

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:**Energy supply disruption, IMF conditions push PDB to propose electricity price hike**

- The Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB) has sent a proposal to the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) to increase wholesale electricity prices by 17%-21%. Residential consumers could also see an increase ranging from BDT 0.70 - BDT 1.80 per unit, depending on their usage tier. According to an official document, if current tariffs remain unchanged, PDB's potential deficit for FY26 could reach BDT 564.75 Bn.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/energy-supply-disruption-imf-conditions-push-pdb-to-propose-electricity-price-hike>

Bangladesh central bank buys USD 80 Mn to boost reserves before ACU payment

- The central bank has purchased USD 80 Mn from three banks at BDT 122.75 per dollar so far this month, taking the foreign exchange reserves to USD 35.30 Bn. FX reserves in the BPM6 system stood at USD 30.61 Bn. According to the central bank, USD 50 Mn was bought on Tuesday and USD 30 Mn on Monday. The country has so far purchased USD 5.75 Bn in the current fiscal year.

<https://bdnews24.com/business/5f65db28d30c>

ADB to provide USD 1.0 Bn budget support to Bangladesh

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to provide USD 1.0 Bn in budget support to Bangladesh by June to tackle economic challenges stemming from soaring energy prices triggered by the Middle East war situation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/adb-provide-1b-budget-support-bangladesh-4168546>

20% higher revenue target for next year

- The government is working out an ambitious revenue target for the next fiscal year with a 20.07% increase from this financial year's revised budget, aiming to raise the tax-GDP ratio that fell to 6.8% last year. The NBR's revenue collection target for fiscal 2026–27 is expected to be BDT 6.04 Tn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/20-percent-higher-revenue-target-next-year-4168716>

Govt to scrap Dhaka-Gazipur BRT project

- The government is set to scrap the long-delayed and controversial Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project and convert the dedicated Dhaka airport-Gazipur corridor into a regular road network, officials said on Tuesday. The decision marks a dramatic end to a 15-year project backed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and French lender Agence Française de Développement (AFD), which has already consumed about BDT 28.10 Bn in public funds.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-to-scrap-dhaka-gazipur-brt-project-1778002431>

Govt decides in principle to build East-West elevated expressway

- The government has in principle decided to construct the 39-kilometre Dhaka East-West Elevated Expressway (DEWEE) which is to connect three major national highways, including Dhaka-Chottagram with Dhaka-Aricha and Dhaka-Mawa through Narayanganj district, enabling traffic to pass through at a high speed.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-decides-in-principle-to-build-east-west-elevated-expressway-1778002351>

ADB expects surge in private sector demand for investment services in Bangladesh

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) expects that there will be a “significant growth in demand” from the private sector for its investment services in Bangladesh, a senior official said. The increased demand is likely as a new government has been in power since February, and things have started to stabilize.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/adb-expects-surge-private-sector-demand-investment-services-bangladesh-4168531>

Eastern Refinery resumes operations on 8 May as crude arrive after 2.5 months

- State-owned Eastern Refinery Limited is set to resume operations on 8 May as a vessel carrying 1 lakh tonnes of crude oil is scheduled to reach the outer anchorage of Chattogram Port today (6 May).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/eastern-refinery-resumes-operations-8-may-crude-arriving-after-25-months-1430756>

Net FDI rises 39.36% in 2025 as intra-company loans increase: BB report

- Foreign direct investment (FDI) in Bangladesh has rebounded once again. In 2025, net FDI increased by 39.36% compared with the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/net-fdi-rises-3936-2025-intra-company-loans-increase-bb-report-1430796>

VAT goes to village: NBR eyes bringing small businesses under coverage

- The National Board of Revenue is planning to expand the value-added tax (VAT) base to the grassroots by introducing a "token" VAT between BDT 500 – BDT 1,000 on trial basis for small businesses and making Business Identification Number (BIN) mandatory for bank accounts and trade licences.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/vat-goes-village-nbr-eyes-bringing-small-businesses-under-coverage-1429816>

Airbus eyes role in Biman mixed fleet

- European aerospace giant Airbus on Tuesday expressed strong interest in supporting the formation of a mixed fleet for Biman Bangladesh Airlines, signalling a renewed push to expand its footprint in Bangladesh’s aviation sector.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/mis/298873/airbus-eyes-role-in-biman-mixed-fleet>

Brent holds near USD 114 a barrel

- Brent crude futures retreated on Tuesday but held near USD 114 a barrel following fresh hostilities in the Middle East, while investors monitored developments in the US-Israeli conflict with Iran.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/brent-holds-near-114-barrel-4168496>

Sector and Industries:**BANK | BB raises auto, personal loan ceilings**

- Banks will now be allowed to provide auto loans of up to BDT 8.0 Mn per individual, up from BDT 6.0 Mn. Equity requirements for conventional auto loans remain at a maximum debt-equity ratio of 60:40, while loans for electric and hybrid cars can now be extended at a more relaxed ratio of 80:20. Individuals can take out unsecured personal loans of up to BDT 1.0 Mn, up from the previous limit of BDT 0.5 Mn. Banks may lend higher amounts if backed by proper securities, upto BDT 4.0 Mn. Loans secured against liquid assets will remain outside this cap.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-raises-auto-personal-loan-ceilings-4168536>

BANK | Central bank calls meeting amid uncertainty over SIB

- Bangladesh Bank Governor has called the administrators of the state-owned Sammilito Islami Bank (SIB) to a meeting on Wednesday. Although operating under a single license, the five constituent banks continue to conduct banking activities separately. The bank is also currently grappling with a leadership crisis.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/central-bank-calls-meeting-amid-uncertainty-over-sib>

BANK | Defaulters to be barred from BB's factory reopening fund

- Money launderers, scammers and willful defaulters will not be eligible for a BDT 200.0 Bn refinance fund being prepared by the central bank to restart fully or partially closed factories.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/defaulters-be-barred-bbs-factory-reopening-fund-4168526>

BANK | Sonali Bank posts record BDT 13.13 Bn profit in 2025

- Sonali Bank, the country's largest state-owned commercial bank, reported a record net profit of BDT 13.13 Bn in 2025, marking a 33% increase from the previous year. The strong performance was primarily driven by a surge in investment income, largely from government bond holdings, which rose 55% year-on-year to BDT 97.99 Bn. However, the bank's net interest income declined sharply, falling 77% to BDT 3.37 Bn during the year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/sonali-bank-posts-record-tk1313cr-profit-2025-1430831>

BANK | Janata Bank suffers BDT 39.31 Bn loss in 2025

- State-owned Janata Bank recorded a substantial loss of BDT 39.31 Bn in 2025, marking further loss. The bank's net asset value further into negative territory, standing at BDT 108.51 per share. Net interest income reached a negative BDT 59.03 Bn, alongside a surge in classified loans totaling BDT 728.0 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/janata-bank-suffers-tk3931cr-loss-2025-1430826>

REAL ESTATE | Realtors seek policy support to boost housing sector

- Realtors have sought government's necessary policy support for development of the country's housing sector for ensuring accommodation for people of different income groups.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/realtors-seek-policy-support-to-boost-housing-sector-1777998238>

ENERGY | Bangladesh seeks refining deal with India to secure fuel supply

- The government is proposing a government-to-government (G2G) refining arrangement with India aimed at ensuring a stable supply of petroleum products as global markets remain volatile. The initiative involves a tolling model under which crude oil owned or financed by Bangladesh would be processed in Indian refineries, with Bangladesh paying refining fees and associated logistics costs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/bangladesh-seeks-refining-deal-india-secure-fuel-supply-1430776>

Stocks:**SAPORTL | Summit Alliance Port reports 26% fall in export freight earnings in July-March**

- Summit Alliance Port Limited, one of the country's leading inland container terminals and logistics operators, reported a 26% decline in export freight earnings in 9MFY26, weighed down by weaker export container handling and a challenging global trade environment.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/summit-alliance-port-reports-26-fall-export-freight-earnings-july-march-1430661>

DHAKABANK, DESHBANDHU | Dhaka Bank to auction Deshbandhu Polymer's assets to recover BDT 521 Mn debt

- Dhaka Bank PLC has announced an auction to sell the mortgaged land, factory machinery, and other assets of Deshbandhu Polymer Limited to recover outstanding dues amounting to BDT 521.0 Mn. The move comes as the listed manufacturer of woven polypropylene bags, continues to struggle with a severe liquidity crisis and a near-total collapse in its production and sales performance.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/dhaka-bank-auction-deshbandhu-polymers-assets-recover-tk52cr-debt-1430646>

EXCHANGE | Listed private power producers face earnings pressure amid policy shift

- Listed private power producers are beginning to absorb a shock that is set to deepen as the government pivots away from costly rental and furnace oil-based plants toward LNG, coal, and renewable energy. The companies - except for Shahjibazar Power Co and Energypac Power Generation - witnessed a fall in revenue in Q3'FY26, against the backdrop of the government's unwillingness to renew power purchase contracts upon expiry. Meanwhile, some of these companies saw their finance costs rise, further eroding profits.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/listed-private-power-producers-face-earnings-pressure-amid-policy-shift-1777999742>

EXCHANGE | Sonali Securities loses trading licence over rule violations

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has cancelled the trading rights of Sonali Securities Limited after finding violations of regulatory requirements that mandate keeping net worth at least 75% of paid-up capital.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sonali-securities-loses-trading-licence-over-rule-violations-1430631>

EXCHANGE | Stocks foreign investment drops by 70pc in 5 years

- Foreign investments in Bangladesh's stock market plunged by 70% over the past five years to USD 914.58 Mn at the end of December 2025, underscoring sustained capital outflows and a steady erosion of investor confidence. Foreign equity holdings dropped sharply from USD 3.0 Bn in 2020 to USD 865 Mn in 2024, before slightly recovering in 2025, according to Bangladesh Bank data.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/stocks/298883/stocks-foreign-investment-drops-by-70pc-in-5-years>

REGULATOR | BSEC fines four firms, several officials BDT 10.9 Mn

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has fined four firms and several of their officials BDT 10.9 Mn for securities law violations and fraud in the stock market.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bsec-fines-four-firms-several-officials-BDT-109cr-4168446>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 100.47	USD 43.04	74.94%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 107.84	USD 46.99	77.22%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,628.61	USD 287.61	6.63%
DSEX	5,267.23	401.89	8.26%
S&P 500	7,259.22	360.40	5.22%
FTSE 100	10,219.11	287.73	2.90%
BSE SENSEX	77,017.79	-7,775.79	-9.17%
KSE-100	164,742.47	-9,311.83	-5.35%
CSEALL	22,584.30	-40.01	-0.18%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.72 BDT****1 GBP = 166.63 BDT****1 Euro = 143.88 BDT****1 INR = 1.29 BDT**

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