “Purchase of Agricultural Equipment” and “Processing of Agricultural Products”. Mr. Nuruddin Md. Sadeque Hossain, Managing Director of Southeast Bank PLC., handed over the financial support to marginal farmers through the NGO “Ashrai” at a ceremony held at the bank’s head office. Among others, Mr. Dr. Md. Ahsan Ali, Founder and Executive Director of Ashrai, Mr. Md. Masum Uddin Khan and Mr. Abidur Rahman Chowdhury, Deputy Managing Directors; Mr. Mamunur Rashid, FCS, Executive Vice President and Company Secretary and Mr. Md. Musfiquur Rahman, Senior Vice President and Head of Corporate Affairs and CSR Division of the bank attended the event.

CORPORATE



Eastern Bank posted a record profit of Tk 6.6 billion in 2024, up 7.76% year-on-year, driven by higher net interest income and investment returns. EPS rose to Tk 4.86 from Tk 4.51 (2023). Growth was supported by a market-based interest rate regime and strong investment income, despite inflationary challenges.



Despite lower profits, Reckitt Benckiser declared a record 3,330% cash dividend for 2024.

- **Profit:** Tk 752 million, down from Tk 820 million in 2023
- **EPS:** Tk 159.17 (vs. Tk 173.65 in 2023)
- **Dividend:** Tk 333 per share — the highest since its listing, and the second-largest dividend in the history of Bangladesh's stock market after Linde Bangladesh.



Maksons Spinning Mills Limited

Maksons Spinning Mills reported widening losses in Q2 FY25 due to a sharp drop in revenue and rising costs.

- **Loss per share:** Tk 1.77 (up from Tk 0.86 in Q2 FY24)
- 6-month loss (through December): Tk 831 million (vs. Tk 457 million in previous year)
- Higher expenses on raw materials, salaries, utilities, and interest payments contributed to the loss.



Summit Power's profit dropped 37% to Tk 1.15 billion in H1 FY25, with EPS down to Tk 1.15 from Tk 1.71 (H1 FY24).

- Revenue increased 11% YoY, but cost of goods sold rose 18%, reducing margins.
- FY24 profit was Tk 3.34 billion, aided by lower import costs and stable forex rates.
- Once a growth leader, Summit's trajectory shifted as government revised its power purchase policy.



IPDC Finance reported a 5.9 percent year-on-year growth in profit to Tk 363 million for 2024, driven by robust investment income and higher interest earnings following the introduction of market-based interest rate.

- **EPS:** Tk 0.93 (up from Tk 0.88 in 2023)
- **Operating profit:** Tk 1.76 billion (35.8%)

Growth was supported by higher returns from government securities and reduced operating expenses, despite inflationary pressures. The Board of Directors of the company recommended a 5% cash and 5% stock dividend, subject to regulatory and shareholder approval.



IDLC Finance posted a 32% increase in consolidated net profit to Tk 2 billion in 2024, mainly due to higher interest rates and a sharp decline in provisioning.

- **EPS:** Tk 4.82 (vs. Tk 3.64 in 2023)
- **NPL ratio:** Improved to 4.45% (from 4.70%)

The Board of Directors approved a 15% cash dividend and 5% stock dividend for 2024. Strong returns from Treasury bills also boosted performance.



Pragati Insurance recorded a 12% profit increase, reaching a record Tk 413 million in 2024—its highest since listing in 1996.

- **EPS:** Tk 5.61 (up from Tk 5.01 in 2023)

Profit was driven by higher premium income, lower operating costs, and reduced claim settlements. The Board of Directors of the company recommended a 20% cash and 7% stock dividend, matching the previous year.



Jamuna Bank posted over 18% year-on-year profit growth, reaching Tk 2.80 billion in 2024, driven by higher interest and investment income following the adoption of a market-based interest rate.

- **EPS:** Tk 3.17 (up from Tk 2.68, restated)

Growth was supported by strong net interest income and gains from government securities.

The Board of Directors recommended a 17.5% cash and 6.5% stock dividend, subject to regulatory and shareholder approval.



UCB Investment arranged the issuance of “ONE Bank Subordinated Bond V” worth Tk 4 billion to strengthen ONE Bank PLC’s Tier II capital, supporting business expansion and enhancing financial resilience.



Bangladesh Submarine Cables' profit rose 18% year-on-year to Tk 478 million in the third quarter (Q3) through March this year, supported by higher revenue and reduced operating costs.

- **EPS (Jan-Mar):** Tk 2.33 (vs. Tk 1.99 YoY)
- Q3 revenue increased 2.26%, while operating expenses fell 16%.
- However, 9-month profit declined 17% YoY to Tk 1.40 billion, due to weaker performance in Q1 and Q2.



Matin Spinning Mills achieved 7.15% profit growth to Tk 102 million in Q3, driven by record-high sales and reduced cost of sales.

- **EPS:** Tk 1.05 (up from Tk 0.98)
- **Sales:** Tk 2.04 billion (↑ 16% YoY)
- Cost of sales fell to 83% of revenue, boosting profits despite rising wages and higher interest expenses.

Matin Spinning Mills, a concern of DBL Group, manufactures a wide range of yarns and provides backward linkage to garment units under the DBL Group.



ইউনাইটেড ইন্সুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
UNITED INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

United Insurance recommended a 15% cash dividend its shareholders for 2024, aiming to strengthen shareholder confidence.

- **EPS:** Tk 2.26 (27% YoY increase)
- Improved performance was driven by higher investment income and lower claim expenses.

Shareholding structure:

- **Sponsors/Directors:** 59.90%
- **Institutions:** 19.54%
- **Public:** 20.56%



Despite higher sales, Singer Bangladesh posted a Tk 349 million loss in the first quarter(Q1) 2025, mainly due to soaring finance costs.

- Interest expenses on borrowing rose 201% YoY to Tk 443 million, driven by higher interest rates.
- Total debt climbed to Tk 19.5 billion (up from Tk 17.84 billion a year earlier).

Higher forex losses, rising operating expenses, and increased costs of sales further eroded the bottom line growth.

- **Sales:** Tk 5.59 billion (a rise of 39% YoY)
- **Operating profit:** (3.7% fall YoY)
- **Gross profit margin:** (1.8% fall YoY due to promotions, discounts, and inflation-driven cost increases).



Bata Shoe reported a 26% lower profit at Tk 296 million for 2024 compared to the year before due to political instability, floods, and reduced consumer demand.

- **Final Dividend:** 105%, bringing the total to 445%, the highest since its 1985 listing.
- **Net Operating Cash Flow per Share:** Tk 71.42 (vs. Tk 93.80).



Prime Bank

Prime Bank posted a 59% YoY profit growth in Q1 2025, supported by higher interest and investment income.

- **Net Profit:** Tk 2.09 billion (vs. Tk 1.32 billion)
- **EPS:** Tk 1.85 (vs. Tk 1.16)
- **Net Operating Cash Flow per Share:** Tk 13.43 (vs. Tk -1.19)
- **Net Asset Value per Share:** Tk 34.44 (vs. Tk 30.72)

Total consolidated assets stood at Tk 576.33 billion at the end of March 2025, with a strong Capital to risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR) of 17.02%.



Grameenphone's net profit for Q1 2025 plunged 53% year-on-year to Tk 6.34 billion, mainly due to falling data prices amid macroeconomic pressures. Subscriber base grew by 0.5 million to 84.8 million (57% using internet services). The company invested Tk 4.8 billion in network expansion, focusing on 4G and IT transformation.

Revenue: Tk 38.34 billion (2.5% YoY growth, driven by cautious consumer spending, particularly on data)

NATIONAL

\$260 MILLION FDI COMMITMENTS AT BANGLADESH INVESTMENT SUMMIT



The four-day Bangladesh Investment Summit 2025 concluded with \$260 million in FDI commitments, announced during the first three days of the event. Over 450 global investors participated in the Summit. BIDA's Head of Business Development, Nahian Rahman Rochi, stated that a roadmap would be created to overcome investment barriers and build a pipeline to convert commitments into action.

10 ECONOMIC ZONES LICENCES CANCELLED

The government revoked licences for 10 economic zones (5 government, 5 private), citing poor progress.

Cancelled zones include:

- Govt: Sonadia, Sundarban, Gajaria, Shreepur, Mymensingh
- Private: BGMEA Park (Munshiganj), Chatak, Famkam, City Special EZ, Sonargaon

Previously, 97 EZs were approved—68 public, 29 private.

GAS PRICES RAISED BY 33% FOR NEW INDUSTRIES



The Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) raised gas tariffs by 33% for new industries and captive power plants:

- New industries: Tk 40/m³ (was Tk 30)
- Captive plants: Tk 42/m³ (was Tk 31.50)

The hike takes immediate effect, despite opposition. Existing users' rates remain unchanged unless exceeding approved loads.

TK 12.5 BILLION REMITTANCE, EXPORT INCENTIVES RELEASED



The Finance Division released Tk 12.5 billion in incentives:

- Tk 10 billion for remittance recipients
- Tk 2.5 billion for exporters

This is the third disbursement for FY25. A 1% special incentive for the apparel sector is included. Export incentives now apply to 43 product categories, though rates were reduced by up to 50%.

BB ALLOWS START-UPS TO INVEST UP TO \$10,000 ABROAD



Bangladesh Bank(BB) now permits startups and individuals to invest up to \$10,000 abroad to establish legal entities.

Key details:

- AD banks must report remittances within one month of foreign entity registration
- Resident firms can also swap shares with overseas companies, subject to global valuation practices

BANGLADESH OFFERS ZERO TARIFFS ON 100 MORE US GOODS

To reduce the trade gap, Bangladesh has offered zero import tariffs on 100 additional US products, on top of an existing list of 190.

The offer, detailed in a letter to US Trade Rep. Jamieson Greer, aims to counter US tariffs and support trade balance improvement.

TRIPARTITE MOU SIGNED BY BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN & SRI LANKA



The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), Pakistan Stock Exchange, and Colombo Stock Exchange signed a tripartite MoU to boost:

- Tech and product development
- Regulatory coordination
- HR exchange
- Investor protection
- Cross-border collaboration

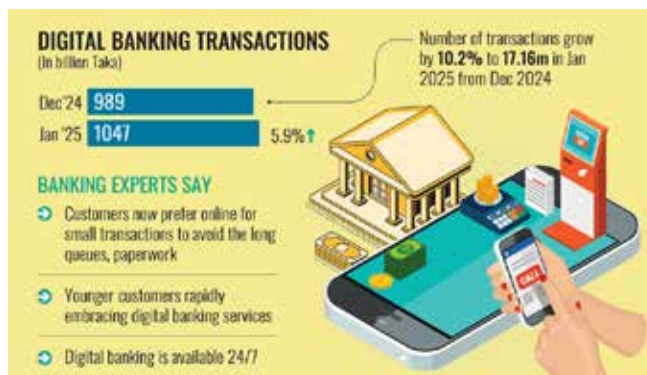
YARN IMPORT THROUGH ALL LAND PORTS BANNED

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has declared a ban on yarn import through all land ports in the country including Benapole, Bhomra, Sonamasjid, Banglabandha, and Burimari. However, import of yarn via seaports or other means will be allowed. The customs wing recently issued a gazette notification in this regard. However, the import of other products through these ports will continue as usual.

STARLINK GETS NOD TO LAUNCH IN BANGLADESH

Starlink, the satellite internet service by Elon Musk's SpaceX, received operational approval from Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) on 29 March 2025. This is seen as a major step toward improving broadband access in underserved areas in the country.

MONTHLY DIGITAL BANKING DEALS PAST TK 1.0 TRILLION MARK IN JANUARY



Internet banking transactions exceeded Tk 1.0 trillion for the first time in a single month (January 2025), marking a 5.9% increase over December.

- Transactions reached Tk 1.047 trillion
- Volume rose to 17.16 million (10.2%)

Banking experts credit the rise to customer preference for convenient, paperless services, especially among younger users.

GOVT TO PROCURE LNG, RICE, FERTILIZER TO MEET GROWING DEMAND

The government has approved the purchase of two LNG cargos, 70,000 tonnes of fertilizer, and 50,000 tonnes of non-Basmati boiled rice to meet rising domestic demand. The approval was given at the meeting of the Advisers Council Committee on Government Purchase (ACCGP) with Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed in the chair.

LNG:

From Gunvor Singapore Private Limited: Tk 6.75 billion

From Total Energies Gas and Power Limited, UK: Tk 6.91 billion

Fertilizer:

30,000 tonnes of MOP (Muriate of potash) fertilizer from Russia's JSC Foreign Economic Corporation "Prodintorg": Tk 1.12 billion

40,000 tonnes of DAP (Diammonium Phosphate) fertilizer from Saudi Arabia's MA'ADEN: Tk 3.06 billion

Rice:

50,000 tonnes from India's Bagadiya Brothers Private Limited via open tender: Tk 2.59 billion

INTERNATIONAL

India



India may still meet its 6.3-6.8 percent growth projection for the 2025/26 fiscal year that started on 1 April 2025 despite global disruptions from new US tariffs, if oil prices stay below \$70 per barrel, government officials said. A 26 percent tariff on Indian imports, with even higher levies on other countries like China, has escalated global trade tensions. India's diamond industry, which ships more than a third of its exports to the US, is expected to be among the worst hit sectors, putting thousands of jobs at risk.

Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka's economic recovery—after a historic sovereign default and political upheaval—is at risk if U.S. tariffs resume, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned. The United States is Sri Lanka's largest single market, accounting for almost a quarter of its \$12 billion in merchandise exports. A 44% "reciprocal tariff" imposed by the U.S. was paused for 90 days. Sri Lanka has not retaliated, instead requesting negotiations.

China



China's Industrial output rose 6.5% (Q1), up from 5.7% in Q4 2024 as exporters rushed to get goods out of factory gates ahead of swingeing new US tariffs. Retail sales grew 4.6% YoY, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). Meanwhile, exports surged over 12% in March, exceeding forecasts.

Nepal



A total of 96,880 foreign visitors toured Nepal in February 2025, 0.6 percent lower than the same month in 2024, the Nepal Tourism Board said. Indians, Americans and Chinese were among the top three sources of tourists for Nepal, the Board noted in a report. Nepal welcomed 102,423 foreign tourists in February 2019, the highest in one month for the South Asian country. Tourism is a major source of foreign exchange earnings in Nepal, contributing 6.7 percent of the country's gross domestic product.

Japan



Japan will increase the release of emergency rice stockpiles through July to stabilize prices, which have nearly doubled YoY. After rice prices nearly doubled year-on-year, the government began auctioning its stockpile in March -- the first time since it was started in 1995. The shortages have been driven by factors including poor harvests due to hot weather in 2023 and panic-buying prompted by a "megaquake" warning last year and a surge in tourism. The government has so far released around 210,000 tonnes of rice. While rice consumption has halved over 60 years, Japan aims to boost rice exports eightfold to 350,000 tonnes by 2030.

South Korea



South Korea will invest \$4.9 billion in its semiconductor industry, citing uncertainty from proposed U.S. tariffs. South Korea is a major exporter to the United States and its powerhouse semiconductor and auto industries would suffer greatly under President Donald Trump's looming 25 percent tariffs. The country is home to chip

giants Samsung and SK Hynix. The Finance Ministry said industry leaders are calling for urgent support amid rising trade uncertainty.

Vietnam



Vietnam will buy more American goods, including defence and security products, and has asked for a 45-day delay in the imposition of US tariffs, Vietnam's Prime Minister said in a statement. The country will also seek faster deliveries of commercial planes that Vietnamese airlines have ordered from the US. The Southeast Asian country, a major regional manufacturing base for many Western companies, last year had a trade surplus of more than \$123 billion with the US, its largest export market.

UK



The UK economy grew 0.5% in February 2025, beating expectations after 0% growth in January, according to the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The figures are an unexpected boost for the government -- battling stubborn inflation and uncertainty over US tariffs -- and comes after the country recently halved its 2025 growth forecast.

Germany



The number of people out of work in Germany rose in March 2025 at the fastest rate since October of 2024, as an economic malaise puts pressure on the job market even against a backdrop of long-term labor shortages. The number of unemployed increased by 26,000 in seasonally adjusted terms to 2.92 million. The seasonally adjusted jobless rate rose to 6.3 percent from 6.2 percent the previous month. The number of unemployed people in Germany has not been above 3 million over the last 10 years.

Russia



The duty on wheat exports from Russia will stand at 1,832 rubles (\$22.29) per metric ton from 23 April 2025, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. The duty on the export of barley will total 87.7 rubles (\$1.07) per metric ton, while that on corn will be 1,073.6 rubles (\$13.06) per metric ton, the Ministry said. The export duty rate for wheat and meslin (a mixture of wheat and rye) is calculated based on an indicative price of \$247.4 per metric ton, for barley - at a price

of \$204 per metric ton, and for corn - \$220.9 per metric ton. The floating duty on Russian grain exports is effective from 2 June 2021.

USA



The Trump administration plans to cut \$40 billion—nearly one-third—from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in 2026, according to The Washington Post. The HHS budget totaled \$121 billion in 2024, but mandatory spending on Medicare and Medicaid brings total outlays to \$1.8 trillion. The plan, part of broader austerity efforts, is linked to top advisor Elon Musk. However, cuts still require Congressional approval.

Argentina



Argentina received the first \$12 billion of a \$20 billion IMF loan, aimed at boosting central bank reserves. The initial \$12 billion will increase central bank reserves to nearly \$37 billion. The country recently loosened currency controls and expects \$42 billion in external financing from the IMF, World Bank, and IDB. Although Argentina recorded its first budget surplus in a decade, it came at the cost of reduced purchasing power, job losses, and weaker consumer spending.

COMMODITIES

Rice



Global rice production forecast is raised 3.1 million tons, to a record 535.8 million (milled basis) in 2024/25, nearly 3 percent larger than a year earlier, according to USDA Rice Outlook. India accounts for the bulk of the upward revision, followed by Indonesia, Cambodia, Brazil, Taiwan, and Venezuela. At 147 million tons, India's production is up 2 million tons from previous forecasts and 6.7 percent larger than a year earlier. India's exports are projected to reach a record 24 million tons in 2025, up 6.1 million tons from a year earlier, offsetting smaller shipments from Burma, China, Pakistan, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

Wheat



Global wheat production could reach 796 million tonnes in 2025. This represents an increase of 1 percent over the previous year, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s new report on global grain production. Wheat production in the European Union, especially France and Germany, may increase. FAO has projected more wheat sowing in these areas. However, dry conditions in Eastern Europe and heavy rains in the west could affect wheat yields. Wheat acreage in the US is expected to increase, but there are fears that yields could fall slightly due to the impact of drought on crops in winter.

Tea



India has achieved a significant milestone in the global tea industry, surpassing Sri Lanka to become the world's second-largest exporter of tea in 2024 despite global market uncertainties caused by geopolitical tensions. According to data compiled by the Tea Board of India, the country exported 255 million kilograms of tea last year compared to 231.69 million kilograms in 2023, marking a substantial growth in its export figures. Kenya has retained the top spot. India's Assam, Darjeeling, and Nilgiri tea are considered one of the finest in the world. India exports tea to more than 25 countries with the UAE, Iraq, Iran, Russia, USA and the UK as its major markets. The country is among the top five tea exporters in the world accounting for about 10 percent of total world exports.

Coffee



Brazil's MY 2024/25 total coffee production is forecast at 66.4 million bags (60 kilograms per bag), 0.2 percent higher than the previous season. This timid growth comes in the aftermath of a strong period of adverse weather conditions in the main producing regions, which led to a decrease in initial estimates for the season. As a result, the country has experienced a decline in robusta production, which was offset by a slight increase in the expected production of arabica, which represents most of the total coffee harvest. Meanwhile, coffee exports in 2024 have

hit record highs as Brazil expands its share of the global market, occupying a gap left by other large producers, such as Vietnam and Indonesia.

Cocoa



According to data from World Bank, global cocoa production fell by 14% in the 2023-24 season, as output slowed in both Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, where at least 60% of the world's cocoa is produced. In December 2024, that saw cocoa prices hit record highs as they surged by 30% for the month. Rising cocoa prices are expected to put significant pressure on chocolate companies around the world in 2025, after months of dry weather conditions in West Africa that have depleted the supply of the cash crop.

Cotton



The USDA projects global cotton production at 120.96 million bales (480 lbs each) for 2024-25, up 500,000 bales from earlier estimates. Ending stocks were lowered to 78.33 million bales, down 80,000. Exports were revised up by 200,000 bales, despite global uncertainty. Global cotton consumption was revised to 116.54 million bales (previously 115.95 million), with higher demand expected from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Egypt.

COUNTRY PROFILE

USA



	Area
	9,833,517 sq km
	Population
	341.96 million
	Capital
	Washington DC
	Real GDP (purchasing power parity)
	\$24.977 trillion (2023)
	Real GDP growth rate
	2.89% (2023)
	Real GDP per capita
	\$74,600 (2023)
	GDP official exchange rate
	\$27.721 trillion (2023)
	Inflation rate (consumer prices)
	4.12% (2023)
	Public debt
	114.88%% of GDP (2023)
	Taxes and other revenues
	10.22% of GDP (2023)
	Current account balance
	-\$905.378 billion (2023)
	Foreign exchange and gold reserves
	\$773.426 billion (2023)

Source: *The World Factbook, Central Intelligence Agency*

The fourth-largest country by total area, United States of America (USA) consists of 48 contiguous states and the non-contiguous states of Alaska and Hawaii. The world's largest economy by nominal GDP, the USA operates a capitalist mixed economy powered by vast natural resources, advanced infrastructure, and high productivity. It maintains stable GDP growth, moderate unemployment, and strong investment in research and innovation. US firms lead globally in technology, particularly in computers, aerospace, pharmaceuticals, and military equipment. However, high public debt and elevated post-pandemic inflation remain concerns.

Key Sectors



Agriculture

Major crops include wheat, corn, soybeans, sugarcane, cotton, tobacco, rice, barley, fruits, and vegetables.



Industry

Leading industries include petroleum, steel, motor vehicles, aerospace, telecommunications, chemicals, electronics, food processing, consumer goods, lumber, and mining.



Mining

Key resources include LNG, petroleum, sulfur, coal, copper, gold, iron ore, salt, and phosphates.



Electricity generation sources (2022)

- Fossil Fuels **58.9%**
- Nuclear **18.2%**
- Wind **9.9%**
- Hydroelectricity **5.6%**
- Solar **5.6%**
- Biomass **1.3%**
- Geothermal **0.4%**



Foreign Trade

Export: \$3.072 trillion (2023)

Imports: \$3.857 trillion (2023)

Major export destinations: Canada, Mexico, China, Germany, Japan

Major export commodities: crude petroleum, refined petroleum, natural gas, gas turbines, cars

Major import sources: Mexico, China, Canada, Germany, Japan

Major import commodities: cars, crude petroleum, broadcasting equipment, computers, garments

Bilateral Trade between Bangladesh and United States (US)

(Value in million US\$)

FY	Export	Import	Total trade
2023-2024	7,599.53	2535.7	10,135.23
2022-2023	9,701.34	2344.3	12,045.64
2021-2022	10,417.72	2855.4	13,273.12

Total trade between Bangladesh and United States in FY 2023-24: US\$10,135.23 million (- 15.85% from 12,045.64 million in FY 2022-23). Export to the US: US\$ 7,599.53 million (-21.67% compare to US\$ 9,701.34 million in FY 2022-2023). Imports from the US: US\$ 2,535.70 million (+8.17% compared to US\$ 2,344.30 million in FY 2022-2023).

Major Export Items to United States in FY 2023-24

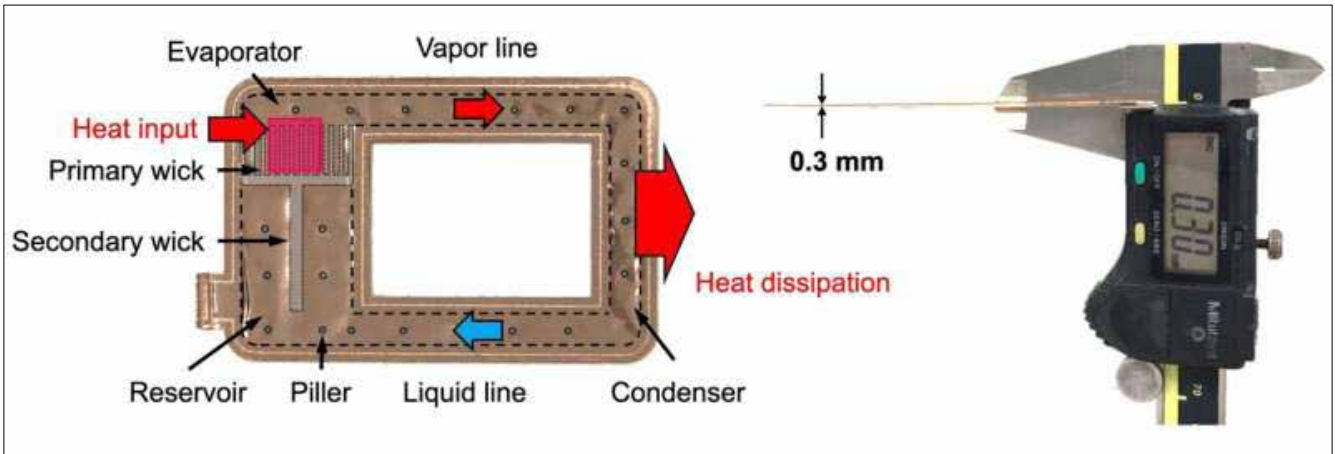
SL No	Products	Value (in Million US\$)
1	Men's/Boys' Trousers, Shorts (Cotton)	1447.99
2	Women's or Girls' Trousers, Breeches	765.86
3	Cotton T-Shirts, Vests (Knitted)	658.29
4	Men's or Boys' Shirts	468.51
5	Sweaters, Pullovers, Cardigans (Knitted)	385.84
6	Men's/Boys' Trousers (Synthetic)	293.00
7	Headgear, Hair-Nets	222.39
8	Footwear (Leather, Rubber Soles)	132.65
9	Cotton Shirts (Knitted)	130.06
10	Women's Briefs (Cotton, Knitted)	123.31

Major Import Items from United States in FY 2023-24

SL No	Products	Value (in Million US\$)
1	Iron and Steel	6681.8
2	Mineral Fuels & Mineral Oils	6597.9
3	Raw Cotton	4003.3
4	Oilseeds & Grains	3781.9
5	Machinery and mechanical appliances	1227.0
6	Optical & Medical Instruments	910.6
7	Animal Feed & Waste from Food Industry	722.1
8	Electrical Equipment	674.9
9	Plastics and Articles thereof	507.5
10	Cereals	493.6

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ULTRA-THIN COOLING SOLUTION FOR MOBILE DEVICES



Some researchers at Nagoya University, Japan, have developed an ultra-thin loop heat pipe (LHP) that significantly enhances heat management in smartphones and tablets. This innovation allows devices to handle intense workloads without overheating—without increasing their thickness. The result? Sleeker mobile devices capable of running high-performance applications more efficiently. By improving thermal regulation, the technology could enable next-generation smartphones and tablets that maintain speed and performance without sacrificing slim design or user comfort. Unlike standard heat pipes, LHPs have a more advanced structure, including a liquid reservoir that stabilizes circulation and maintains consistent cooling without external power. This makes them ideal for compact, energy-efficient electronics.

USING LIQUID AIR FOR GRID-SCALE ENERGY STORAGE



To ensure round-the-clock power from renewable sources, large-scale energy storage is essential—especially for storing excess electricity generated by solar and wind. A research team from MIT and Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) is exploring a promising solution: liquid air energy storage (LAES). This system works by drawing in ambient air, purifying it, and cooling it until it liquefies. The liquefied air is then stored and later allowed to expand, driving turbines to generate electricity when needed.

LAES systems are:

- Technically feasible (prototypes already exist)
- Completely clean
- Location-flexible
- Capable of storing energy for hours, days, or longer

This makes LAES a compelling candidate for future grid reliability in a low-carbon energy landscape.

REVIEW

EXPORT EARNINGS



Bangladesh's export earnings rose by 10.52% during the first nine months of FY25 (July–March), primarily driven by the apparel sector. The apparel sector, including knit and woven items, contributed the lion's share of 81.29 percent in the period under review.

According to the latest data, the country's export earnings rose to US\$37.19 billion during the period under review from US\$33.65 billion during July–March of the last fiscal year (FY24). The ready-made garment (RMG) sector continued to dominate exports, growing to US\$30.23 billion in July–March FY25. Knitwear sub-sector bagged US\$16.14 billion, while woven garments earned US\$14.09 billion in the last nine months.

Key contributors:

RMG: US\$ 26.80 billion

- Knitwear: US\$16.14 billion
- Woven garments: US\$14.09 billion

Earnings from non-RMG sectors included:

- Leather and leather products: US\$852.29 million
- Agricultural products: US\$807.68 million
- Jute and jute goods: US\$694.21 million
- Home textiles: US\$609.41 million
- Engineering products: US\$411.97 million
- Frozen and live fish: US\$343.40 million
- Chemical products: US\$283.55 million
- Plastic products: US\$226.43 million
- Others: US\$2,726.57 million

The single-month export earnings in March 2025 were also up with an 11.36 percent year-on-year rise to US\$4.25 billion compared to US\$3.81 billion in March 2024, according to the EPB data. In March 2025, RMG exports amounted to US\$3.45 billion, marking a growth from the earnings in March 2024. Knitwear exports stood at US\$1.85 billion, while woven

garments fetched US\$1.60 billion, reflecting continued strong performance in the apparel sector.

Monthly Trends in Exports

Month	FY25 ^P	FY24 ^R
July	3823.73	3715.60
August	4033.68	3820.10
September	3800.49	3296.90
October	4130.92	3430.20
November	4111.86	3560.12
December	4633.20	3940.43
January	4432.04	4197.34
February	3973.20	3871.50
March	4246.84	3813.56
Total of July-March	37185.96	33645.75

Notes: P=Provisional; R=Revised
Source: Bangladesh Bank (BB)

IMPORT PAYMENTS (C&F)

During July–February of FY25, custom-based imports increased by US\$ 2350.57 million, equating to a year-on-year growth of 5.33 percent, compared to a steep contraction of 15.49 percent during the same period in FY24. This growth in imports could mostly be attributed to significant rise in intermediate goods import, especially goods related to RMG, and rise in food grains import. Opening and settlement of import LCs increased by 3.08 percent (y-o-y) and 2.18 percent (y-o-y) respectively during July–January of FY25.

Monthly Trends in Imports (C&F)

Month	FY25 ^P	FY24 ^R	Change %
July	5247.80	5384.60	-2.54%
August	5271.50	5247.60	+0.45%
September	5651.30	5277.20	+7.10%
October	6148.00	5962.70	+3.10%
November	5377.90	5890.80	-8.71%
December	6453.77	5232.50	+23.34%
January	6367.21	5865.00	+8.56%
February	5941.09	5247.60	+13.22%
Total (Jul–Feb)	46458.57	44108.00	+5.34%

Notes: P=Provisional; R=Revised
Sources: Bangladesh Bank (BB)

During July–February of FY25, the composition of custom-based imports was notably skewed towards intermediate goods, which constituted 61.00 percent of the total. Capital goods followed with a 13.99 percent share, reflecting investments in infrastructure and machinery to bolster long-term productive capacity. Consumer goods, indicative of direct household consumption, accounted for 8.12 percent, while food grains represented the smallest segment at 2.90 percent, emphasizing minimal dependency on imported staples during this timeframe.

During the period from July-February of FY25, imports of intermediate goods grew by 6.12 percent compared to the corresponding period in FY24. Imports of capital goods witnessed a sharp decline of 11.26 percent, while food grains and consumer goods imports rose by 16.71 percent and 22.97 percent, respectively. This sharp upwards move, especially in imports of intermediate goods, highlight a rejuvenation of economic activities across key industries during the comparative timeframe.

INFLOW OF REMITTANCES



Inflow of remittances registered US\$ 3295.63 million in March 2025, which is 65.02 percent higher compared to the same month of previous year. Remittances inflow spiked in March ahead of Ramadan and Eid-ul-Fitr. Shifting away from unofficial means of cross-border transactions by expatriates and volatility in the kerb market might also have played a role.

Monthly Trends in Remittances

Month	FY25 ^P	FY24 ^R	% Change
July	1,913.77	1,973.15	-3.01%
August	2,224.45	1,599.45	+39.07%
September	2,404.11	1,334.35	+80.18%
October	2,395.08	1,971.43	+21.46%
November	2,199.99	1,930.04	+14.01%
December	2,638.78	1,991.26	+32.53%
January	2,185.23	2,113.15	+3.41%
February	2,527.65	2,164.56	+16.78%
March	3,295.63	1,997.07	+65.02%
Total	21,784.39	17,074.46	+27.59%

Notes: P=Provisional; R=Revised
Source: Bangladesh Bank (BB)

Meanwhile, total remittances inflow for July-March of FY25 stood at US\$ 21784.39 million which was 27.58 percent higher compared to the same period of previous fiscal year.

USA held the top position among remittance sending countries while UAE became the second during July-March of FY25. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain) contributed 44.09 percent of the total remittance inflows, while 18.09 percent of the total remittances originated from the USA during July-

March of FY25. Among the European countries, the UK and Italy contributed 15.35 percent of total remittances received in July-March of FY25.

Remittance inflow from top ten source countries

Rank	July-March of FY25		
	Country	Amount in million USD	Share of total remittance (%)
1	USA	3940.17	18.09
2	UAE	3119.94	14.32
3	Saudi Arabia	2770.41	12.72
4	UK	2165.46	9.94
5	Malaysia	1889.98	8.68
6	Kuwait	1201.57	5.52
7	Italy	1178.27	5.41
8	Oman	1132.73	5.20
9	Qatar	848.04	3.89
10	Singapore	656.50	3.01
	Others	2881.32	13.23
	Total	21784.39	100.00

Source: Statistics Department, Bangladesh bank

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

According to the latest data of BB's balance of payments, the net inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the first eight months of the current fiscal year (July-February of FY25) decreased, year-on-year, by 20.16 per cent to US\$824 million from US\$1032 million. FDI inflow in Bangladesh is low compared to that in many other countries at similar level of development.

Bangladesh's low labor costs are generally believed to be attractive to foreign investors, yet they hesitate to make fresh investments in the country because of the country's underdeveloped infrastructure, and such other impediments as the shortage of energy and weak transmission infrastructure, lack of consistency in policy and regulatory frameworks, scarcity of industrial land, corruption, and non-transparent and uneven application of rules and regulations. The government needs to address these impediments to attract more FDI to the country to ensure the country's economic development.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES



Gross foreign exchange reserves (end of March 2025): US\$25.51 billion

Gross foreign exchange reserves (end of March 2024): US\$25.22 billion

Gross foreign exchange reserves, compliant with BPM6 (Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, 6th edition), stood at US\$ 20.39 billion at the end of March 2025 which was US\$19.90 billion at the end of March 2024.

Monthly Trends in Foreign Exchange Reserves

Month	FY25 ^P	FY25 ^P (BPM6)	FY24 ^R	FY24 ^R (BPM6)
July	25823.59	20393.66	29732.07	23374.25
August	25565.75	20475.41	29260.65	23255.00
September	24862.97	19861.45	26908.40	21056.56
October	25486.71	19829.95	26480.86	20710.06
November	24350.22	18611.38	24894.58	19300.61
December	26214.80	21394.73	27130.04	21867.74
January	25305.64	19962.36	25111.92	19963.46
February	26175.72	20945.87	25966.57	20780.03
March	25511.96	20386.20	25220.33	19901.64

Notes: P=Provisional; R=Revised

Source: Bangladesh Bank (BB)

EXCHANGE RATE

Exchange rate of Bangladeshi Taka, against US\$, depreciated since the end of June 2022. Between end-June of FY24 and end-March of FY25, the value of Taka is depreciated by 3.28 per cent in terms of US dollar. On the inter-bank market, the US dollar was quoted at Tk.118.00 at the end of June 2024 and Tk.122.00 at the end of March 2025 (Table 5).

Monthly Exchange Rate

Month	FY25 ^P (Taka per US\$)		FY24 ^R (Taka per US\$)	
	Month Average	End Month	Month Average	End Month
June	-	-	117.9901	118.0000
July	117.9720	118.0000	108.9367	109.0000
August	118.9057	120.0000	109.4973	109.5000
September	120.0000	120.0000	110.0800	110.5000
October	120.0000	120.0000	110.5000	110.5000
November	120.0000	120.0000	110.8636	110.5000
December	120.0000	120.0000	110.1429	110.0000
January	122.0000	122.0000	110.0000	110.0000
February	122.0000	122.0000	110.0000	110.0000
March	122.0000	122.0000	110.0000	110.0000

Note: i) P=Provisional; R=Revised

ii) Month average rates (BB intervention rates) are provided by Statistics Department of Bangladesh Bank up to 10 September 2022. Month end rates are calculated by Bangladesh Foreign Exchange Dealer's Association (BAFEDA) up to 10 Sept. 2022 which, also include BB intervention rates till that. From 12 Sept. 2022 onwards, daily rates have been collected from BAFEDA and monthly averages have been calculated from those rates.

Source: Bangladesh Bank (BB)

Policy Interventions

- To contain the persistent foreign exchange pressure, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) as well as the government took various policy measures; aided by steady inflow of remittances and lower import payments.
- BB sold a net of US\$667.38 million in the foreign exchange market during July-March of FY25, compared to a net sale of US\$7.70 billion in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

TAX REVENUE COLLECTION



Tax revenue collection by National Board of Revenue (NBR) increased by 1.76 percent (y-o-y) during July-February of FY25. VAT, income tax and customs duty stood at 37.59 percent, 32.42 percent and 11.06 percent of total NBR tax revenue respectively during the period under review. The collection during July-February of FY25 was 46.21 percent of the target (BDT 4,80,000.00 crore) set for FY25

	NBR Tax Revenue				
	Customs duties	VAT	Income Tax	Others*	Total
	1	2	3	4	5
FY24 ^P					
February	3128.78	10189.90	8215.38	5217.36	26751.42
July-February	25559.78	85748.91	68855.22	37807.65	217971.56 (+11.19)
FY25 ^P					
February	2776.00	9759.00	8954.41	5501.96	26991.37
July-February	24525.81	83384.58	71914.58	41992.12	221817.09 (+1.76)

CAPITAL MARKET

Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) – 23 March 2025

- DSEX Index:** 5,183.36 (–0.35 %)
- Turnover:** Tk.4.21 billion (–15.29 % from the previous day)
- Market Movement:** 83 gainers, 253 decliners, 62 unchanged

Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) – 23 March 2025

- **CASPI Index:** 14,683.20 (–0.26 %)
- **CSCX Index:** 8,832.66 (–0.20 %)
- **Turnover:** Tk. 99.92 million

PRICE SITUATION

- **General Inflation (March 2025):** 9.35% (vs. 9.32% in February 2025)
- **Food Inflation (March 2025):** 8.93% (vs. 9.24% in February 2025)
- **Non-Food Inflation (March 2025):** 9.70 % (vs. 9.38% in February 2025)

According to the latest Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data, general inflation (point-to-point, Base: 2021-22=100) increased slightly to 9.35% in March 2025 from 9.92% in February 2025 primarily driven by non-food prices. Food inflation (p-t-p) decreased to 8.93 percent in March 2025 from 9.24 percent in February 2025. However, non-food inflation (p-t-p) increased to 9.70 percent in March 2025 from 9.38 percent in the previous month. The twelve-month average headline inflation declined to 10.26 percent in March 2025 from previous month

Monthly Trends in Inflation (Base: 2021-22=100)

(Percent)

Period	Point to Point-All (National)			Point to Point-Rural			Point to Point-Urban		
	General	Food	Non-food	General	Food	Non-food	General	Food	Non-food
FY25^P									
July	11.66	14.10	9.68	11.89	14.06	9.84	11.27	14.22	9.43
August	10.49	11.36	9.74	10.95	11.44	10.45	10.01	11.24	9.20
September	9.92	10.40	9.50	10.15	10.38	9.91	9.83	10.50	9.38
October	10.87	12.66	9.34	11.26	12.75	9.76	10.44	12.53	9.06
November	11.38	13.80	9.39	11.53	13.41	9.72	11.37	14.63	9.31
December	10.89	12.92	9.26	11.09	12.63	9.65	10.84	13.56	9.17
January	9.94	10.72	9.32	10.18	10.61	9.77	9.89	10.95	9.25
February	9.32	9.24	9.38	9.51	9.15	9.85	9.34	9.47	9.27
March	9.35	8.93	9.70	9.41	8.81	9.97	9.66	9.18	9.95
FY24^R									
July	9.69	9.76	9.47	9.75	9.82	9.48	9.43	9.63	9.20
August	9.92	12.54	7.95	9.98	12.71	7.38	9.63	12.11	8.48
September	9.63	12.37	7.82	9.75	12.51	7.42	9.24	12.01	8.12
October	9.93	12.56	8.30	9.99	12.53	8.01	9.72	12.58	8.50
November	9.49	10.76	8.16	9.62	10.86	8.00	9.16	10.58	8.17
December	9.41	9.58	8.52	9.49	9.66	8.41	9.15	9.46	8.39
January	9.86	9.56	9.42	9.70	9.41	9.19	9.99	9.98	9.43
February	9.67	9.44	9.33	9.48	9.28	9.10	9.88	9.86	9.38
March	9.81	9.87	9.64	9.68	9.86	9.41	9.94	9.98	9.71

Notes: i) P=Provisional, R=Revised; ii) Food includes food, beverages and tobacco

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)

Observations:**Food Prices Ease:**

- Food inflation dropped to 8.93 % from 9.24% in February — a 0.31 percentage point decrease.
- This was due to improved supply of winter vegetables and tariff cuts.

Non-Food Inflation Edges Up:

- Non-food inflation rose slightly to 9.70 % in March from 9.38% in February

Urban vs Rural Inflation

In March 2025, urban inflation stood at 9.66 percent (p-t-p), whereas rural inflation was lower at 9.41 percent (p-t-p). Urban food inflation was 9.18(p-t-p) in March, while rural food inflation stood at 8.81(p-t-p). Urban non-food inflation stood at 9.95(p-t-p) in March, slightly lower than 9.97(p-t-p) of rural areas.

STATISTICS

EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF BANGLADESH

Value in Million US\$

Products	Export for 2023-2024	Export Earnings Jul -March 2024-2025	Export Earnings Jul -March 2023-2024	% Change of Jul -March 2024-2025 Over Jul -March 2023-2024	Export Earnings March 2025	Export Earnings March 2024	% Change of March 2025 Over March 2024
All Products (A+B)	44,469.74	37191.32	33617.41	10.63	4,248.66	3,812.38	11.44
A. Primary Commodities	1,357.66	1164.34	1074.73	8.34	93.42	114.21	-18.20
(1) Frozen And Live Fish	376.68	343.28	301.72	13.77	27.10	25.46	6.44
a) Live Fish	24.71	19.34	18.23	6.09	2.05	1.94	5.67
b) Frozen Fish	77.41	72.30	63.12	14.54	7.56	5.20	45.38
c) Shrimps	248.32	230.41	200.22	15.08	14.50	15.77	-8.05
d) Crabs	9.24	9.83	6.68	47.16	1.24	0.87	42.53
e) Others	17.00	11.40	13.47	-15.37	1.75	1.68	4.17
(2) Animal Origin	16.64	14	12.61	11.02	1.73	1.80	-3.89
a) Guts, bladders and stomachs	10.45	10.16	7.95	27.80	1.45	1.36	6.62
b) Others	6.19	3.84	4.66	-17.60	0.28	0.44	-36.36
(3) Agricultural Products	964.34	807.06	760.4	6.14	64.59	86.96	-25.72
a) Tea	3.54	3.40	2.83	20.14	0.32	0.27	18.52
b) Vegetables	112.47	55.71	90.90	-38.71	9.91	10.32	-3.97
c) Tobacco	181.53	227.32	153.30	48.28	10.00	16.30	-38.65
d) Fruits	29.24	38.98	14.02	178.03	3.64	1.75	108.00
e) Spices	56.98	44.73	41.39	8.07	4.63	5.67	-18.34
f) Dry Food	217.14	154.24	170.95	-9.77	14.38	20.35	-29.34
g) Oil Seeds	29.37	20.30	26.44	-23.22	0.85	0.65	30.77
h) Betel Leaves	32.59	15.81	26.81	-41.03	1.77	2.83	-37.46
i) Animal or Vegetable Fats and Oils	95.14	110.89	73.19	51.51	3.30	8.52	-61.27
j) Sugar and Sugar Confectionery	25.18	15.66	19.70	-20.51	2.18	2.59	-15.83
k) Beverages, Spirits and Vinegar	34.94	26.98	24.44	10.39	4.86	4.63	4.97
l) Oil-cake	2.86	0.00	2.84	-100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
m) Others	143.36	93.04	113.59	-18.09	8.75	13.08	-33.10
B. Manufactured Commodities	43,112.08	36026.98	32542.67	10.71	4,155.24	3,698.16	12.36
(1) Cement, Salt, Stone Etc	18.42	10.31	14.5	-28.9	1.43	2.04	-29.90
(2) Ores, Slag and Ash	42.38	26.49	30.97	-14.47	4.99	3.02	65.23
(3) Petroleum Byproducts	21.19	12.95	10	29.5	1.01	0.14	621.43
(4) Chemical Products	349.73	283.67	261.15	8.62	32.56	28.97	12.39
a) Pharmaceuticals	205.48	165.48	153.33	7.92	20.02	17.52	14.27
b) Inorganic Chemicals	83.71	64.23	63.37	1.36	5.98	6.71	-10.88
c) Organic Chemicals	8.92	7.09	6.56	8.08	1.14	1.02	11.76
d) Others	51.62	46.87	37.89	23.70	5.42	3.72	45.70
(5) Plastic Products	244.43	226.29	187.55	20.66	22.64	20.96	8.02
a) PVC Bags	38.61	38.71	28.78	34.50	4.68	3.72	25.81
b) Plastic Waste	16.58	12.44	12.96	-4.01	1.31	1.19	10.08
b) Tableware, Kitchenware	29.24	33.17	21.38	55.14	3.96	2.43	62.96
c) Others	160.00	141.97	124.43	14.10	12.69	13.62	-6.83
(6) Rubber	43.11	39.3	29.43	33.54	4.37	3.50	24.86
(7) Leather And Leather Products	1,039.15	852.01	775.36	9.89	94.51	77.06	22.64
(a) Leather	142.54	99.40	106.07	-6.29	14.56	13.17	10.55
(b) Leather Products	352.58	256.44	273.13	-6.11	34.66	31.29	10.77
(c) Leather Footwear	544.02	496.17	396.16	25.24	45.29	32.61	38.88
(8) Wood And Wood Products	16.17	9.97	12.44	-19.86	1.05	1.52	-30.92
(9) Handicrafts	34.96	30	27.12	10.62	3.33	3.28	1.52

Products	Export for 2023-2024	Export Earnings Jul -March 2024-2025	Export Earnings Jul -March 2023-2024	% Change of Jul -March 2024-2025 Over Jul -March 2023-2024	Export Earnings March 2025	Export Earnings March 2024	% Change of March 2025 Over March 2024
(10) Paper And Paper Products	273.06	225.91	206.75	9.27	26.89	24.76	8.60
(11) Printed Materials	9.89	9.55	6.67	43.18	0.88	0.93	-5.38
(12) Silk	0.11	0.07	0.1	-30	0.00	0.00	0.00
(13) Cotton And Cotton Product (Yarn, Waste, Fabrics etc)	554.50	453.34	417.05	8.7	43.71	49.02	-10.83
(14) Jute And Jute goods	855.23	626.29	678.37	-7.68	78.41	78.19	0.28
a) Raw Jute	161.28	107.93	118.06	-8.58	8.83	14.14	-37.55
b) Jute Yarn And Twine	492.45	355.62	397.53	-10.54	47.60	44.57	6.80
c) Jute Sacks And Bags	106.29	95.91	84.80	13.10	12.96	10.68	21.35
d) Others	95.21	66.83	77.98	-14.30	9.02	8.80	2.50
(15) Man Made Filaments And Staple Fibers	341.19	304.58	250.69	21.5	37.08	34.73	6.77
(16) Carpet (Jute And Others)	26.51	23.67	20.08	17.88	2.61	2.44	6.97
(17) Specialized Textiles	337.28	298.39	249.4	19.64	33.14	31.31	5.84
a) Terry Towel	23.55	18.61	17.96	3.62	2.11	1.97	7.11
b) Special Woven Fabric	73.69	62.79	54.54	15.13	6.58	6.27	4.94
c) Knitted Fabrics	157.12	138.66	114.96	20.62	16.31	15.79	3.29
d) Other	82.92	78.33	61.94	26.46	8.14	7.28	11.81
(18) RMG (61 & amp)	36,151.31	30246.34	27288.73	10.84	3,449.92	3,069.40	12.40
(a) Knitwear	19,282.15	16,146.72	14,517.46	11.22	1,806.30	1,599.53	12.93
(b) Woven Garments	16,869.16	14,099.62	12,771.27	10.40	1,643.62	1,469.87	11.82
(19) Home Textile	851.01	677.6	645.68	4.94	99.61	96.43	3.30
a) Bed, Kitchen toilet lines	418.78	319.10	323.64	-1.40	40.01	40.80	-1.94
a) Tents	221.90	173.77	158.62	9.55	40.23	37.34	7.74
a) New Rags, Scrap Twine	100.37	79.17	78.04	1.45	8.38	8.63	-2.90
b) Other	109.96	105.56	85.38	23.64	10.99	9.66	13.77
(20) Other Footwear	416.83	414.68	309.12	34.15	51.85	36.00	44.03
(21) Headgear/Cap	327.58	283.12	251.32	12.65	29.98	24.09	24.45
(22) Wigs And Human Hair	118.14	103.92	94.34	10.15	14.44	9.80	47.35
(23) Ceramic Products	33.09	28.02	24.58	14	3.62	2.61	38.70
(24) Glass And Glassware	7.99	4.07	6.93	-41.27	0.49	0.77	-36.36
(25) Engineering Products	486.75	402.45	362.96	10.88	63.66	47.75	33.32
a) Iron, Steel	66.96	56.49	50.71	11.40	6.81	6.55	3.97
b) Copper Wire	56.36	43.22	43.41	-0.44	5.53	3.73	48.26
c) Stainless Steel ware	3.84	2.52	3.17	-20.50	0.28	0.30	-6.67
d) Engineering Equipment	55.81	36.70	46.37	-20.85	7.38	9.26	-20.30
e) Electric Products	149.50	123.34	109.05	13.10	15.01	13.61	10.29
f) Bicycle	82.50	86.66	54.13	60.10	13.30	9.61	38.40
g) Others	71.78	53.52	56.12	-4.63	15.35	4.69	227.29
(26) Ships, boats And floating structures	0.14	2.93	0.13	2153.85	0.00	0.01	-100.00
(27) Other mfd Products	511.92	431.03	381.28	13.05	53.01	49.47	7.16
a) Optical, Photographic, Medical Instruments etc	74.76	64.23	57.21	12.27	8.02	6.59	21.70
b) Furniture	45.70	35.65	32.68	9.09	5.49	4.32	27.08
c) Mattress & Bedding	29.05	19.05	20.49	-7.03	3.32	3.14	5.73
d) Golf Shaft	16.38	14.82	12.84	15.42	1.96	1.17	67.52
e) Others	346.03	297.28	258.06	15.20	34.22	34.25	-0.09

USD Rate **120.267**
Source NBR (National Board of Revenue)

COMMODITY-WISE IMPORT PAYMENTS*(In million US\$)*

Items	2023-24 July-Feb	2024-25 July-Jan	2024-25 July-Feb	% Changes 4 over 2
A. Food Grains	1155.0	1133.1	1348	16.7
Rice	13.3	182.8	286.1	2051.1
Wheat	1141.7	950.3	1061.9	-7.0
B. Consumer goods	3066.3	2953.1	3770.8	23.0
Milk & cream	253.3	226.9	270	6.6
Spices	281.4	264.4	306.2	8.8
Edible oil	1410.2	1392.5	1639.6	16.3
Pulses (all sorts)	352.9	597.5	806.5	128.5
Sugar	768.5	471.9	748.4	-2.6
C. Intermediate Goods	26704.0	24970.6	28338.8	6.1
i) Petroleum goods	3951.5	3206.2	3622.3	-8.3
Crude petroleum	680.8	393.4	403.5	-40.7
POL	3270.7	2812.9	3218.8	-1.6
ii) RMG related goods	10929.4	11109.3	12663.5	15.9
Raw cotton	2234.1	2024	2325.6	4.1
Yarn	2067.7	2122.9	2433.4	17.7
Textile and articles thereof	5109.6	5435.7	6196.7	21.3
Staple fiber	968.9	992.5	1112.4	14.8
Dyeing and tanning materials	549.1	534.2	595.4	8.4
iii) Other intermediate goods	11823.1	10655	12053	1.9
Clinker	620.6	471	545.8	-12.1
Oil seeds	722.5	590.7	741.4	2.6
Chemicals	2205.2	2203.7	2436	10.5
Pharmaceutical products	232.1	249.1	294.6	26.9
Fertilizer	2093.7	1669	1978.8	-5.5
Plastics and rubber articles thereof	1928.4	2021	2265.7	17.5
Iron, steel & other base metals	4020.6	3450.5	3790.7	-5.7
D. Capital Goods	7323.6	5771.8	6499.2	-11.3
Capital machinery	2618.9	1770.4	1962.5	-25.1
Other capital goods	4704.7	4001.3	4536.8	-3.6
E. Others n.i.e.	5859.1	5689	6501.7	11.0
Grand Total	44108.0	40517.5	46458.6	5.3
Of which: EPZ	2410.0	2573.9	2895.8	20.2

Source: National Board of Revenue

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (BOP)

(USD in million)

Particulars	FY23 ^R	FY24 ^R	July-February of FY24 ^R	July-February of FY25 ^P
Trade balance	-27384	-22432	-14329	-13697
Exports f.o.b.(including EPZ)	43364	40810	27543	30037
Imports f.o.b.(including EPZ)	70748	63242	41872	43734
Services	-3131	-3808	-2410	-3509
Credit	6971	6289	4097	3980
Debit	10102	10097	6507	4421
Primary income	-3407	-4817	-2694	-2865
Credit	443	557	358	470
Debit	3850	5374	3052	3335
Of which:Official interest payment	1030	1540	860	1014
Secondary income	22289	24545	15362	18805
Official transfers	88	72	26	43
Private transfers	22201	24473	15336	18762
of which : Workers' remittances inflows	21611	23912	15077	18488
Current account balance	-11633	-6512	-4071	-1266
Capital account	475	554	196	235
Capital transfers	475	554	196	235
Financial account	6890	4546	654	1418
i) Foreign direct investment(net)*	1649	1697	1032	824
ii) Portfolio investment (net)	-30	-62	-92	65
Of which : Investment by NRBs	118	93	69	70
iii) Other investment(net)	5271	2911	-286	529
Medium and long-term (MLT) loans	8704	9680	4998	3857
MLT amortization payments	1745	2021	1268	1751
Other long-term loans (net)	434	249	478	-11
Other short-term loans (net)	-1883	-1574	-1787	-726
Trade credit (net)	2532	-1762	-2027	-33
DMBs & NBDCs(net)	-2771	-1662	-680	-807
Assets	799	895	-480	-1
Liabilities	-1973	-767	-1160	-808
Errors and omissions	-3954	-2888	-1217	-1493
Overall balance	-8222	4300	-4438	-1106
Reserve assets	8222	4300	4438	1106
Bangladesh Bank (net)	8222	4300	4438	1106
Assets	-8766	-2900	-3920	-970
Liabilities	-544	1400	518	136
Gross official reserves (as per BPM6)	24754	21686	20780	20946
Gross official reserves	31203	26714	25967	26176
In months of imports of goods and services (prospective)	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.1
In months of imports of goods (cif) (prospective)	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.5

Source :Statistics Department, Bangladesh Bank.

Note:- Both exports and imports are compiled on the basis of customs data. P=Provisional; R = Revised.

* FDI is calculated on net basis by deducting disinvestment, repayments of loans & loss.

FRESH OPENING AND SETTLEMENT OF IMPORT LCS

(USD in million)

Items	July-January of FY25		July-January of FY24	
	Opening	Settlement	Opening	Settlement
A. Consumer goods	4002.74	3645.23	3922.89	3808.41
Rice and wheat	995.19	850.14	980.10	871.78
Sugar and salt	613.28	472.68	705.36	680.29
Milk food	207.30	204.59	191.53	217.50
Edible oil (refined)	706.03	721.09	750.33	792.10
All kinds of fruits	176.19	153.80	180.59	142.34
Pulses	270.73	236.18	122.79	136.27
Onion	198.56	179.30	157.58	168.76
Spices	325.15	352.09	296.97	290.27
Second hand clothings	0.19	0.12	0.69	0.34
Drugs and medicines(finished)	31.70	25.85	33.83	39.17
Others	478.43	478.43	478.43	478.43
B. Intermediate goods	2488.15	2602.39	2603.10	2981.24
Coal	732.37	676.51	557.48	708.09
Cement	65.85	65.27	72.94	61.55
Clinker & limestone	323.07	362.74	374.18	390.60
B. P. sheet	73.77	77.92	56.68	69.93
Tin plate	1.73	2.68	2.79	2.75
Scrap Vessels	209.75	212.37	242.31	254.55
Iron and steel scrap	615.71	734.29	825.47	968.58
Non-ferrous metal	95.41	101.37	69.97	95.23
Paper and paper board	174.74	164.46	161.90	151.84
Others	195.75	204.76	239.37	278.12
C. Industrial raw materials	14771.80	14053.64	13744.59	12756.62
Edible oil (Crude)	101.72	35.47	150.51	234.28
Seeds	547.52	503.71	471.33	535.69
Textile fabrics (B/B & others)	6627.21	5973.93	5710.45	4971.68
Pharmaceutical raw materials	629.24	647.80	634.05	606.88
Raw cotton	1536.56	1578.51	1605.64	1547.86
Cotton yarn	1419.23	1390.48	1314.06	1097.47
Copra	42.73	36.55	22.16	18.38
Synthetic fibre & yarn	549.27	570.32	564.89	494.82
Chemicals & chem. products	2109.40	2138.30	2024.60	2018.49
Others	1208.91	1178.58	1246.90	1231.07
D. Capital machinery	1007.64	1243.29	1516.58	1709.59
Textile machinery	58.90	98.59	73.32	125.98
Leather / tannery	1.80	2.90	2.57	3.16
Jute industry	2.08	1.77	0.90	2.45
Garment industry	205.60	240.15	164.28	243.28
Pharmaceutical industry	51.98	43.04	63.61	81.26
Packing industry	1.72	2.03	3.21	2.87
Other industry	685.56	854.80	1208.69	1250.59
E. Machinery for misc. inds.	1269.80	1367.08	1379.90	1403.74
Other machineries	4.94	5.14	12.24	20.63
Marine diesel engine	3.73	3.00	1.43	1.40
Computer & its accessories	109.25	117.72	117.47	144.26
Motor vehicle & motorcycle parts	147.51	112.62	97.71	93.98
Bicycle parts	30.63	26.43	19.46	18.44
Other iron and steel products	157.84	166.57	167.75	174.24
Motor vehicles	161.92	180.62	154.18	178.85
Other electronics components	49.49	41.54	33.97	36.51
Tractors & power tiller	9.54	8.32	23.40	15.37
Others	594.95	705.11	752.27	720.07
F. Petroleum & petro.prodts.	5163.83	5544.40	5672.39	5729.05
Crude	552.05	665.61	456.09	450.07
Refined	2153.45	2070.57	3296.79	3190.37
Others	2458.33	2808.22	1919.51	2088.60
G. Others	12502.20	11834.30	11134.03	11043.66
Commercial sector	2859.99	2914.68	2854.94	2777.34
Industrial sector	9642.21	8919.61	8279.09	8266.32
Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant	---	---	---	---
Total	41206.16	40290.33	39973.47	39432.31
of which back to back	6730.05	6157.19	5839.87	4983.95

Source: Foreign Exchange Operations Department(FEOD), Bangladesh Bank.

Opening = 'Fresh opening of import LCs; Settlement = 'Settlement of import LCs'.

N.B.: Provisional Data downloaded from Online Import Monitoring System on 19/02/2025.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED INDUSTRIAL ITEMS ON LARGE SCALE (BASE YEAR : 2015-16)

Description of items of industry	Unit	No. of reporting industries	2022-23	2023-24	Dec-23	Nov-24 (P)	Dec-24 (P)
Mfg. of Food Products							
Processing and preserving of meat	M. Ton	3	1146	1337	1519	1784	1570
Processing and preserving of fish, crustaceans and molluscs	M. Ton	EBP.	4047	3523	6209	3650	3840
Processing and preserving of fruit and vegetables	'000' Litre	3	2625	2913	3966	2580	2750
Mfg. of vegetable and animal oils and fats	M. Ton	3	155079	176472	144964	230615	160500
Mfg. of dairy products	M. Ton	3	6516	7937	7582	9285	6606
Mfg. of rice & rice milling	M. Ton	3	198	199	205	195	215
Mfg. of bakery products	M. Ton	3	2973	3239	3037	3560	3080
Mfg. of sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery	M. Ton	BSFIC	1729	2568	8970	1340	12463
Mfg. of macaroni, noodles, couscous and similar farinaceous products	M. Ton	3	58	60	56	58	68
Mfg. of processing of tea and coffee	M. Ton	BTB	8329	8391	7794	9978	6378
Mfg. of other food products n.e.c. (Salt)	M. Ton	3	206	261	222	270	275
Mfg. of Prepared animal feeds	M. Ton	3	83709	87798	79221	96758	95870
Mfg. of Beverages							
Mfg. of soft drinks	'000' Litre	4	15825	16113	15280	18100	18500
Mfg. of Tobacco							
Mfg. of tobacco products (cigarettes & others)	Million No.	3	54555	59343	57270	51500	50111
Mfg. of bidies, Zadra and quivam, Tobacco manufacture n.e.c.	Million No	5	2093	1831	2052	1634	2070
Mfg. of textile							
Preparation and spinning of textile fibres	M. Ton	7	2879	2659	2824	2450	2340
Weaving of textiles, Silk & Synthetic	'000 Mitre	4	1169618	1293246	1346491	1332768	1318619
Finishing of textiles (dyeing, bleaching etc.)	'000 Mitre	7	14362	17278	13520	16462	14031
Mfg. of Jute textiles, Pressing and baling of jute and other fibres, spooling and thread ball	M. Ton	BJMC	32209	38051	39932	30500	25600
Mfg. of Knitted and crocheted fabrics, made-up textile articles, except apparel, carpets	M. Ton	10	871145	925992	939530	862472	884034
Mfg. of Wearing Apparel (Ready made garment)			150669	146752	179042	169727	209586
Mfg. of Wearing apparel, except fur apparel	Million TK		150669	146752	179042	169727	209586
Mfg of Knitted and crocheted apparel, articles of fur and crocheted apparel	Million TK	EBP.	150669	189201	215418	220083	249541
Mfg. of leather and related products							
Tanning and dressing of leather; dressing and dyeing	Dozen	EBP.	1441	1608	1350	1530	1485
Mfg. of luggage, handbags and the like, saddlery and	'000 Pair	3	1598	1849	1862	1980	1790
Manufacture of footwear	'000' sqm.	5	522	416	540	481	456
Mfg. of Wood and Products							
Sawmilling, wood-based panels, wooden containers, bamboo & cane Products	'000' sqm.	3	179774	176458	169245	215240	194964
Mfg. of Paper and Paper Products							
Manufacture of pulp, paper and paperboard	M. Ton	3	4368	4009	4515	3680	3580
Mfg of other articles of paper and paperboard	M. Ton	3	12553	13057	12186	10278	9850
Printing & Reproduction of Recorded Media							
Printing, Service activities related to printing, Reproduction of recorded media	'000' No.	3	9195	10111	9840	11540	11750
Manufacture of Coke and Refined Petroleum Products							
Manufacture of refined petroleum products	M. Ton	1	127225	342175	17519	134871	146140
Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products							
Mfg. of basic chemicals (Compressed Liquid Gas)	C. No	3	1516	1233	1519	1326	1292
Mfg. of fertilizers and nitrogen compounds; plastics & synthetic rubber	M. Ton	3	79001	62126	101010	68500	70250
Mfg. of paints, varnishes and similar coatings, printing ink and mastics, Pesticides & other agrochemical products	'000' Litre	3	233	256	248	278	290

Description of items of industry	Unit	No. of reporting industries	2022-23	2023-24	Dec-23	Nov-24 (P)	Dec-24 (P)
Mfg. of soap and detergents, cleaning and polishing preparations, perfumes	'000' Tk.	3	95646	85965	101598	111859	114131
Matches, Fire fox, manmade fibre, other chemical products	'000' Gross	3	3971	4289	4258	4250	4358
Mfg. of Pharmaceutical							
Mfg. of pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical and botanical products	'000' Tk.	10	10195155	11574953	12095017	12270157	12583046
Mfg. of unani& Ayurvedic, homeopathic & biochemical medicine.	'000' Tk.	3	115900	133231	122008	132652	125850
Manufacture of rubber tyres and tubes; retreading and rebuilding of rubber tyres	Dozen	3	176128	194769	203796	207850	212650
Mfg. of plastics products	M. ton	3	3257	3440	2666	4410	3250
Manufacture of polythene products	'000' Doz	3	13229	13377	14170	14580	15360
Manufacture of Other Non-metallic Mineral							
Manufacture of glass and glass products	'000' Sqf.	3	11135	14659	14256	16420	16350
Mfg. of clay building materials, Refractory Products	'000' Sqf.	3	1201	1058	1172	1540	1620
Mfg. of other porcelain and ceramic products		3	1681	1875	2026	1398	1540
Manufacture of cement, lime and plaster; article of concrete cement & shaping & finishing of	'000' Sqf.	8	820410	802640	780809	820138	863809
Manufacture of bricks	'000' No.	3	53.427	51.600	55.216	53.250	54.150
Mfg. of basic metals							
Manufacture of basic iron and steel; basic precious & other non ferrous metals; casting of non-ferrous metals	M. Ton	6	128513	126987	116202	119636	118235
Mfg. of fabricated metal products except machinery							
Manufacture of cutlery, hand tools and general hardware	'000' No.	3	4128	4105	3958	4052	4365
Manufacture of other fabricated metal products n.e.c.	M. Ton	3	114	139	116	165	158
Mfg. of computer, electronic and optical products							
Manufacture of communication equipment; electronic components & boards; computer & peripheral equipment	No.	3	66565	70141	78922	74500	72580
Mfg. of electrical equipment							
Manufacture of Batteries & Accumulator	'000' No.	3	53.72	61.87	67.04	72.54	68.25
Mfg. of Fibre optics cables; other electronic and electric wires and cables;	M. Ton	3	8010	9853	11573	13150	14150
Mfg. of domestic appliances; other electrical appliances	No.	3	384275	390297	369033	429419	440370
Mfg of machinery & Equipment							
Mfg. of metal forming machinery and machine tools; machinery for food, beverage & tobacco processing.	No.	3	1117	1251	1125	1540	1450
Mfg. of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers							
Mfg. of motor vehicles ; bodies (coachwork) for motor vehicles, trailers & semi-	No.	3	507	423	398	435	448
Mfg. of other transport equipment							
Building of ships and floating structures; ship breaking & dismantling; railway locomotives	M. Ton	8	6703	6400	5285	6980	5420
Mfg. of Motor vehicles	No.	3	1584	2067	2040	2750	2640
Mfg. of bicycles and invalid carriages	No.	3	2182	2562	2715	3010	2750
Mfg. of Furniture							
Mfg. of wooden furniture and fixture	No.	3	17768	16511	18350	17520	17870
Mfg. of plastic furniture and fixture	No.	3	2697802	2360822	2244560	2721174	2755188
Mfg. of packaging materials	No.	3	532	525	528	572	562
Other Manufacturing							
Mfg. of sports goods	Million Tk.	3	120	133	133	136	129

Note: P= Provisional, Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)

CAPITAL MARKET SNAPSHOT

Market Slid to Negative in March

Chart: DSEX Index with MoM return

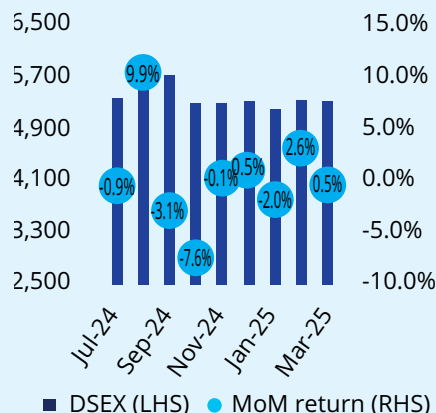


Chart: Avg. Daily Turnover (BDT bn)

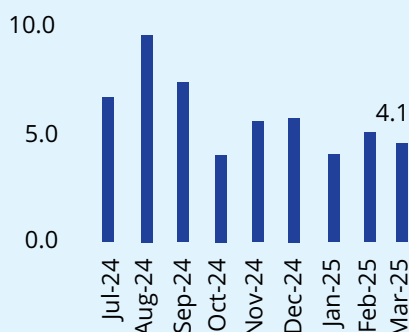


Chart: Market P/E (x)

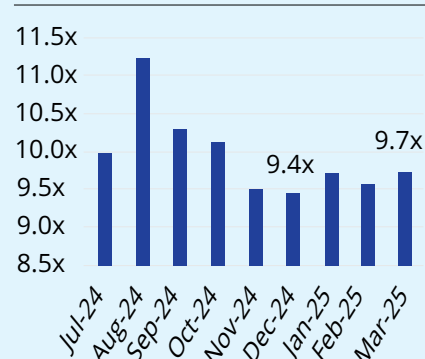


Chart: Sector M.cap return in Mar'25

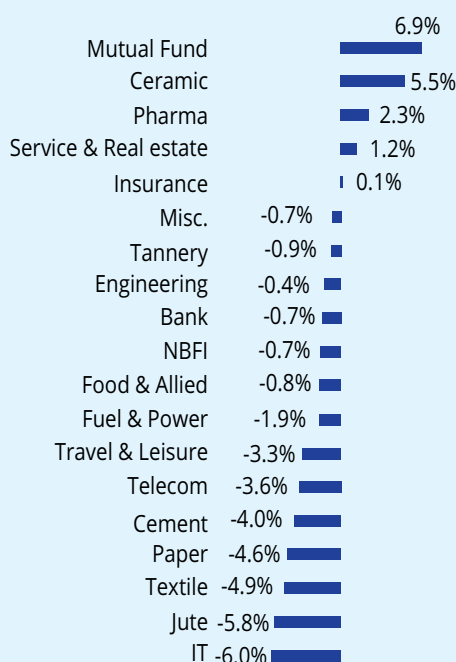


Chart: Turnover (BDT bn) in Mar'25

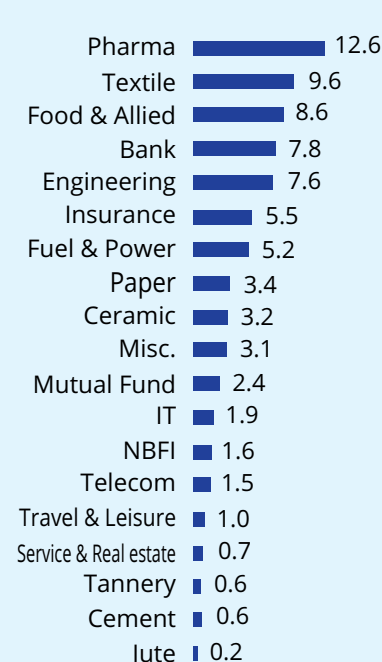


Chart: Sectors by M.cap

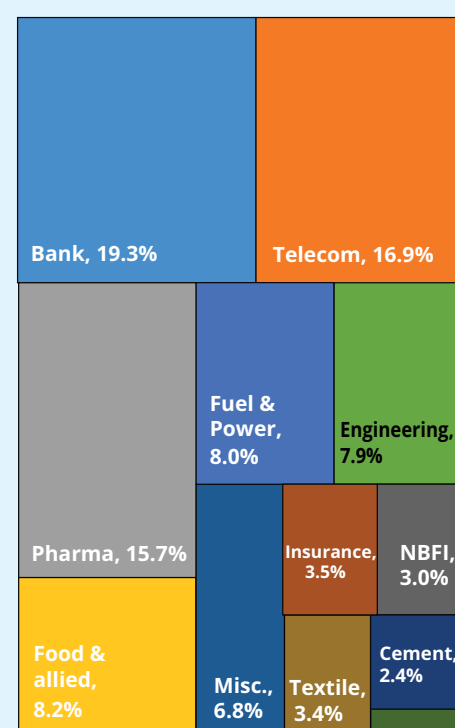
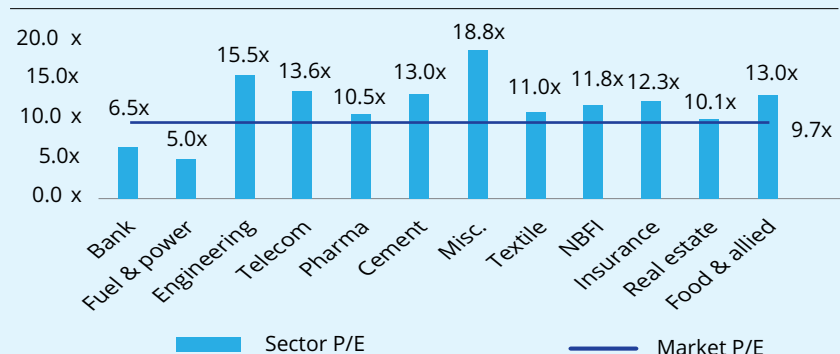


Table: Turnover leaders in Mar'25

	Ticker	Turnover (BDT bn)
1	ORIONINFU	3.9
2	BEACHHATCH	2.2
3	SPCERAMICS	2.0
4	LOVELLO	1.9
5	SQURPHARMA	1.7

Table: P/E ratio of sectors vs market



Source: DSE, City Brokerage Limited

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: NATIONAL (BASE: 2021-22=100)

Period	General Index	Food	Non-Food	Index by expenditure group						
				I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expenses	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment,	VIII. Mise. Goods & Services
FY 2023-24										
October	120.24	123.90	117.27	114.28	116.76	122.68	114.28	117.22	122.20	118.96
November	119.10	120.04	118.33	115.92	118.07	124.56	114.80	117.85	123.83	120.83
December	118.40	117.48	119.16	116.22	118.51	124.95	120.93	118.05	123.63	122.09
January	119.60	118.30	120.66	117.37	119.76	125.92	122.38	119.21	125.90	125.89
February	120.09	119.07	120.92	117.40	120.38	125.95	122.39	119.31	126.00	125.96
March	121.60	121.50	121.69	117.96	122.03	126.26	122.84	119.20	126.59	127.38
FY 2024-25										
October	133.32	139.58	128.22	124.15	127.72	132.51	126.71	123.83	131.86	137.75
November	132.66	136.61	129.44	126.33	129.40	133.36	126.85	124.51	133.16	138.68
December	131.30	132.65	130.19	127.48	129.97	133.64	127.19	125.23	133.41	140.22
January	131.49	130.97	131.90	129.33	130.56	135.44	127.47	126.43	134.18	141.95
February	131.29	130.08	132.26	129.53	130.82	136.28	127.62	126.64	134.56	143.11
March	132.98	132.35	133.49	135.31	132.05	137.02	128.70	127.17	136.36	143.05

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: RURAL (BASE: 2021-22=100)

Period	General Index	Food	Non-Food	Index by expenditure group						
				I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expenses	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment,	VIII. Mise. Goods & Services
FY 2023-24										
October	120.33	123.62	117.22	112.34	119.64	123.47	114.72	117.73	120.35	117.85
November	119.24	120.07	118.46	114.34	121.19	125.12	115.49	119.01	121.38	119.62
December	118.55	117.70	119.36	114.40	121.25	125.20	124.30	119.15	121.39	119.71
January	119.64	118.42	120.79	115.80	122.52	125.78	125.76	120.33	124.23	122.76
February	120.16	119.30	120.98	115.84	122.96	125.79	125.76	120.38	124.23	122.81
March	121.81	121.89	121.74	116.09	124.55	126.08	126.21	120.28	124.96	124.31
FY 2024-25										
October	133.88	139.38	128.66	121.40	132.10	132.19	128.16	125.41	130.10	132.59
November	132.99	136.18	129.97	123.48	134.04	133.43	128.36	126.09	131.73	133.72
December	131.69	132.56	130.87	124.63	134.85	133.80	128.84	127.20	131.92	135.30
January	131.81	130.99	132.59	126.28	135.57	136.03	129.18	128.31	132.28	138.15
February	131.60	130.21	132.90	126.41	135.82	136.48	129.29	128.57	132.72	139.28
March	133.27	132.64	133.87	129.33	136.88	137.39	130.85	129.18	135.32	139.81

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: URBAN (BASE: 2021-22=100)

Period	General Index	Food	Non-Food	Index by expenditure group						
				I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expenses	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment,	VIII. Misc. Goods & Services
FY 2023-24										
October	308.81	348.75	274.07	323.66	242.32	341.00	225.63	355.22	177.90	287.76
November	108.87	108.52	109.13	106.87	107.07	110.75	108.92	110.56	109.33	113.16
December	119.30	120.09	118.81	119.14	116.10	123.31	114.40	117.40	125.95	124.68
January	119.37	118.08	120.17	120.39	116.51	126.17	115.74	118.71	128.06	128.94
February	119.82	118.63	120.56	120.41	117.36	126.25	115.75	118.87	128.71	129.12
March	121.10	120.69	121.35	121.58	119.08	126.58	116.20	118.76	129.25	130.39
FY 2024-25										
October	132.48	140.09	127.75	129.45	122.58	133.07	123.86	124.45	135.82	143.30
November	132.26	137.60	128.94	131.84	123.95	133.23	123.90	125.53	136.04	143.93
December	130.79	132.92	129.47	132.93	124.25	133.36	123.93	125.86	136.05	145.36
January	131.18	131.01	131.29	135.14	124.67	134.35	124.11	127.45	137.17	145.69
February	131.01	129.86	131.73	135.46	124.96	135.91	124.34	127.68	137.34	146.85
March	132.79	131.77	133.42	146.72	126.38	136.33	124.47	128.13	123.51	147.31

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

WAGE RATE INDEX BY SECTORS: NATIONAL (BASE: 2021-22 = 100)

Sector	2021-22	2022-2023	2023-24	January '25	February '25	March '25
General	191.80	205.30	115.33	125.60	126.83	127.62
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.06	7.04	7.74	8.16	8.12	8.15
percentage change (over previous month)				0.68	0.98	0.62
1. Agriculture	192.21	205.69	115.66	126.36	127.57	128.42
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.10	7.01	8.08	8.41	8.34	8.37
percentage change (over previous month)				0.70	0.96	0.66
i) Agriculture	192.39	205.98	115.81	126.65	127.91	128.78
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.16	7.06	8.17	8.47	8.40	8.44
percentage change (over previous month)				0.72	0.99	0.68
ii) Fish	1183.06	191.07	113.09	121.53	121.94	122.39
percentage change (Point to Point)	2.95	4.37	8.35	7.41	7.18	7.19
percentage change (over previous month)				0.29	0.34	0.36
2. Industry	187.83	201.01	114.72	124.40	125.61	126.33
	5.85	6.97	7.24	7.80	7.80	7.82
				0.63	0.97	0.57
i) Construction	174.62	184.35	114.29	123.87	125.05	125.74
percentage change (Point to Point)	4.41	5.57	8.26	7.77	7.79	7.82
percentage change (over previous month)				0.60	0.95	0.55
ii) Production	214.87	234.79	117.69	128.14	129.57	130.51
percentage change (Point to Point)	8.30	9.28	7.70	8.01	7.86	7.83
percentage change (over previous month)				0.86	1.12	0.72
3. Service	199.42	212.23	116.22	126.76	128.16	128.96
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.32	7.31	8.29	8.44	8.37	8.40
percentage change (over previous month)				0.79	1.11	0.63

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

WAGE RATE INDEX BY SECTORS: DHAKA DIVISION (BASE: 2021-22=100)

Sector	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	January '25	February '25	March '25
General	189.42	199.93	112.92	123.03	124.18	124.91
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.25	5.54	6.98	8.10	8.10	8.18
percentage change (over previous month)				0.51	0.93	0.59
1. Agriculture	190.78	201.30	112.51	122.85	123.96	125.10
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.11	5.51	6.60	8.14	8.18	8.36
percentage change (over previous month)				0.41	0.91	0.92
i) Agriculture	190.80	201.36	112.50	122.84	123.96	125.10
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.13	5.53	6.58	8.14	8.18	8.36
percentage change (over previous month)				0.41	0.91	0.92
ii) Fish	187.35	193.85	113.66	123.91	124.25	124.40
percentage change (Point to Point)	2.74	3.47	9.85	8.55	8.57	8.39
percentage change (over previous month)				0.19	0.27	0.12
2. Industry	182.93	193.18	113.41	123.20	124.38	124.91
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.17	5.60	7.39	7.95	7.94	7.97
percentage change (over previous month)				0.50	0.96	0.43
i) Construction	173.84	181.65	113.12	122.81	124.02	124.54
percentage change (Point to Point)	3.86	4.50	8.24	7.92	7.93	7.96
percentage change (over previous month)				0.48	0.99	0.41
ii) Production	202.14	217.53	115.97	126.59	127.49	128.23
percentage change (Point to Point)	7.63	7.63	7.76	8.22	8.01	8.02
percentage change (over previous month)				0.68	0.70	0.58
3. Service	200.28	211.37	111.75	122.73	123.78	124.50
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.00	5.54	5.87	8.63	8.60	8.72
percentage change (over previous month)				0.76	0.85	0.58

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

WAGE RATE INDEX BY SECTORS: CHATTOGRAM DIVISION (BASE INDEX: 2021-22=100)

Sector	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	January '25	February '25	March '25
General	189.51	202.76	113.92	123.63	124.47	125.17
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.10	6.99	6.48	7.68	7.52	7.59
percentage change (over previous month)				0.64	0.68	0.57
1. Agriculture	190.56	202.96	113.08	123.19	123.78	124.51
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.23	6.51	6.16	8.08	7.67	7.79
percentage change (over previous month)				0.56	0.48	0.59
i) Agriculture	190.76	203.31	113.32	124.29	124.99	125.83
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.34	6.59	6.30	8.47	8.07	8.20
percentage change (over previous month)				0.69	0.57	0.67
ii) Fish	185.39	193.62	112.47	120.43	120.74	121.20
percentage change (Point to Point)	3.38	4.44	7.69	7.07	6.67	6.74
percentage change (over previous month)				0.23	0.26	0.38
2. Industry	184.54	198.01	114.28	123.50	124.39	125.05
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.59	7.30	6.51	7.26	7.26	7.28
percentage change (over previous month)				0.65	0.72	0.53
i) Construction	182.46	195.63	114.18	123.31	124.17	124.82
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.51	7.23	6.49	7.18	7.19	7.21
percentage change (over previous month)				0.64	0.70	0.52
ii) Production	192.12	206.68	116.37	127.52	129.03	129.88
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.78	7.57	8.16	8.88	8.68	8.69
percentage change (over previous month)				0.80	1.18	0.66
3. Service	194.39	210.68	115.12	125.88	127.34	128.23
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.46	8.37	6.22	8.39	8.38	8.46
percentage change (over previous month)				0.82	1.16	0.70

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics



SPONSORED



GUARDIAN

TRANSTEC

SMALL APPLIANCES



LCD/LED | COLOR TV | REFRIGERATOR | FREEZER | AIR CONDITIONER | WASHING MACHINE | SMALL APPLIANCES

Visit: www.transcomdigital.com

A  **TRANSCOM** Product

KOBELCO

Power Meets Efficiency



SK 220 XDLC



SK 220 XDLC
Long Reach



SK 140 HDLC

CASE

CONSTRUCTION

Experts for The Real World



CASE 770EX
MAGNUM



CASE 1107EX-D



CASE 752 EX

LOVOL

CONSTRUCTION

*Transference and Inheritance
of Advanced Technology*



FL936 H



FR80E



FL956 Hv



ACI Construction Equipment

ALL AROUND SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR
CONSTRUCTION NEEDS



ESCORTS



AJAX

MAKES CONCRETE SENSE



Batching Plant



Self Loading
Concrete Mixer



Stationary
Pump



ACI Construction Equipment

ACI Centre, 245 Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208

✉ info@acimotors-bd.com



www.acimotors-bd.com

Cell +8801708 144 593, +8801713 053 232 & +8801730 028 547

Customer
Care
16533

A Brief Profile of MCCI, Dhaka

Founded in 1904, the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) is the oldest and the pre-eminent trade organization of Bangladesh. Its membership roll encompasses leading commercial and large industrial organizations of the country, including public sector corporations and local as well as multinational companies. Presently, almost all major enterprises of the manufacturing and service sector are among its members. The Chamber provides a wide range of professional services to its members.

The Chamber's services, developed over a long period, are comprehensive and cover specialized areas such as taxation, import-export, tariff and non-tariff measures, investment, WTO matters and other national and international economic and commercial concerns. The Chamber maintains a secretariat manned by professional staff. It offers secretarial services to the Bangladesh Employers' Federation (BEF), the lone national level organization of employers in the country dealing with industrial relations, occupational safety and health, workplace cooperation, skills development, labor law and other labor-related issues.

The Chamber's policy recommendations and inputs related to ongoing reforms have gained wide acceptance amongst government and policy makers. MCCI has earned recognition at home and abroad by offering services such as issuing certificates of origin, and, through conducting economic research and sector surveys, offering trade and investment facilitation services, legal services, information management and dissemination, and publications related to trade and commerce.

The Chamber is represented in many Advisory Councils as well as Committees formed by various ministries of the government of Bangladesh. MCCI also maintains effective working relations with development partners, e.g., the World Bank Group, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Asia Foundation, etc. MCCI has a long history of joint collaboration. It interacts regularly with major international trade bodies and many private sector organizations located all over the world.