

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:**Forex reserves stand at USD 36.39 Bn**

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 36.39 Bn. Reserves calculated under the IMF's BPM6 methodology stood at USD 31.58 Bn.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/forex-reserves-stand-at-3639-billion>

Businesses identify 107 business hurdles, customs-VAT top list

- Businesses have identified at least 107 obstacles to improving the ease of doing business in Bangladesh, with customs and VAT-related issues accounting for the largest share at 37.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/businesses-identify-107-business-hurdles-customs-vat-top-list-1575941>

Bangladesh collects 30% of potential VAT despite high rates

- Bangladesh collected only 30% of its potential VAT revenue in 2023, despite an average VAT rate of 18%, according to OECD's Revenue Statistics in Asia and the Pacific 2026 report. The country's tax-to-GDP ratio stood at 6.7% per cent in 2024, the lowest in the Asia-Pacific region.

<https://tob.news/bangladesh-collects-30-of-potential-vat-despite-high-rates/>

Trade licences to be available through single online portal

- Commerce Minister has said the government plans to introduce a single online portal for issuing trade licences and a coordinated inspection system to reduce administrative complexities, save business costs and improve the investment climate.

<https://www.bssnews.net/business/435999>

Bangladesh Bank consolidates licensing rules for forex, gold dealers

- The central bank has consolidated existing regulations governing the issuance and renewal of licences for authorised dealers (ADs), money changers, limited money changers, authorised gold dealers (AGDs) and importers of gold ore and doré.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bb-consolidates-licensing-rules-for-forex-gold-dealers>

BEPZA attracts USD 3.0 Mn investment per acre of land

- Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) has attracted USD 3.0 Mn in investment per acre of land, generating an annual return of BDT 138.2 Mn per acre through the optimal utilization of limited industrial land.

<https://www.bssnews.net/business/436060>

Enhanced customs valuation may yield BDT 35 Bn, yet far short

- Changes to customs measures introduced in the FY2026-27 budget are expected to generate an additional BDT 35 Bn in import-tax revenue to contribute to an ambitious target.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/enhanced-customs-valuation-may-yield-tk-35b-yet-far-short-1792258159>

BPPA weighs local-content threshold in projects

- Bangladesh's procurement authority is weighing a minimum local-content requirement for goods seeking preference in government purchases as it moves to finalise rules for implementing the policy.

<https://tob.news/bppa-weighs-local-content-threshold-in-projects/>

Household debt outstrips savings by 44.6%

- Bangladeshi households are sinking deeper into financial insecurity, with average debt exceeding savings by 44.6% and the poorest families spending nearly half as much again as they earn. Average household debt stood at BDT 189,000 against savings of BDT 131,000, leaving a gap of BDT 58,305. Monthly household income averaged BDT 32,685 against expenditure of BDT 32,615.

<https://tob.news/household-debt-outstrips-savings-by-44-6/>

Oil touches USD 110 a barrel for first time since May

- Brent has touched USD 110 a barrel for the first time since May amid worries that escalating Middle East tensions could further tighten supplies. Brent crude futures settled 3.7% higher at USD 109.86 on Friday, the highest since May 19, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures closed 3.5% higher at USD 101.41, the highest since September 17.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/oil-touches-110-a-barrel-for-first-time-since-may>

Sector and Industries:**BANK | Foreign banks play it safe with low-cost deposits, careful lending**

- Nine foreign lenders keep their bad loans near 6.5%, versus 33% industry-wide. Foreign commercial banks in Bangladesh rely more heavily on low-cost deposits from businesses than their local peers, helping them keep funding costs down while lending to large corporations and multinational companies with strong credit records.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/foreign-banks-play-it-safe-low-cost-deposits-careful-lending-4301161>

INSURANCE | IDRA bars forced policy purchases

- The Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) has barred life insurance companies from forcing policyholders or nominees to purchase new policies as a condition for receiving insurance claims.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/idra-bars-forced-policy-purchases-4301181>

RMG | EU apparel imports from Bangladesh fall 11.67% in 8 months

- The European Union's apparel imports from Bangladesh fell 11.67% year-on-year to EUR 11.93 Bn in 8M2026, down from EUR 13.5 Bn a year earlier. The decline exceeded the 3.83% fall in the bloc's overall apparel imports, which dropped to EUR 60.29 Bn from EUR 62.69 Bn.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/apparel/318434/eu-apparel-imports-from-bangladesh-fall-1167pc-in-8-months>

TELECOM | BTRC prepares '2G Sunset Plan' by 2029

- Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has charted a phase out roadmap for exiting 2G technology by December 2029, with affordable smartphones at the centre of the shift for more than sixty million feature phone users on the network, who have from July 1, 2027 to December 31, 2029 to move to newer devices.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/telecom/318421/btrc-prepares-2g-sunset-plan-by-2029>

ENERGY | Excelerate halts LNG supplies to Bangladesh for seven months

- US-based Excelerate Energy has suspended LNG deliveries to Bangladesh since late February, following the outbreak of the latest Middle East conflict and disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz. Excelerate Energy is to supply Petrobangla with 0.85 Mn to 1.0 Mn tonnes of LNG annually over a 15-year period beginning in 2026.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/excelerate-halts-lng-supplies-to-bangladesh-for-seven-months-1792259277>

AVIATION | High Court orders liquidation of Regent Airways operator over USD 3.71 Mn debt

- The High Court ordered the liquidation of HG Aviation Ltd, the operator of Regent Airways under Habib Group, over its failure to repay more than USD 3.7 Mn in aircraft lease dues to US-based Wilmington Trust Company.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/high-court-orders-liquidation-regent-airways-operator-over-371m-debt-1575956>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | DSEX posts 9-month-low turnover as DSE uses alternate server**

- The Dhaka bourse on Saturday recorded its lowest turnover in more than nine months as many brokers failed to get an uninterrupted connection to the exchange's trading server. On the day, the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) conducted trading through a "disaster recovery server" situated outside the exchange's main building. As a result, many brokers faced disruptions while executing trades.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dsex-posts-9-month-low-turnover-as-dse-uses-alternate-server-1792252134>

EXCHANGE | BSEC fines CBC Capital-led syndicate BDT 3.59 Mn for Lovello share manipulation

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has imposed a cumulative fine of BDT 3.59 Mn on merchant bank CBC Capital and Equity Management Ltd, and three individuals for alleged series trading and price manipulation of Taufika Foods and Lovello Ice-Cream PLC shares.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-fines-cbc-capital-led-syndicate-tk3592-lakh-lovello-share-manipulation-1575891>

EXCHANGE | Bdtask launches multi-tenant OMS for brokerage firms

- Bangladeshi software company Bdtask Limited has launched a multi-tenant order management system (OMS) for stock exchanges, brokerage houses and other capital market intermediaries, aiming to reduce technology costs and dependence on foreign software vendors.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bdtask-launches-multi-tenant-oms-for-brokerage-firms>

RENATA | Renata's profit jumps 64% as finance costs fall

- The company's revenue increased 7.7% year-on-year to BDT 46.20 Bn, while its profit rose to BDT 3.64 Bn, recovering from a 44% decline in FY25 when high finance costs linked to investments in a new plant weighed on earnings. The company recommended a 55% cash dividend, unchanged from the previous fiscal year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/renatas-profit-jumps-64-finance-costs-fall-4301236>

LINDEBD | Energy price hike weighs on Linde Bangladesh's Q3 profit

- Linde Bangladesh Ltd reported a 19% drop in net profit for Q3'2026, as rising power and energy prices squeezed operating margins despite top-line revenue growth. Profitability declined despite a 9% year-on-year increase in quarterly revenue to BDT 641.7 Mn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/energy-price-hike-weighs-linde-bangladeshs-q3-profit-1575876>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 101.41	USD 43.98	76.58%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 109.86	USD 49.01	80.54%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,165.58	(USD 175.42)	-4.04%
DSEX	5,433.18	567.84	11.67%
S&P 500	7,659.44	760.62	11.03%
FTSE 100	10,881.90	950.52	9.57%
BSE SENSEX	74,729.27	-10,064.31	-11.87%
KSE-100	166,419.70	-7,634.60	-4.39%
CSEALL	20,185.05	-2,439.26	-10.78%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 123.51 BDT****1 GBP = 164.62 BDT****1 Euro = 138.81 BDT****1 INR = 1.30 BDT**

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