

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:**Inflation rises further as prices spike**

- Inflation rises further with December rate up at 8.49% on a point- to-point basis in an apparent defiance of central bank's bid to lower persistently elevated price growth in a weakening investment scenario. The overall inflation stood at 8.49% last month, edging up from 8.29% in November last, according to BBS count.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/inflation-rises-further-as-prices-spike-1767633022>

Planning Commission approves BDT 2 Tn revised ADP

- The Planning Commission has approved a revised Annual Development Programme (RADP) of BDT 2.0 Tn for FY2025-26, marking a 13.04% reduction from the original budget due to resource constraints. While the transport, energy, and housing sectors remain top priorities, significant funding cuts exceeding 70% were made to the health and social protection sectors.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/planning-commission-approves-tk-20t-revised-adp-1767633256>

ADB pledges USD 2.57 Bn for BD infrastructure, finance in 2025

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has committed USD 2.57 Bn in new sovereign financing to Bangladesh for 2025, more than doubling its previous year's contribution. The funding targets critical sectors including transport, banking reforms, and energy to support economic diversification and infrastructure development.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/adb-pledges-257b-for-bd-infrastructure-finance-in-2025-1767633344>

Taxpayers now allowed to digitise returns

- National Board of Revenue has taken a special initiative to digitise all value-added tax paper returns by introducing a new sub-module under the e-VAT System. Taxpayers who submitted their hard copy VAT returns within the stipulated time will now be able to enter those returns into the e-VAT System themselves without incurring any penalty.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/287285/taxpayers-now-allowed-to-digitise-returns>

Govt races to clear BDT 200 Bn power dues to avert summer load-shedding

- The interim government is moving to clear more than BDT 200 Bn in unpaid dues to private power producers to avert potential load-shedding this summer and avoid passing a large financial burden to the next elected government.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/govt-races-clear-tk20000cr-power-dues-avert-summer-load-shedding-1327346>

Sector & Industries:**RMG | Apparel leaders fear major challenges in 2026**

- Apparel industry leaders anticipate significant challenges in 2026 due to weak global demand, high US tariffs, and intensified competition in the European market. They are looking toward the upcoming national elections and the country's LDC graduation as pivotal factors that will shape the sector's stability and competitiveness.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/apparel-leaders-fear-major-challenges-in-2026-1767629928>

NBFI | 9 financial institutions to be declared non-viable within this week: BB governor

- Bangladesh Bank Governor has announced that nine insolvent NBFIIs will be declared non-viable and slated for liquidation within a week while repay general depositors before Ramadan. These entities, including Peoples Leasing, International Leasing, and Aviva Finance, collectively account for over 50% of the sector's total defaulted loans.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/9-financial-institutions-be-declared-non-viable-within-week-bb-governor-1327231>

BANK | Sammilito Islami Bank gets BDT 440 Mn in new deposits in two days: BB governor

- Customers of newly formed Sammilito Islami Bank withdrew BDT 1.07 Bn over the past two days while new deposits amounted to BDT 44 Mn, reflecting continued confidence among depositors, BB Governor has said.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/sammilito-islami-bank-gets-tk44cr-new-deposits-two-days-bb-governor-1326966>

Stocks:**BEACONPHAR | Beacon Pharma under probe over alleged illicit transactions with sister concerns**

- The BSEC has launched a 60-day investigation into Beacon Pharmaceuticals following BFIU allegations of money laundering, market fraud, and illicit transactions with sister concerns. The probe will examine claims that the company diverted export benefits and misused borrowed funds to settle the liabilities of non-listed entities, potentially depriving general shareholders.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/beacon-pharma-under-probe-over-alleged-illicit-transactions-with-sister-concerns-1767626646>

SQURPHARMA | Tapan Chowdhury plans BDT 400 Mn share purchase in Square Pharma

- Tapan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Pharmaceuticals PLC, has announced his intention to buy 2 Mn shares of the company through the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/tapan-chowdhury-plans-tk40cr-share-purchase-square-pharma-1327221>

UCB | UCB posts BDT 130.0 Bn deposit growth in 2025

- United Commercial Bank PLC recorded a deposit growth of nearly BDT 130 Bn in 2025, while reducing its Advance-to-Deposit Ratio from 91.30% in 2024 to 83.0% in 2025.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/mis/287275/ucb-posts-tk-13000cr-deposit-growth-in-2025>

EXCHANGE | Move on to get 10 SoEs, MNCs listed

- The government is moving to list 10 high-profile entities, including state-owned giants like Sylhet Gas Fields and multinationals like Unilever and Nestlé, to stabilize the stock market. Finance Adviser is meeting with their CEOs to finalize the divestment of government-held stakes and inject quality "blue-chip" stocks into the bourses.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/move-on-to-get-10-soes-mncs-listed>

EXCHANGE | 'R-category' board proposed for long-term non-performing stocks

- A high-powered committee, formed by the finance ministry, has recommended the creation of a separate R-category platform to shift long-term non-functional and non-dividend-paying companies from the main board of the stock exchanges.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/r-category-board-proposed-long-term-non-performing-stocks-1327281>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 58.07	USD 0.64	1.11%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 61.54	USD 0.69	1.13%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,450.91	USD 109.91	2.53%
DSEX	4,954.87	89.53	1.84%
S&P 500	6,902.09	3.27	0.05%
FTSE 100	10,004.57	73.19	0.74%
BSE SENSEX	85,439.62	646.04	0.76%
KSE-100	182,408.23	8,353.93	4.80%
CSEALL	23,014.75	390.44	1.73%

Exchange Rates
1 US Dollar = 122.32 BDT
1 GBP = 165.69 BDT
1 Euro = 143.42 BDT
1 INR = 1.36 BDT

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