

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:**Exports hold steady in January**

- The country's merchandise exports held nearly steady in January, with shipments totalling USD 4.41 Bn, down 0.50 percent year-on-year, according to Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) data. A slow recovery in the global supply chain and cautious order placement by international clothing retailers ahead of the general election weighed on growth. Senior vice-president of BGMEA told that it is a normal practice by the international retailers and brands usually before the election. BKMEA president said that exports are expected to pick up strongly from June this year as retailers and brands begin placing orders after February.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/exports-hold-steady-january-4096971>

WB, ADB confirm USD 300m funding for job creation, skill development

- World Bank confirmed USD 150.75 Mn in additional financing for informal sector employment generation, while the ADB confirmed USD 150 Mn to modernise technical and vocational training. The World Bank also signed a USD 0.75 Mn grant deal at the event.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/wb-adb-confirm-300m-funding-for-job-creation-skill-development-1770056119>

BB buys USD 4.15 Bn so far in FY26

- BB bought USD 218.50 Mn from 16 commercial banks at a cut-off rate of BDT 122.30 per US dollar, which increased total foreign exchange purchases in the ongoing fiscal year to USD 4.152 Bn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-buys-415b-so-far-fy26-4096951>

Govt orders expeditious part takeover of KAFCO's foreign stakes

- The government has asked for expediting the takeover process of a portion of foreign stakes in Karnaphuli Fertiliser Company Limited (KAFCO). According to officials concerned, a shareholder from Denmark had expressed interest in handover of 8.0% of its shares to GoB. After getting the asset-valuation report, the government will decide whether to buy the stake or not. He added that the government instructed KAFCO to offload at least 5.0% shares on the stock market as the company is making profit and will lure investments.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-orders-expeditious-part-takeover-of-kafcos-foreign-stakes-1770055944>

Gold price may hit USD 6,300 an ounce by year-end

- JP Morgan said late on Sunday it expects demand from central banks and investors to drive gold prices to USD 6,300 per ounce by year-end.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/gold-price-may-hit-6300-ounce-year-end-4096916>

Trump cuts India tariffs, says Modi will stop buying Russian oil

- US President Donald Trump announced a trade deal with India on Monday, adding that he was cutting tariffs on Indian goods to 18%. He had previously levied 25% reciprocal tariffs, plus an additional 25% for New Delhi's purchases of Moscow's oil.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/world/news/trump-cuts-india-tariffs-says-modi-will-stop-buying-russian-oil-4097101>

Sector & Industries:**TEXTILE | Apparel leaders push for cash incentive changes to aid spinners**

- Leaders of the apparel and textile sector have proposed shifting incentives to the yarn pricing stage at the point of sale, rather than the current export-linked mechanism, to ensure direct benefits for spinners and stabilise the supply chain for garment exporters.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/apparel-leaders-push-for-cash-incentive-changes-to-aid-spinners-1770050426>

RMG | Yarn import restriction to risk buyers and employment: BGMEA

- Any kind of import restriction or severe tariff measure on yarn will create a supply constraint, resulting in the loss of buyers and risks to employment, said the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/yarn-import-restriction-risk-buyers-and-employment-bgmea-4096811>

TELECOM | BTRC seeks to ease spectrum concerns as GP secures 700 MHz allocation

- Bangladesh's telecom regulator has taken a fresh step to address growing concerns over regulatory imbalance in the allocation of 700 MHz spectrum to Grameenphone (GP), as it invited rival operators Robi Axiata and Banglalink to a discussion on Tuesday to review broader low-band spectrum policy. Robi and Banglalink have repeatedly urged BTRC to release all available low-band spectrum, including the EGSM band, through a coordinated auction process.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/btrc-seeks-to-ease-spectrum-concerns-as-gp-secures-700-mhz-allocation-1770056054>

FUEL & POWER | BERC raises LPG prices; 12kg cylinder now BDT 1,356

- Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) today announced an upward adjustment in the price of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), setting the cost of a 12 kg cylinder at BDT 1,356, up from BDT 1,306.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/berc-raises-lpg-prices-12kg-cylinder-now-tk-1356-4096781>

FUEL & POWER | Light engineering fails to emerge as export frontier

- After agriculture and readymade garments, light engineering should have been Bangladesh's next export frontier, but that transition has yet to take place, said Md Abdur Rahim Khan, additional secretary at the commerce ministry. Hosna Ferdous Sumi, an official at the World Bank, said the domestic market is valued at USD 8.0 Bn, offering significant opportunities, but product quality remains the biggest challenge in both local and export markets.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/light-engineering-fails-emerge-export-frontier-4096946>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | Stabilisation fund for stocks to stay in bank, be managed risk-free**

- The Capital Market Stabilization Fund (CMSF) will now have to keep all its funds in a bank account and manage them in a risk-free manner, according to a draft of the Capital Market Stabilisation Fund Ordinance published on the Financial Institutions Division website.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/stabilisation-fund-stocks-stay-bank-be-managed-risk-free-4096956>

GP | GP declares 105pc final cash dividend for 2025

- Grameenphone (GP), the country's largest mobile phone operator, has recommended a 105 per cent final cash dividend (total 215 per cent) for the year ended December 31, 2025.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/gp-declares-105pc-final-cash-dividend-for-2025>

UPGDCL | United Power lifts profit on deep cost cuts amid revenue slump

- United Power experienced a marginal 2 per cent rise in profit to BDT 2.98 Bn in the second quarter of FY26, despite a more than 22 per cent decline in revenue, as the cost of sales shrank by 40 per cent.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/united-power-lifts-profit-on-deep-cost-cuts-amid-revenue-slump>

MIDLANDBNK | Midland Bank receives Mastercard membership licence

- Midland Bank PLC has received a Mastercard-affiliated membership licence, enabling the bank to issue Mastercard credit, debit and prepaid cards.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/corporates/midland-bank-receives-mastercard-membership-licence-1350426>

ALARABANK | CBS upgrade underway at Al-Arafah Islami Bank

- The Core Banking System (CBS) upgrade program of Al-Arafah Islami Bank PLC is currently underway with the objective of enhancing technological capabilities, building a modern banking infrastructure, and ensuring safer, faster, and uninterrupted banking services for customers.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/cbs-upgrade-underway-at-al-arafah-islami-bank>

WALTONHIL | Walton inaugurates ACC Kappa Compressor

- Walton, Bangladesh's first and only compressor manufacturer, has launched the production of the renowned European ACC brand's Kappa Compressor. ACC brand was established in 1968.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/walton-inaugurates-acc-kappa-compressor>

SINGERBD | Singer's losses widen, but investors bet on new plant payoff

- The company explained that the NAV declined sharply due to a significant increase in both short-term and long-term debts taken for new manufacturing facilities. Short-term borrowings escalated alongside a hike in interest rates. The company elaborated that this loss was primarily driven by a 124.7% increase in financing costs, mainly due to higher interest rates, financing stretched working capital, lower demand actualisation compared to expectations, and exchange losses.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/singers-losses-widen-but-investors-bet-on-new-plant-payoff-1770050831>

SAPORTL | Export slowdown hits Summit Alliance Port as container handling drops in H1

- Summit Alliance Port Limited, one of the country's leading inland container terminal and logistics operators, reported a sharp decline in revenue and profit in H1'FY26. Summit Alliance Port attributed the weaker performance largely to the downturn in its subsidiary Container Transportation Services Limited (CTSL), which experienced lower net profit due to reduced cargo volumes, a fall in freight rates and the absence of dividend income from subsidiaries.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/export-slowdown-hits-summit-alliance-port-container-handling-drops-h1-1350781>

ONEBANKPLC | Ziaul Islam made DMD of ONE Bank

- Kazi Ziaul Islam, chief country representative of Mashreq Bank, Bangladesh, has been appointed as deputy managing director and head of financial services and public sector, respectively, of ONE Bank PLC.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/ziaul-islam-made-dmd-one-bank-4096896>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 62.27	USD 4.84	8.43%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 66.37	USD 5.52	9.07%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,841.90	USD 500.90	11.54%
DSEX	5,247.75	382.41	7.86%
S&P 500	6,976.44	77.62	1.13%
FTSE 100	10,341.56	410.18	4.13%
BSE SENSEX	81,666.46	-3,127.12	-3.69%
KSE-100	185,214.60	11,160.30	6.41%
CSEALL	23,681.68	1,057.37	4.67%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.39 BDT

1 GBP = 167.46 BDT

1 Euro = 144.55 BDT

1 INR = 1.35 BDT

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