

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 rise to USD 30.30 Bn as cenbank continues dollar purchase**

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves currently stand at USD 30.3 Bn. A senior central bank official told that the supply of dollars in banks has increased due to higher remittance inflows.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-buys-153b-february-so-far-fy26-purchases-reach-547b-1370311>

BB buys USD 1.53 Bn in February so far; FY26 purchases reach USD 5.47 Bn

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) purchased USD 1.53 Bn from commercial banks in February this year. BB has purchased USD 87 Mn from eight banks on Tuesday at BDT 122.30 per dollar.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-buys-153b-february-so-far-fy26-purchases-reach-547b-1370311>

IMF team to hold March talks with PM Tarique on next loan tranche

- A high-level delegation from the International Monetary Fund is due in Dhaka next month for talks with Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, as Bangladesh hopes to keep its multi-billion-dollar loan programme on track and unlock a delayed USD 1.30 Bn disbursement.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/imf-team-hold-march-talks-pm-tarique-next-loan-tranche-1370496>

New US tariffs come in at lower 10% rate

- The United States imposed a new tariff from Tuesday of 10% on all goods not covered by exemptions. The Section 122 law allows the president to impose the new duties for up to 150 days to address "large and serious" balance-of-payments deficits and "fundamental international payments problems."

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/world/new-us-tariffs-come-in-at-lower-10pc-rate>

BD rethinking deal after blanket 10pc US tariffs

- Commerce Secretary has said that since uniform rate has been established for all, we do not see any immediate problem. He added that if we produce products using US cotton or fibre, we can access the US market duty-free. Centre for Policy Dialogue Distinguished Fellow Professor Mustafizur Rahman has termed the overall situation 'very uncertain' and suggested keeping a careful eye on how competitor countries absorb the duty.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-rethinking-deal-after-blanket-10pc-us-tariffs-1771955334>

Govt aims to gradually issue 20 Mn family cards

- Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will formally inaugurate the four-month pilot, where eligible families with at least five members will receive BDT 2,500 a month through direct transfers to their mobile wallets or bank accounts. If fully implemented, the programme would cost about BDT 600 Bn a year, potentially becoming the largest social spending commitment, accounting for 12% of this fiscal year's revenue target.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/govt-aims-gradually-issue-2cr-family-cards-4114296>

PM orders public-private partnerships to relaunch weak, closed industries

- Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has ordered ministries to take steps to reopen dwindling and closed industries in partnership with private entrepreneurs.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/pm-orders-public-private-partnerships-to-relaunch-weak-closed-industries>

Cost of 65 dev projects ramped up by BDT 798.34 Bn

- Costs of 65 projects have been ramped up by BDT 798.34 Bn in apparent prodigal reappraisals of the development schemes by the just-gone interim government during its one-and-a-half-year tenure, sources say.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/cost-of-65-dev-projects-ramped-up-by-tk-79834b>

Fruit imports face curbs despite dollar relief

- The dollar crisis has eased. Foreign exchange reserves have improved from the lows seen four years ago. But imported fruits still face a 100% cash margin for opening letters of credit (LCs).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/fruit-imports-face-curbs-despite-dollar-relief-4114191>

NBR forms committee to prepare budget for 2026-27 fiscal

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has formed a budget committee by assigning additional responsibilities to four senior officials to support the preparation and coordination of the national budget for the 2026–27 fiscal year.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/nbr-forms-committee-to-prepare-budget-for-2026-27-fiscal>

Sector & Industries:**RMG | RMG owners seek BDT 140 Bn soft loan before Eid**

- The country's garment manufacturers and exporters have sought the urgent release of outstanding cash incentives and a BDT 140 Bn low-interest "soft loan" to help factories pay workers' wages and bonuses ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg-owners-seek-tk14000cr-soft-loan-eid-1370346>

ENERGY | LPG price cut by BDT 15 for 12kg cylinder

- The price of a 12kg cylinder of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), has been reduced by BDT 15.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/lpg-price-cut-by-tk-15-for-12kg-cylinder>

BANK | TakaPay struggles to gain traction two years after launch

- TakaPay card, the first-ever national debit card, has failed to secure a significant foothold in the two years since its launch by the central bank, aimed at reducing dependency on global payment networks such as Visa and Mastercard.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/takapay-struggles-gain-traction-two-years-after-launch-4114181>

MFS | Nagad privatisation depends on new govt

- Privatising Nagad largely depends on the decision and policy of the new government, Bangladesh Bank Governor has told the local coordinator of potential overseas investors. Once the policy is finalised, the process of bringing in investors may start, he has said. Spokesperson at the central bank told that some four applications on reviving Nagad had so far been placed with the banking regulator.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/nagad-privatisation-depends-on-new-govt-1771950150>

Stocks:
EXCHANGE | BSEC removes LR Global as asset manager of six mutual funds

- The decision was made during a BSEC board meeting earlier this month. The funds managed by LR Global Bangladesh Asset Management Company Limited include DBH First Mutual Fund, Green Delta Mutual Fund, AIBL First Islamic Mutual Fund, LR Global Bangladesh Mutual Fund-1, NCCBL Mutual Fund-1, and MBL First Mutual Fund.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-removes-lr-global-asset-manager-six-mutual-funds-1370411>

EXCHANGE | Probe launched into Associated Oxygen's alleged IPO malpractices

- The market regulator has begun an investigation into Associated Oxygen over alleged irregularities in its initial public offering (IPO) application. There was also an allegation that the company issued 50.8 Mn pre-IPO shares, which were equivalent to 63% of its pre-IPO paid-up capital. Currently, the company's paid-up capital is BDT 1.09 Bn. NRB Equity Management was accused of forging the signature of the acting managing director and CEO of BD Finance Capital, the issue manager as per the company's IPO prospectus.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/probe-launched-into-associated-oxygens-alleged-ipo-malpractices-1771949548>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 66.19	USD 8.76	15.25%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 70.77	USD 9.92	16.30%
Gold Spot*	USD 5,154.93	USD 813.93	18.75%
DSEX	5,542.36	677.03	13.92%
S&P 500	6,890.11	-8.71	-0.13%
FTSE 100	10,680.59	749.21	7.54%
BSE SENSEX	82,225.92	-2,567.66	-3.03%
KSE-100	166,258.55	-7,795.75	-4.48%
CSEALL	23,690.62	1,066.31	4.71%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.25 BDT

1 GBP = 165.08 BDT

1 Euro = 143.99 BDT

1 INR = 1.34 BDT

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