

*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:****Unprepared LDC graduation to bring more problems**

- Bangladesh may face economic challenges and a rise in poverty if it proceeds with a premature and unprepared graduation from its least developed country (LDC) status, warned economists, politicians and researchers yesterday. They argued that without evidence-based action, the recent political unrest, economic challenges, and data inadequacies could severely harm national interests and long-term development if LDC graduation proceeds prematurely.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/unprepared-ldc-graduation-bring-more-problems-3878851>

**Govt considers Interpol to locate factory owners owing workers**

- The government yesterday warned that it may issue red alerts through Interpol to trace factory owners who fail to pay workers, according to a statement from the Labour and Employment ministry. Stern action will be taken against those factory owners who have not paid wages despite earlier commitments, warned Labour and Employment Adviser Brig Gen (retd) M Sakhawat Hossain at a press conference at the secretariat.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-considers-interpol-locate-factory-owners-owing-workers-3878741>

**Bangladesh gets USD 850 Mn in World Bank loans for Bay Terminal, social protection**

- Bangladesh has secured USD 850 Mn in financing from the World Bank to support the development of a major marine terminal in Chattogram and to expand the country's social protection programmes, the Economic Relations Division (ERD) said in a statement. Two separate financing agreements were signed today (April 23) in Washington between the ERD and the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's concessional arm.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-gets-850-million-world-bank-loans-bay-terminal-social-protection-3878666>

**World Bank lowers growth forecast for Bangladesh to 3.3% in FY25**

- The World Bank has lowered Bangladesh's economic growth projection to 3.3% in the current fiscal year, down from its previous forecast of 4%, citing political unrest and subdued investment. The forecast by the Washington-based lender is the lowest so far.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/world-bank-lowers-growth-forecast-bangladesh-33-fy25-3878171>

**FBCCI, Bhutan delegation explore enhanced agricultural trade cooperation**

- Bangladesh and Bhutan are seeking to strengthen bilateral trade ties, with a particular focus on agricultural products such as fruits, vegetables and spices. Business leaders from both nations emphasised the importance of expanding mutual cooperation to unlock the trade potential between the two South Asian countries.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/fbcci-bhutan-delegation-explore-enhanced-agricultural-trade-cooperation-1124066>

**CA seeks urgent global action to end multi-pronged crisis**

- Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus Wednesday made a passionate call from a Doha meet for urgent action from international communities for an immediate sustainable solution to the multidimensional Rohingya crisis. At the high-level roundtable discussion held in the capital of Qatar, Bangladesh also proposed hosting 'High-Level Conference on the Situation of Rohingya Muslims and Other Minorities in Myanmar' in New York this September under UN auspices and sought Qatar's active participation.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/ca-seeks-urgent-global-action-to-end-multi-pronged-crisis-1745429823>

**OPEC Fund confirms USD 100 Mn Bangladesh budgetary support**

- The OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) has extended USD 100 Mn worth of budgetary support to Bangladesh for the country's economic and governance reforms. The OFID and Bangladesh government on Tuesday signed an agreement to this effect on the sidelines of the IMF-World Bank annual meeting in Washington, DC.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/opec-fund-confirms-100m-bangladesh-budgetary-support-1745429947>

**China to expand BD rail projects, ready for Teesta project**

- Currently engaged in major infrastructure-development projects in Bangladesh, China signals its readiness to expand collaboration into digital, marine and green economies, and widen medical visas and scholarship quotas for Bangladeshi citizens. Also, China stands ready to participate in the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project, Chinese Ambassador in Dhaka Yao Wen said Wednesday while rolling out their latest cooperation outlook.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/china-to-expand-bd-rail-projects-ready-for-teesta-project-1745430653>

**Sector & Industries:****TELECOM | BTRC's new policy seeks to cut red tape**

- The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has unveiled a draft policy aimed at overhauling the telecommunications licensing and regulatory framework, although a lack of clarity in certain areas may lead to disputes over service boundaries. Titled the "Telecommunication Network & Licensing Regime Reform Policy 2025", the draft proposes the elimination of several minor intermediaries -- introduced under the controversial previous policy -- that not only increased operational burdens but also raised compliance costs.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/btrcs-new-policy-seeks-cut-red-tape-3878891>

**BANK | World Bank flags deepening crisis in banking sector**

- Bangladesh's banking sector faces significant challenges due to longstanding structural weaknesses and recent emerging risks, according to the World Bank (WB). In its April issue of "Bangladesh Development Update" released yesterday, the multilateral lender said the sector has been suffering from high levels of non-performing loans (NPLs), low capital adequacy, and operational inefficiencies.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/world-bank-flags-deepening-crisis-banking-sector-3878866>

**TRADE | Cargo air-shipment from home ports getting into gear**

- Air-cargo facilities are being ramped up for exporters as the government braces for getting over the challenges stemming from Indian embargo on the third-country transshipment arrangement for Bangladesh. Officials say the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) is considering several freight-facilitating measures that include launching dedicated cargo operations from two additional international airports in the country besides the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) in Dhaka, increasing manpower to support these operations, and reducing operational costs.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/cargo-air-shipment-from-home-ports-getting-into-gear-1745429739>

**Stocks:****BATASHOE | Bata Bangladesh reports 26% profit decline**

- Bata Shoe Company (Bangladesh) saw its profit drop in 2024 due to high inflation and political unrest that disrupted retail operations. Its profit slumped 26% year-on-year to BDT 295.7 Mn. The company reported earnings per share of BDT 21.62 last year, down from BDT 29.31 in 2023, according to a disclosure posted on the website of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bata-bangladesh-reports-26-profit-decline-3878831>

**MTB | Manzur Elahi's MTB shares to be transferred to nominees**

- Following the passing of Syed Manzur Elahi, chairman of Mutual Trust Bank (MTB) and Apex Group, the bank has announced that over 31.2 Mn of his shares in MTB will be transmitted to his nominated successors. According to a formal disclosure of the bank, 3,12,66,321 shares out of his total holding of 3,43,29,953 will be equally divided between his son Syed Nasim Manzur, a placement holder of the bank, and his daughter Munize Manzur, a sponsor and former director. Each will receive 50% of the transferred shares.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/manzur-elahis-mtb-shares-be-transferred-nominees-1124301>

**DHAKABANK | DHAKA BANK PARTNERS WITH J.P. MORGAN TO IMPROVE INWARD REMITTANCE**

- Dhaka Bank and J.P. Morgan Payments have teamed up to boost inward remittance services in Bangladesh by implementing JP Morgan Payments' Xpedite Select Receipt. The solution aims to streamline and secure cross-border receipts in 40 different currencies, delivering the funds directly to beneficiaries in Bangladesh. The collaboration was formalised on Wednesday through an inaugural ceremony at Dhaka Bank's head office.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dhaka-bank-partners-with-jp-morgan-to-improve-inward-remittance-1745427100>

**ENVOYTEX | Envoy Textiles' profit surges 129% in Q3**

- Envoy Textiles Limited, the country's pioneering LEED Platinum-certified denim manufacturer, has reported a substantial jump in profitability in the third quarter of the current fiscal year, driven by strong international market demand and improved operational efficiencies. According to its unaudited financial statements for the quarter ended 31 March 2025, the company registered a net profit of BDT 1.02 Bn for the nine-month period, marking a 129% increase compared to BDT 0.6 Bn in the same period of the previous fiscal year. At the end of March, its earnings per share stood at BDT 6.03.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/envoy-textile-earns-tk1366cr-nine-months-1124336>

**EXCHANGE | DBA urges brokerage houses to maintain market discipline**

- The DSE Brokers Association of Bangladesh (DBA) has called on brokerage firms to uphold discipline and preserve a healthy investment environment in the capital market for the greater interest of both the market and its investors. Meanwhile, in protest of the continued slump in the stock market, the Bangladesh Capital Market Investors Association has announced a human chain and protest rally to be held on Wednesday afternoon. In light of this, the DBA issued a cautionary message addressed to the managing directors and chairpersons of brokerage firms.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dba-urges-brokerage-houses-maintain-market-discipline-1123791>

**EXCHANGE | ICB Capital Management seeks removal of double taxation**

- ICB Capital Management has proposed removing double taxation that erodes merchant banks' profits in the absence of the scope of adjusting source tax during the filing of tax returns. The merchant bank in a letter to the Financial Institutions Division (FID) of the finance ministry and the National Board of Revenue (NBR) suggested that necessary changes be brought in the upcoming budget to relieve companies of the additional tax burden.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/icb-capital-management-seeks-removal-of-double-taxation-1745426944>

**Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 62.23	(USD 9.20)	-12.88%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 66.11	(USD 8.28)	-11.13%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,336.43	USD 727.95	27.91%
DSEX	5,022.47	-193.97	-3.72%
S&P 500	5,375.86	-531.08	-8.99%
FTSE 100	8,403.18	282.17	3.47%
BSE SENSEX	80,116.49	1,916.56	2.45%
KSE-100	117,226.15	1,967.15	1.71%
CSEALL	15,543.99	-400.62	-2.51%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 121.69 BDT****1 GBP = 161.65 BDT****1 Euro = 138.15 BDT****1 INR = 1.42 BDT**

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