

*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:****US overtakes India in Bangladesh trade**

- The United States has overtaken India as Bangladesh's second-largest trading partner in January, driven by a surge in imports from the world's largest economy. While China continues to dominate Bangladesh's trade landscape, the shift highlights changing import patterns and growing economic ties with the US.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/us-overtakes-india-in-bangladesh-trade>

**Govt to issue BDT 59 Bn Sukuk for rural, road bridge project**

- The government is set to issue its eighth investment Sukuk worth BDT 59 Bn to finance the construction and development of important bridges on rural roads under a revised project, according to an official statement.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/govt-to-issue-tk-59b-sukuk-for-rural-road-bridge-project>

**Bidding for 26 offshore blocks shortly with baits for IOCs**

- A much-sought-after bidding round offering some 26 offshore hydrocarbon blocks to potential international oil companies (IOCs) with sweetened terms is expected to be launched shortly, says a senior official of Petrobangla.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bidding-for-26-offshore-blocks-shortly-with-baits-for-iocs-177742931>

**USD 3.0 Bn expected by June from dev partners**

- Bangladesh is expecting USD 3.0 Bn in budget support by the middle of June from five multilateral and bilateral lenders, including the World Bank, in what would provide a sigh of relief to the government from the financial pressure triggered by the Middle East war.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/3b-expected-june-dev-partners-4166261>

**Excessive bank borrowing to harm economy: Says Fahmida Khatun**

- Fahmida Khatun, executive director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) has told that although the introduction of family and farmers' cards may bring some relief, excessive reliance on bank borrowing to finance the budget deficit is harmful to the economy.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/excessive-bank-borrowing-harm-economy-says-fahmida-khatun-4166096>

**Dhaka in deep talks with IsDB over USD 1.0 Bn Eastern Refinery loan terms**

- Bangladesh has entered detailed negotiations over terms and conditions for a more than USD 1.0 Bn financing offer from the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) to support the modernisation and expansion of Bangladesh's Eastern Refinery Limited, a top priority project to strengthen the country's energy security.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/dhaka-deep-talks-isdb-over-1b-eastern-refinery-loan-terms-1427831>

**Sector and Industries:**

**BANKS | Cenbank restructures long-term financing facility; new rates effective from Friday**

- Bangladesh Bank has overhauled the interest rate structure of its Long-Term Financing Facility (LTFF), shifting from a SOFR-linked model to a variable percentage-based system. Under the new structure, the interest rate for participating financial institutions (PFIs) is determined by their Camels rating, along with the loan tenure.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-restructures-long-term-financing-facility-new-rates-effective-tomorrow>

**BANKS | BB waives provisioning for funds in merging banks**

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has waived the requirement to maintain provisions against funds of banks and non-bank financial institutions stuck in five merging shariah-based lenders. The decision was taken at a recent internal meeting of the central bank, at a time when more than BDT 150 Bn remain tied up in the troubled institutions.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-waives-provisioning-funds-merging-banks-4166091>

**BANKS | Banks are quietly abandoning private sector**

- Lured by risk-free government bonds yielding 12%, the country's banks have turned their backs on private borrowers. Now private credit has hit a 21-year low, capital adequacy has collapsed, and debt service is consuming more than 100% of government revenue. Economists warn the clock is ticking.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/banks-are-quietly-abandoning-private-sector-1427736>

**Stocks:**

**EXCHANGE | Ten more banks set to slide into 'Z' category after dividend failure**

- Bangladesh's banking sector is facing mounting pressure in the capital market as at least 10 more listed banks are set to be downgraded to the Dhaka Stock Exchange's (DSE) 'Z' category, commonly known as junk stocks, after failing to declare dividends for two consecutive years.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/ten-more-banks-set-slide-z-category-after-dividend-failure-1427731>

**BERGERPBL | Berger appoints Mohsin as MD, CEO, Rupali ED**

- The board of directors of Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited has appointed Mohsin Habib Chowdhury as the company's chief executive officer and managing director for a five-year term, effective from August 1, 2026. Currently serving as the company's chief operating officer and director, Mohsin Habib Chowdhury joined Berger in 1995. The board also appointed Rupali Haque Chowdhury as executive director for Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited subsidiaries, coordination director for joint ventures, and non-executive director of the company.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/mis/298550/berger-appoints-mohsin-as-md-ceo-rupali-ed>

**Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 101.94	USD 44.51	77.50%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 108.17	USD 47.32	77.76%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,614.21	USD 273.21	6.29%
DSEX	5,286.87	421.54	8.66%
S&P 500	7,230.12	331.30	4.80%
FTSE 100	10,363.93	432.55	4.36%
BSE SENSEX	76,913.50	-7,880.08	-9.29%
KSE-100	162,994.17	-11,060.13	-6.35%
CSEALL	22,549.53	-74.78	-0.33%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 122.80 BDT****1 GBP = 166.72 BDT****1 Euro = 143.95 BDT****1 INR = 1.29 BDT**

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