

Following is a summary of important business news published in the leading daily newspapers of Bangladesh. For the complete news, please follow the online link given below each news. Please note that the news summary doesn't reflect the opinion of BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited.

Macro:**Balancing economic revival, inflation prime promise**

- Nearly 10 months after inheriting a faltering economy marked by institutional collapse, many near-empty banks, fastest-depleting forex reserves and inflation running high, the interim government on Monday unveiled its maiden budget prepared taking ground realities into cognizance.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/balancing-economic-revival-inflation-prime-promise-1748887733>

Targets realistic, say economists

- Eminent economists hail the proposed budgetary measures as realistic in the current economic context at home and abroad, save some reservations. They are critical of an "ambitious" revenue target and retaining the scope for legalising undisclosed incomes as weak points of the budget proposed by the post-uprising government.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/targets-realistic-say-economists-1748887889>

FY26 GDP growth target set at 5.5%

- The interim government has backtracked from the previous administration's ambitious macro-economic targets as it is expecting 5.505 economic growth in the next fiscal year. It has also revised down the current fiscal year's gross domestic product (GDP) growth target to 5.0% from the earlier 6.75%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/fy26-gdp-growth-target-set-at-55pc-1748888141>

Target pared down to 8.0% this June, 6.50% by next

- City-dwellers still feel the bite of high food prices although overall inflation eases by latest official count and the interim government pares the rate down progressively from July in the forthcoming fiscal year. The carried-over high inflation is still close to a double-digit level while the post-uprising government now fixes budgetary targets to tame it down to 8.0% this June and 6.50% by the end of the fiscal year (FY) 2025-26.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/target-pared-down-to-80pc-this-june-650pc-by-next-1748888091>

Black money whitening allowed at a huge cost

- Black-money holders would need to pay up to five-time higher taxes to whiten their money investing in real estate from July as the interim government retains the budgetary amnesty on harder conditions.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/black-money-whitening-allowed-at-a-huge-cost-1748888010>

Phasing out of protective tariffs proposed

- The government has announced phasing out of protective tariffs for the local manufacturing industries in a bid to prepare for graduation from the least developed country status, due in November 2026. It also facilitated import of goods for the same purpose.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/phasing-out-of-protective-tariffs-proposed-1748888200>

Listed cos to be benefitted from tax incentives

- The government has offered tax advantages to local manufacturers of medicines, two-wheelers and three-wheelers and to the makers of electrical and electronics goods for FY26.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/listed-cos-to-be-benefitted-from-tax-incentives-1748888287>

Budget proposes tax cuts to boost telecom, startups

- The interim government has unveiled a tech-focused fiscal agenda in the proposed national budget for FY 2025-26, offering tax relief for telecom operators and internet service providers while expanding incentives for local startups.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/budget-proposes-tax-cuts-to-boost-telecom-startups-1748888245>

Easily attainable target to lure cos into listing

- Listed companies may get a tax rebate by 2.5 percentage points to 20% for FY26 and FY27 if income from all sources is transacted through banks, according to the budget laid out on Monday. The conditions for the rebate have been relaxed this time in the sense that the rebate was earlier subject to digital footprints against every single transaction exceeding BDT 0.5 Mn and annual expenses and investments exceeding BDT 3.6 Mn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/easily-attainable-target-to-lure-cos-into-listing-1748889636>

Initiatives proposed to create 15,000 new SME entrepreneurs

- The government has proposed initiatives to create 15,000 new entrepreneurs in the small and medium enterprises (SME) sector over the next three years. Additionally, it plans to train 25,000 SME entrepreneurs to facilitate the establishment of product display and sales centres in divisional cities, organise regional SME product fairs in districts, and develop a central database of CMSME entrepreneurs.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/initiatives-proposed-to-create-15000-new-sme-entrepreneurs-1748890870>

Plan to cut electricity generation cost by 10%

- The interim government has planned to reduce the overall cost of power generation by 10%. Finance Adviser Dr Salehuddin Ahmed unveiled the government's plan in his recorded budget speech televised on Monday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/plan-to-cut-electricity-generation-cost-by-10pc-1748891015>

Govt eyes BDT 50 Bn fund for public-private partnerships in FY26

- In a push to stimulate investment, the proposed national budget for fiscal year 2025–26 has earmarked BDT 50.4 Bn for Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). In a push to stimulate investment, the proposed national budget for fiscal year 2025–26 has earmarked BDT 50.4 Bn for Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-eyes-50b-fund-for-public-private-partnerships-in-fy26>

Tariff rationalisation: Experts warn more competition for local industry

- With Bangladesh set to graduate from the least developed country (LDC) status by November next year, and in light of the recent tariff hikes by the United States, the government has announced a sweeping reduction in import tariffs on nearly 500 items in the proposed national budget for FY26. Experts, however, warn that this tariff rationalisation could expose domestic import-substitute industries to increased competition.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/tariff-rationalisation-experts-warn-more-competition-local-industry-1158771>

Budget targets ex-citizens' laundered assets

- One of the main targets of this government is the recovery of stolen assets, or assets that have been pilfered abroad through capital flight. One of the main targets of this government is the recovery of stolen assets, or assets that have been pilfered abroad through capital flight. To this end, the finance adviser in his budget speech declared that Bangladeshi-origin taxpayers who have later renounced their Bangladeshi citizenship but have transferred income earned in Bangladesh abroad will be penalised.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/bangladesh-budget-2025-26/news/budget-targets-ex-citizens-laundered-assets-3909936>

Sector & Industries:**TELECOM | Tax rebate for mobile operators with 20% free float**

- A telecom operator will enjoy a 10% tax rebate if it floats 20% shares to get listed on the bourses. Banglalink is the only operator that has been in discussion for public listing for a long time. So, the tax incentive may be intended to pave the way for the listing of Banglalink.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/tax-rebate-for-mobile-operators-with-20pc-free-float-1748889813>

BANK | Govt launches finance sector reforms to restore confidence, reveal true banking sector health

- The government has launched sweeping reforms to overhaul Bangladesh's troubled banking sector, aiming to restore depositor confidence and bring transparency to a system plagued by years of misgovernance and corruption.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/govt-launches-finance-sector-reforms-to-restore-confidence-reveal-true-banking-sector-health-1748890150>

FUEL & POWER | 12kg LPG cylinder price cut by BDT 28 for June

- Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) has set the retail price of 12 kg LPG as BDT 1,403 for June, making it cheaper by BDT 28. The BERC slashed the LPG selling price for private operators in line with the downtrend of oil and gas prices in international market.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/12kg-lpg-cylinder-price-cut-by-tk-28-for-june-1748890375>

FOOD & ALLIED | Decline in agro growth hits overall economy in FY'25

- Bangladesh's agricultural growth has dropped significantly in the outgoing fiscal year (FY2024-25), falling to just 1.79% compared to 3.3% in FY2023-24. Experts warn that this notable slowdown in agriculture-the country's largest employment-generating sector-could have a ripple effect on the broader economy.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/decline-in-agro-growth-hits-overall-economy-in-fy25-1748891068>

FOOD & ALLIED | Govt to raise foodgrain procurement target for FY'26

- After securing an impressive 3.38 Mn tonnes of foodgrain for public storage in the outgoing fiscal year (FY2024-25), the government has set a higher procurement target of 3.7 Mn tonnes for the upcoming fiscal year (FY2025-26).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/govt-to-raise-foodgrain-procurement-target-for-fy26-1748891132>

RMG | Budget measures to benefit RMG industry: BGMEA

- The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has applauded the government announcement to keep the source tax on exports and corporate tax for industries unchanged in the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-26. In a positive development for industry, the budget outlines plans to reduce the overall cost of electricity generation by 10% to gradually decrease subsidies in the power sector, said the BGMEA. Furthermore, a decision has been made not to raise electricity prices shortly to control inflation, which the BGMEA deems a highly beneficial step for industries, it said.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget-measures-benefit-rmg-industry-bgmea-1158731>

REAL ESTATE | Budget FY26: Housing sector may take a hit, flat prices set to rise

- The proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-26 brings little good news for the housing sector. After reviewing the budget, stakeholders have said it may further increase the risks already facing the sector. Due to an increase in VAT on services provided by housing companies, buyers of flats and commercial spaces will now face higher costs. Currently, VAT in this sector is 7.5%. In the upcoming fiscal year, it will rise to 10%. The budget also proposes to increase import duties on raw materials used in construction — particularly for rods and angle bars — from 7.5% to 10%. This means that BDT 1,700 in tax will be payable per tonne of rod under the new budget.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget-fy26-housing-sector-may-take-hit-flat-prices-set-rise-1158626>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | FY26 budget proposes share trade tax cut, wider tax gap, but higher source tax on bond interest**

- Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed today (2 June) proposed several tax and regulatory measures in the FY2025-26 budget aimed at reviving Bangladesh's capital market, which has suffered from low investor confidence and past irregularities. Key proposals include widening the corporate tax gap between listed and non-listed companies to 7.5% (from the current 5%), reducing advance income tax (AIT) on securities trading from 0.05% to 0.03%, and lowering the corporate tax rate for merchant banks by 10 percentage points to 27.5%. However, the AIT or withholding tax rate on interest income from debt instruments increased to 10% from 5%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/fy26-budget-proposes-share-trade-tax-cut-wider-tax-gap-higher-source-tax-bond>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 62.97	(USD 8.46)	-11.84%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 65.04	(USD 9.35)	-12.57%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,374.06	USD 765.58	29.35%
DSEX	4,689.52	-526.92	-10.10%
S&P 500	5,935.94	29.00	0.49%
FTSE 100	8,774.26	653.25	8.04%
BSE SENSEX	81,373.75	3,173.82	4.06%
KSE-100	118,877.81	3,618.81	3.14%
CSEALL	16,979.89	1,035.28	6.49%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.01 BDT****1 GBP = 164.97 BDT****1 Euro = 139.40 BDT****1 INR = 1.43 BDT**

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