

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 to pull out of USD 5.5 Bn IMF loan deal**

- The government has decided to exit the existing USD 5.5 Bn loan programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and move toward negotiating a new arrangement instead. The IMF also agreed to hold formal talks on the fresh loan after the decision was conveyed. According to finance ministry officials, the government is considering a fresh three- to four-year programme worth USD 5-6 Bn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/govt-pull-out-55b-imf-loan-deal-4182361>

Govt may cut AIT on import of raw materials

- The government is likely to reduce the advance income tax (AIT) on imported primary and industrial raw materials in the upcoming budget, from current 5% AIT to 4% or 3%, depending on the type of product.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/bangladesh-budget-2026-27/news/govt-may-cut-ait-import-raw-materials-4181546>

WB raising USD 2.0 Bn in quick financing within FY26

- Bangladesh expects an off-the-cuff USD 1.835 Bn financing from the World Bank for use before the close of the current fiscal year to cushion the economy against mounting external shocks, sources say. The government has made significant progress in advancing the FY26 financing pipeline following discussions held during the WB Group and IMF Spring Meetings, according to a recent letter addressed to the government.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/wb-raising-20b-in-quick-financing-within-fy26-1779469722>

Oct-Dec'25 deficit falls 15pc

- Bangladesh's trade deficit with its seven neighbouring countries narrowed by more than 15% to USD 1.70 Bn during the October-December quarter of FY26. This reflects a decline in imports from major regional trading partners - India and Pakistan. Economists say slower import demand and tighter spending on foreign goods may have contributed to the trend.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/oct-dec25-deficit-falls-15pc-1779469978>

Bangladesh SOEs cost treasury BDT 882 Bn as losses mount: WB study

- Bangladesh's state-owned enterprises (SOEs) drained nearly BDT 882 Bn from the national exchequer in a single year, emerging as one of the country's biggest fiscal risks, according to a World Bank study.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladesh-soes-cost-treasury-tk-882b-as-losses-mount-wb-study>

Govt moves to slash business licensing time, decriminalise business failures

- Commerce Minister has announced that the government is undertaking regulatory overhauls to simplify business operations, including cutting down licensing times, ensuring consistent energy supply, and introducing structural exit routes for businesses. Highlighting the lack of viable exit routes for struggling enterprises in Bangladesh, he called for bankruptcy frameworks similar to Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 insolvency codes used in developed nations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/government-moves-slash-business-licensing-time-decriminalise-business-failure-commerce>

Govt to address major gaps in Commercial Courts Act

- The minister of law, justice and parliamentary affairs identified the four issues as regulatory disputes, tax problems, labour conflicts, and criminal litigation. He also flagged several limitations in the existing Arbitration Act 2001 which "can be fixed easily".

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-address-major-gaps-commercial-courts-act-4181451>

Sector and Industries:**BANK | Islamic banks see steady growth in deposits, assets in March**

- The country's Islamic banks saw steady growth in deposits, assets and key financial indicators in March 2026. The total deposits in Islamic banks stood at BDT 4.79 Tn in March 2026, increasing by 9.22% YoY. Investments by Islamic banks remained broadly stable at BDT 5.91 Tn in March 2026, rising by 6.85% YoY.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/islamic-banks-see-steady-growth-in-deposits-assets-in-march-1779470424>

TELECOM | Bangladesh begins Starlink-powered D2C mobile service trial

- The trial run of satellite-based Direct-to-Cell (D2C) mobile will be conducted by Banglalink using Starlink technology in Bandarban and on the Sandwip Island, following government approval for a two-month Proof of Concept (PoC) operation in network-deprived areas.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bangladesh-begins-starlink-powered-d2c-mobile-service-trial-1779467485>

ENERGY | Govt to float offshore exploration tender next Monday, solar policy by June

- Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister has said that the government will float an international tender next Monday for offshore oil and gas exploration, while an investment-friendly solar energy policy is expected to be unveiled by June.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/govt-float-offshore-exploration-tender-next-monday-solar-policy-june-energy>

ENERGY | Govt unveils onshore wind power project guidelines

- Draft guidelines for onshore wind-power-project development have been unveiled as this clean energy remains under explored despite offering a "complementary and increasingly cost-competitive pathway". In the Renewable Energy Policy 2025 the government has set a target of generating 20% of total energy by 2030 and 30% by 2040 from renewable sources.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-unveils-onshore-wind-power-project-guidelines-1779470289>

Stocks:**REGULATOR | Capital market reforms in two months: Khosru**

- Finance and Planning Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury has pledged reforms in the financial sector and said there would be no more political appointments in banks, regulatory bodies and other financial institutions. He said that in the next two months, there will be changes in the capital market. He added that they (the government) will have to do all the deregulation necessary for the capital market.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/capital-market-reforms-two-months-khosru-4182151>

KBPPWBIL, GENEXIL | Officials of two listed firms fined BDT 15 Mn

- The stock market regulator fined directors and top officials of two companies - Khan Brothers PP Woven Bag Industries and Genex Infosys - around BDT 15 Mn for breaching securities rules. The regulator also ordered Aftab Automobiles to pay dividends within 30 days, or else would face fines amounting to BDT 15.5 Mn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/officials-two-listed-firms-fined-tk-15cr-4181541>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 96.60	USD 39.17	68.20%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 103.54	USD 42.69	70.16%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,509.40	USD 168.40	3.88%
DSEX	5,264.12	398.78	8.20%
S&P 500	7,473.47	574.65	8.33%
FTSE 100	10,466.26	534.88	5.39%
BSE SENSEX	75,415.35	-9,378.23	-11.06%
KSE-100	167,921.10	-6,133.20	-3.52%
CSEALL	21,929.64	-694.67	-3.07%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.92 BDT****1 GBP = 165.10 BDT****1 Euro = 142.62 BDT****1 INR = 1.28 BDT**

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