

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:**BDT 3.0 Tn ADP targets growth, polls pledges**

- The new BNP-led government has decided to spend BDT 3.09 Tn on development programmes in FY27, the largest single-year increase in eight years, signalling a sharp break from the austerity-driven approach of the interim administration.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/tk-3-lakh-crore-adp-targets-growth-polls-pledges-4178991>

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/ambitious-adp-holds-huge-block-allocations>

April revenue growth drops below 7%, 10-month deficit nears BDT 1.04 Tn

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has missed its revenue collection target by nearly BDT 1.04 Tn in 10MFY26, amid sluggish growth in tax receipts and an ambitious government target.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/april-revenue-growth-drops-below-7-10-month-deficit-nears-tk104-lakh-crore-1442976>

BB bought nearly USD 6 Bn so far this fiscal year

- Bangladesh Bank purchased USD 100 Mn from six commercial banks through auctions on May 18, at BDT 122.75 per dollar. Total purchases in the current fiscal year stood at USD 5.98 Bn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-bought-nearly-6b-so-far-fiscal-year-4178971>

Stalemate prevails over loan-release negotiations

- Government negotiations with the International Monetary Fund on the release of next tranches of its USD 5.5 Bn credit programme couldn't make tangible progress, sources say, prompting IMF rethink. Until now, Bangladesh has received USD 3.595 Bn under the credit programme which is about to end by this December. Officials say unless the government makes a clear-cut announcement regarding carrying out the remaining reforms within a stipulated time, there is hardly any possibility that the IMF will agree to release the remaining funds.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/stalemate-prevails-over-loan-release-negotiations-1779124932>

WB approves USD 350 Mn for Bangladesh's LNG security

- The World Bank has approved USD 350 Mn financing to support Bangladesh in importing liquefied natural gas (LNG), as global fuel markets face volatility.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/wb-approves-350m-bangladeshs-Ing-security-4179116>

Transport ministry seeks BDT 4.0 Bn grant to procure 100 EVs for BRTC

- The road transport and bridges ministry has sought a BDT 4.0 Bn grant from the finance ministry to procure 100 electric buses for the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) fleet. According to the proposal, BDT 2.50 Bn has been earmarked for procuring the buses and BDT 500 Mn for installing 25 charging stations.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/transport-ministry-seeks-tk-40b-grant-to-procure-100-evs-for-brtc-1779122879>

Bangladesh's reliance on indirect tax highest among regional peers

- The data, which measures indirect tax dependence as a percentage of total revenue, places Bangladesh at the top of the regional ranking. When VAT, customs duties and supplementary duties are combined, Bangladesh's indirect tax share reaches 78.2%, a staggering 28 percentage points above the regional average.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladeshs-reliance-indirect-tax-highest-among-regional-peers-4178986>

Bangladesh's economic growth set to slow to 3.9% as inflation, banking risks, investment crisis deepen

- Bangladesh's economy is entering one of its most fragile periods in decades, with the World Bank warning that slowing growth, persistent inflation, banking sector weakness and collapsing private investment are converging into a broad macroeconomic crisis.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladeshs-economic-growth-slows-39-inflation-banking-risks-investment-crisis-deepen>

Agri absorbs more workers as manufacturing slows

- Bangladesh's agricultural sector has re-emerged as a major source of employment since 2017 as the manufacturing sector lost momentum and shed workers, according to a latest World Bank (WB) study. Around seven out of every 10 new jobs created during the period were absorbed by the agriculture sector, while 4.2 Mn net new female jobs also came from agriculture.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/agri-absorbs-more-workers-as-manufacturing-slows>

Oil touches two-week high after drone attack on UAE nuclear power plant

- Brent crude futures climbed USD 2.01, or 1.84 percent, to USD 111.27 a barrel by 0432 GMT, but were off the USD 112 they had touched earlier for their highest since May 5.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/oil-touches-two-week-high-after-drone-attack-uae-nuclear-power-plant-4178431>

Sector and Industries:

ENERGY | BERC raises furnace oil price by BDT 18.85 to settle May rate at BDT 113.54 per litre

- The Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) has increased the consumer-level price of furnace oil by BDT 18.85 per litre, setting the new rate at BDT 113.54 per litre.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/berc-raises-furnace-oil-price-tk1885-settle-may-rate-tk11354-litre-1442756>

INSURANCE | Lankan conglomerate bets on Bangladesh's services market

- Sri Lankan conglomerate Softlogic Group plans to enter Bangladesh's services sector with the acquisition of a life-insurance company and a hospital to begin with. Chairman of the group said the name of the acquiree will be revealed in two months' time.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/lankan-conglomerate-bets-on-bangladeshs-services-market-1779124738>

Stocks:

EXCHANGE | DSE, BRAC EPL signs agreement to launch Sajida Orange Bond through electronic subscription system

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and BRAC EPL Investments signed an agreement to facilitate subscription of the Sajida Orange Zero-Coupon Bond through the bourse's Electronic Subscription System (ESS).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-brac-epl-signs-agreement-launch-sajida-orange-bond-through-electronic>

RUPALIBANK | Rupali Bank sinks into hefty Q1 loss on bad loans

- Rupali Bank reported consolidated loss of BDT 3.96 Bn in Q1'26, compared to BDT 66 Mn profit in Q1'25, as the bank was hit hard by mounting non-performing loans, leading to negative net interest income amid rising fund costs.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/rupali-bank-sinks-into-hefty-q1-loss-on-bad-loans-1779121165>

ICBIBANK | BB now appoints 3 independent directors at ICB Islami Bank

- A month after appointing an administrator, Bangladesh Bank (BB) has reconstituted the board of ICB Islamic Bank PLC by appointing three independent directors in a move aimed at strengthening governance and oversight at the troubled private commercial bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-now-appoints-3-independent-directors-icb-islami-bank-1442901>

SBACBANK | SBAC Bank joins BDT 30.0 Bn refinance scheme for CMSMEs

- SBAC Bank PLC has signed an agreement with the Bangladesh Bank to participate in the central bank's BDT 30.0 Bn refinance fund under the Cluster Financing Scheme for the cottage, micro, small and medium enterprise (CMSME) sector, aimed at accelerating economic growth.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/sbac-bank-joins-tk-3000cr-refinance-scheme-cmsmes-4178911>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 107.60	USD 50.17	87.36%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 109.84	USD 48.99	80.51%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,559.00	USD 218.00	5.02%
DSEX	5,203.11	337.78	6.94%
S&P 500	7,403.05	504.23	7.31%
FTSE 100	10,323.75	392.37	3.95%
BSE SENSEX	75,315.04	-9,478.54	-11.18%
KSE-100	161,805.02	-12,249.28	-7.04%
CSEALL	22,313.47	-310.84	-1.37%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.83 BDT****1 GBP = 164.82 BDT****1 Euro = 143.05 BDT****1 INR = 1.27 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
Foyisal 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

Kumaresh Saha	CEO (Acting)	kumaresh@bracepl.com
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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