

Weekly Market Update

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+0.79%) gained 41.75 points and closed the week at 5,298.59 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+1.24%) gained 24.71 points and stood at 2,014.94 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+0.02%) gained 0.21 points and stood at 1,066.65 points. The large cap index CDSET (+0.43%) gained 4.64 points and closed at 1,072.40 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of +8.90%, +8.71%, +6.59%, +6.73%, respectively.

Total Turnover During The Week (DSE): BDT 45.1 billion (USD 367 million)
Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 9.0 billion (Δ% Week: +10.3%)
Market P/E: 15.0x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed five sessions this week. It started negatively on Sunday (-0.18%) and remained negative on Monday (-0.29%). However, it turned positive on Tuesday (+0.48%) and remained positive on Wednesday (+0.78%) and ended the week positively on Thursday (+0.00%)

Sectoral Performance

Financial sectors posted mixed performance this week. General Insurance booked the highest gain of 5.82% followed by Life Insurance (+3.51%), and Bank (+0.48%). Mutual Fund experienced the highest loss of 1.86% followed by NBFI (-0.10%).

Most of the non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted positive performance this week. Fuel & Power booked the highest gain of 1.38% followed by Telecommunication (+1.09%), Food & Allied (+0.96%), Pharmaceutical (+0.37%), and Engineering (-0.09%).

Macroeconomic Arena

Fitch justifies 10pc policy rate against high-inflation regime. BB needs to avoid taking preemptive tighter monetary policy actions. 10-year bond yields jump on weak demand. BDT 1.17t kept as block, special allocations in next ADP. Japan's Mitsubishi takes 25% stake in Rancon Auto. Firms trim margins, shrink packs as fuel price hike bites. Inflation pushes REER up 1.43 points in Mar. Adani shuts one unit after demanding arrears. RMG | Foreign buyers warn of energy crisis, RMG orders on decline: BCI president. RMG | No overcapacity, forced labour in apparel sector. Missed targets: NBR needs BDT 2.6 Tn by June to avoid shortfall. TELECOM | Banglalink ties up with Starlink Mobile for satellite connectivity.

BANK | Banks' liquidity shrinks on govt borrowing. LC settlement drops by 26.6% in March. BANK | Two-thirds of agent banking outlets not engaged in lending: study. BANK | 'Double legal process' stalls defaulted loan recovery for years. IMF lending terms outwit negotiators, stir rethink. Life, industry disrupted as load-shedding exceeds 2,000MW. Islami Bank leads dollar sales to BB. Bangladesh Bank buys USD 60 Mn from banks to maintain exchange rate stability. ICDS announce increase in container handling charges by 8.5%. US trade bodies urge USTR not to impose new tariffs. MGH to build private container terminal. Farmers in distress as diesel price rise drives up costs.

Stock Market Arena

GP | Grameenphone posts higher profit despite revenue decline in Q1. IBNSINA | Ibn Sina posts 33% EPS growth in 9 months despite Q3 dip. ICBIBANK | BB steps in again, appoints administrator at ICB Islamic Bank. ILFSL | BB removes Int'l Leasing MD over irregularities. RUPALIBANK | Rupali Bank's forced loans hit USD 1.87 Bn as financial health red flags mount. PIONEERINS | Pioneer Insurance profit rises 25% despite 19% drop in premium income. TITASGAS | Titas Gas gets BSEC nod to issue BDT 2.83 Bn preference shares. UNILEVERCL | Unilever Consumer Care revenue drops by 8% in Jan-Mar. ISLAMIBANK | Dual protest outside Islami Bank HQ. BDLAMPS | Energy-saving LED tubes, electrical accessories drive BD Lamps' sales growth. EXCHANGE | DBA signs cooperation deal with Japan Dealers Association. EXCHANGE | BSEC's fresh move to register ICB Unit Fund rekindles control row.

DSEX ended in Green (+0.79%) in the week

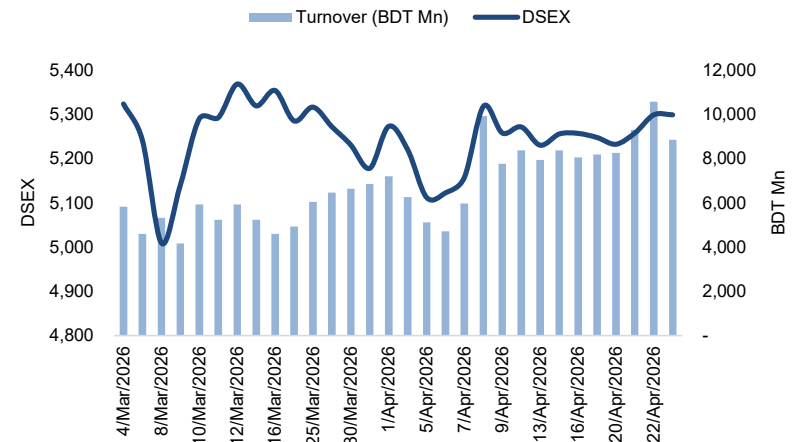
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2025	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,298.59	5,256.84	+41.75	4,865.34	0.79%	8.90%
DS30	2,014.94	1,990.23	+24.71	1,853.54	1.24%	8.71%
DSES	1,066.65	1,066.44	+0.21	1,000.72	0.02%	6.59%
CDSET	1,072.40	1,067.76	+4.64	1,004.81	0.43%	6.73%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	6,875,502	6,856,316	
	Mn USD	55,973	55,817	0.28%
Turnover	Mn BDT	45,142	32,732	37.92%
	Mn USD	367	266	
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	9,028	8,183	10.33%
	Mn USD	73	67	
Volume	Mn Shares	1,523	1,201	26.84%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in Last Four Weeks



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Table 3: Top Ten Gainers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
APEXSPINN	336.3	256.2	+31.3%	2,825	420.2	NM	4.0x
BDLAMPS	204.4	159.1	+28.5%	2,152	250.3	NM	4.4x
SAMATALETH	108.6	87.0	+24.8%	1,121	161.4	NM	7.6x
CONTININS	30.3	25.2	+20.2%	1,324	215.8	24.4x	1.3x
AGNISYSL	26.2	21.8	+20.2%	1,901	476.6	57.0x	1.5x
ASIATICLAB	106.6	88.7	+20.2%	13,047	571.2	28.7x	1.9x
APEXFOODS	285.3	237.5	+20.1%	1,627	203.0	40.5x	1.8x
PURABIGEN	25.4	21.4	+18.7%	1,519	111.8	9.2x	1.7x
MEGHNAPE	38.8	32.7	+18.7%	466	70.2	NM	0.6x
PEOPLESINS	54.3	46.0	+18.0%	2,509	530.8	15.0x	1.5x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
PRIMEFIN	3.6	4.0	-10.0%	982	15.2	NM	0.5x
BBS	11.8	12.9	-8.5%	1,923	152.4	NM	1.1x
NBL	4.3	4.7	-8.5%	13,845	30.6	NM	NM
KBPPWBIL	48.9	53.3	-8.3%	4,796	989.2	87.3x	4.1x
PREMIERLEA	2.4	2.6	-7.7%	319	16.9	NM	NM
FAREASTFIN	2.4	2.6	-7.7%	394	21.9	NM	NM
IFIC1STMF	3.7	4.0	-7.5%	674	33.7	NM	0.4x
ILFSL	2.5	2.7	-7.4%	555	19.0	NM	NM
FASFIN	2.5	2.7	-7.4%	373	22.8	NM	NM
BIFC	5.1	5.5	-7.3%	513	2.5	NM	NM

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
CITYBANK	32.4	30.8	+5.2%	49,288	1,592.0	3.7x	0.8x
DOMINAGE	60.6	54.5	+11.2%	6,218	1,222.2	NM	3.6x
ACMEPL	25.0	26.0	-3.8%	3,375	1,054.9	NM	1.5x
KBPPWBIL	48.9	53.3	-8.3%	4,796	989.2	87.3x	4.1x
SAPORTL	50.4	49.9	+1.0%	11,938	957.3	22.1x	1.5x
LOVELLO	84.2	74.8	+12.6%	8,266	904.2	36.1x	6.7x
PTL	63.0	59.4	+6.1%	11,284	726.0	10.0x	1.4x
RUNNERAUTO	42.0	39.2	+7.1%	4,769	660.0	27.5x	0.6x
SIMTEX	24.7	24.4	+1.2%	1,966	651.2	22.7x	1.1x
MIRAKHTER	36.5	36.4	+0.3%	4,408	614.7	23.4x	0.7x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
PIONEERINS	64.0	+35.3%	6,259	13.0x	1.3x
BBSCABLES	20.4	+34.2%	4,319	NM	0.8x
MIRAKHTER	36.5	+33.7%	4,408	23.4x	0.7x
CITYBANK	32.4	+32.8%	49,288	3.7x	0.8x
SHASHADNIM	20.0	+28.2%	2,821	20.8x	0.5x
CONFIDCEM	62.3	+26.6%	5,374	5.2x	0.6x
ACTIVEFINE	6.8	+23.6%	1,632	NM	0.3x
POWERGRID	32.9	+23.2%	30,064	24.0x	0.2x
GHAIL	12.8	+20.8%	2,763	NM	1.1x
EGEN	23.5	+18.7%	1,763	33.1x	1.0x

*BDT

*BDT Mn

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,553.5	1,546.1	1,367.20	+0.48%	+13.62%
NBFI	976.9	977.9	860.23	-0.10%	+13.56%
Mutual Fund	527.1	537.1	478.27	-1.86%	+10.21%
General Insurance	3,492.8	3,300.5	2,879.11	+5.82%	+21.31%
Life Insurance	1,777.6	1,717.3	1,691.42	+3.51%	+5.10%
Telecommunication	4,381.7	4,334.2	4,431.51	+1.09%	-1.12%
Pharmaceutical	2,992.2	2,981.1	2,764.29	+0.37%	+8.24%
Fuel & Power	1,047.1	1,032.9	996.11	+1.38%	+5.12%
Cement	1,880.8	1,904.5	1,739.18	-1.24%	+8.15%
Services & Real Estate	1,025.2	1,028.4	949.82	-0.32%	+7.93%
Engineering	2,472.4	2,474.6	2,290.78	-0.09%	+7.93%
Food & Allied	12,275.7	12,159.4	12,942.72	+0.96%	-5.15%
IT	2,079.8	2,050.8	1,703.25	+1.41%	+22.11%
Textile	1,168.5	1,144.2	1,060.76	+2.13%	+10.16%
Paper & Printing	4,618.3	4,625.0	4,485.61	-0.15%	+2.96%
Tannery	2,047.5	1,975.0	1,806.05	+3.67%	+13.37%
Jute	11,063.3	10,526.2	11,805.57	+5.10%	-6.29%
Ceramics	412.7	412.3	370.10	+0.10%	+11.52%
Miscellaneous	3,931.0	3,934.9	3,881.56	-0.10%	+1.27%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	867.2	703.4	+23.29%	+9.95%	9.6x	0.7x
NBFI	95.4	119.9	-20.42%	+1.09%	NM	0.9x
Mutual Fund	167.6	205.8	-18.52%	+1.92%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	1,064.4	835.4	+27.41%	+12.21%	15.7x	1.4x
Life Insurance	270.3	171.7	+57.42%	+3.10%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	67.5	67.2	+0.47%	+0.77%	12.2x	3.4x
Pharmaceutical	932.3	885.3	+5.31%	+10.70%	11.7x	1.5x
Fuel & Power	297.1	310.5	-4.33%	+3.41%	9.4x	0.6x
Cement	35.4	61.0	-41.95%	+0.41%	17.4x	1.9x
Services & Real Estate	280.0	201.7	+38.82%	+3.21%	20.8x	0.4x
Engineering	1,474.7	1,353.7	+8.94%	+16.92%	15.7x	0.8x
Food & Allied	525.0	551.0	-4.73%	+6.02%	31.4x	3.4x
IT	437.7	465.4	-5.93%	+5.02%	30.8x	1.7x
Textile	1,168.0	710.4	+64.41%	+13.40%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	184.4	249.5	-26.11%	+2.12%	NM	1.3x
Tannery	239.3	116.1	+106.06%	+2.75%	NM	1.5x
Jute	9.4	6.5	+43.91%	+0.11%	NM	NM
Ceramics	124.6	160.2	-22.23%	+1.43%	NM	1.2x
Miscellaneous	473.5	565.2	-16.22%	+5.43%	89.9x	1.7x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
UCB	9.0	-13.5%	13,953	NM	0.3x
BATBC	218.4	-12.1%	117,936	20.2x	2.1x
LINDEBD	661.2	-11.9%	10,062	29.3x	3.1x
GP	245.2	-4.9%	331,094	11.1x	5.3x
UNILEVERCL	2,069.4	-3.8%	39,886	51.3x	16.9x
MJLBD	88.4	-2.3%	28,001	10.3x	1.7x
UNIQUEHRL	37.5	-1.8%	11,040	6.3x	0.4x
ESQUIRENIT	20.0	-1.5%	2,698	NM	0.3x
WALTONHIL	372.0	-1.3%	123,958	11.1x	1.0x
SQUARETEXT	48.1	-0.8%	9,488	9.2x	0.9x

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

Fitch justifies 10pc policy rate against high-inflation regime

- Fitch expects Bangladesh Bank to keep policy rate at 10% through FY26/27 amid high inflation, projecting inflation above 6.5% target and higher energy costs from Iran tensions.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fitch-justifies-10pc-policy-rate-against-high-inflation-regime-1776878426>

BB needs to avoid taking preemptive tighter monetary policy actions

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) should not go for contractionary monetary policy measures preemptively because of the inflation spikes created by the ongoing crisis in the Middle East (ME), Global Head of Research and Chief Strategist of Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) has suggested.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/global-shocks-cloud-bangladeshs-fragile-recovery-despite-post-polls-optimism-stanchart>

10-year bond yields jump on weak demand

- Yields on 10-year government bonds rose sharply on Tuesday, reflecting subdued demand from banks that are increasingly favouring shorter-term instruments to manage liquidity and risk. The cut-off yield on Bangladesh Government Treasury Bonds (BGTBs) climbed to 10.98% on the day from 10.26% earlier.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/10-year-bond-yields-jump-on-weak-demand-1776872331>

BDT 1.17t kept as block, special allocations in next ADP

- The Ministry of Finance has earmarked BDT 1.17 Tn, or 39% of the proposed BDT 3.0 Tn Annual Development Programme (ADP), for the next fiscal year, as block and special allocations across various sectors.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/tk-117t-kept-as-block-special-allocations-in-next-adp>

Japan's Mitsubishi takes 25% stake in Rancon Auto

- Mitsubishi Corporation has acquired a 25% stake in Rancon Auto Industries, forming a partnership to boost Bangladesh's vehicle manufacturing, technology transfer, and distribution capabilities.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/japans-mitsubishi-takes-25-stake-rancon-auto-1419001>

Firms trim margins, shrink packs as fuel price hike bites

Transport fares from Chattogram port rose 25–31% after the April 18 hike, while rising diesel costs are also increasing production and harvesting expenses for farmers and manufacturers.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/firms-trim-margins-shrink-packs-fuel-price-hike-bites-4158306>

Inflation pushes REER up 1.43 points in Mar

- The Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) index rose in March, largely driven by higher inflation in the country compared with its trading partners. REER stood at 102.78 in March 2026, up 1.43 points from February.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/inflation-pushes-reer-up-143-points-in-mar-1776877886>

Adani shuts one unit after demanding arrears

- Adani Power Limited on Wednesday shut down one of two units of its power plant in the Indian states of Jharkhand four days after demanding payment of arrears to Bangladesh.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/297657/adani-shuts-one-unit-after-demanding-arrears>

RMG | Foreign buyers warn of energy crisis, RMG orders on decline: BCI president

- Foreign buyers have begun scaling back export orders as concerns over Bangladesh's energy stability and "negative messaging" regarding fuel shortages rattle international markets, said the President of Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/energy-concerns-push-foreign-buyers-scale-back-bangladesh-orders-bci-chief-1418901>

RMG | No overcapacity, forced labour in apparel sector

- BGMEA says Bangladesh's garment sector has no overcapacity or forced labour, citing compliance with international labour laws ahead of a US Trade Representative hearing on April 29.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/no-overcapacity-forced-labour-apparel-sector-4158341>

Missed targets: NBR needs BDT 2.6 Tn by June to avoid shortfall

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) fell short of its 9MFY26 tax collection target by nearly BDT 1 Tn, leaving it needing to mobilise over BDT 2.60 Tn in Q4FY26. Provisional data showed collections of BDT 2.87 Tn during July-March, an 11% rise year-on-year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/missed-targets-nbr-needs-tk-26-lakh-crore-june-avoid-shortfall-4157306>

TELECOM | Banglalink ties up with Starlink Mobile for satellite connectivity

- Banglalink plans to partner with Starlink Mobile to bring satellite-based connectivity to remote areas in Bangladesh, initially offering SMS and messaging, pending regulatory approval.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/banglalink-ties-up-with-starlink-mobile-for-satellite-connectivity-1776875152>

Four-tier plan taken up to reform fragile financial sector

- Finance Minister announced a four-tier financial sector reform plan, a coordinated macroeconomic framework to FY29, and revised money supply and credit targets to support businesses.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/four-tier-plan-taken-up-to-reform-fragile-financial-sector-1776793388>

US will indefinitely extend ceasefire, unclear if Iran agrees

- US President Donald Trump said he would indefinitely extend the ceasefire with Iran to allow for further peace talks, although it was not clear on Wednesday if Iran or Israel, the US ally in the two-month war, would agree. Trump also said he would continue the US Navy's blockade of Iran's trade by sea, considered an act of war by Iran.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/world/us-israel-war-iran/news/us-will-indefinitely-extend-ceasefire-unclear-if-iran-agrees-4157496>

Govt clears purchase of 175,000 tonnes of fuel oil

- The government approved direct purchase of 175,000 tonnes of diesel and octane from two suppliers, bypassing the standard tender process as concerns deepen over Gulf supply disruptions caused by the US-Israeli war on Iran.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-clears-purchase-175-lakh-tonnes-fuel-oil-4157311>

No more tax holiday extensions: NBR

- The government is moving to phase out long-standing tax holidays, signalling a shift towards a more uniform and compliance-driven tax regime. The focus is now on ensuring that all businesses contribute, rather than relying on exemptions, to attract investment, officials say.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/no-more-tax-holiday-extensions-nbr-1776792491>

Top USTR official due soon

- Brendan Lynch, assistant US trade representative for South and Central Asia, will visit Bangladesh soon. Trade experts believe that Brendan Lynch may discuss various trade-related issues during the visit, as Bangladesh and the US signed the Agreement on Reciprocal Trade on February 9 this year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/top-ustr-official-due-soon-4157296>

TEXTILE | Spinners bleed as troubled banks flout over BDT 30.0 Bn LC obligations

- Textile millers are suffering mounting losses as more than a dozen troubled banks have failed to settle overdue payments of around BDT 30.0-40.0 Bn against local back-to-back letters of credit (LCs).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/spinners-bleed-troubled-banks-flout-over-tk3000cr-lc-obligations-1418026>

Iran may join peace talks after Pakistan works to end US blockade, Iran source says

- Iran is considering attending peace talks with the United States in Pakistan, a senior Iranian official told Reuters (20 April), following moves by Islamabad to end a US blockade of Iran's ports.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/world/iran-may-join-peace-talks-after-pakistan-works-end-us-blockade-iran-source-says-1416756>

TELECOM | Mobile signals weaken as blackouts, fuel shortages spread

- Telecom companies say nationwide connectivity is under pressure as outages hit towers and data infrastructure. Only about 25% of towers are equipped with fixed generators, forcing many to depend on portable units.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/mobile-signals-weaken-blackouts-fuel-shortages-spread-4157316>

BANK | Banks' liquidity shrinks on govt borrowing

- Banks raised short-term borrowing in March amid liquidity tightness from government borrowing; call money turnover rose 11%, with rates exceeding 10% due to strong demand.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/297530/banks-liquidity-shrinks-on-govt-borrowing>

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/banks-lose-borrowing-appetite-as-credit-demand-slumps-1776793303>

LC settlement drops by 26.6% in March

- Banks settled LC payments worth USD 4.66 Bn in March, compared to USD 6.35 Bn during the same period last year, indicating a decline in imports. LC (letter of credit) settlements declined by 26.6% in March this year due to a slowdown in new business and investment in the country.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/lc-settlement-drops-266-march-1416976>

BANK | Two-thirds of agent banking outlets not engaged in lending: study

- About two-thirds of agent banking outlets in Bangladesh were not engaged in lending as of December 2024, highlighting a major gap in credit delivery despite the network's rapid expansion, a recent study has found. Despite growth, agent banking is more effective at mobilising deposits than providing credit, according to the study.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/two-thirds-agent-banking-outlets-not-engaged-lending-study-4157291>

BANK | 'Double legal process' stalls defaulted loan recovery for years

- The verdict for a case with a financial loan court takes years. But when a bank gets the verdict in its favour, it must then file execution case to sell the mortgaged assets and this takes another few years before being disposed of.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/court/double-legal-process-stalls-defaulted-loan-recovery-years-1418031>

IMF lending terms outwit negotiators, stir rethink

- Finance authorities will seek the Prime Minister's guidance on meeting International Monetary Fund conditions, including subsidy cuts, higher tax ratio, and a market-based exchange rate.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/imf-lending-terms-outwit-negotiators-stir-rethink-1776705659>

Life, industry disrupted as load-shedding exceeds 2,000MW

- Load-shedding exceeded 2,000MW nationwide early Monday as power generation lagged behind rising summer demand, disrupting daily life, industry and agriculture, with rural areas facing the longest power cuts. According to data from the Power Grid Bangladesh, generation stood at 13,198MW against a projected demand of 15,200MW.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/life-industry-disrupted-load-shedding-exceeds-2000mw-1416891>

Islami Bank leads dollar sales to BB

- Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC sold USD 1.225 Bn to BB, nearly one-fifth of central bank's USD purchases in FY26. BB purchased USD 5.56 Bn from 39 commercial banks through auctions, injecting over BDT 600 Bn to this effect.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/islami-bank-leads-dollar-sales-to-bb>

Bangladesh Bank buys USD 60 Mn from banks to maintain exchange rate stability

- Bangladesh Bank purchased an additional USD 60 Mn from banks on Monday at a rate of BDT 122.75 per dollar.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-bank-buys-60-million-from-banks-to-maintain-exchange-rate-stability>

ICDs announce increase in container handling charges by 8.5%

- Bangladesh Inland Container Depots Association (BICDA) raised the various container handling charges by 8.5% because of the diesel price hike, effective from April 19.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/icds-announce-increase-container-handling-charges-85-4156206>

US trade bodies urge USTR not to impose new tariffs

- The American Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA), along with several other organisations, has urged the United States Trade Representative (USTR) not to impose any new tariffs on countries currently under investigation over production capacity.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/us-trade-bodies-urge-ustr-not-impose-new-tariffs-4156421>

MGH to build private container terminal

- MGH Group is going to construct the country's first privately built container terminal at Chattogram port.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/mgh-build-private-container-terminal-4156416>

Farmers in distress as diesel price rise drives up costs

- The recent diesel price hike has made service providers increase charges for harvesting the largest rice crop, Boro. Costs soared because of a 15% hike in the price of diesel, a key fuel used by nearly 15 lakh shallow tube well pumps to water the Boro fields.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/farmers-distress-diesel-price-rise-drives-costs-4156426>

TEXTILE | Govt simplifies industrial gas distribution to boost efficiency

- The government has simplified the industrial gas distribution system, allowing factories within the same premises and ownership to transfer unused gas load with approval, aiming to improve service amid rising demand. Leaders of the country's primary textile mills welcomed the move, saying the reforms would help enhance productivity, reduce cost and streamline operations, particularly for energy-intensive textile and garment sectors.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/govt-simplifies-industrial-gas-distribution-to-boost-efficiency-1776701688>

Iran not planning to attend talks with US in Pakistan

- Iran is not currently planning to attend talks with the United States, state media said, after President Donald Trump ordered US negotiators to travel to Pakistan on Monday, just days before a ceasefire in the Middle East expires.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/world/us-israel-war-iran/news/iran-not-planning-attend-talks-us-pakistan-4155791>

Govt will not take loans from IMF by accepting all conditions: Khosru

- Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury has said that the government will not accept all the conditions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in order to take loans. He added that loan discussions with the IMF are ongoing and may continue for another 15 to 20 days, or even up to a month.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-will-not-take-loans-imf-accepting-all-conditions-khosru-1415461>

Govt increases fuel supply from today as chaos lingers on

- A day after hiking fuel prices, the government has announced a 10-20% increase in diesel, octane and petrol supplies from today to ease the shortages that kept motorists waiting in long queues for hours in Dhaka and elsewhere.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/govt-increases-fuel-supply-10-20-tomorrow-ease-shortage-1415966>

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/environment/natural-resources/energy/news/bpc-orders-padma-meghna-jamuna-increase-fuel-supply-nationwide-4155671>

Fuel price surge may hit some firms harder than others

- A steep increase in fuel prices has sent fresh shockwaves across the country's corporate sector and capital market, raising concerns over profitability, inflation, and overall economic momentum. The latest adjustment is expected to push up production, transportation, and distribution costs across industries, potentially eroding corporate profitability in the upcoming quarters unless companies pass on the increased cost burden to consumers.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/fuel-price-surge-may-hit-some-firms-harder-than-others-1776614760>

Food, transport, trade costs set to spike

- Food production, trade and transportation costs may increase further on fuel-price hike by BDT 15-20 per litre in Bangladesh amid an exigent global crunch.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/food-transport-trade-costs-set-to-spike>

Body to set up investment agency with merger of six entities

- Government plans to merge six agencies into a unified Investment Promotion Agency to streamline processes and boost foreign direct investment in Bangladesh.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/body-to-set-up-investment-agency-with-merger-of-six-entities-1776620008>

BIDA ties up with five banks to expand OSS

- BIDA signed agreements with five private banks to expand its Online One Stop Service, aiming to simplify investment processes and improve the business environment.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bida-ties-up-with-five-banks-to-expand-oss-1776616495>

BanglaBiz to become single investment portal after 2030: Bida

- All investment-related services in Bangladesh will be brought under a single digital platform called BanglaBiz after 2030, a senior Bida official said at a memorandum of understanding signing ceremony.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banglabiz-become-single-investment-portal-after-2030-bida-1415926>

16.2% growth of remittance inflow till April 18

- Inflow of remittances witnessed a year-on-year growth of 16.2% reaching USD 1,968 Mn in the first 18 days of April.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/162%-growth-of-remittance-inflow-till-april-18>

EMRD seeks higher ADP outlay for energy sector

- The Energy and Mineral Resources Division (EMRD) has sought BDT 37.68 Bn in development spending for FY27, a 63.1% increase from the revised allocation in the current fiscal year, reflecting a renewed focus on boosting domestic gas exploration and supply.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/emrd-seeks-higher-adp-outlay-for-energy-sector-1776619499>

12kg LPG cylinder price rises by BDT 212

- The retail price of the widely used 12-kg liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinder has increased by BDT 212, marking the second hike in just one month. The new price has been set at BDT 1,940.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/12kg-lpg-cylinder-price-rises-by-BDT-212>

Govt moves to recover funds siphoned from 'quick rental' power projects

- The government has launched efforts with Bangladesh Bank to trace and recover funds allegedly siphoned abroad through controversial quick rental power projects from the previous regime.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-moves-to-recover-funds-siphoned-from-quick-rental-power-projects-1776619867>

Govt raises fuel prices by up to BDT 20 per litre

- The government has set new retail prices for all types of fuel in Bangladesh, citing the continued impact of rising global oil prices. According to the new pricing, diesel will cost BDT 115 per litre, octane BDT 140, petrol BDT 135, and kerosene BDT 130 per litre.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/govt-raises-fuel-prices-by-up-to-BDT-20-per-litre>

Metropolitan Chamber seeks supportive, growth-oriented budget

- MCCI urged a growth-oriented FY27 budget, proposing NID–TIN integration, a minimum tax to widen the tax net, and 2.5% corporate tax cuts to boost investment.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/metropolitan-chamber-seeks-supportive-growth-oriented-budget-1415911>

Ammonia shortage halts Chattogram DAP plant operations

- An acute shortage of ammonia has closed down production at the state-owned DAP Fertilizer Company Limited (DAPFCL). The closure of five of the country's six urea factories is behind the crisis, officials said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/ammonia-shortage-halts-chattogram-dap-plant-operations-4155216>

Drilling begins at country's first deep exploratory well in Brahmanbaria to boost gas supply

- Drilling has begun at Bangladesh's first deep exploratory well at the Titas Gas Field in Brahmanbaria, which is expected to add around 15 Mn cubic feet of gas per day to the national grid.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/drilling-begins-countrys-first-deep-exploratory-well-brahmanbaria-boost-gas-supply>

TELECOM | Telecom operators urge priority power and fuel supply to prevent communication breakdown

- Bangladesh's mobile telecommunications network is facing serious disruption as an ongoing power and fuel crisis threatens operations across the country, according to mobile operators.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/telecom-operators-urge-priority-power-fuel-supply-prevent-communication-breakdown-1415631>

Govt confident of securing last IMF loan tranche: Khosru

- Finance Minister has dismissed speculation that disbursement of the final International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan tranche has been stalled, stressing that constructive discussions are on.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-confident-of-securing-last-imf-loan-tranche-khosru-1776533459>

IMF continues talks, update down the road: Srinivasan on loan release

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is holding continuous discussions with Bangladesh over the release of the remaining tranche of its ongoing loan programme, Krishna Srinivasan, director of the IMF's Asia and Pacific Department, has said.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/imf-continues-talks-update-down-road-srinivasan-loan-release-1414981>

IMF blocks pending loan tranches for now, citing reform failure

- The IMF has delayed Bangladesh's June loan tranche, citing unmet revenue and banking reforms, while Dhaka proposes a new lending arrangement; USD 1.86Bn remains pending.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/imf-blocks-pending-loan-tranches-now-citing-reform-failure-1413446>

USD 2 Bn out of pocket as energy costs surge

- Bangladesh has shouldered nearly USD 2.0 Bn in extra costs as global disruption drives up energy imports, said Finance Minister. He added that due to disruptions, (Bangladesh) had to rely heavily on spot market purchases, which are significantly more expensive.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/2b-out-pocket-energy-costs-surge-4154666>

VAT exemptions to go, sparing poorest 40%

- The government plans to withdraw most VAT exemptions, keeping only essentials for low-income groups, a move expected to widen the tax net but raise consumer costs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/vat-exemptions-go-sparing-poorest-40-1414171>

Large-scale manufacturing sees some rebound

- The index that measures the industrial output rose nearly 1.0% YoY in January, in a reversal of 6.34% decline recorded in December, according to data released Thursday by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/large-scale-manufacturing-sees-some-rebound>

Govt to fast-track Bay Terminal to support growing trade demand: Shipping minister

- The government is set to fast-track the Bay Terminal project in Chattogram, aiming to modernize Bangladesh's maritime infrastructure and support growing export-import demand.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/govt-fast-track-bay-terminal-support-growing-trade-demand-shipping-minister-1414881>

BIDS, BCI to launch 'Industry 100 Index' for real-time manufacturing data

- A stakeholder consultation meeting was held on Saturday at the BIDS conference room to discuss the research initiative titled "BIDS-BCI Industry 100 Index", which will focus on large and medium manufacturing industries across various sectors, according to a statement.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bids-bci-to-launch-industry-100-index-for-real-time-manufacturing-data-1776529692>

NSC sales stay in the red despite slowing outflows

- National Savings Certificates remain under pressure, with continued net withdrawals of BDT 11.65Bn in February after a larger BDT 18.51Bn deficit in January.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/nsc-sales-stay-in-the-red-despite-slowing-outflows-1776531075>

RMG | US buyers begin recalibrating apparel sourcing strategies

- American buyers are carefully monitoring the newly negotiated US trade agreement with Bangladesh, especially its textile -and apparel-specific provisions, to recalibrate their apparel- sourcing strategies amid tariff and geopolitical tensions, a new study reveals.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/us-buyers-begin-recalibrating-apparel-sourcing-strategies-1776533168>

Tender to be floated next month

- A tender for the construction work of the second unit of the Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL) will finally be invited next month. State Minister for Power has expressed hope that the trial production will start in early 2029.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/tender-to-be-floated-next-month-1776529719>

LPG supply security hinges on boosting storage capacity

- Bangladesh's liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) sector has grown rapidly, yet lacks the storage capacity to buffer itself against global market shocks.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/lpg-supply-security-hinges-boosting-storage-capacity-4154701>

Govt's domestic debt BDT 11 Tn amid limited revenues

- Government domestic borrowing neared BDT 11T by Jan'26, with debt servicing taking 35% of expenditure, highlighting rising fiscal pressure.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/297031/govts-domestic-debt-tk-11-lakh-crore-amid-limited-revenues>

Bangladesh 'hostage' to IMF terms: Titumir

- Adviser to the Prime Minister has cautioned that targets such as raising the tax-to-GDP ratio under weak economic conditions could push growth below 3% and intensify stress on businesses and households.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/297242/bangladesh-hostage-to-imf-terms-titumir>

Bangladesh targets recovery of USD 200 Bn 'stolen funds' as banks face liquidity stress

- Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury has put the recovery of an estimated USD 200 Bn in stolen assets at the center of efforts to stabilize the economy, warning that years of capital flight have hollowed out the banking system and left the private sector starved of liquidity.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladesh-targets-recovery-of-200b-stolen-funds-as-banks-face-liquidity-stress>

RMG | BGMEA seeks policy support amid global challenges

- The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) on Wednesday sought policy support from the government to help sustain the competitiveness of the country's apparel sector amid mounting global economic challenges.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/bgmea-seeks-policy-support-amid-global-challenges>

BANK | Banks asked to avoid forward booking to keep dollar rate in check

- The Bangladesh Bank has discouraged commercial banks from engaging in forward dollar bookings to prevent artificial supply shortages in the spot market that could drive up the greenback's price.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-asked-avoid-forward-booking-keep-dollar-rate-check-1415001>

Iran closes strait of Hormuz again 'until US lifts blockade'

- Iran reimposed Strait of Hormuz restrictions after the US maintained its port blockade, saying curbs will continue without guaranteed navigation freedom.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/apr/18/iran-closes-strait-of-hormuz-again-until-us-lifts-blockade>

Important News: Stocks

GP | Grameenphone posts higher profit despite revenue decline in Q1

- Grameenphone reported a 4.40% YoY rise in net profit to BDT 6.62 Bn in Q12025, even as revenue declined.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/telecom/grameenphone-posts-higher-profit-despite-revenue-decline-q1-1418871>

IBNSINA | Ibn Sina posts 33% EPS growth in 9 months despite Q3 dip

- The company's consolidated earnings per share (EPS) rose to BDT 19.94 during the July-March period, marking a 32.75% increase compared to the same period in the previous fiscal year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/ibn-sina-posts-33-eps-growth-9-month-despite-q3-dip-1418776>

ICBIBANK | BB steps in again, appoints administrator at ICB Islamic Bank

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has appointed an administrator at the problem-ridden ICB Islamic Bank in a fresh move to safeguard depositors and investors and restore governance at the lending institution.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bb-steps-in-again-appoints-administrator-at-icb-islamic-bank-1776789345>

ILFSL | BB removes Int'l Leasing MD over irregularities

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has removed Mohammad Imdadul Islam, managing director of International Leasing and Financial Services Limited, over irregularities and concealment of information.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-removes-intl-leasing-md-over-irregularities-4157301>

RUPALIBANK | Rupali Bank's forced loans hit USD 1.87 Bn as financial health red flags mount

- Rupali Bank's forced loans reached USD 1.87Bn by Dec 2025, nearly doubling in four years due to unpaid LC liabilities, straining liquidity and asset quality.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/rupali-banks-forced-loans-hit-187b-financial-health-red-flags-mount-1418036>

PIONEERINS | Pioneer Insurance profit rises 25% despite 19% drop in premium income

- Pioneer Insurance PLC posted a 25% year-on-year growth in net profit in the first quarter of 2026, driven largely by a sharp cut in management expenses, even as its premium income declined significantly.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/pioneer-insurance-profit-rises-25-despite-19-drop-premium-income-1416856>

TITASGAS | Titas Gas gets BSEC nod to issue BDT 2.83 Bn preference shares

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has approved a proposal by state-owned Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited to issue irredeemable, non-cumulative preference shares worth approximately BDT 2.83 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/titas-gas-gets-bsec-nod-issue-tk282cr-preference-shares-1416826>

UNILEVERCL | Unilever Consumer Care revenue drops by 8% in Jan-Mar

- According to the financial statement for the January-March period of 2026, the health drinks like Horlicks producer posted a revenue of BDT 87.44 Mn, which was BDT 95.40 Mn during the same quarter a year ago.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/titas-gas-gets-bsec-nod-issue-tk282cr-preference-shares-1416826>

ISLAMIBANK | Dual protest outside Islami Bank HQ

- Hundreds of dismissed employees of six Islamic banks protested at Islami Bank Bangladesh HQ demanding reinstatement and board dissolution, while a counter-protest sought action against S Alam Group.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/dual-protest-outside-islami-bank-hq-4155571>

BDLAMPS | Energy-saving LED tubes, electrical accessories drive BD Lamps' sales growth

- Bangladesh Lamps posted more than 11% YoY revenue growth in 9MFY26, driven by higher sales of energy-saving LED tube lights and electrical accessories.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/energy-saving-led-tubes-electrical-accessories-drive-bd-lamps-sales-growth-1415901>

EXCHANGE | DBA signs cooperation deal with Japan Dealers Association

- The DSE Brokers Association of Bangladesh (DBA) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Japan Securities Dealers Association (JSDA), aiming to strengthen cooperation between them and help develop Bangladesh's capital market.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dba-signs-cooperation-deal-with-japan-dealers-association-1776527878>

EXCHANGE | BSEC's fresh move to register ICB Unit Fund rekindles control row

- The dispute over operational authority of the country's oldest and largest-ever pooled fund remains unresolved, with the asset manager aiming to retain control and the market watchdog seeking to assume it.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/bsecs-fresh-move-to-register-icb-unit-fund-rekindles-control-row>

EXCHANGE | UCB Investment Signs Brokerage Partnership with Prime Bank Securities –

- UCB Investment Limited and Prime Bank Securities Ltd. signed a Panel Brokerage Agreement at UCB head office in the capital.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ucb-investment-signs-brokerage-partnership-with-prime-bank-securities-1776527981>

PLFSL | People's Leasing moves for legal action as BDT 17.85 Bn remains unrecovered from ex-directors

- Despite repeated notices and a High Court directive, People's Leasing and Financial Services has failed to recover any dues from four former directors who collectively owe BDT 17.85 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/peoples-leasing-moves-legal-action-BDT1785cr-remains-unrecovered-ex-directors-1415951>

PREMIERBAN | Monzur becomes MD of Premier Bank

- Md Monzur Mofiz, serving as managing director (current charge) of the bank since December 14, 2025, has been appointed as managing director of Premier Bank PLC for the next three years.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/mis/297004/monzur-becomes-md-of-premier-bank>

UTTARABANK | Uttara Bank to inject BDT 1.92 Bn into brokerage subsidiary to strengthen capital base

- Uttara Bank PLC has decided to bolster the financial standing of its brokerage subsidiary, Uttara Bank Securities Limited, by investing BDT 1.92 Bn through a rights share subscription.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/uttara-bank-inject-BDT192cr-brokerage-subsiidiary-strengthen-capital-base-1414926>

PRIMEBANK | SME Foundation, Prime Bank sign deal to expand CMSME financing

- SME Foundation and Prime Bank have signed a refinancing agreement to expand credit access for cottage, micro, small, and medium enterprises (CMSMEs) through the government's BDT 3.0 Bn revolving fund and Credit Wholesaling guidelines.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/corporates/sme-foundation-prime-bank-sign-deal-expand-cmsme-financing-1414826>

GP | ILO flags Grameenphone union dispute as 'serious and urgent'

- The International Labour Organization (ILO) has once again raised concerns over a long-running labour dispute involving the Grameenphone Employees Union (GPEU), identifying the case as "serious and urgent".

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/ilo-flags-grameenphone-union-dispute-as-serious-and-urgent>

BSC | Govt importing two oceangoing oil tankers amid fuel crunch

- The state-owned Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) will procure the two oceangoing oil tankers on an emergency basis under a BDT 14.66 Bn project taken up for the logistics buildup, BSC officials say.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/govt-importing-two-oceangoing-oil-tankers-amid-fuel-crunch>

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