

*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.*

**International:****Trump and US commerce secretary say tariffs are delayed until 1 August**

- Donald Trump said on Sunday that the US is close to finalizing several trade agreements in the coming days and will notify other countries of higher tariff rates by July 9, dictating new tariff rates to be imposed on goods they sell to Americans. "It could be 12, maybe 15," the president told reporters, "and we've made deals also, so we're going to have a combination of letters and some deals have been made."

<https://www.tbsnews.net/world/global-economy/trump-and-us-commerce-secretary-say-tariffs-are-delayed-until-1-august-1182346>

**Macro:****BB unlikely to cut policy rate now**

- The central bank hiked the policy rate, at which it lends to commercial banks, in October last year to 10%. This was the 11th time since May 2022 to make borrowing expensive and contain inflation, which has been above 9 % for more than two years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-unlikely-cut-policy-rate-now-3933326>

**Online system launched for instant deposit of customs duties**

- A new system has been introduced allowing importers, exporters, and clearing and forwarding agents to deposit customs duties and taxes directly to the government treasury online using an automated challan (a-challan).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/online-system-launched-instant-deposit-customs-duties-3932906>

**Japanese loan rate hits record 2%, still remains cheaper than others**

- For the first time, Bangladesh will pay a 2% interest rate on a Japanese loan, specifically for the Joydebpur-Ishwardi dual gauge rail line construction project. This marks a significant increase, as Japan has never before charged such a high interest rate on its loans to Bangladesh.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/japanese-loan-rate-hits-record-2-still-remains-cheaper-others-1181946>

**Bangladesh may offer zero-duty on US goods to get reciprocal tariff relief**

- Following the US decision to cut reciprocal tariffs on Vietnamese imports from 46% to 20%, Bangladesh now considers offering zero-duty access to American goods, aligning with Washington's expectations in exchange for tariff relief.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-may-offer-zero-duty-us-goods-get-reciprocal-tariff-relief-1181881>

**Sector & Industries:****BANK | Islamic banks' deposit, investment growth slows to 4-year low**

- Deposit and investment growth in the country's Islamic banks fell to a four-year low in the first quarter of 2025, apparently driven by rising public concerns over the financial stability and governance practices of the commercial lenders.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/islamic-banks-deposit-investment-growth-slows-4-year-low-3933096>

**BANK | Inside the 3-year plan to fix banks**

- Bangladesh has committed to a sweeping overhaul of its troubled financial sector, outlining a detailed three-year roadmap as part of its latest agreement with the International Monetary Fund.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/inside-the-3-year-plan-fix-banks-3933256>

**FULE & POWER | Energy assoc urges review of scrapped solar plans**

- The Bangladesh Sustainable and Renewable Energy Association yesterday urged the interim government to reconsider its cancellation of 31 letters of intent that the past regime had signed with potential investors in solar power projects without adopting any tender process.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/energy-assoc-urges-review-scrapped-solar-plans-3933161>

**BANK | 50% of bank directors to be independent**

- The interim government is set to amend the Bank Company Act by reducing the board members from a single family, while at least 50 % of the directors will be independent, said Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/interview/news/50-bank-directors-be-independent-3933271>

**TEXTILES | Textile millers urge immediate withdrawal of 2% advance income tax**

- Textile millers today urged the government to immediately withdraw the 2% advance income tax (AIT), saying the levy is hurting the sector. At a press conference held today at the Gulshan Club, the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) said the USD 23 Bn primary textile sector is struggling to remain competitive due to low gas pressure, high bank interest rates, and a reduction in cash incentives on exports.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/textile-millers-urge-immediate-withdrawal-2-advance-income-tax-3932891>

**BANK | Bangladesh's banking sector reforms: ADB to provide USD 1 Bn in budget support**

- The Asian Development Bank plans to provide USD 1 Bn in budget support to advance Bangladesh's banking sector reforms, contingent on 25 conditions including the creation of a financial stability fund for banks facing capital shortfalls

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladeshs-banking-sector-reforms-adb-provide-1b-budget-support-3932451>

**BANK | How BB's floating rate regime calms forex market**

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange market has shown remarkable stability over the past one and a half months, following the Bangladesh Bank's (BB) adoption of a floating exchange rate regime on 14 May. This resilience is largely attributed to a strong inflow of remittances through official banking channels, confounding earlier concerns of a sharp depreciation.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/how-bbs-floating-rate-regime-calms-forex-market-1181166>

**BANK | Foreign currency in offshore banking units now eligible as collateral for taka loans**

- The Bangladesh Bank has permitted both individuals and companies in the country to secure taka-dominated loans using foreign currency deposits held in Offshore Banking Units as collateral.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/foreign-currency-offshore-banking-units-now-eligible-collateral-taka-loans-bb>

**INSURANCE | Guardian Life's claims settlements surge 34% in Q1 of 2025**

- Guardian Life Insurance settled BDT 1.29 Bn in claims in the first quarter of 2025, marking a 34% year-on-year rise, the company said in a statement. In 2024, the insurer paid out BDT 4.39 Bn in claims. Currently, 95% of claims are processed within three working days.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/guardian-lifes-claims-settlements-surge-34-q1-2025-3932971>

**Stocks:****EXCHANGE | Brokers can now use 75% of interest income from clients' funds**

- Stock-brokers and dealers can now use 75% of the interest income from the funds of their clients, according to the amended Securities and Exchange Rules, 2020. But there is a condition — the brokers have to deposit 25% of the interest income every six months from the consolidated customers' account (CCA) into the Investors' Protection Fund of the respective exchanges.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/brokers-can-now-use-75-interest-income-clients-funds-3933026>

**NHFIL | National Housing incurs BDT 103.1 Mn loss in Oct-Dec**

- National Housing Finance PLC, a listed non-bank financial institution (NBFI), reported a loss of BDT 103.1 Mn in the October-December quarter of 2024, mainly due to a significant rise in provisions against classified loans.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/national-housing-incurs-tk1031cr-loss-oct-dec-1181846>

**EXCHANGE | DSE moves to tighten brokerage audits**

- To strengthen oversight of brokerage firms and boost transparency, the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) plans to upgrade its panel of auditors to address previous audit shortcomings that obscured the true financial condition of some broker-dealers.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-moves-tighten-brokerage-audits-1181826>

**BANKASIA | Rangs Industries MD to offload 2 Mn shares of Bank Asia**

- Rume A Hossain, managing director of Rangs Industries and a sponsor-director of Bank Asia, has announced plans to sell 2 Mn shares of the bank at the prevailing market price through the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/rangs-industries-md-offload-20-lakh-shares-bank-asia-1180686>

**SONALIANSH | BSEC to probe suspected share manipulation of Sonali Aansh**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has formed an inquiry committee to investigate suspected share manipulation of Sonali Aansh Industries – a publicly listed exporter of jute goods – during the 2023-24 fiscal year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-probe-suspected-share-manipulation-sonali-aansh-1180556>

**FAMILYTEX | Bepza to auction Familytex factory over unpaid rent**

- The Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza) has announced an auction to sell the factory, building, machinery, and equipment of Familytex (BD) Limited – a publicly listed company – over unpaid rent.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bepza-auction-familytex-factory-over-unpaid-rent-1180186>

**Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 66.07	(USD 5.36)	-7.50%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 67.84	(USD 6.55)	-8.80%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,313.57	USD 705.09	27.03%
DSEX	4,894.07	-322.38	-6.18%
S&P 500	6,279.35	372.41	6.30%
FTSE 100	8,822.91	701.90	8.64%
BSE SENSEX	83,432.89	5,232.96	6.69%
KSE-100	131,949.06	16,690.06	14.48%
CSEALL	18,148.34	2,203.73	13.82%

**Exchange Rates**

**1 US Dollar = 122.65 BDT**

**1 GBP = 167.20 BDT**

**1 Euro = 144.37 BDT**

**1 INR = 1.43 BDT**

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