

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:**USD 1.6 Bn tough-term loans get govt nod**

- The government has approved five proposals for USD 1.9 Bn in loans from development partners, of which USD 1.6 Bn is non-concessional and USD 1.3 Bn will be set aside as budget support to help tackle urgent financial pressures.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/16b-tough-term-loans-get-govt-nod-1424406>

SME Foundation proposes unified PTR for MSMEs

- The SME Foundation has proposed a comprehensive set of tax, VAT and tariff reforms, including a unified Preferential Tax Regime, to support small and medium enterprises in the upcoming FY27 national budget. Under the proposed PTR, SMEs could receive partial or full tax and VAT exemptions for a certain period on raw material imports, exports, and domestic sales. Lower tax, VAT and duty rates may also be set for several years to enhance competitiveness.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/trade-commerce/298235/sme-foundation-proposes-unified-ptr-for-msmes>

BB forms panel to revive closed factories

- Bangladesh Bank has taken a fresh initiative to reopen factories that have shut down over the past year and a half, aiming to revive production and employment through policy and financial support. According to Bangladesh Bank officials and industry sources, around 300 RMG and other factories/companies have shut down over the past two years. Many of these closures were linked to loan defaults, lack of support from banks, and rising production costs.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/298238/bb-forms-panel-to-revive-closed-factories>

UAE pulls out of OPEC oil cartels citing 'national interests'

- The United Arab Emirates will withdraw from the OPEC and OPEC+ oil cartels to focus on "national interests", it announced on Tuesday, causing fresh shockwaves as energy prices soar over the Middle East war.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/world/uae-pulls-out-of-opec-oil-cartels-citing-national-interests-1777392515>

Crude back above USD 110 on Strait stalemate fears

- Oil prices jumped on Tuesday, climbing back above USD 110 per barrel, amid a lack of progress in re-opening the key Strait of Hormuz. Oil prices rallied, with Brent crude for June delivery rising 2.8% to USD 111.26 a barrel. The benchmark US contract, WTI for June delivery, rose 3.4% to USD 99.62 per barrel.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/power-energy/298231/crude-back-above-110-on-strait-stalemate-fears>

Energy prices expected to surge by 24pc in 2026: World Bank

- Energy prices are expected to surge by 24% in 2026 to their highest level since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine four years ago, if the most acute disruptions caused by the war in the Middle East end in May, the World Bank said on Tuesday.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/energy-prices-expected-to-surge-by-24pc-in-2026-world-bank>

BD urged to speed up reform action

- Bangladesh will move to remove long-standing trade barriers and reform regulatory barriers as part of its own economic necessity, Commerce Minister has said on Tuesday, responding to US calls for faster implementation of the Agreement on Reciprocal Trade (ART).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bd-urged-to-speed-up-reform-action-1777399345>

Govt's heavy bank borrowing to curb private credit: BEA

- A widening revenue shortfall is driving the government toward heavy bank borrowing, raising concerns over tighter credit availability for the private sector and mounting fiscal pressure in the coming years, the Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA) said. BEA estimates that government borrowing from banks may reach around BDT 1.0 Tn in FY26. The amount could rise to BDT 1.1-1.3 Tn in FY27, with the deficit remaining at 4.5-5.0% of GDP.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govts-heavy-bank-borrowing-curb-private-credit-bea-4163196>

Inflation rises to 8.8% in Q3 FY26: Cenbank

- Bangladesh's inflation rose to an average 8.8% YoY in the January-March quarter of FY26, up from 8.3% in the previous quarter, driven mainly by higher food and energy prices.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/inflation-rises-88-q3-fy26-cenbank-1424356>

NBR selects 72,341 tax returns for automated audit

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has selected 72,341 income tax returns for the 2023–24 tax year for automated audit as part of efforts to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in revenue collection.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/nbr-selects-72341-tax-returns-automated-audit-1424351>

2 ships carrying 44,000 tonnes of diesel due at Ctg Port today

- Two ships carrying a total of 44,000 tonnes of diesel from India and China are scheduled to arrive at Chattogram Port today (28 April), as fuel imports continue.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/2-ships-carrying-44000-tonnes-diesel-due-ctg-port-today-1423646>

UK freezes Bangladesh's GBP 250m siphoned-off wealth

- The United Kingdom has frozen over GBP 250 Mn worth of Bangladesh's siphoned-off wealth, in a breakthrough in Dhaka's asset-recovery drive.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/uk-freezes-bangladeshs-250m-siphoned-off-wealth-1777398652>

Sector and Industries:**PHARMA | Eskayef and Novo Nordisk launch local production of modern insulin cartridges**

- Eskayef Pharmaceuticals and Novo Nordisk Bangladesh on Tuesday announced the start of local production of modern insulin cartridges in Bangladesh through technology transfer from Denmark under a contract manufacturing partnership. The partnership aims to strengthen access to high quality diabetes treatment and support the development of Bangladesh's bio-pharmaceutical manufacturing capabilities, according to officials.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/eskayef-and-novo-nordisk-launch-local-production-of-modern-insulin-cartridges-1777394027>

ENERGY | NUCLEAR POWER: Roopur plant begins trial run

- One of the two reactors was on Wednesday loaded with uranium as the multi-billion Roopur Nuclear Power Plant has embarked on the trial production. Under the test run over the next two months, about 100 tests and inspections will be carried out before the reactor will be ready for supplying power to the national grid from the first week of August on a commercial basis. Initially, at least 300 MW power will be supplied to the national grid.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/298253/nuclear-power-roopur-plant-begins-trial-run>

BANK | BB eases incentive bonus rules for bank staff

- Bangladesh Bank has eased rules for banks to award incentive bonuses to staff, provided the institution records an operating profit and a month's basic salary as a bonus in recognition of "special achievements".

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-eases-incentive-bonus-rules-bank-staff-4163171>

CEMENT | Cement makers under strain as war drives up input costs

- Cement manufacturers in the country are under growing pressure as the US-Israel war on Iran disrupts Middle Eastern supply routes, forcing them to import key raw materials, especially clinker, from Asian countries at higher prices. The conflict has also increased freight costs, further raising overall import expenses. At the same time, weak domestic demand is preventing producers from passing on higher costs to consumers, leaving manufacturers squeezed between rising input costs and a fragile market.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/cement-makers-under-strain-war-drives-input-costs-4163166>

Stocks:**OLYMPIC | Olympic Industries profit falls 34% due to higher tax burden**

- Olympic Industries reported a significant 34% decline in net profit for Q3FY26, mainly due to higher taxes and increased raw material costs fueled by geopolitical tensions.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/olympic-industries-profit-falls-34-due-higher-tax-burden-1424376>

IPDC | IPDC Finance posts record 25.39% profit growth

- IPDC Finance PLC recorded a robust 25% year-on-year growth in net profit for the year 2025, navigating persistent macroeconomic challenges through strategic diversification and disciplined cost management.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/corporates/ipdc-finance-posts-unprecedented-2539-profit-growth-1424216>

BATASHOE | Bata profit drops 96% in 2025

- Bata Shoe Company (Bangladesh) Limited reported a dramatic fall in profit for the year ended 31 December 2025, with earnings declining by 96% year-on-year amid sustained business challenges.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bata-profit-drops-96-2025-1424231>

APEXFOOT | Apex Footwear's BDT 6.16 Bn revenue yields just BDT 10 Mn profit amid rising costs, tax pressures

- Apex Footwear PLC reported a staggering turnover of BDT 6.16 Bn during the Q3FY26 yet managed to retain only BDT 10.6 Mn as net profit.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/apex-footwear-revenue-jumps-14-BDT616cr-jan-mar-1423531>

ICB | ICB incurs BDT 5.89 Bn in Jul-Mar as lower capital gains

- Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB), a state-owned non-bank financial institution, has incurred BDT 5.89 Bn consolidated loss in 9MFY26.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/icb-incurs-BDT58872-jul-mar-lower-capital-gains-1424361>

EXCHANGE | CDBL to freeze dormant BO accounts to safeguard investor assets

- The depository authority has decided to designate BO (beneficiary owners') accounts with no transactions for at least one year as dormant, prohibiting any debit of shares or funds from these accounts to safeguard the assets they hold. The number of BO accounts with share balances stood at 1.20 Mn as of Tuesday. More than 0.55 Mn accounts have neither NID numbers nor email addresses submitted, according to CDBL. Information regarding bank accounts has not been updated for more than 50,000 BO accounts.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/cdbl-to-freeze-dormant-bo-accounts-to-safeguard-investor-assets-1777393249>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 100.41	USD 42.98	74.84%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 111.86	USD 51.01	83.83%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,582.52	USD 241.52	5.56%
DSEX	5,308.89	443.56	9.12%
S&P 500	7,138.80	239.98	3.48%
FTSE 100	10,332.79	401.41	4.04%
BSE SENSEX	77,284.48	-7,509.10	-8.86%
KSE-100	168,412.23	-5,642.07	-3.24%
CSEALL	22,620.15	-4.16	-0.02%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.99 BDT

1 GBP = 166.24 BDT

1 Euro = 144.04 BDT

1 INR = 1.29 BDT

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