

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:****Bangladesh's GDP growth slows to 3.03% in Q2**

- The provisional gross domestic product (GDP) growth in Bangladesh slowed to 3.03% in Q2FY26, compared to a revised 3.53% in Q2FY25.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladeshs-gdp-growth-slows-303-q2-4145016>

**Govt aims for USD 1 Tn economy by 2034: Finance minister**

- Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury has said the government is working towards achieving a USD 1.0 Tn economy by 2034, outlining a broad set of measures to raise income and sustain economic growth.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-aims-1-trillion-economy-2034-finance-minister-1404396>

**Govt plans two major bridges over Meghna under PPP**

- The government has moved to build two major bridges over the Meghna River system under a public-private partnership (PPP) model, aiming to improve interdistrict connectivity.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/infrastructure/govt-plans-two-major-bridges-over-meghna-under-ppp-1404751>

**Govt unlikely to implement pay hikes**

- The government is unlikely to implement the proposed pay hikes for public officials and employees in the current financial year. Finance ministry officials said that the scope for providing BDT 200 Bn allocated for dearness allowance became dim amid the mounting pressure on the exchequer for subsidies for energy items.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/296043/govt-unlikely-to-implement-pay-hikes>

**Govt's bank loan target surpassed in 9 months**

- Government borrowing from banks has already exceeded its annual target in March, signaling mounting fiscal strain and increasing pressure on the financial system. Bangladesh Bank data showed that net government borrowing from the banking sector reached BDT 1.08 Tn during 9MFY26, surpassing the full-year target of BDT 1.04 Tn.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/296072/govts-bank-loan-target-surpassed-in-9-months>

**Bangladesh's forex reserves stand at USD 29.81 Bn**

- Bangladesh's total foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 29.81 Bn as of this evening (6 April), confirmed Bangladesh Bank (BB) Spokesperson and Executive Director Arief Hossain Khan.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bangladeshs-forex-reserves-stand-2981b-1404661>

**Governor assures raising export development fund to USD 5 Bn: FBCCI**

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Md Mostaqur Rahman today assured business leaders that the Export Development Fund (EDF) may be gradually expanded to USD 5 Bn, according to the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/governor-assures-raising-export-development-fund-5b-fbcci-4144926>

**FICCI calls for clear tax roadmap to boost investment, jobs**

- The Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has called for a clear roadmap to optimise the effective tax rate, urged reintroducing reduced corporate tax rate for unlisted companies on the condition of them going cashless, and a gradual reduction of withholding and minimum taxes.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ficci-calls-clear-tax-roadmap-boost-investment-jobs-4145241>

**Finance bosses meet tomorrow to finalise outline**

- Finance high-ups will sit to finalise the outline of the first national budget of the new government amid severe Middle East war-linked stresses that are shaking up the country's economic base. Officials say the ongoing war-linked pressures on the economy will be a top consideration of the meeting for the finance bosses in setting up targets on budgetary spending, growth and inflation in the next fiscal year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/finance-bosses-meet-tomorrow-to-finalise-outline-1775498565>

**BD to discuss manpower export with Malaysia**

- Bangladesh is set to discuss resuming manpower export to Malaysia, as Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister will visit Kuala Lumpur on 8 April.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/bd-to-discuss-manpower-export-with-malaysia-1775498969>

**Korean firm to invest USD 24 Mn at Bepza Economic Zone**

- PH Creative (BD) Limited, a South Korean company, will set up a manufacturing facility at the Bepza Economic Zone (Bepza EZ) in Mirsharai, Chattogram.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/korean-firm-invest-24-million-bepza-economic-zone-4144986>

**Local lub blenders for raising duty on finished lubricants**

- The Bangladesh Lub Blenders Association (BLBA) has requested the government to raise import duties on finished lubricants and enforce stricter valuation mechanisms in the upcoming FY27 budget. Industry insiders say the BLBA has suggested restoring the customs duty on finished lubricating oil, including mineral, synthetic, and semi-synthetic variants, to 25% from the existing 15%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/local-lub-blenders-for-raising-duty-on-finished-lubricants-1775495307>

**Sector & Industries:****TELECOM | BTRC to unlock more low-band spectrum to boost coverage**

- The telecom regulator has decided to allocate spectrum from the 850 MHz and Extended GSM (EGSM) bands for a month-long trial to examine potential interference between the two frequencies. The move is part of a broader effort to eventually assign this spectrum through auction or other regulatory mechanisms, with the goal of ensuring better services and improved network reliability across the country.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/btrc-unlock-more-low-band-spectrum-boost-coverage-4145186>

**BANK | NPLs balloon to BDT 5.45 Tn**

- Finance Minister has informed Parliament that as of 31 December 2025, the total amount of defaulted loans in the banking sector stood at BDT 5.5 Tn on an outstanding basis.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/npls-balloon-to-tk-545t-1775498004>

**BANK | Capital shortfall in 23 banks hits BDT 2.82 Tn as default loans drag sector into negative**

- The overall capital position of the country's banking sector has slipped into the negative as the shortfall surged to BDT 2.82 Tn within just three months, driven by a sharp rise in defaulted loans and long-standing weaknesses in governance and lending practices. The sector's capital-to-risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR) fell to negative 2.90% at the end of September last year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/capital-shortfall-23-banks-hits-tk282-lakh-crore-default-loans-drag-sector-negative>

**Stocks:****BEXIMCO | HC stresses recovery of 'questionable' Beximco loans**

- The High Court has emphasised that the recovery of 'questionable' defaulted loans of the Beximco Group must be ensured within the legal framework, while maintaining discipline in the banking sector. The court allowed Beximco companies to continue operations under strict monitoring, considering the interests of thousands of workers and employees.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/Banking/295991/hc-stresses-recovery-of-questionable-beximco-loans>

**BANKASIA | Bank Asia achieves landmark net deposit growth of BDT 40.0 Bn in Q1 2026**

- Bank Asia PLC achieved a net deposit growth of BDT 40.0 Bn during Q1'26. The bank said it is strengthening its position in the sector through digital transformation, enhanced customer experience and diversified product offerings.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bank-asia-achieves-landmark-net-deposit-growth-of-tk-400-billion-in-q1-2026>

**REGULATOR | BSEC fines RACE BDT 5.5 Mn for breaching investment limits in listed bonds, T-bonds**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has fined asset management company Bangladesh RACE Management PCL BDT 5.5 Mn for failing to comply with regulatory requirements on investments in listed bonds and government treasury bonds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-fines-race-tk55-lakh-breaching-investment-limits-listed-bonds-t-bonds-1404686>

**EXCHANGE | Stakeholders push BSEC for fast-track listing of state firms to revive market**

- Market stakeholders have urged the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) to expedite the listing of profitable state-owned enterprises, calling on the regulator to present the issue to the newly elected government as a priority to help revive the struggling capital market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stakeholders-push-bsec-fast-track-listing-state-firms-revive-market-1403686>

**EXCHANGE | Listed firms' profitability drops to at least 4-year low**

- The last fiscal year 2024-25 (FY25) was hard for listed companies. During the period, firms saw their profitability fall to the lowest level since post-Covid, squeezed by inflation that outpaced sales growth, rising borrowing costs, political upheaval and limited public spending.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/listed-firms-profitability-drops-least-4-year-low-4145246>

**Stock and Commodities\***

<b>Index Name</b>	<b>Close Value</b>	<b>Value Change YTD</b>	<b>% Change YTD</b>
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 114.10	USD 56.67	98.68%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 110.22	USD 49.37	81.13%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,644.97	USD 303.97	7.00%
DSEX	5,122.53	257.19	5.29%
S&P 500	6,611.83	-286.99	-4.16%
FTSE 100	10,436.29	504.91	5.08%
BSE SENSEX	74,106.85	-10,686.73	-12.60%
KSE-100	151,207.81	-22,846.49	-13.13%
CSEALL	21,126.60	-1,497.71	-6.62%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 122.67 BDT****1 GBP = 162.14 BDT****1 Euro = 141.41 BDT****1 INR = 1.32 BDT**

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