

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:**Reliance on indirect taxes to grow in FY27 budget**

- The government is likely to set BDT 6 Tn revenue collection target in the forthcoming national budget, relying on higher indirect taxes. Finance ministry officials said that half of the provisional revenue target would be realised from the value-added tax in FY27. VAT collection target is likely to be over 50% and the rest 38% of the revenue would come from income tax.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/298141/reliance-on-indirect-taxes-to-grow-in-fy27-budget>

Cenbank directs banks to buy dollars max at BDT 122.85, experts criticise this move

- Bangladesh Bank has verbally instructed commercial banks to buy USD from money exchange houses at a maximum rate of BDT 122.85 per US dollar, apparently in efforts to stabilise the foreign exchange market. However, bankers and economists argue that such frequent intervention is not standard market practice.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-directs-banks-buy-dollars-max-tk12285-experts-criticise-move-1423451>

No immediate merger of investment bodies; Bida-PPPA move first

- The committee reviewing the merger of investment agencies in Bangladesh has recommended a phased approach, beginning with the consolidation of the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) and the Public-Private Partnership Authority (PPPA).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/no-immediate-merger-investment-bodies-bida-pppa-move-first-1423401>

UNCTAD sets 5 priority reforms for Bangladesh ahead of LDC graduation

- The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in a report, has identified five key priority reform areas for Bangladesh to strengthen its investment climate, enhance competitiveness, and support sustainable, investment-led growth in the years ahead.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/unctad-sets-5-priority-reforms-bangladesh-ahead-ldc-graduation-1423376>

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-trails-regional-peers-attracting-fdi-4162406>

Rising global protectionism may delay Bangladesh's LDC graduation

- Rising global protectionism and trade fragmentation could slow economic progress across the wider developing Asia-Pacific region, potentially delaying graduation from least developed country (LDC) status for countries including Bangladesh, according to a new United Nations survey.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/rising-global-protectionism-may-delay-bangladeshs-ldc-graduation-4162271>

Steel makers seek cut in higher duties, taxes on raw material imports

- The Bangladesh Steel Manufacturers Association (BSMA) has proposed reducing advance income tax on raw material imports to BDT 500 from BDT 600, lowering tax deducted at source (TDS) on rod sales to 1% from 2%, cutting turnover tax to 0.5% from 1%, and allowing adjustments of advance income tax.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/steel-makers-seek-cut-higher-duties-taxes-raw-material-imports-1423181>

NBR mulls integrating wealth tax with online return

- The government is considering integrating the upcoming wealth tax with the online tax return system to automatically capture individuals' asset information. Officials say financial assets, such as cash holdings and bank deposits, will be directly reflected in taxpayers' online returns through system integration. Immovable assets, on the other hand, will be assessed based on mouza values set nationwide.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/nbr-mulls-integrating-wealth-tax-with-online-return>

Sectors and Industries:**BANK | Agri credit overdues surge 124% amid asset quality concerns**

- Overdue agricultural credit across all scheduled banks reached BDT 229.15 Bn in February this year, marking a sharp 123.90% increase. This significant rise is partly driven by revised loan classification criteria and climate-induced crop damage.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/agri-credit-overdues-surge-124-amid-asset-quality-concerns-4162176>

Stocks:**BEACONPHAR | Beacon Pharma profit jumps 335% in Jan-Mar**

- Beacon Pharmaceuticals PLC reported a 335% surge in net profit in the January-March quarter of FY26 compared to the same period a year earlier.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/beacon-pharma-profit-jumps-335-jan-mar-1423391>

SIBL | SIBL seeks to break away from Sammilito Islami Bank

- Bangladesh Bank spokesperson said the proposal would be considered in accordance with the law once it is forwarded to the relevant department, adding that it was too early to comment further.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/sibl-seeks-break-away-sammilito-islami-bank-1423351>

ENVOYTEX | Envoy Textiles to invest BDT 1.79 Bn to double yarn output capacity

- Envoy Textiles Limited has announced plans to invest BDT 1.79 Bn to expand its yarn production capacity, aiming to double output at its existing factory as the listed textile maker seeks to strengthen operations despite a recent dip in earnings.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/sibl-seeks-break-away-sammilito-islami-bank-1423351>

RUNNERAUTO | Runner shares slide as sponsor announces full exit

- According to a regulatory filing with the Dhaka Stock Exchange today, Ahmed plans to complete the sale by 30 April through both public and block markets at the prevailing market price.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/runner-shares-slide-sponsor-announces-full-exit-1423321>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 97.49	USD 40.06	69.75%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 109.37	USD 48.52	79.74%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,673.63	USD 332.63	7.66%
DSEX	5,300.57	435.24	8.95%
S&P 500	7,173.91	275.09	3.99%
FTSE 100	10,321.09	389.71	3.92%
BSE SENSEX	77,303.63	-7,489.95	-8.83%
KSE-100	169,497.36	-4,556.94	-2.62%
CSEALL	22,612.31	-12.00	-0.05%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 123.09 BDT****1 GBP = 166.45 BDT****1 Euro = 144.16 BDT****1 INR = 1.30 BDT**

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