



BUSINESS



Interim govt preparing reform base for elected one Says finance adviser

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The interim government is laying the foundations for reform to help the next elected administration, Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed said yesterday, urging critics to judge its progress fairly.

"Bangladesh is progressing. You must see the glass as half full, not half empty," he said at a book launch in Dhaka.

At the launch of the book titled "Political Economy of Bangladesh" by Power and Energy Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan, Ahmed said politics inevitably shaped economics.

"So, politicians must show political will, patriotism and passion for the country, not just grab power by any means," he added.

IPDC ডিপোজিট | ১৬৫১৯

At the event, Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan spoke of the challenges facing reform in any sector. "It is not easy. No one has a magic wand for that," she said.

"At every step, you will find that the problems run deep. And it is not just the system, but the people managing it too. You are not allowed to completely overhaul them," said Rizwana.

"We are dealing with the same people, who have the same mindset [as before]. Just changing some laws or policies makes real reform very difficult," she added.

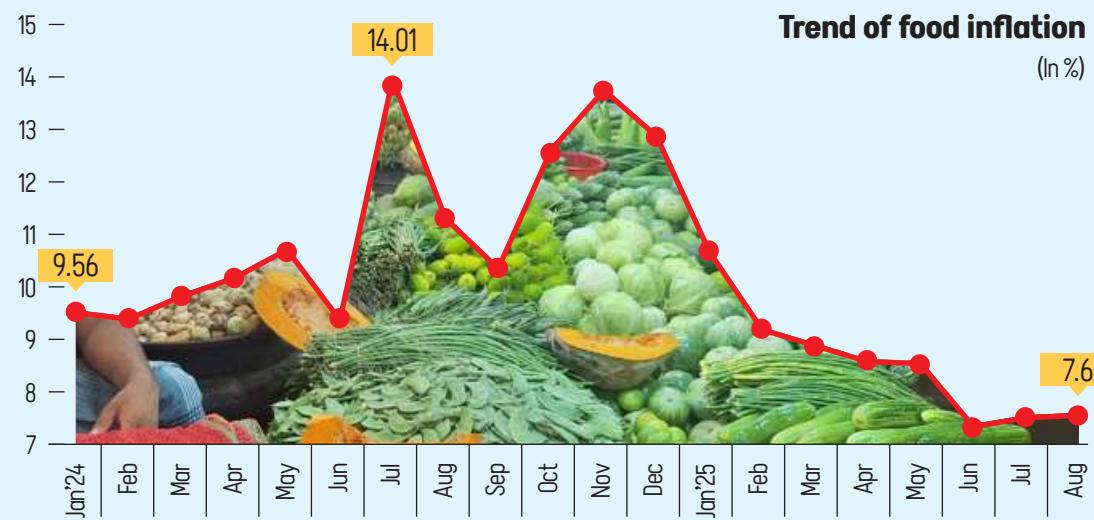
The environment adviser said reform could not be achieved in only one and a half years. "That one and a half years is a process," she said, adding that consensus was important for sustainable change.

"Sure, we can push through many reforms, but at the end of the day, if you want to talk about political economy, you have to talk about system management, the energy sector, and natural resources."

Citing resistance to changes at the National Board of Revenue (NBR), Rizwana said, "There was an attempt to introduce a structural change at the NBR. It was a very popular demand, yet there was enormous resistance.

READ MORE ON B2

Inflation drops to 3-year low, but food costs remain high



SOURCE: BBS

MD ASADUZ ZAMAN

Consumer prices eased in August, reaching their lowest point in more than three years. Yet households faced higher food bills compared with July, at a time when shrinking purchasing power and declining jobs are squeezing many households.

Headline inflation stood at 8.29 percent in August, down from 8.55 percent in the previous month, according to the latest data released by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) yesterday.

Food inflation, a lingering concern for low-income households, edged up to 7.60 percent from 7.56 percent in July.

In August, vegetable prices rose for the second month in a

row, pushing food costs higher.

But falling prices of non-food items pulled overall inflation down. Non-food inflation slipped to 8.90 percent in August, from 9.38 percent the month before.

With this, the annual average inflation rate eased to 9.58 percent in August, compared with 9.95 percent in the same month a year earlier.

SM Nazer Hossain, vice-president of the Consumers Association of Bangladesh, a non-profit organisation for the protection and promotion of consumers' rights, said rising prices of rice, vegetables and other essentials are driving up food inflation.

"These escalating costs are placing a significant burden on consumers," he said.

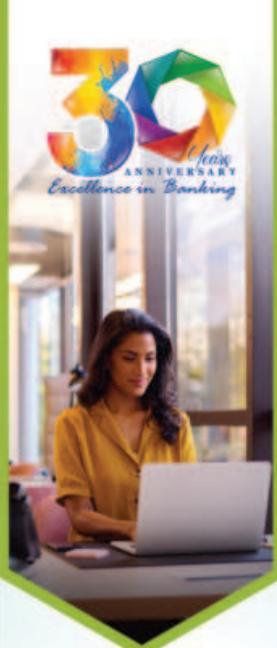
The absence of timely government intervention, combined with fewer job opportunities and eroding household incomes, has made matters worse, Hossain told The Daily Star.

Bangladesh had recorded monthly inflation above 9 percent for over two years until May this year. Prices then began to cool in the following months.

Even so, annual average inflation rose to 10.03 percent in June from 9.73 percent a year earlier, squeezing the living standards of poor and low-income families.

A study by independent non-profit Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) published last month found that poverty levels have risen sharply.

READ MORE ON B2



DHAKA BANK SOLUTION
Your Trusted Partner for Seamless Corporate Transactions

Scan to open your account anytime, from anywhere.



16474

DHAKA BANK PLC EXCELLENCE IN BANKING

Trust Projekti
Light Engineering
Financing

Rapid Growth in Light Engineering

For Proprietorships, Partnerships & Private Ltd. Companies

BDT 1 Lac-5 Crore Up to 60 Months

Trust Bank PLC. A Bank for Financial Inclusion

To Know More 16201

Reserves fall to \$25.3b after ACU payment

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves fell to \$25.30 billion yesterday, according to the International Monetary Fund's calculation, after the country cleared \$1.50 billion in import bills under the Asian Clearing Union (ACU).

The Tehran-based organisation facilitates payment settlements among nine member countries: India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran, the Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Under the ACU mechanism, Bangladesh clears its import bills every two months, leading to a temporary decline in reserves after each payment.

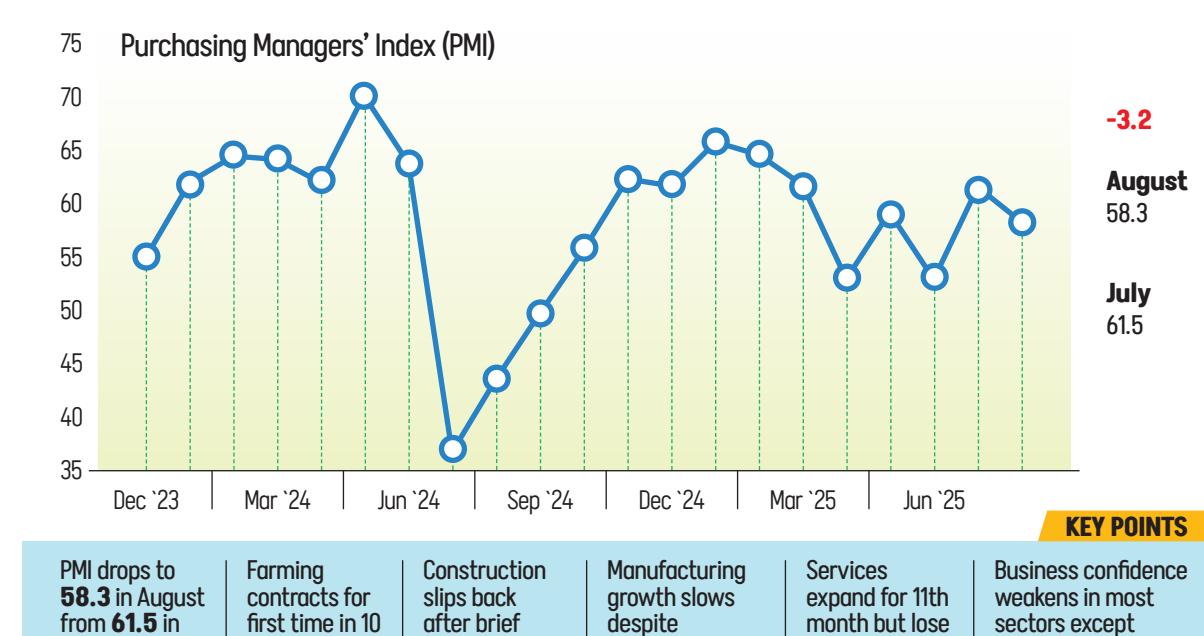
Following the payment, Bangladesh's gross reserves stood at \$30.04 billion overall, according to Bangladesh Bank data.

The foreign exchange reserves, which had fallen below \$20 billion in the first half of last year, have been on the rise in recent months, buoyed by increased inflows of remittances and export earnings.

On September 4 last year, the reserves were \$20.55 billion, according to the sixth edition of the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6) published by the IMF.

In its July issue of Exchange Rate & Foreign Exchange Market Dynamics, Bangladesh Bank said pressure in the foreign exchange market continued easing on the back of favorable developments in the balance of payments—a summary of a country's transactions with the rest of the world.

Economic growth slows in Aug as key sectors lose steam: PMI



-3.2

August 58.3

July 61.5

KEY POINTS

PMI drops to 58.3 in August from 61.5 in July

Farming contracts for first time in 10 months

Construction slips back after brief rebound in July

Manufacturing growth slows despite 12-month streak

Services expand for 11th month but lose momentum

Business confidence weakens in most sectors except services

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The country's economy grew in August, though at a weaker pace than the month before, as several sectors lost momentum, according to the latest Purchasing Managers Index (PMI).

The index fell to 58.3 in August, down from 61.5 in July, according to the index jointly prepared by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB).

As per the index, agriculture and construction contracted in the last month, while manufacturing and services posted slower growth.

"The latest PMI readings indicate that the overall Bangladesh economy continued to expand for 11 consecutive months, but at a slower rate," said M Masrur Reaz, chairman and chief executive of PEB.

The PMI is a forward-looking measure of business conditions used worldwide. A score above 50 signals growth, while a reading below 50 points to contraction.

In August, agriculture shrank for the first time in nearly a year, with new business, activity, and input costs all easing. Order backlogs and employment also declined.

Manufacturing logged its 12th month of expansion, but gains in new orders, exports, production, and supplier deliveries were held back by falling backlogs and a third straight monthly drop in jobs.

The PMI publication, prepared by MCCI and PEB, tracks more than 500 private companies across agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and services

"Agriculture and construction contracted due to disruptions caused by the prolonged monsoon, while manufacturing and services also grew at a weaker pace, as reflected in the dip in export earnings in August," said Reaz.

Construction, which had expanded in July for the first time in months, slipped back into contraction in August. New business and activity rose, but order backlogs and jobs continued to decline for a fourth month.

The services sector grew for an 11th straight month, though at a slower clip. Business activity, orders, employment, and input costs increased, but backlogs fell.

Meanwhile, confidence weakened in agriculture, manufacturing, and construction, while services showed greater optimism.

Businesses cited political uncertainty, seasonal factors, and rising costs as challenges, though some still benefited from earlier orders and ongoing projects.

The MCCI and PEB launched the PMI publication in January last year with support from the UK government.

It tracks more than 500 private companies across agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and services.

Gold hits all-time high

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Gold prices have reached a record high, climbing again just four days after the last increase.

The latest rise has added Tk 2,655 per bori, taking the cost of 22-carat gold to Tk 181,487 per bori. One bori is equivalent to around 11,664 grams.

The new rates take effect across the country today, the Bangladesh Jewellers' Association (Bajus) said in a statement yesterday.

It said that the adjustment followed a rise in the price of pure gold in the local market.

On September 3, gold prices jumped by Tk 3,444 per bori, which pushed 22-carat gold to Tk 178,832.

At that time, 21-carat was Tk 170,703 and 18-carat Tk 146,313, while gold sold in the traditional way without hallmarking was Tk 121,166 per bori.

With the latest revision, 21-carat gold now stands at Tk 173,244 per bori and 18-carat at Tk 148,490, while the traditional rate has risen to Tk 123,024.

Govt to form expert panel for trade talks

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh will form an expert panel for negotiations as the country seeks to sign deals with major trading partners ahead of its graduation to a developing nation from the least developed country (LDC) category.

The country has been negotiating with nearly a dozen countries to sign free trade agreements (FTAs), preferential trade agreements (PTAs), comprehensive economic partnership agreements (CEPAs), and economic partnership agreements (EPAs) to retain preferential trade benefits following the LDC graduation slated for November next year.

If the new resource pool is approved, it will engage in negotiations with major trading partners to sign deals in line with government rules and regulations.

"We are trying to form a pool of resources for negotiations to sign the trade agreements," Commerce Secretary Mahbubur Rahman said at an event titled "Building national capabilities in trade negotiations: reflections & way forward" held at the InterContinental Dhaka hotel yesterday.

Negotiations for signing a trade deal with Singapore will begin soon, while talks are underway for a similar one with Korea, the secretary said.

A team from Bangladesh is now engaged in the final round of negotiations in Tokyo to finalise an EPA, which the two nations may sign this year, Rahman added.

If signed, it will be Bangladesh's first full-fledged economic partnership agreement, as previously the South Asian nation had signed only a PTA with Bhutan in December 2020.

Commerce Adviser Sk. Bashir Uddin said by strengthening policy frameworks and institutional support, the government aims to ensure that this pool evolves as a dynamic force, fully equipped to navigate the complexities of international trade and safeguard Bangladesh's economic interests in the years ahead.

Built on the foundation of continuous learning and adaptability, the trade negotiators' pool is poised to deliver an enduring impact, Bashir Uddin also said.

British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Sarah Cooke said her country will continue extending duty-free market access to Bangladeshi goods in the post-LDC period.

She also expressed her country's interest in sharing expertise on trade negotiations with Bangladesh.

Chief Adviser's Special Envoy on International Affairs Lutfey Siddiqi said Bangladesh's export basket is very narrow and negotiators will face many difficulties with different countries.

Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme Stefan Liller and Additional Commerce Secretary Md Abdur Rahim Khan also spoke at the event.

READ MORE ON B2

Confidence Cement to sell its subsidiary at Tk 141cr

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Confidence Cement PLC has announced plans to sell its entire stake in its Dhaka-based subsidiary to Confidence Power Holdings Ltd, citing a combination of financial obligations, strategic restructuring, and market headwinds in the cement sector.

The proposed transaction involves 14.09 crore ordinary shares priced at Tk 10 each, totaling Tk 140.97 crore, according to a disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) website yesterday. READ MORE ON B2

JCX Developments offers premium housing solutions to Prime Bank clients

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC has signed a strategic partnership agreement with JCX Developments Ltd, one of Bangladesh's leading real estate companies, to deliver a wide range of exclusive and tailored housing solutions for the bank's customers.

M Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of Prime Bank PLC, and M Muhib Hassan, director of JCX Developments Ltd, signed the agreement at the bank's corporate office in the capital's Gulshan yesterday, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, Prime Bank customers will enjoy attractive privileges and customised offerings at JCX Developments Ltd, enhancing their access to premium real estate opportunities.

Joarder Tanvir Faisal, executive vice-president and head of cards and retail assets at Prime Bank, and Mohitasim Rakin, head of sales at JCX Developments, along with other senior officials from both organisations, were also present.



M Muhib Hassan, director of JCX Developments Ltd, and M Nazeem A Choudhury, deputy managing director of Prime Bank PLC, pose for photographs after signing the agreement at the bank's corporate office in the capital's Gulshan yesterday.

PHOTO: PRIME BANK

Trust Bank joins Tk 500cr BB start-up refinancing fund



PHOTO: TRUST BANK

Ahsan Zaman Chowdhury, managing director and CEO of Trust Bank PLC, and Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman, additional director of the Bangladesh Bank, exchange signed documents of the agreement at the BB headquarters in the capital's Motijheel recently.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Trust Bank PLC has signed a participation agreement with Bangladesh Bank under a Tk 500 crore start-up refinancing fund, designed to nurture innovative entrepreneurs and support new business ventures in Bangladesh.

Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman, additional director at Bangladesh Bank, and Ahsan Zaman Chowdhury, managing director and chief executive of Trust Bank PLC, signed the agreement at the central bank's headquarters in the capital's Motijheel, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, Trust Bank will extend loans to start-up entrepreneurs on favourable terms using funds from Bangladesh Bank's refinancing facility.

In addition, entrepreneurs will receive training, technical assistance, and guidance to help them manage and expand their businesses.

The initiative is expected to enable young entrepreneurs to turn innovative ideas into reality, create new employment opportunities, strengthen the SME sector, and contribute significantly to the country's overall economic growth, the press release.

Confidence Cement to sell its subsidiary

FROM PAGE B1
 Approved by the board on September 4, the deal is subject to shareholder approval at an upcoming general meeting.

Speaking to The Daily Star on the matter, Confidence Cement Company Secretary Delwar Hossain said the decision to divest its Dhaka unit is part of a "broader strategic shift," as the company seeks

liquidity to meet operational and financial obligations in a tightening market.

He also dismissed speculation in the industry that the transaction was a form of internal financial maneuvering.

"Not exactly. When a group has multiple units, each must maintain its own legal identity. That's all this is," he said.

The process is fully

transparent and aligns with all applicable guidelines," he added. Confidence Cement's Dhaka unit, which has a production capacity of 6,000 tonnes per day, has yet to reach full commercial operation.

Citing macroeconomic factors and a prolonged slowdown in infrastructure projects, Hossain said, "The industry is going through a tough phase. There's

a notable slowdown in government infrastructure projects, which has significantly impacted overall demand."

"To operate the production unit efficiently, we need funding. Since we currently lack adequate liquidity, we're handing it over to a stronger entity that can manage it better," he explained.

He confirmed that the

unit's name will remain unchanged: Confidence Cement Limited.

The move underscores the increasing financial strain faced by cement manufacturers, many of whom are being forced to rethink their business models amid a myriad of challenges, including declining demand, squeezed profit margins, falling investments, higher input costs, reduced private sector activity, and weak infrastructure spending by the government.

Confidence Cement's

stock closed at Tk 63.30 on the DSE yesterday, rising 1.44 percent from the previous day.

The company reported a profit of Tk 24.84 crore in the January-March quarter of this year, although earnings per share fell to Tk 2.88, down from Tk 3.00 in the same period last year.

DSE data show that, as of August 31, sponsors and directors held 30.34 percent of the company's shares, while institutional investors owned 37.63 percent and the general public 32.03 percent.

Inflation drops to 3-year low

FROM PAGE B1
 Nearly 28 percent of the population is now classed as poor, up from 18.7 percent in 2022.

Extreme poverty has also climbed, with 9.35 percent of people now living in this category, compared with 5.6 percent three years ago.

In other words, one in four people live below the poverty line, while one in ten is trapped in extreme poverty.

The study also showed that 18 percent of the population fall into the

"vulnerable non-poor" group, who could slip into poverty at any time.

Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive chairman of the PPRC, said that while inflation fell from 8.5 to 8.29 percent, incomes remained stagnant or were even falling in some cases.

"We have to assess inflation, particularly in relation to incomes. For fixed-income households, which make up about 85 percent of the population, this is a serious problem," he said.

He added that wage trends needed to be closely monitored, as they signal where the economy is heading.

"This is just a decimal-level movement. These marginal, short-term changes cannot really be called a 'decline'.

The real concern is the persistent 12-month strain we are seeing. The balance between income and expenditure is the most important factor for people's welfare, and that is where the problem lies."

Rahman said the latest

easing in prices is not enough to provide comfort.

"These are essentially short-term trends, and they do not give us much reason to be satisfied," he commented.

"Overall inflation declined slightly last month, but these are minimal changes, reversible rather than sustainable. That is why we must keep a close watch on inflation trends. There is still a long way to go before we can bring inflation down to a tolerable level," said the economist.

Interim govt preparing reform base

FROM PAGE B1
 "While trying to counter that resistance, we encountered not just politics but also economics. And maybe even politics within economics."

Energy Adviser Fouzul Kabir said economists are now in the chair of politicians.

He agreed that one and a half years was not enough for reform but argued that

efforts were under way to set examples.

"Competition was absent in the government's energy purchase. We have opened up competition for energy imports. Earlier, only four individuals were allowed to do that," he said.

Zahid Hussain, former lead economist at World Bank Dhaka office, pointed to the high cost of doing business as a key barrier

to growth, blaming it on banking troubles, fuel shortages and regulatory constraints.

He compared policy support to a sedative. "It temporarily eases pain. But in the absence or delay of structural reform, the cost of doing business continues to rise."

"As costs rise, the demand for policy support increases. In this way, we

are trapped in a cycle. There is no magic solution, as far as I know," Hussain said.

Cultural Affairs Adviser Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) Executive Chairman Hossain Zillur Rahman, and Prothom Alo Editor and Publisher Matiur Rahman also spoke at the event.

Govt to form expert panel

FROM PAGE B1
 Bangladesh has already met the criteria for graduation in all three categories: per capita income, human asset index, and economic vulnerability index.

Even so, leading business figures have urged the government to seek a six-year deferral of LDC graduation, warning the economy is unprepared for the loss of vital trade

preferences.

Citing domestic and international pressures—nearly 40 percent currency devaluation, high interest rates, and a fraught investment climate—they petitioned to delay the transition from November 2026 to 2032.

Their main concern is the loss of duty-free, quota-free access to the European Union, which they estimate

could cut annual exports by up to 14 percent, or \$7 billion, crippling readymade garments and footwear that make up almost 90 percent of exports.

Experts stress Bangladesh must negotiate trade deals to preserve market access after graduation.

Without talks, the country faces higher tariffs in the EU, UK, and other

destinations.

Starting negotiations early will allow time to build consensus, align domestic policies with global standards, diversify export destinations, and reduce overreliance on a few markets.

Most importantly, timely deals will ensure a smoother transition and protect jobs and growth driven by exports.

Bangladesh, Pakistan business leaders explore trade, investment ties

STAR BUSINESS DESK

A high-level delegation from Pakistan recently visited Bangladesh to explore avenues of cooperation in the cement sector, focusing on enhancing trade, investment, and technology exchange in manufacturing and imports.

The delegation paid a courtesy call on Md Amirul Haque, president of the Bangladesh Cement Manufacturers Association (BCMA), and Mostafa Kamal, former BCMA president and chairman of Meghna Group of Industries, in Dhaka.

A discussion followed, bringing together representatives from government bodies, trade associations, and leading cement manufacturers from both countries, according to a press release.

Key discussion points included facilitating the import of Pakistani raw materials to meet Bangladesh's growing construction demand, exploring joint ventures and investment opportunities

in cement plants, promoting technology transfer and skills development to enhance production efficiency, and streamlining trade procedures to reduce costs and strengthen supply chains.

From Pakistan, participants included Aurangzeb Khan of Noman Khattak Mines and Minerals; Farrukh Iqbal, proprietor of Nadeem Enterprises; Tamoor Akbar, managing director of Khadim Industry; Iftikhar Awan, head of business development at KNK (Pvt) Ltd; and Nabeel Ahmed, proprietor of Nabeel Marble.

Representing Bangladesh were Imran Karim, first vice-president of BCMA; Mashirul Rahman, treasurer; Abhimanyu Saha, executive committee member; and Shankar Kumar Roy, executive director.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral economic cooperation and agreed to establish a joint working group to follow up on the proposals, the press release added.



Md Amirul Haque, president of Bangladesh Cement Manufacturers Association (BCMA), and Mostafa Kamal, former BCMA president and chairman of Meghna Group of Industries, present a souvenir to a member of Pakistani delegation in Dhaka recently.

stock closed at Tk 63.30 on the DSE yesterday, rising 1.44 percent from the previous day.

The company reported a profit of Tk 24.84 crore in the January-March quarter of this year, although earnings per share fell to Tk 2.88, down from Tk 3.00 in the same period last year.

DSE data show that, as of August 31, sponsors and directors held 30.34 percent of the company's shares, while institutional investors owned 37.63 percent and the general public 32.03 percent.

WWW.BEEVATECH.COM

UPGRADE YOUR RESORT OR FACTORY WITH A GOLF CART/Buggy

01970241000
01970241001
01733350857

BEEVATECH LTD.

GO GREEN GO ELECTRIC TORAG

Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution PLC
(A Company of Petrobangla)
"Titas Gas Bhaban", 105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar Commercial Area, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh
PABX: 4101000-4 Extn-144

Invitation for International Tender for Procurement of Odorant
Date of Issuance of IFT: 03/09/2025

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division.					
2	Agency/procuring entity	Petrobangla/Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution PLC.					
3	Invitation for	Procurement of Odorant.					
4	Invitation Ref. No. and date	As listed below.					
5	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method: A One Stage Two Envelope Method (OSTEM) will be followed under which the tenderer shall submit two separate sealed Envelopes, one for the Technical Proposal and other for the Financial Proposal, all together in a single sealed Envelope.					
6	Source of fund	Under Cash Foreign Exchange (Company's own fund).					
7	Tender selling date	Tender Document will be sold from 10am to 1.00pm on every working day up to the preceeding date of opening of respective IFT.					
8	Tender closing date & time	At 11.30am on the date as listed below.					
9	Tender opening date & time	At 12.15pm on the date as listed below.					
10	Name & address of the office(s) for:	Tender Document will be available from 11/09/2025 on payment of price (non-refundable) as per list below from following offices: i) Cash & Bank Department, Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution PLC, 105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. ii) Accounts Department, Petrobangla, Petro Center, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. iii) Accounts Department, BAPEX, Bapex Bhaban (3rd Floor), 4, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215.					
11	b) Receiving of tender	i) Purchase Department (12th Floor), Titas Gas Transmission & Distribution PLC, 105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. ii) Purchase Department, Petrobangla, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215. iii) Office of Company Secretary, BAPEX, Bapex Bhaban (3rd Floor), 4, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215.					
12	Eligibility of tenderer	All bonafide manufacturers/suppliers. Local suppliers who are not manufacturer are not eligible.					
List							
13	SL No.	IFT No.	Short description of materials	Tender security amount (BDT or equivalent foreign currency)	Delivery time	Price of tender document	Tender closing/opening date
(1)	PID 2312/405-MEPD/ODORANT	Odorant	Tk 7,00,000.00	90 days	US\$ 57.00 or Tk 7,00,000	27 October 2025	
a) Should the submission date of tenders happen to fall on holiday, tenders shall be received and opened at the same time & place on the first subsequent working day.							
b) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.							

Shah Md. Almahmud
Shah Md. Almahmud
Deputy General Manager (Purchase)
Phone: +88-02-55012687
E-mail: dgm.purchase@titasgas.org.bd

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Public Works Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
Narail PWD Division, Narail
ee_nrail@pwd.gov.bd

Reference No. 25.36.6500.103.07.05-20-1485

Date: 07.09.2025

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following packages:

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of work	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
1	1148666	Construction of 1st floor of Armory Building at Narail District under the project of "Construction of Armory for Ansar & VDP (40 Nos. at 1st Phase) (2nd Revised)".	25-09-2025 15.00	25-09-2025 15.00

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. The fee for downloading the e-Tender document for the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and for e-GP help desk.

Md. Sarowar Hossain
Executive Engineer
Narail PWD Division, Narail
Phone: 02479925117

GD-1947

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Upazila Health & Family Planning Officer
Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet
Email: gowainghat@uhfpo.dghs.gov.bd

Ref No: UHC/GOWAIN/MSR/2025-26/629

Date: 04-09-2025

e-Tender Notice

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/ Hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details, please contact support desk contract numbers. e-Tender are invited in e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Dr. Sarwar Ahmed, UH&FPO, Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet. for the Procurement of;

Tender Id	Name of Goods	Tender/Proposal Last Selling Date & Time	Tender/Proposal Closing/Opening Date & Time
1148002	Procurement of Medicine for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148003	Procurement of medical Instrument for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148004	Procurement of Gauge Bandage & Cotton for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148005	Procurement of Linen for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148006	Procurement of Chemical for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148007	Procurement of Furniture for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148008	Procurement of washing for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148009	Procurement of Stationery for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00
1148010	Procurement of Diet for the F.Y 2025-2026 at Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex, Sylhet.	22-Sep-2025 11:00	22-Sep-2025 14:00

e-Tender details can be downloaded on e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for pursuer. e-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list; accepted tenders will be opened online immediate as stated in above list.

(Dr. Sarwar Ahmed)

Upazila Health & Family Planning Officer
Gowainghat, Sylhet.

GD-1948

Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)
TCB Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215
www tcb gov bd

Commercial Section

Invitation For Tender (International) for Purchase of

10,000 M. Ton Red Lentil (Without Husk)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Commerce.
2	Agency	Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)
3	Procuring Entity Name	Additional Director (Commercial), TCB, Dhaka.
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not applicable.
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Red Lentil (Without Husk).
7	Invitation Ref. No.	26.05.0000.016.09.572.25.2359.
8	Date	07-09-2025

KEY INFORMATION

9 Procurement Method Open Tendering Method (OTM) (International)

FUNDING INFORMATION

10 Budget and Source of Funds TCB's Own Fund.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

11	Package No.	TCB/Imp- 05/Red Lentil/2025-26.
12	Package Name	Red Lentil (Without Husk).
13	Tender Invitation/Publication Date	08-09-2025

DATE

TIME

14

Tender Documents Last Selling Date and Time

23-09-2025 17.00 P.M

15

Tender Closing Date and Time

24-09-2025 12.00 P.M

16

Tender Opening Date and Time

24-09-2025 12.15 P.M

17

Name & Address of the office(s)

- Selling Tender Document of each item can be purchased from the banks & offices as mentioned in right column.

- Receiving Tender Document

In front of TCB's reception (2nd floor), TCB Bhaban, 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.

- Opening Tender Document

Board Room, TCB.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

18 Eligibility of Tenderer Bonafide Suppliers. Details conditions will be mentioned in the Tender documents.

19 Brief Description of goods Import of 10,000 (Ten Thousand) M.Tons Red Lentil (Without Husk) packed in export standard/export worthy new and sound poly lined jute or polypropylene bag or HDPE bag of 25/50 (Twenty Five/Fifty) kg bag [Tender of partial Quantity is acceptable but not less than 2,000 M. Ton].

20 Price of Tender Document Price of Red Lentil (Without Husk) tender document is Taka 5,000 (Five Thousand).

21 Lot Identification of Lot Location

Tender Security Amount (USD/BDT)

Shipment Schedule

22 Name of Official Inviting Tender Md. Golam Khorshed

23 Designation of Official Inviting Tender Additional Director (Commercial), TCB Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.

24 Address of Official Inviting Tender Principal Office, Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.

25 Contact details of Official Inviting Tender Telephone No. 02-8180060 Fax No. 880-2-8180057 E-mail: tcb@tcb.gov.bd, tcbimp@tcb.gov.bd

26 Special Instructions:

a. All terms and conditions related to the tender and product details are mentioned in the tender document.

b. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender in whole/ in part without assigning any reason.

(Md. Golam Khorshed)

Deputy Secretary

Additional Director (Commercial)

Trading Corporation of Bangladesh

The Daily Star

[/dailystarnews](#) [/in/dailystarnews](#)

FOR ALL LATEST NEWS FOLLOW US

www.thedailystar.net

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়

সাধারণ সেবা অনুবিভাগ

ঢাকা

www.mofa.gov.bd

তারিখ: ০৮ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৫ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ

বিষয়: পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়ের অক্ষেত্রে যোথিত ০৩(তিনি)টি যানবাহন নিলামে বিক্রয়ের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়ের অক্ষেত্রে যোথিত ০৩(তিনি)টি যানবাহন সিডিউলে বর্তিত শর্ত মোতাবেক ত্রুট করতে অগ্রহী প্রকৃত গাড়ি ব্যবস্থা/সরবরাহকারী/গাড়ি সেবাকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান/যেকোন ট্রেড লাইসেন্সধারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বা হালনাগাদ আয়কর সনদধারী ব্যক্তির নিকট হতে সিলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

তফশিল "ক" (যানবাহনের প্রকৃতি, নম্বর, রু-বুক, অবস্থা ইত্যাদি)

ক্রমিক নম্বর	যানবাহনের নাম, মডেল ও সাল	বেজিনিংল নম্বর	রু-বুক	জামানতের পরিমাণ	যানবাহনের অবস্থা
০১.	নিসান সানি (ডেজন কার), ২০০৯	ঢাকা মেট্রো- খ ১২-৮৫৮৩	আছে	গাড়ি প্রতি টাকা ২০,০০০/- (বিশ হাজার) মাত্র	পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা
০২.	নিসান আরভান মাইক্রোবাস, ২০১১	ঢাকা মেট্রো- চ ৫৩-৬০৩	নেই		
০৩.	নিসান আরভান মাইক্রোবাস, ২০১১	ঢাকা মেট্রো- চ ৫৩-৬০২৪	নেই		

তফশিল "খ" (দরপত্র সংস্কার তথ্যাদি)

১	মূল্যালয়/বিভাগ	পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়।

<tbl_r cells="3" ix="5" maxcspan="1" maxrspan="1" usedcols="3



Md Nasir Khan

JAGARAN CHAKMA

The country's leather footwear sector has the raw materials, skilled labour and a strong place in the global supply chain.

Still, exports have long remained a sleeping giant due mainly to a lack of trust in local entrepreneurs and a system riddled with flaws, according to Md Nasir Khan, chairman of Jennys Shoes.

While leather footwear exports by neighbouring Vietnam have surged to \$27 billion, Bangladesh remains stuck at \$1.2 billion.

Khan said this sector should already have crossed \$10 billion in exports.

"We have everything, leather, labour, logistics. What we do not have is a policy structure that allows us to grow," he said in an interview with The Daily Star.

"It is not a lack of talent. It is a lack of trust in our entrepreneurs and a broken system that rewards paperwork over performance," said Khan, also the vice president of the Leathergoods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association of Bangladesh.

During the interview, he described how policy failures, red tape and missed opportunities have kept leather footwear from becoming one of the country's export success stories.

At the centre of his criticism is the customs bonded warehouse system.

Introduced more than 30 years ago, it was meant to allow duty-free imports of raw materials for export industries.

Khan called it "obsolete, corrupt, and counterproductive" in today's fast-moving trade environment.

"This system is like trying to run 5G through a dial-up modem," he said.

To get a bond licence, the shoemaker said businesses need to collect documents from as many as 31 different government agencies.

Even then, importing raw materials requires item-by-item approvals, capacity certificates and repeated filing

Red tape leaves leather sector a sleeping giant

Says Jennys Shoes Chairman Md Nasir Khan in an interview with The Daily Star

of in-bond and out-bond records, often by hand, he said.

"You apply to import 100 units. They approve 50. You export using those 50, then reapply, wait again. This is not a trade facilitation, it is a trade controller," said the chairman of Jennys Shoes.

Jenny exports mainly to Japan, Italy, Germany, France and the United States. In the US market, it supplies only non-leather sports shoes. Skechers and

raw materials.

Now the shoemaker advocated for phasing out the bond system and replacing it with a value-addition model.

He believes this would allow businesses to import raw materials freely, provided they ensure a minimum share of local value addition, around 20 to 25 percent, before exporting.

"If I know I must retain 25 percent value locally, I will invest in local

functioned properly. Consequently, the sector cannot obtain globally recognised certifications such as the Leather Working Group (LWG) standard. Without it, exporters cannot access premium markets or meet the demands of environmentally conscious buyers.

"We spent thousands of crores building the leather park. But without functioning compliance, our own manufacturers cannot use our leather. Global buyers would not touch it. So, we import leather just to export products made with it," Khan said.

Calling this "a tragedy", he added that countries, including France, had offered to help Bangladesh set up a certification framework free of charge, but indecision at the policy level blocked progress.

For two decades, the government has provided cash incentives of 10 to 15 percent on export earnings. Yet growth has been negligible.

According to the shoemaker, it is like giving grapes to a patient who needs heart surgery. "You cannot fix a broken system with sweeteners."

He argued that incentives only entrench inefficiency if the system itself is broken.

"We have had 15 percent incentives for two decades, but we are still at \$1.2 billion in exports. Clearly, the problem is structural, not financial."

Unless the government shifts from regulation to facilitation, Khan warned Bangladesh risks losing out on the next wave of industrial leadership.

He outlined the steps he believes are urgent.

Those include replacing the bond system with a value-addition model, setting up functioning LWG certification for the sector, reducing dependence on bureaucratic approvals, digitising and decentralising customs clearance, promoting local sourcing and expanding opportunities for small and medium enterprises.

"We do not need aid. We need smart policies," he concluded.

TAKEAWAYS FROM INTERVIEW

Policy failures

There is a lack of policy structure that holds the industry back

Customs bond system is called "obsolete, corrupt, and counterproductive"

Businesses face 30+ agency approvals just to import raw materials

Comparison & lost opportunities

While Vietnam exports \$27b in footwear, Bangladesh's leather footwear exports stuck at \$1.2b

Over Tk 1,000cr is lost annually due to shipment delays and inefficiencies

Certification challenges

Inadequate CETP facility blocks Bangladesh from securing LWG certification



Incentives vs reform

Cash incentives without reform will not be helpful

Steve Madden are among its biggest buyers, placing regular large orders.

Referring to industry estimates, Khan said that between Tk 50 crore and Tk 100 crore is spent each year on maintaining bond-related infrastructure and manpower. Over Tk 100 crore goes on unofficial fees, while more than Tk 1,000 crore is lost annually to shipment delays and bureaucratic inefficiency.

"And this is all for a system that barely prevents leakage," he added.

Vietnam, he said, has reached \$27 billion in leather footwear exports with simpler rules and stronger local value chains, despite starting later compared with Bangladesh and without its own

materials. I will work with local suppliers. But right now, I spend more time managing paperwork and bribes than managing production," he said.

"Such models are already followed in other export economies, shifting the focus from compliance policing to economic performance."

Despite producing high quality leather, Bangladesh exports more than 75 percent of it in semi-finished form, mainly to China and India, because it has failed to meet international environmental standards.

A key barrier is the central effluent treatment plant (CETP) at the Savar tannery estate, which has never

been fully operational.

Market breadth was positive, with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive, with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

Dhaka stocks rebound

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) closed trading higher yesterday, rebounding from the previous day's losses, while turnover—the combined value of shares bought and sold—also rose.

According to DSE data, the bourse's benchmark DSEX gained 21.87 points, or 0.38 percent, to finish at 5,636.15.

The other indices had mixed performances, as the Shariah-based DSES decreased 0.04 percent to 1,229.44, while the blue-chip DS30 increased 0.24 percent to 2,188.10.

Turnover stood at Tk 1,441.90

crore, up from Tk 1,338.53 crore in the previous session.

Block trades—a high-volume transaction involving a large number of securities—accounted

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly

for a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against

127 decliners, while 25 remained unchanged.

A-category stocks saw more winners than losers, while the B-category performed similarly.

By segment, mutual funds were overwhelmingly positive, with 35 issues advancing and none declining; corporate bonds saw just two issues advance; and the government bond market saw one issue advance and three decline.

On the day's performance table, GBB Power surged 10 percent to top the gainers' list, while Trust Islami Life Insurance declined 8 percent, making it the worst performer of the session.

For a notable share, with transactions recorded across several scrips and overall trade amounting to Tk 31.17 crore.

Market breadth was positive,

with 248 issues advancing against