

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:**Surge in high-powered money weakens inflation combat**

- After a downturn, inflation-fueling high-powered money has surged again, largely negating the effect of a contractionary policy pursued by the regulator to stem price rises.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/surge-in-high-powered-money-weakens-inflation-combat-1782323375>

WB lends Bangladesh USD 450 Mn to bolster banking reforms

- Bangladesh is receiving a World Bank loan worth USD 450 Mn meant for strengthening the country's financial sector struggling for revival with better footprint in the economic activities. Under the Financial Sector Support Project II, Bangladesh will work to bolster the deposit-protection system to protect small depositors and build Bangladesh Bank's supervisory capacity and systems.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/wb-lends-bangladesh-450m-to-bolster-banking-reforms-1782323473>

Reserves cross USD 36 Bn with JICA loan dollop

- Bangladesh's gross foreign-exchange reserves crossed USD 36 Bn mark Wednesday with an aid dollop of nearly USD 320 Mn from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/reserves-cross-36b-with-jica-loan-dollop-1782323519>

External debt now USD 78.22 Bn

- Finance Minister told parliament that Bangladesh's total external debt stood at USD 78.22 Bn as of March this year. Of this, 61.97% was concessional.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/external-debt-now-7822b-4207546>

Govt plans BDT 49.74 Bn power upgrade for Dhaka's industrial outskirts

- The government is set to undertake BDT 49.74 Bn project to strengthen electricity distribution systems surrounding Dhaka to meet rapidly growing demand from industries, businesses and households.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/govt-plans-tk4973cr-power-upgrade-dhakas-industrial-outskirts-1471696>

Mobile operators owe govt BDT 133.44 Bn in dues; GP tops the list

- Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Minister informed that the country's four mobile phone operators owe the government a combined BDT 133.44 Bn in outstanding dues. Grameenphone owes BDT 61.02 Bn, followed by state-owned Teletalk Bangladesh Limited at BDT 59.54 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/mobile-operators-owe-govt-tk13344cr-dues-gp-tops-list-1471341>

Grocery stores, beauty parlours to pay VAT

- The government plans to bring several business sectors, including grocery stores and beauty parlours, under Value-Added Tax coverage in the 2026-27 fiscal year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/grocery-stores-beauty-parlours-pay-vat-4207741>

BD to hire int'l firms to recover defaulted loan assets stashed abroad

- The government has initiated process to engage international legal firms to help recover money linked to defaulted loans created through irregularities and corruption in the banking sector. Legal proceedings have been launched in six cases involving former Land Minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury, controversial businessman S Alam, and business groups associated with Beximco, Sikder Group, Nasa Group and Orion Group.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bd-to-hire-intl-firms-to-recover-defaulted-loan-assets-stashed-abroad>

BB provides BDT 759.03 Bn in emergency liquidity support to troubled banks: Finmin

- Bangladesh Bank provided BDT 759.03 Bn in emergency liquidity support to banks facing cash shortages to help ensure depositors can withdraw their funds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-provides-tk75903cr-emergency-liquidity-support-troubled-banks-finmin-1471671>

Export data mismatch remains unresolved despite years of scrutiny

- A controversy that exposed serious flaws in Bangladesh's export reporting has lingered far beyond the fall of one government, with billions of dollars still separating the country's key export datasets. Data released by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) and Bangladesh Bank show a gap of USD 4.0 Bn in export earnings during 10MFY26.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/export-data-mismatch-remains-unresolved-despite-years-of-scrutiny>

BEPZA, ILO target permanent EPZ injury cover by 2027

- Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) have reaffirmed their commitment to establishing a permanent employment injury protection scheme for workers in export processing zones by 2027, marking a significant step in Bangladesh's efforts to strengthen workplace safety and social protection standards.

<https://tob.news/bepza-ilo-target-permanent-epz-injury-cover-by-2027/>

Sector and Industries:**PHARMA | Big duty cuts to power up API supply chain: pharma leaders**

- Bangladesh's pharmaceutical manufacturers are hoping for a more stable supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and improved production efficiency under the proposed budget for fiscal year 2026-27, which expands duty-free access to a wide range of raw materials used in medicine production.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/big-duty-cuts-power-api-supply-chain-pharma-leaders-4207486>

BANK | Japan's MUFG Bank expresses interest in launching a branch in Bangladesh

- MUFG Bank has expressed interest in establishing a branch in Bangladesh, while also voicing concerns over the country's NPL situation. MUFG Bank wants a corridor banking model based in Bangladesh.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/mufg-bank-expresses-interest-launching-branch-bangladesh-1471706>

TEXTILE | BTMA urges action on US duty-free access

- Bangladesh's textile manufacturers have renewed calls for the United States to expedite duty-free market access for apparel made with American cotton and man-made fibres.

<https://tob.news/btma-urges-action-on-us-duty-free-access/>

ELECTRONICS | How age-old govt procurement rules hold back booming heavy electric equipment industry

- Manufacturers of the country's heavy electric equipment remain locked out of major public contracts. Producers of commercial-grade air-conditioners, industrial chillers, variable refrigerant flow (VRF) systems and elevators say they are still being sidelined from government projects due to outdated procurement regulations and the absence of a dedicated local certification framework.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/how-age-old-govt-procurement-rules-hold-back-booming-heavy-electric-equipment-industry>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | Salta Capital scam exposes regulators' repeated failures in a decade**

- The securities regulator has issued directives to get bank accounts of the board of directors and senior management of Salta Capital frozen in follow-up actions as an inquiry report reconfirms embezzlement of BDT 1.0 Bn by the broker from approximately 14,000 retail investors.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/salta-capital-scam-exposes-regulators-repeated-failures-in-a-decade>

BEXIMCO | Beximco shares plunge 61% in two weeks as buyers vanish after floor price removal

- Beximco's share price has tumbled nearly 61% in just two weeks since the removal of the floor price, as a severe shortage of buyers continued to weigh on one of the country's most closely watched stocks.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/beximco-shares-plunge-61-percent-in-two-weeks-as-buyers-vanish-after-floor-price-removal>

NHFIL | National Housing declares 10% cash dividend on stronger earnings

- National Housing Finance PLC has recommended a 10% cash dividend for the year ended 31 December 2025, maintaining the same payout as the previous year despite ongoing challenges in Bangladesh's NBF sector.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/national-housing-declares-10-cash-dividend-stronger-earnings-1471636>

ISLAMIINS | Islami Insurance cuts dividend to 16% as earnings slip 2025

- The general insurer reported a decline in earnings, with earnings per share (EPS) falling 11% year-on-year to BDT 3.04 in 2025. As of end-December, net asset value (NAV) per share stood at BDT 23.62, while net operating cash flow per share was BDT 0.40.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/islami-insurance-cuts-dividend-16-earnings-slip-2025-1471616>

APEXSPINN | Apex Spinning shuts factory, lays off 5,000 amid labour unrest

- Apex Spinning & Knitting Mills has declared an indefinite shutdown of its Gazipur factory and laid off around 5,000 workers amid labour unrest over service benefits, raising concerns over the company's export commitments and future business operations.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/apex-spinning-shuts-factory-lays-off-5000-amid-labour-unrest-1782322194>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 70.08	USD 12.65	22.03%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 73.36	USD 12.51	20.56%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,001.75	(USD 339.25)	-7.82%
DSEX	5,616.83	751.50	15.45%
S&P 500	7,358.22	459.40	6.66%
FTSE 100	10,461.63	530.25	5.34%
BSE SENSEX	76,991.22	-7,802.36	-9.20%
KSE-100	179,571.27	5,516.97	3.17%
CSEALL	22,208.58	-415.73	-1.84%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.98 BDT****1 GBP = 161.88 BDT****1 Euro = 139.59 BDT****1 INR = 1.30 BDT**

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