

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 overseas employment rises 11.8% in 2025**

- In 2025, the total number of migrant workers rose to 1.13 Mn from 1.01 Mn, marking a sharp 11.8% increase YoY. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia has remained the largest destination for Bangladeshi migrant workers since 2017.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/infograph/numbers/bangladesh-overseas-employment-rises-118-2025-1333986>

BD, Nepal map deeper trade, transit ties

- Both Bangladesh and Nepal are set to graduate from least developed country (LDC) status in 2026. Key agendas included discussions on a preferential trade agreement (PTA) aimed at reducing tariffs, para-tariffs and non-tariff barriers. The meeting also discussed transit routes through Bangladesh, the use of inland waterways, and potential tripartite cooperation with India.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bd-nepal-map-deeper-trade-transit-ties-1768407915>

Commercial courts introduced to settle business disputes faster

- According to World Bank data, there is 4.65 Mn pending cases as of June 2025, which has doubled over the past 15 years, leaving disputes worth an estimated USD 3.5 Bn unresolved.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/commercial-courts-introduced-settle-business-disputes-faster-4081221>

ADP implementation hits 20-year low at 17.54%

- Bangladesh's Annual Development Programme (ADP) implementation has hit a 20-year low, with government agencies spending only 17.54 % of the total allocation in H1FY26.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/adp-implementation-hits-20-year-low-at-1754pc-1768413350>

Q1 budget surplus jumps on revenue surge

- The government posted a sharply higher budget surplus for Q1FY26 as revenue growth surpassed government spending during the period.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/q1-budget-surplus-jumps-on-revenue-surge-1768413150>

Economic growth may slow to 4.6% this FY

- Bangladesh economy may expand at a rate of 4.6 % in the current fiscal year in a further 0.3 percentage point fall from the level predicted in June 2025, says the World Bank in an update.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/economic-growth-may-slow-to-46pc-this-fy-1768412949>

Contractionary monetary policy under critical scrutiny as inflation bites

- Businesses feel unease and inflation frowns while some liquidity-squeezing moves have been in place for months. The central bank, however, claims its contractionary monetary policy still looks accommodative in current context.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/contractionary-monetary-policy-under-critical-scrutiny-as-inflation-bites-1768412626>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | Move to put a cap on significant shareholding faces stiff opposition**

- A move to put a limit on shareholding in bank companies by individuals, family members, and entities is facing strong opposition from the stakeholders, officials say.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/move-to-put-a-cap-on-significant-shareholding-faces-stiff-opposition-1768412846>

BANK | Merged banks' depositors to get no profit for 2024, 2025

- Depositors of five banks undergoing merger will not receive any profit on their deposits for 2024 and 2025, as the central bank has directed the banks to recalculate deposit balances under the approved resolution scheme.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/merged-banks-depositors-to-get-no-profit-for-2024-2025-1768413567>

FUEL & POWER | Govt to import LPG to stabilise market, 'curb private sector dependence'

- The government is planning to import liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), under G2G basis, through the state-owned Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) to stabilise the domestic market and protect consumers from artificial shortages and price volatility. At present, BPC meets only about 1.33% of domestic demand.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/govt-import-lpg-stabilise-market-curb-private-sector-dependence-1334531>

RMG | RMG exports to EU, non-traditional markets slip slightly

- Ready-made garment (RMG) exports to two major destinations -- non-traditional markets and the European Union (EU) -- saw a slight decline in 2025 compared with 2024, mainly due to lower demand for locally made garments.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/rmg-exports-eu-non-traditional-markets-slip-slightly-4081146>

IT | Govt launches first shared GPU cloud facility to boost AI, research

- Bangladesh has launched its first government-run, shareable cloud computing facility powered by high-performance graphics processing units (GPUs), aiming to accelerate higher education, research and machine learning-based skill development.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-launches-first-shared-gpu-cloud-facility-boost-ai-research-4080761>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | Stock investors lose nearly 59% of every USD 100 invested in 2025: MSCI Bangladesh**

- Bangladesh's equity investors have suffered steep losses over the long term, with each USD 100 invested in the country's stock market shrinking to just over USD 41 in dollar terms, reflecting a value erosion of nearly 59%, according to data from Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stock-investors-lose-nearly-59-every-100-invested-2025-msci-bangladesh-1334471>

EXCHANGE | BSEC restores IPO lottery system to ensure transparency

- The securities regulator has reinstated the process of allotting IPO (initial public offering) shares through a lottery system, reversing a previous shift to a pro-rata allocation method.

[http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-restores-ipo-lottery-system-to-ensure-transparency-1768409980](https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-restores-ipo-lottery-system-to-ensure-transparency-1768409980)

EXCHANGE | BSEC blames merchant banks for absence of IPOs

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has blamed merchant banks for the complete absence of initial public offerings (IPOs) over the past one and a half years, saying no IPO could be approved because no applications were submitted during the period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-blames-merchant-bankers-absence-ipos-1334206>

POWERGRID | Power Grid clarifies FE report

- Power Grid Bangladesh PLC has sent a clarification regarding a FE report headlined 'Hidden liabilities threaten to cripple Power Grid, outweigh assets' published on December 24.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/power-grid-clarifies-fe-report-1768413596>

Stock and Commodities*

| Index Name | Close Value | Value Change YTD | % Change YTD |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| Crude Oil (WTI)* | USD 60.30 | USD 2.87 | 5.00% |
| Crude Oil (Brent)* | USD 64.68 | USD 3.83 | 6.29% |
| Gold Spot* | USD 4,609.85 | USD 268.85 | 6.19% |
| DSEX | 4,966.51 | 101.17 | 2.08% |
| S&P 500 | 6,926.60 | 27.78 | 0.40% |
| FTSE 100 | 10,184.35 | 252.97 | 2.55% |
| BSE SENSEX | 83,382.71 | -1,410.87 | -1.66% |
| KSE-100 | 182,569.81 | 8,515.51 | 4.89% |
| CSEALL | 23,708.70 | 1,084.39 | 4.79% |

Exchange Rates
1 US Dollar = 122.26 BDT
1 GBP = 164.23 BDT
1 Euro = 142.30 BDT
1 INR = 1.35 BDT

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BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

Research

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Salim Afzal Shawon, CFA | Head of Research | salim@bracepl.com | 01708 805 221 |
| Fahim Hassan | Research Analyst | fahim.hassan@bracepl.com | 01709 636 546 |
| Hossain Zaman Towhidi Khan | Research Analyst | hztowhidi.khan@bracepl.com | 01708 805 224 |
| Foysal Ahmed, CFA | Research Analyst | foysal.ahmed@bracepl.com | 01708 805 201 |
| S M Toufique Imran | Research Analyst | smtoufique.imran@bracepl.com | 01708 805 228 |
| Tasviha Taher Trishila | Research Associate | tasviha.trishila@bracepl.com | 01730 701 733 |

International Trade and Sales

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-------------------|---------------|
| Ahsanur Rahman Bappi | CEO | bappi@bracepl.com | 01730 357 991 |
|----------------------|-----|-------------------|---------------|

BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

www.bracepl.com

Symphony, Plot No.: S.E.(F) – 9(3rd Floor), Road No.: 142
 Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka – 1212
 Phone: + (88)-02-222282446-47
 Fax: + (88)-02-222282452
 E-Mail: research@bracepl.com

