

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:**Beza to engage int'l developer for 'Green Factory Hub' at Special Economic Zone in Mirsarai**

- Beza plans to allocate 500 acres at National Special Economic Zone in Mirsarai to an International Master Developer to set up a modern "Green Factory Hub" as part of a new strategy to attract foreign investment. The project aims to replicate the model of the Korean Export Processing Zone and the Bepza Economic Zone, with the master developer managing the industrial zone. Under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework, the developer will be responsible for land development, construction of facilities, and allocation of plots to investors.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/beza-engage-intl-developer-green-factory-hub-special-economic-zone-mirsarai-1126976>

Forex reserves stands at USD 26.79 Bn: BB

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves now stands at USD 26.79 Bn, according to a press release of Bangladesh Bank issued today (27 April). However, as per the International Monetary Fund (IMF) methodology under the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6), Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves stands at USD 21.43 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/forex-reserves-stands-2679b-bb-1127856>

Bangladesh gets USD 2.27 Bn in remittance in 26 days

- Bangladesh received a record USD 2.27 Bn in in remittance in the first 26 days of April, according to an updated report published by Bangladesh Bank. As per the report, the country is receiving USD 87.3 Mn in remittance every day on an average. Out of the total, USD 853.8 Mn entered the country through state-owned banks, USD 119.4 Mn through a specialised bank, USD 1.29 Bn through private banks, and USD 4.3 Mn through foreign banks.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladesh-gets-227-billion-in-remittance-in-26-days>

Government may go frugal on incentive, subsidy handouts

- Finance authorities may go frugal on subsidy and incentive handouts in the new budget as the interim government walks a tightrope in making two ends meet in current domestic and global economic realities. Officials say as the government is calculating a smaller outlay for the 2025-26 budget, slated for announcement on June 2, exporters also may see export-performance incentives squeeze a bit. In the outgoing fiscal budget, the total allocation for subsidies and incentives was BDT 1.03 Tn, which is 20% of the total operating budget of BDT 5.155 Tn.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/government-may-go-frugal-on-incentive-subsidy-handouts>

Sector & Industries:**TELECOM | BTRC approves licence for Starlink**

- Bangladesh's internet regulator has given the green light for Starlink to obtain a satellite internet licence, sending a letter to the telecom ministry last week for final approval. As per telecom law, it is mandatory for the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) to obtain pre-approval from the ministry before taking key decisions, including granting licences.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/btrc-approves-licence-starlink-3881736>

Stocks:**SINGERBD | Singer records massive Q1 loss despite higher sales**

- Singer Bangladesh, a listed multinational electronics and home appliance seller, saw a massive year-on-year rise in losses in the first quarter of fiscal year 2025 despite registering higher sales, attributing it mainly to high bank loan and operating costs. The company reported a loss of BDT 348.9 Mn in the latest January-March quarter, a sharp increase from a BDT 21.1 Mn loss in the same period a year earlier.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/singer-records-massive-q1-loss-despite-higher-sales-3881746>

RUNNERAUTO | Runner Automobiles back in profit in Q3

- Runner Automobiles returned to profit in the third quarter of the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25, buoyed by a rise in revenue from its three-wheeler business. The company recorded a profit of BDT 48.8 Mn during the January to March period, according to a disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday. This marks a turnaround from a loss posted in the same quarter a year earlier.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/runner-automobiles-back-profit-q3-3881681>

MIDLANDBNK | Midland Bank refutes BCB statement on BDT 2.5 Bn fund transfer

- Midland Bank has rejected a statement titled "BCB's Explanation Regarding the Transfer of BDT 2.50 Bn by Faruque Ahmed" released by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB). The BCB statement contains "misleading and baseless information" about the bank, it said in a rejoinder on Sunday. On April 26, 2025, BCB issued a press release titled "BCB's Explanation Regarding the Transfer of BDT 2.5 Bn by Faruque Ahmed," which included misleading and baseless information about Midland Bank.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/midland-bank-refutes-bcb-statement-on-tk-25-billion-fund-transfer>

WALTONHIL | Walton to manufacture lithium-Ion batteries locally

- Walton Hi-Tech Industries PLC, the leading electrical and electronics manufacturer, is going to establish a manufacturing facility for high-quality lithium-ion cells, reducing import dependence and offering competitive, locally manufactured products, it said today. "As a pioneer in producing lithium-ion battery cells, Walton will not only foster technological innovation and set a benchmark for quality and sustainability but also reduce reliance on imports, create new employment opportunities, technological growth, and exports."

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/walton-manufacture-lithium-ion-batteries-locally-3881691>

ISLAMIBANK, SALAMCRST | Islami Bank puts S Alam's steel mill, power plant, edible oil factory on auction to recover BDT 21.80 Bn dues

- Islami Bank Bangladesh has announced the auction of major assets owned by S Alam Group, including a steel mill, a power plant, and an edible oil factory, along with 1,149 shottok (approximately 38 acres) of land. The bank published an auction notice today (27 April) in national and local newspapers. According to the notice, the properties listed include S Alam Cold Rolled Steel Ltd, S Alam Power Generation, and S Alam Vegetable Oil, all subsidiaries of the S Alam Group.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/islami-bank-puts-s-alams-steel-mill-power-plant-edible-oil-factory-auction-recover-over>

MAMUNAGRO | Mamun Agro anticipates transfer to main boards despite financial flaws

- Mamun Agro Products looks to move to the main boards of the bourses from SME boards though its latest financial statement exposed the weaknesses in its business operation. Its auditor has already given qualified opinions over its financial statement for FY24. It said significant data, such as the company's inventories, cash and receivables could not be verified. This is the backdrop against which the board of directors of Mamun Agro at a meeting on April 23 decided to hold an EGM to take shareholders' approval for the firm's listing on the main boards.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/mamun-agro-anticipates-transfer-to-main-boards-despite-financial-flaws>

EXCHANGE | Taskforce submits final proposals on margin rules

- The government taskforce on capital market reforms submitted its final recommendations on margin rules yesterday, bringing minimal changes to an initial draft. Last February, the committee submitted the draft recommendations to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC). A member of the taskforce said the final recommendations were not that much different from the initial draft, as none recommended any major change.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/taskforce-submits-final-proposals-margin-rules-3881726>

EXCHANGE | BSEC to change rule to transfer client deposit interest to investor protection fund

- In a policy reversal, the securities regulator now proposes requiring brokers to transfer client deposit interest to investor protection fund and market education—contradicting its earlier stance. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has published a draft rule on this for public opinion recently. The commission also asked the market intermediaries to submit their opinion within 12 May. The draft rule stipulates that interest earned from bank accounts maintained for consolidated customer accounts (CCA) should not be treated as income of the respective stockbroker or dealer.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-change-rule-transfer-client-deposit-interest-investor-protection-fund-1127796>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 62.95	(USD 8.48)	-11.87%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 66.72	(USD 7.67)	-10.31%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,282.06	USD 673.58	25.82%
DSEX	4,995.47	-220.97	-4.24%
S&P 500	5,525.21	-381.73	-6.46%
FTSE 100	8,415.25	294.24	3.62%
BSE SENSEX	79,212.53	1,012.60	1.29%
KSE-100	115,469.35	210.35	0.18%
CSEALL	15,742.04	-202.57	-1.27%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 121.42 BDT****1 GBP = 161.28 BDT****1 Euro = 137.76 BDT****1 INR = 1.42 BDT**

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