

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:**Govt sets sights high on USD 65 Bn export this fiscal**

- An ambitious export target of USD 65 Bn is proposed for this fiscal year with the government having gauged all the ground realities and global and local economic scenarios, officials say.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-sets-sights-high-on-65b-export-this-fiscal-1752085514>

Govt puts on hold all types of spending from block allocation

- As part of belt-tightening measures, the government has put on hold all types of spending from block allocation under its operating budget for the fiscal year 2025-26. To this effect, the Finance Division under the Ministry of Finance on Tuesday issued a notification, outlining suspension/lowering of some spending and limiting foreign travels by public sector employees, under the operating and development budget also.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-puts-on-hold-all-types-of-spending-from-block-allocation-1752085952>

35% tariff: Bangladesh, US 'agree on most issues' as first day of talks ends

- The first day of the second round of tariff negotiations between Bangladesh and the United States concluded in Washington with both parties reportedly reaching consensus on most issues during the discussion, according to an official of the Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/second-round-bangladesh-us-tariff-talks-concludes-washington-1184756>

Chinese investors want better infrastructure in Bangladesh to boost joint ventures

- Chinese investors have expressed strong interest in forming joint ventures with leading Bangladeshi institutions to take advantage of the country's tax and incentive facilities.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/chinese-investors-want-better-infrastructure-bangladesh-boost-joint-ventures-1184701>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | 12 banks paid no dividend despite profits last year**

- Nineteen banks failed to pay any dividend to shareholders for 2024. While seven posted losses, the remaining 12 reported profits but were barred from dividend payouts due to inadequate capital and deferred provisioning for bad loans.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/12-banks-paid-no-dividend-despite-profits-last-year-3936286>

BANK | Banks allowed to make equity investment in startups

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has allowed banks to make equity investments in the startup sector in addition to providing loans at 4% interest. The regulator issued a circular in this regard yesterday, stating that it will establish a venture capital company to facilitate investment. The company will be financed by one percent of the annual net profit of all banks.

<http://thedailystar.net/business/news/banks-allowed-make-equity-investment-startups-3936266>

PHARMACEUTICALS | Drug exporters concerned over Trump's 200% tariff plan

- Uncertainty looms over Bangladesh's pharmaceutical exports to the US market, as President Donald Trump plans to impose tariffs of up to 200%. Industry insiders said several companies are preparing to export to the US market and have built up capacity with world-class facilities, but the tariff plan, if implemented, may prevent them from commencing exports.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/drug-exporters-concerned-over-trumps-200-tariff-plan-3936261>

BANK | Balance sheets of several banks found 'fictitious'

- The balance sheets of several banks have been found to be "fictitious", failing to reflect their true financial state, according to Bangladesh Bank (BB) Governor Ahsan H Mansur. Non-performing loans (NPLs), which many banks had reported at just 3% up to last year, shot up to 36 % in the first quarter of this year, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/balance-sheets-several-banks-found-fictitious-3935811>

BANK | Foreign banks enhancing credit backup to BD counterparts

- Banks now enjoy a feel-good ambiance in external trade financing as foreign counterparts open line-of-credit backup mainly as Bangladesh sees significant improvements in foreign-exchange receipt, officials and bankers say.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/foreign-banks-enhancing-credit-backup-to-bd-counterparts-1752085440>

Stocks:**IBP | Indo-Bangla Pharma signs deal with Afghan firm to export medicines**

- Before the DSE issued a query to the company, the share price of Indo-Bangla Pharmaceuticals had surged by 55%, rising from BDT 9.1 on 22 June to BDT 14.1 within 12 trading days. Indo-Bangla Pharmaceuticals, a listed company on the stock exchanges, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Salar Yousafzai Pharma, an Afghanistan-based firm, to export pharmaceutical products to the Afghan market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/indo-bangla-pharma-signs-deal-afghan-firm-export-medicines-1184671>

GIB | Global Islami Bank rectifies 2023 figures, reports BDT 22.59 Bn loss instead of BDT 1.28 Bn profit

- The bank in 2023, controlled by S Alam Group at the time, reported a profit of BDT 1.28 Bn. After the correction, loss stands at BDT 22.59 Bn. Global Islami Bank has revised its 2023 financial statements, revealing significant losses, despite previously reporting a profit and recommending a 5% cash and 5% stock dividend for shareholders.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/global-islami-bank-rectifies-2023-figures-reports-major-loss-instead-profit-1184061>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 68.31	(USD 3.12)	-4.37%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 70.17	(USD 4.22)	-5.67%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,319.45	USD 710.97	27.26%
DSEX	5,035.47	-180.98	-3.47%
S&P 500	6,263.26	356.32	6.03%
FTSE 100	8,867.02	746.01	9.19%
BSE SENSEX	83,536.08	5,336.15	6.82%
KSE-100	132,576.98	17,317.98	15.03%
CSEALL	18,161.49	2,216.88	13.90%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 121.86 BDT****1 GBP = 165.83 BDT****1 Euro = 143.07 BDT****1 INR = 1.42 BDT**

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