

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:****Electricity prices hiked across the board**

- Retail and bulk consumers of electricity have to pay 16.68% and 19.85% higher tariffs respectively as the government again gives an across-the-board raise in power prices, stoking concern about its cascading impact. As per the new decision, the weighted average bulk tariff of electricity has been raised to BDT 8.39 from previous BDT 7.0 a unit, while the retail power tariffs have gone up to BDT 10.63 per unit from the previous BDT 9.11.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/electricity-prices-hiked-across-the-board-1780508835>

**BD among 60 countries facing 'forced labour' US tariffs**

- Bangladesh is among 60 countries now facing a new prohibitive US tariff of up to 12.5% proposed to be levied on goods produced with forced labour, in lockstep with impugned reciprocal tariffs.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-among-60-countries-facing-forced-labour-us-tariffs-1780509280>

**Bangladesh seeks IMF loan under new scheme to support economic reform**

- Bangladesh has requested a new financial arrangement from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to support the economic reform programme. IMF Mission Chief for Bangladesh told that the authorities' request for a successor arrangement provides an opportunity for the Fund and the authorities to agree on a potential program that both reflects the current challenges and incorporates the new authorities' objectives and priorities.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladesh-seeks-imf-loan-under-new-scheme>

**UN CDP suggests shorter deferral**

- The United Nations (UN) Committee for Development Policy (CDP) does not support Bangladesh's request for deferral of graduation from the least-developed country (LDC) category for a period of three years. The committee said, a shorter extension of the preparatory period would appear more conducive for a sustainable graduation.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/un-cdp-suggests-shorter-deferral-1780508740>

**Govt drafts reform roadmap to seek delay in LDC graduation until 2029**

- The government is preparing to submit a three-year reform roadmap to the United Nations in a final effort to secure a postponement of Bangladesh's graduation from the least developed country (LDC) category until November 2029, despite a UN committee recommending a "shorter" extension.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-drafts-reform-roadmap-seek-delay-ldc-graduation-until-2029-1453681>

**Merchandise exports drop 7.07% in May**

- The country's merchandise export earnings saw 7.07% YoY negative growth in May 2026 after a rise in April. President of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association has said the exports saw a poor performance in May due to suspension of production because of a number of Eid holidays. He added that global demands are shrinking for a number of factors like US tariff tension, Middle East crisis resulting in less work orders.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/exports-fall-707pc-in-may-1780510141>

**Dhaka eyes investment in public mills, FTA**

- Bangladesh hopes to deepen economic ties with Türkiye through negotiations on free-trade agreement, expansion of export market and investment in struggling state-owned textile and jute mills during Turkish Foreign Minister's three-day tour.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/dhaka-eyes-investment-in-public-mills-fta-1780508986>

**PPP projects included in ADP face chronic delays**

- The government has included 80 PPP projects in its newly approved BDT 3.0 Tn ADP for FY27, alongside around 1,150 public-sector development projects undertaken by various ministries and agencies. In the outgoing FY2026 ADP, the government included 79 PPP projects, most of which were not even initiated for implementation.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/ppp-projects-included-in-adp-face-chronic-delays-1780509951>

**Govt may drop planned wealth tax, bike and rickshaw AIT**

- The government is set to backtrack from its plans to reintroduce a wealth tax and impose a first-ever advance income tax (AIT) on motorcycles and battery-run auto-rickshaws in the upcoming budget for fiscal year 2026-27, according to officials familiar with the matter.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/bangladesh-budget-2026-27/news/govt-may-drop-planned-wealth-tax-bike-and-rickshaw-ait-4190076>

**Banks asked to enrol employees in Pragati pension scheme**

- The Financial Institutions Division has directed Bangladesh Bank representatives and managing directors of all scheduled banks to take necessary steps to enroll their officers and employees in the Pragati Scheme under the Universal Pension System.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/banks-asked-enrol-employees-pragati-pension-scheme-4189996>

**Bangladesh moving towards digital public procurement**

- The government of Bangladesh to complete transition to electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) from the very beginning of the next fiscal year. From July 01, 2026, no offline or manual tendering will be allowed in public procurement activities, marking a historic milestone in the country's procurement reform journey.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/mis/301483/bangladesh-moving-towards-digital-public-procurement>

**Ctg port gets 5G spectrum for smart port trial**

- The internet regulator has granted the Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) temporary access to 20 MHz of spectrum in the 3.5 GHz band to test a private 5G network aimed at transforming the Chattogram seaport into a smart port. The spectrum will be used to build a private 5G network designed to modernise port operations through high-speed, secure and reliable communications.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ctg-port-gets-5g-spectrum-smart-port-trial-4190046>

**Sector and Industries:****BANK | Banks provision shortfall hits BDT 2 Tn**

- The provision shortfall in Bangladesh's banking sector stood at BDT 2.05 Tn at the end of March 2026, reflecting a deepening financial crisis driven by soaring defaulted loans, weak profitability and fragile capital positions.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/301488/banks-provision-shortfall-hits-tk-2-lakh-crore>

### **ENERGY | Bangladesh to buy five more LNG cargoes**

- The government approved the purchase of five liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes, including three from the spot market. The average cost of LNG under long-term contracts has now risen to around USD 15.0 per MMBtu, while spot-market prices have increased to USD 17-USD 18 per MMBtu.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-buy-five-more-Ing-cargoes-4190031>

### **INSURANCE | Sri Lanka's Softlogic to buy out Diamond Life Insurance**

- Sri Lankan conglomerate Softlogic Group is set to acquire Diamond Life Insurance, marking what could become the largest foreign investment in Bangladesh's life insurance sector in recent years.

<https://tob.news/sri-lankas-softlogic-to-buy-out-diamond-life-insurance/>

### **Stocks:**

### **BRACBANK | BRAC Bank aims to become largest remittance bank**

- BRAC Bank has achieved strong growth in inward remittances over the past five consecutive years and now aims to become Bangladesh's largest remittance bank by 2028.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/brac-bank-aims-to-become-largest-remittance-bank-1780504781>

### **ACMELAB | Acme Labs MD's heirs to equally inherit BDT67cr in shares**

- The two children of Mizanur Rahman Sinha, the late managing director and sponsor director of Acme Laboratories Limited, are set to receive his entire shareholding in the company as inheritance. At Wednesday's market price of BDT 78.10 per share, the total value of Sinha's holdings stands at approximately BDT 669.6 Mn, with each sibling inheriting a stake worth roughly BDT 333.5 Mn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/acme-labs-mds-heirs-equally-inherit-BDT67cr-shares-1453596>

**Stock and Commodities\***

<b>Index Name</b>	<b>Close Value</b>	<b>Value Change YTD</b>	<b>% Change YTD</b>
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 95.23	USD 37.80	65.82%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 96.80	USD 35.95	59.08%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,461.29	USD 120.29	2.77%
DSEX	5,441.66	576.32	11.85%
S&P 500	7,553.68	654.86	9.49%
FTSE 100	10,332.30	400.92	4.04%
BSE SENSEX	74,346.17	-10,447.41	-12.32%
KSE-100	170,190.64	-3,863.66	-2.22%
CSEALL	22,011.10	-613.21	-2.71%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 122.75 BDT****1 GBP = 164.81 BDT****1 Euro = 142.49 BDT****1 INR = 1.28 BDT**

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