

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:****Remittance inflow up 35.7% in first half of March ahead of Eid**

- Remittance inflows have increased by 35.7% in the first half of March, ahead of Eid, with expatriate Bangladeshis sending USD 2.20 Bn. A senior official of a private bank told that the rise in remittances is mainly due to the upcoming Eid festival, as expatriates typically send more money home during this period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/remittance-inflow-357-first-half-march-ahead-eid-1387681>

**Govt to rally support to defer LDC graduation**

- Bangladesh will use the World Trade Organization's (WTO) 14<sup>th</sup> ministerial conference next week to garner support for deferring its graduation from the group of least developed countries (LDCs). Meanwhile, Bangladesh will also use the sidelines of the WTO conference to pursue membership of the China-led Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) with cooperation from other countries.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-rally-support-defer-ldc-graduation-4129646>

**Iran war could wipe out up to 3% of Bangladesh GDP**

- A prolonged US-Israel war on Iran could reduce Bangladesh's gross domestic product (GDP) by as much as 3 percent over the next two years, according to a new policy analysis by the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (Sanem). Sanem says worst-case modelling shows risks from falling Gulf remittances, slowing exports and rising shipping costs.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/iran-war-could-wipe-out-3-bangladesh-gdp-4129661>

**Plethora of products, services under tax surveillance**

- A new array of hundreds of products and services - 50 in each category- have been shortlisted for special surveillance on value- added tax (VAT) collection by a high-powered taskforce in a government bid to ramp up revenue. The items include cigarettes, petroleum products, mobile-phone services, contractors, banks, suppliers and several other high- revenue-generating sectors.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/plethora-of-products-services-under-tax-surveillance-1773599090>

**NBR extends corporate tax return deadline to April 15**

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) on Sunday extended the deadline for companies to submit their income tax returns by one month.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/nbr-extends-corporate-tax-return-deadline-to-april-15>

**Global fertiliser price four-year high, may affect Bangladesh farming**

- Global fertiliser prices hit a four-year high, putting pressure on Bangladesh through fertiliser-supply problem and import-cost escalation, as the US-Israel war on Iran blocked the world trade-lifeline Strait of Hormuz. Although the country has 1.8 Mn tonnes fertiliser stock until May, the government has targeted to import 1.7 Mn tonnes of the cropping input from different countries for the Aman and winter crops following the global volatility.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/global-fertiliser-price-four-year-high-may-affect-bangladesh-farming-1773599260>

**WB to back reforms for Bangladesh's macro-economic stability**

- The World Bank Group will support reforms critical for Bangladesh's macro-economic stability and the reduction of financial sector vulnerability, the Washington-based multilateral lender said after meet with Finance and Planning Minister, Commerce Minister, and Bangladesh Bank Governor.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/wb-back-reforms-bangladeshs-macro-economic-stability-4129441>

**Sector & Industries:****BANK | Farmers' BDT 10,000 loans: Govt asks banks to write them off, withdraw cases**

- The government has decided to pay the loans and interest owed to banks for farmers, on the condition that all cases filed against those farmers are withdrawn. For this purpose, BDT 15.68 Bn has been earmarked in the revised budget. Of the total amount, about 54% will be paid by Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank and Bangladesh Krishi Bank, while the remaining amount will be distributed among other state-owned banks.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/agriculture/news/farmers-tk-10000-loans-govt-asks-banks-write-them-withdraw-cases-4129811>

**BANK | Bangladesh Bank raises max credit card limit to BDT 4 Mn**

- The Bangladesh Bank has raised the maximum credit card limit from BDT 2.5 Mn to BDT 4.0 Mn in a move aimed at strengthening the country's digital payment ecosystem and meeting the growing demand of consumers.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/credit-card-limit-raised-tk40-lakh-1387641>

**BANK | Banks no longer need BB approval to obtain guarantees for loans to foreign companies**

- Commercial banks in Bangladesh will not need approval from Bangladesh Bank to obtain guarantees from foreign banks when lending to foreign companies operating in the country. The facility will apply only to overseas banks that maintain satisfactory credit ratings from internationally recognised rating agencies.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-no-longer-need-bb-approval-obtain-guarantees-loans-foreign-companies-1387991>

**BANK | BB issues new rules for bank dividend reporting**

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has come up with a new directive mandating all scheduled banks to report any dividend declaration against shares within 7 days of the respective board meeting.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bb-issues-new-rules-for-bank-dividend-reporting>

**BANK | Banks make do with available funds sans crunch**

- Notwithstanding pressure of liquidity amid splurges ahead of Eid festival, Bangladesh's interbank call-money market showed signs of stability with banks successfully make doing with available cash thanks in part to central bank's backing. Although the volume of borrowings keeps increasing slowly, the weighted average rate (WAR) of call money stood just over 10% Sunday, compared to 10.38% on March 05, 2026.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/banks-make-do-with-available-funds-sans-crunch-1773599203>

**ENERGY | Govt moves to launch bid round amid ME crisis**

- The new government has moved to launch bid rounds offering both onshore and offshore blocks to international oil companies (IOCs). Of the 47 blocks planned for offer, 21 lie in onshore areas and 26 in offshore ones. State-run Petrobangla has already sweetened further the drafts of the model production sharing contract (MPSC) to lure the IOCs in the forthcoming bid rounds.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-moves-to-launch-bid-round-amid-me-crisis-1773599500>

**FINTECH | Simpaisa acquires amarPay, invests USD 1.0 Mn in Bangladesh fintech**

- Simpaisa has acquired amarPay and invested nearly USD 1.0 Mn to expand digital payment services in Bangladesh. The investment marks a foreign fintech investment in a Payment System Operator (PSO) in Bangladesh, says a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/press-releases/news/simpaisa-acquires-amarpay-invests-1m-bangladesh-fintech-4129131>

**RMG | NBR moves to ease raw material sourcing for 1,100 non-bonded RMG factories**

- The National Board of Revenue is set to remove restrictions preventing non-bonded exporters from sourcing raw materials locally through back-to-back letters of credit (LCs), a move expected to ease exports and improve access to inputs for hundreds of garment factories.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/nbr-moves-ease-raw-material-sourcing-1100-non-bonded-rmg-factories-1386991>

**Stocks:****ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank delays US investor's entry into mCash subsidiary**

- Islami Bank has decided to postpone its earlier plan to onboard B100 Holdings LLC, USA, as a strategic investor in mCash Ltd, a subsidiary formed to operate mobile financial services. The board has decided to postpone the earlier decision to complete the necessary due diligence and obtain regulatory clearance.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/islami-bank-delays-us-investors-entry-mcash-subsiidiary-4129256>

**BANKASIA | Kayesh Chowdhury joins Bank Asia as DMD**

- Mr. Kayesh Chowdhury has joined Bank Asia PLC as Deputy Managing Director (DMD) and Zonal Head – Chattogram, effective from 11 March 2026.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/kayesh-chowdhury-joins-bank-asia-as-dmd>

**TRUSTBANK | Trust Bank gets BB exemption for multiple nominee directors**

- Bangladesh Bank has allowed Trust Bank PLC to appoint more than one director to its board by exempting the lender from a provision of the law.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/trust-bank-gets-bb-exemption-multiple-nominee-directors-4129286>

**INDEXAGRO | BSEC fines Index Agro and Prudential Capital for regulatory breaches**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has imposed financial penalties on Index Agro Industries Limited and brokerage firm Prudential Capital Limited for violating securities laws and regulatory requirements.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-fines-index-agro-and-prudential-capital-regulatory-breaches-1387916>

**WALTONHIL | BSEC clears Walton Digi-Tech and Hi-Tech merger**

- According to a disclosure made on March 16, 2026, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission issued a No Objection Certificate regarding the merger between listed electronics manufacturer Walton Hi-Tech Industries and non-listed technology company Walton Digi-Tech Industries.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-clears-walton-digi-tech-and-hi-tech-merger-1387946>

**OLYMPIC | Olympic turns to solar power as country strides to secure energy supply**

- Olympic Industries has announced plans to install 1,000 kilowatt-peak (kWp) rooftop solar power plants at three of its factories to support manufacturing with clean energy. The project cost is estimated at BDT 41.51 Mn, which will come from the company's own funds.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/olympic-turns-to-solar-power-as-country-strides-to-secure-energy-supply-1773598412>

**EXCHANGE | BSEC, ADB discuss strategies to boost capital market to 40pc of GDP**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have charted a transformative course to quadruple the size of the national capital market, aiming to elevate its contribution from the current 10 percent of GDP to at least 40 percent within the next three years.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bsec-adb-discuss-strategies-to-boost-capital-market-to-40pc-of-gdp>

**Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 100.90	USD 43.47	75.69%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 105.94	USD 45.09	74.10%
Gold Spot*	USD 5,010.63	USD 669.63	15.43%
DSEX	5,319.14	453.80	9.33%
S&P 500	6,632.19	-266.63	-3.86%
FTSE 100	10,261.15	329.77	3.32%
BSE SENSEX	74,563.92	-10,229.66	-12.06%
KSE-100	153,866.17	-20,188.13	-11.60%
CSEALL	21,692.55	-931.76	-4.12%

**Exchange Rates**

**1 US Dollar = 122.75 BDT**

**1 GBP = 162.46 BDT**

**1 Euro = 140.24 BDT**

**1 INR = 1.32 BDT**

## IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

**Analyst Certification:** Each research analyst and research associate who authored this document and whose name appears herein certifies that the recommendations and opinions expressed in the research report accurately reflect their personal views about any and all of the securities or issuers discussed therein that are within the coverage universe.

**Disclaimer:** Estimates and projections herein are our own and are based on assumptions that we believe to be reasonable. Information presented herein, while obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, is not guaranteed either as to accuracy or completeness. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes a solicitation of the purchase or sale of any security. As it acts for public companies from time to time, BRAC-EPL may have a relationship with the above-mentioned company(s). This report is intended for distribution in only those jurisdictions in which BRAC-EPL is registered and any distribution outside those jurisdictions is strictly prohibited.

**Compensation of Analysts:** The compensation of research analysts is intended to reflect the value of the services they provide to the clients of BRAC-EPL. As with most other employees, the compensation of research analysts is impacted by the overall profitability of the firm, which may include revenues from corporate finance activities of the firm's Corporate Finance department. However, Research analysts' compensation is not directly related to specific corporate finance transaction.

**General Risk Factors:** BRAC-EPL will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for each company under coverage at the time of initiating research coverage and revisit this assessment when subsequent update reports are published, or material company events occur. Following are some general risks that can impact future operational and financial performance: (1) Industry fundamentals with respect to customer demand or product / service pricing could change expected revenues and earnings; (2) Issues relating to major competitors or market shares or new product expectations could change investor attitudes; (3) Unforeseen developments with respect to the management, financial condition or accounting policies alter the prospective valuation; or (4) Interest rates, currency or major segments of the economy could alter investor confidence and investment prospects.

### BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

#### Research

Salim Afzal Shawon, CFA	Head of Research	<a href="mailto:salim@bracepl.com">salim@bracepl.com</a>	01708 805 221
Fahim Hassan	Research Analyst	<a href="mailto:fahim.hassan@bracepl.com">fahim.hassan@bracepl.com</a>	01709 636 546
Hossain Zaman Towhidi Khan	Research Analyst	<a href="mailto:hztowhidi.khan@bracepl.com">hztowhidi.khan@bracepl.com</a>	01708 805 224
Foyisal Ahmed, CFA	Research Analyst	<a href="mailto:foysal.ahmed@bracepl.com">foysal.ahmed@bracepl.com</a>	01708 805 201
S M Toufique Imran	Research Analyst	<a href="mailto:smtoufique.imran@bracepl.com">smtoufique.imran@bracepl.com</a>	01708 805 228
Tasviha Taher Trishila	Research Associate	<a href="mailto:tasviha.trishila@bracepl.com">tasviha.trishila@bracepl.com</a>	01730 701 733

#### International Trade and Sales

Ahsanur Rahman Bappi	CEO	<a href="mailto:bappi@bracepl.com">bappi@bracepl.com</a>	01730 357 991
----------------------	-----	--	---------------

### BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

[www.bracepl.com](http://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](mailto:research@bracepl.com)