

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:**Retaliation 'underway' as India hits Pakistan**

- India and Pakistan exchanged heavy artillery along their contested frontier on Wednesday, after New Delhi launched missile strikes on its arch-rival in a major escalation between the nuclear-armed neighbours. Dead were reported on both sides. Pakistan said Indian strikes had killed at least eight people, and India said Pakistani artillery fire had killed three civilians along the de facto border in contested Kashmir.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/world/news/retaliation-underway-india-hits-pakistan-3888616>

Macro:**Govt eyes FDI uptick thru reforms**

- Bangladesh is stepping up its efforts to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) through sweeping reforms, a more stable macroeconomic environment, and targeted incentives. These priorities were laid out in the third session of the State of Investment Climate webinar, hosted by the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida) yesterday, with strong participation from investors, policymakers, and development partners.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-eyes-fdi-uptick-thru-reforms-3888501>

Talks with Bangladesh aim to sustain reform momentum: IMF

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is continuing virtual discussions with Bangladesh on policies required to sustain reform momentum under its ongoing loan programme, an IMF spokesperson said today. These talks follow discussions held during the 2025 IMF-World Bank Spring Meetings in Washington, DC, in late April, aimed at reaching an agreement on the programme's parameters.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/talks-bangladesh-aim-sustain-reform-momentum-imf-3887971>

Current account deficit narrows 85% in July-Mar on remittance

- Bangladesh's current account deficit has shrunk by a dramatic 85% in the first nine months of FY25 compared to the same period last year, despite a prolonged period of macroeconomic instability since the beginning of the current fiscal year. This turnaround is largely due to strong remittance inflows, reduced money laundering, and higher export growth relative to imports.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/current-account-deficit-narrows-85-july-mar-remittance-1135621>

Private credit growth rises to 7.57% in March after months of decline

- Private credit growth slid for 7 months since last August, hitting a 21-year low of 6.82% in February. After a seven-month streak of declining growth, private sector credit in Bangladesh rebounded in March 2024, rising to 7.57% – the highest in four months, according to a recent Bangladesh Bank report. In February, credit growth had dropped to a 21-year low of 6.82%. The March figure reflects a notable improvement of 0.75% points, equivalent to an increase of around BDT 350 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/private-credit-growth-rises-757-march-after-months-decline-1135596>

Dev budget for FY26 lowest in four years

- The interim government is set to slash the development budget for the fiscal year (FY) 2025-26 by 14% year-on-year, as it struggles with limited fiscal space and steers away from costly mega-projects. The Annual Development Programme (ADP) is likely to stand at BDT 2.38 Tn for FY26, down from BDT 2.78 Tn in the current fiscal year -- making it the lowest in the past four years, according to planning ministry sources.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/dev-budget-fy26-lowest-four-years-3888546>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh posts historic BDT 33 Bn profit in 2024**

- Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh's profit reached BDT 33 Bn mark in 2024, which is its historic highest for the bank as well as the country's banking sector, according to a source close to the matter. According to the bank's financial statement, its net profit stood at BDT 33 Bn last year, which was 41% higher than the previous year. The bank managed to reduce borrowing cost and increase interest and investment income which helped it to post record profit, as per the audited accounts.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/standard-chartered-bank-bangladesh-posts-historic-tk3300cr-profit-2024-1135736>

BANK | HSBC Bangladesh's profit rose 9% in 2024

- HSBC Bangladesh's profit rose 9% year-on-year to BDT 10.86 Bn in 2024, thanks to an increase in interest income. The lender earned BDT 19.08 Bn in interest income during 2024, reflecting a 12% increase from the previous year. However, its total operating expenses surged to BDT 10.52 Bn, significantly up from BDT 6.98 Bn in 2023, according to the bank's audited financial statements.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/hsbc-bangladeshs-profit-rose-9-2024-3888511>

Stocks:**DBH | DBH Finance's profit rose 2% in 2024**

- DBH Finance PLC reported slightly higher profit in 2024, though profit declined in the first quarter of 2025. The company posted a profit of BDT 1.01 Bn for 2024, registering a modest growth of 2% from the previous year. Its earnings per share stood at BDT 5.07, up from BDT 4.95 in 2023, according to a disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange website.

<http://thedailystar.net/business/news/dbh-finance-profit-rose-2-2024-3888481>

TRUSTBANK | Trust Bank's profit fell 11% in 2024

- Trust Bank PLC reported lower profits in 2024 while announcing stock dividends to strengthen its capital and support business expansion. The bank's profit fell 11% year-on-year to BDT 3.72 Bn in 2024, according to the company's financial statements. The bank's consolidated earnings per share (EPS) stood at BDT 4.03 for the year ended December 31, 2024, down from BDT 4.62 a year earlier.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/trust-banks-profit-fell-11-2024-3888476>

BEACHHATCH | Beach Hatchery posts unusual 139% profit growth in 9 months

- Beach Hatchery Ltd – a publicly listed agro-based company – has reported an unusually high profit in the first nine months (July-March) of the current fiscal year (FY25), citing increased demand for its fish in Cox's Bazar. However, market insiders have described the profit as "unrealistic and suspicious." From July to March, the company posted revenue of BDT 373.2 Mn, a sharp 96.73% increase from BDT 189.7 Mn during the same period of FY24. During this time, the company's net profit surged to BDT 189.6 Mn, up from BDT 79.4 Mn a year earlier. Its earnings per share (EPS) stood at BDT 4.58, compared to BDT 1.92 in the same period of the previous fiscal year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/beach-hatchery-posts-unusual-139-profit-growth-9-months-1135646>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 59.56	(USD 11.87)	-16.62%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 62.55	(USD 11.84)	-15.92%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,387.92	USD 779.44	29.88%
DSEX	4,951.73	-264.72	-5.07%
S&P 500	5,606.91	-300.03	-5.08%
FTSE 100	8,597.42	476.41	5.87%
BSE SENSEX	80,641.07	2,441.14	3.12%
KSE-100	113,568.51	-1,690.49	-1.47%
CSEALL	15,961.59	16.98	0.11%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 121.59 BDT

1 GBP = 162.28 BDT

1 Euro = 137.88 BDT

1 INR = 1.44 BDT

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