

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:**Oil price rises above USD 90 a barrel amid Iran war**

- Global benchmark Brent broke USD 90 per barrel on Friday after President Donald Trump demanded unconditional surrender from Iran, raising fears of a prolonged war that will cause a cascading disruption to global oil supplies.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/oil-price-rises-above-90-a-barrel-amid-iran-war-1772820089>

Vessels crossing Strait of Hormuz before Iran war reach Chattogram with LNG, LPG

- A fleet of 15 vessels that crossed the Strait of Hormuz just before the outbreak of the Iran-Israel war has begun arriving at Chattogram Port, providing a temporary reprieve for the energy and construction sectors.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/vessels-crossing-hormuz-before-iran-war-reach-ctg>

Govt seeks USD 250m worth loan guarantee from WB for LNG import

- Amid the Mideast crisis stoking fuel security concerns, Bangladesh has approached the World Bank for a USD 250 Mn loan guarantee to secure LNG imports, signaling growing energy financing pressure on the government.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-seeks-250m-worth-loan-guarantee-from-wb-for-lng-import-1772820003>

BB advised to hold rates, reserves amid Mideast crisis

- Top economists on Saturday have suggested the Bangladesh Bank to prepare for potential economic shocks stemming from the escalating crisis in the Middle East, urging caution on monetary policy and stronger safeguards for foreign exchange reserves.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/293338/bb-advised-to-hold-rates-reserves-amid-mideast-crisis>

War stalls 1,000 TEUs in weekly exports through Ctg port to Middle East

- The war in the Middle East has stalled more than 1,000 TEUs of weekly exports from Chattogram Port after major shipping lines suspended bookings, leaving exporters facing mounting storage costs and uncertainty.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/war-stalls-1000-teus-weekly-exports-through-ctg-port-middle-east-1379941>

Comprehensive policy underway to expand non-tax revenue base

- A comprehensive policy is in the making to strengthen internal resource mobilisation through a broader framework for non-tax revenue collection and management and plugging systemic holes, officials said.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/comprehensive-policy-underway-to-expand-non-tax-revenue-base>

NBR to verify import taxes through customs database

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has ordered income tax officials to use import data directly when calculating tax liabilities, a move aimed at curbing evasion and easing the refund burden on businesses.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nbr-verify-import-taxes-through-customs-database-4121921>

Inflation outpaces wages, squeezing real incomes

- Rising food and service costs are eroding household purchasing power, particularly for lower-income groups whose consumption baskets are more heavily weighted toward essentials, according to the latest monthly economic update by the General Economics Division (GED).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/inflation-outpaces-wages-squeezing-real-incomes-4121936>

Service sector bounces back despite slower credit growth

- Bangladesh's service sector saw a moderate rebound in the first quarter of FY26, although private sector credit growth to key service-related activities slowed notably during the same period, reflecting a cautious lending environment amid broader macroeconomic adjustments.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/service-sector-bounces-back-despite-slower-credit-growth-1772900563>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | Bank deposit growth hits five-year high in 2025**

- Banks in the country recorded BDT 21 Tn in savings at the end of last year, which was 11.51% higher YoY. Deputy managing director of BRAC Bank told that the deposit surge is limited to some seven to eight banks. A top banker at a private bank said a number of banks still face challenges in attracting savers.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bank-deposit-growth-hits-five-year-high-2025-4123076>

BANK | Banks can rent branch space without BB approval

- Banks can now rent office space for branches and other business centers without prior approval from the central bank, provided the rent remains within a maximum limit.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/banks-can-rent-branch-space-without-bb-approval-4121916>

BANK | Nano loans surge as early wage access platforms reshape worker finance

- Bangladesh's nano loan and earned wage access platforms are seeing rapid growth, pointing to a structural shift in worker finance that could reshape consumer credit and digital financial services.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/nano-loans-surge-as-early-wage-access-platforms-reshape-worker-finance-1772820149>

MFS | MFS emerges as fast-growing remittance channel

- Remitters sent BDT 202.36 Bn through MFS, excluding Nagad, in 2025, almost double the amount - BDT 107.86 Bn sent home a year ago.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/mfs-emerges-fast-growing-remittance-channel-4123081>

MFS | Banglalink, Huawei to develop digital payment platform 'Mukto Pay'

- Banglalink has signed an agreement with global technology company Huawei to develop a next-generation digital payment platform named "Mukto Pay", aiming to expand cashless financial services in Bangladesh. The initiative has already received a no-objection certificate from Bangladesh Bank, and the Mukto Pay platform will begin formal operations once final regulatory approval is obtained.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/404795/banglalink-huawei-to-develop-digital-payment>

Stocks:

UNILEVERCL | Unilever Consumer Care declares 420% cash dividend for 2025

- Unilever Consumer Care Limited has recommended a 420% cash dividend for its shareholders for the year ended 31 December 2025, according to a price-sensitive disclosure approved on 5 March.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/unilever-consumer-care-declares-420-cash-dividend-2025-1379881>

REGULATOR | BSEC removes bar on whistleblowers sharing information

- In a significant policy shift, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has now decided in principle to allow whistleblowers to share with the media or other authorities the information they have submitted to the regulator. The proposed rules titled "Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Capital Market Related Information Disclosure and Whistleblower Protection) Rules, 2026" are intended to encourage insiders to report corruption and misconduct in the capital market.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-removes-bar-on-whistleblowers-sharing-information-1772898097>

EXCHANGE | Emerging market equity funds slide as Iran conflict sparks sell-off

- Emerging market equity funds have posted steep declines this month as investors cut exposure to risk assets amid the escalating Iran conflict, making them among the worst performers across asset classes. MSCI's emerging markets equities index has fallen more than 6% this week, compared with a 2.2% decline in the MSCI World Index and a 0.7% drop in MSCI United States. Goldman Sachs said that if the disruption proves short-lived, the broader earnings impact may remain limited given the relatively resilient sector mix and maintained its forecast for 25% growth in MSCI EM earnings per share in 2026.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/emerging-market-equity-funds-slide-as-iran-conflict-sparks-sell-off-1772898149>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 90.90	USD 33.47	58.28%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 92.69	USD 31.84	52.33%
Gold Spot*	USD 5,171.74	USD 830.74	19.14%
DSEX	5,240.84	375.50	7.72%
S&P 500	6,740.02	-158.80	-2.30%
FTSE 100	10,284.75	353.37	3.56%
BSE SENSEX	78,918.90	-5,874.68	-6.93%
KSE-100	157,789.10	-16,265.20	-9.34%
CSEALL	22,701.91	77.60	0.34%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.43 BDT****1 GBP = 164.06 BDT****1 Euro = 142.24 BDT****1 INR = 1.33 BDT**

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