

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:**April exports lowest in 10 months**

- Bangladesh recorded the lowest level of exports so far this fiscal year, both in terms of value and growth, in April as the production of apparel, the main export item, suffered in many areas amid an energy crisis. Last month, exporters fetched USD 3.01 Bn registering only 0.86% year-on-year growth, data released by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) yesterday showed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/april-exports-lowest-10-months-3887766>

Falling food prices ease inflation

- Falling food prices over recent months have helped cool inflation further in April, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), with economists attributing the easing of price pressures to post-festival effects. The overall inflation rate stood at 9.17% in April, down from 9.35% in March, BBS data showed yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/falling-food-prices-ease-inflation-3887761>

FY26 budget: Debt servicing costs, food subsidies to rise

- The next budget may be slightly smaller than the current fiscal year's, but non-development spending is expected to rise by over 5% due to higher debt servicing costs, food subsidies, and a special allocation for bank reforms. The size of the next budget would reach BDT 7.9 Tn -- BDT 70 Bn less than the budget for the ongoing fiscal year, according to a draft prepared at a fiscal coordination council meeting last month.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/fy26-budget-debt-servicing-costs-food-subsidies-rise-3887621>

3-year high ACU bill of USD 1.88 Bn to be paid tomorrow, reserves to stay above USD 20 Bn

- Bangladesh is set to make a USD 1.88 Bn payment tomorrow (6 May) to settle its Asian Clearing Union (ACU) dues for March-April imports, the highest ACU bill in nearly three years. The last time the country made a higher ACU payment was in July 2022, amounting to USD 1.96 Bn for May-June imports, according to central bank records.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/3-year-high-acu-bill-188b-be-paid-tomorrow-reserves-stay-above-20b-1134601>

Sector & Industries:**FUEL & POWER | European bank to lend EUR 350 Mn for renewable energy**

- The European Investment Bank (EIB) has committed to providing EUR 350 Mn in loans to support renewable energy projects in Bangladesh, with the European Union contributing an additional EUR 45 Mn in grants. The projects aim to boost environmental sustainability and advance efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, in line with Bangladesh's efforts to attain the Sustainable Development Goals, according to a press release from the Ministry of Finance.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/european-bank-lend-eu350m-renewable-energy-3887256>

Stocks:**MONNOCERA | Monno Ceramic's Q3 profit rises 102 times**

- Monno Ceramic's profit increased 102 times in the third quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal year, thanks to a rise in revenue and other income. In the January-March quarter, the ceramic manufacturer made a profit of BDT 38.4 Mn, with earnings per share (EPS) rising to BDT 1.02, up from last year's BDT 0.01.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/monno-ceramics-q3-profit-rises-102-times-3887301>

BRACBANK | BDT 1.46 Bn BRAC Bank shares change hands

- A sudden large transaction involving BRAC Bank shares took place in the block market of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) today. On the day, 29.6 Mn shares of BRAC Bank, worth BDT 1.46 Bn, were traded at a negotiated price of BDT 49.20 per share.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/tk146cr-brac-bank-shares-change-hands-1134566>

PUBALIBANK | Pubali Bank to issue BDT 15 Bn bond to strengthen capital base

- Pubali Bank has announced its plan to issue a BDT 15 Bn subordinated bond to bolster its capital base, as part of efforts to meet Basel III regulatory requirements. In a disclosure published on the Dhaka Stock Exchange today, the bank said this will be its fifth subordinated bond, and the proceeds will support the bank's Tier-2 capital under the Bangladesh Bank's Risk-Based Capital Adequacy Guidelines.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/pubali-bank-issue-tk1500cr-bond-strengthen-capital-base-1134591>

PREMIERCER | Premier Cement's profit drops 87% in Q3

- Leading cement manufacturer Premier Cement Mills PLC's profit fell by a massive 87% year-on-year to BDT 32.8 Mn in the third quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal year due to higher raw material and finance costs. Its revenue for the January-March 2025 quarter fell 4% year-on-year to BDT 7.24 Bn, according to the company's financial statements.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/premier-cements-profit-drops-87-q3-3887311>

RAKCERAMIC | RAK Ceramics slips into losses in Q1

- RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Ltd, one of the leading ceramics manufacturers in the country, fell into losses in the first quarter of the financial year 2025 due to higher raw material and manufacturing costs. The ceramics maker posted a loss of BDT 25.3 Mn in the January-March quarter, a sharp reversal from a profit of BDT 46.2 Mn in the same period of 2024, according to its financial statement. The first-quarter loss of 2025 follows RAK Ceramics' loss of BDT 27.3 Mn in the financial year 2024.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rak-ceramics-slips-losses-q1-3887261>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 58.05	(USD 13.38)	-18.73%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 61.18	(USD 13.21)	-17.76%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,362.72	USD 754.24	28.91%
DSEX	4,964.67	-251.77	-4.83%
S&P 500	5,650.38	-256.56	-4.34%
FTSE 100	8,596.35	475.34	5.85%
BSE SENSEX	80,907.24	2,707.31	3.46%
KSE-100	114,102.24	-1,156.76	-1.00%
CSEALL	15,916.69	-27.92	-0.18%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 121.54 BDT****1 GBP = 161.59 BDT****1 Euro = 137.51 BDT****1 INR = 1.44 BDT**

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