

Premier  
Cement profit  
plunges 82%  
in FY25

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Premier Cement Mills Ltd reported an 82 percent drop in profit for the year that ended on June 30 this year, according to a disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange website yesterday.

The cement maker posted consolidated earnings per share of Tk 1.29, down sharply from Tk 7.04 in the previous financial year.

Consolidated net operating cash flow per share rose to Tk 7.20 from Tk 6.27 a year earlier.

The board of directors recommended a 10 percent cash dividend for the fiscal year (FY) 2025, lower than the 21.50 percent declared the previous year.

As of September 30, sponsors and directors of the company held 43.58 percent of its shares, institutions 26.77 percent, foreign investors 0.01 percent and the public 29.64 percent.

Premier Cement, one of Bangladesh's leading cement producers, began operations in 2001 and now has an annual capacity of 2.4 million tonnes.

# Apex Footwear profits drop 12% in Q3

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Profits of Apex Footwear dropped in the third quarter of this year due to higher income tax expenses and provision.

The shoemaker's profits dropped 12 percent to nearly Tk 2.50 crore during July to September period.

The company provided a disclosure yesterday, saying its earnings per share (EPS) stood at Tk 1.59 for the quarter as against Tk 1.80 in the same period of the previous year.

The company said the main reason behind this decrease in EPS caused by the increase in income

**Apex Footwear's Q3 profit fell due mainly to higher income tax expenses and provisions, causing earnings per share to drop from Tk 1.80 to Tk 1.59.**

tax expenses and provision, net income tax expenses and provision during the period. Tax expense was

## SALES AND PROFITS OF APEX FOOTWEAR

In crore taka: Jul-Sept period

■ Sales ■ Profits



SOURCE: FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE COMPANY

63 percent against profit before tax which was 42 percent in the same period of last year.

Tax provision against domestic sales of Tk 480 crore increased by 40 percent for change in rate through Finance Act, it added.

Yesterday, Apex Footwear's stocks dropped 1.6 percent to Tk 197 at the Dhaka Stock Exchange. The company provided 25 percent cash and 25 percent stock dividend for fiscal year

2023-24, which was 35 percent and 10 percent in the previous fiscal year.

The company got listed in 1993, has a paid-up capital of Tk 19 crore, according to the DSE data. Its reserve and surplus were Tk 303 crore.

The company remains in A category whose 31 percent shares are held by sponsors or directors while institutional investors hold 26.2 percent, and general investors hold 42.7 percent.

## Capital imports rebound

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numbers aren't big enough to suggest a strong turnaround, he added.

"The 22 percent growth is in capital machinery imports. But in absolute terms, it's only about \$400-\$500 million. For a \$400-billion economy with 180 million people, that's not much; it's mostly machinery replacement," Hussain said.

He said that the first quarter of the last fiscal year was abnormal, as trade was disrupted by the mass uprising against the Sheikh Hasina-led government.

"Now, the situation looks somewhat normal. But I wouldn't call it a recovery yet. From this data, we don't see a clear sign of a turnaround," he added.

Hussain suggested replicating the model of the

recent university students' representative elections in the upcoming national election.

The multilateral lender stated that persistent policy uncertainty surrounding the national election and fragilities in the banking sector are likely to weigh on private sector activity.

Similarly, public investment growth is expected to remain subdued ahead of the election and in light of the authorities' intent to implement development projects more prudently.

Export growth is expected to remain robust, as the new tariff schedule announced by the US is not likely to hurt. Import growth is expected to pick up as domestic demand improves and external pressures that constrained imports in the prior year ease.

## BSEC forms shariah

FROM PAGE B1  
Of the others, Mohammad Monzur-E Elahi is a professor of Islamic studies of National University, Mufti Masum Billah is a senior mufti and muhaddis of Jamia Islamiya Darul Uloom, Mufti Abdullah Masum is

FY26, remaining well below its last decade's average of 7.4 percent.

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and Finance of the University of New Orleans of USA, Omar Sadat, a senior advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, AKM Majedur Rahman, CEO of Bangladesh International Arbitration Centre, and Mohammad Abdur Rahim, CFO of Islami Bank, are also in the council.

## Exports to US rise

FROM PAGE B1  
The tariffs, he said, mainly target branded originator drugs from multinational companies, while generic medicines, which make up most of Bangladesh's pharmaceutical exports, are unaffected.

"Following the Trump tariffs, there were fears that our exports would decline. Some even projected a \$1.2 billion drop. But the reality is quite the opposite; exports are increasing," he said.

Haider said the US has become Beximco's largest export destination.

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The guaranteed supply of wheat from Russia and Ukraine may be disrupted at any time due to communication breakdowns caused by the war," Rahman said.

He also expressed concern that wheat-carrying ships might be at risk of being sunk during the conflict. "Our bilateral trade with Russia and Ukraine is not significant, even though they are jointly the world's largest wheat suppliers," he added.

Rahman noted that while the private sector is free to import wheat at lower prices from Russia, the government's initiative is aimed at reducing Bangladesh's trade deficit with the US.

He also mentioned that the price of US soybean products has recently dropped significantly after China, the largest importer, shifted its sourcing to Brazil and Argentina.

This effort includes purchasing Boeing aircraft and increasing imports of other American

**US wheat costing**

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agricultural products such as LNG, wheat, cotton, and soybeans, he said.

Taslim Shahriar, deputy general manager of the Meghna Group of Industries (MGI), leading importer, said his company sources wheat from the global market based on price competitiveness.

"However, the quality of US wheat is comparatively better than that of Russian wheat," he said, adding that the MGI imports a significant amount of soybean from the US due to competitive pricing.

"But in the case of wheat, we do not import large volumes from the US," he said.

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**In US tariff talks, Brazil's rare earths a 'trump card'**

FROM PAGE B1  
Brazil holds a trump card in tariff negotiations with the United States: its subsoil is rich in rare earth minerals coveted by manufacturers in a sector dominated by China.

The South American giant holds the world's second largest reserves of these elements used in everything from electric vehicles, solar panels and smart phones to jet engines and guided missiles.

Brazil is subject to a punitive 50 percent tariff on certain exports to the United States over the coup of Lula's rightwing predecessor Jair Bolsonaro in what Trump has labeled a "witch hunt." Bolsonaro was sentenced to 27 years in prison last month.

And for Brazil's Minister of Mines and Energy, Alexandre Silveira, there is "a convergence of interests between our mineral potential and American capital."

The issue could feature at a possible meeting this

Dhaka Bank profit flat in July-Sept  
STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Dhaka Bank Ltd posted a profit of Tk 25.10 crore for the July-September quarter of 2025, identical to the same period a year earlier, according to a price-sensitive disclosure.

Consolidated earnings per share stood at Tk 0.24 for the quarter, unchanged from July-September 2024.

However, for the first nine months of 2025, its profit fell 21 percent year-on-year to Tk 140.37 crore.

Consolidated net operating cash flow per share rose to Tk 21.90 in January-September 2025, compared with a negative Tk 10.40 a year earlier, supported by higher customer deposits.

Gold prices dip by Tk 1,038 per bhami after record high last week



STAR BUSINESS DESK

Jewellers have reduced gold prices by Tk 1,038 per bhami, five days after a fall in the rates of pure gold in the local market.

From tomorrow, each bhami (11.664 grammes) of 22 carat gold ornaments will cost Tk 207,957, down from Tk 208,995, according to a press release by Bangladesh Jewellers Association (Bajus).

On October 19, gold prices soared to a historic high of Tk 217,381 per bhami. Later prices began to fall, reverting from the upward trend registered for the last couple of months, influenced by an uptick in the international market.

Industry insiders attributed the recent surge to rising prices in the international bullion market, the depreciation of the taka, economic uncertainty, and high inflation.

Although Bangladesh does not import large quantities of gold, domestic prices remain closely linked to global trends.

## In 5 months, Starlink gets

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a local Tier-III certified data centre providing infrastructure support.

Another gateway has been built in Rajshahi, managed by Bondstein Technologies, while

Summit Communications has connected the site to Kaliakair through high-capacity fibre links.

In Jashore, a gateway with multiple antennas has also been constructed, while work continues on another section of the site.

FIDC is also managing this

gateway, with Fiber@Home supplying additional large-scale connectivity for both the Jashore and Kaliakair gateways.

Globally, Starlink markets primarily to individual users through its Residential and Roam packages, which can be ordered directly from its website. For corporate and government clients, it relies on authorised resellers under its Business and Priority plans.

In Bangladesh, Robi Axiatia PLC and Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited (BSCL) have already signed \$2.5 million deals with Starlink, making them its authorised resellers.

Under the agreement, Robi will offer two service tiers, Local Priority and Global Priority, covering both fixed and portable use cases.

Asked about current sales, Shahed Alam, chief corporate and regulatory affairs officer at Robi, said the uptake is at an expected level.

"A huge number of orders are still pending due to logistical challenges," he said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Eden Bhaban PWD Division  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

Memo No: 2167

Date: 26/10/2025

### CORRIGENDUM NOTICE-2 TO TENDERERS

This is to inform to all concerned that the following correction for Serial 9, 10, 11 of IFT has been made in the "Invitation for Tender" vide this office Memo No. 1542 Date: 23/09/2025 and it's "CORRIGENDUM NOTICE-1" vide this office Memo No. 1960 Date: 15/10/2025 Tender Package no-Eden/ACE2738/2025-26/Outsourcing/PSN-2 for Supplying of 123 nos manpower (orash jamadar, forash, cleaner jamadar, cleaner, plumber, plumber helper, carpenter, carpenter helper, glass technician helper, pump operator, gardener, assistant gardener, supervisor) for newly constructed 20-storied office building, 6-storied building and 6-storied mosque at Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

Item No.	Description of Item	Information (Terms & Conditions)
IFT Sl. 9	Tender Last Selling Date	As advertised earlier 27/10/2025, during Office Hours 03/11/2025, during Office Hours
IFT Sl. 10	Tender Closing Date and Time	28/10/2025, 12:00 PM 04/11/2025, 12:00 PM
IFT Sl. 11	Tender Opening Date and Time	28/10/2025, 03:00 PM 04/11/2025, 03:00 PM

Executive Engineer  
Eden Bhaban PWD Division,  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Upazila Engineer  
Bahubal, Habiganj  
www.lged.gov.bd

e-Tender Notice Number : 01/2025-2026  
Open Tendering Method

Memo No: 46.02.3605.902.99.001.25- 460

Date: 26-10-2025

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of works as stated below:

Tender ID & Package No.	Name of Work	Last Date and Time of document selling	Date and Time of Opening & Closing
1153272, e-Tender/PEDP4/HBG/BA H/2025-26/W/			