

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:**No more credit squeeze with tightfisted monetary policy**

- Planning Adviser Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud has said it is time to make a review of the tight monetary policy stance, for the same has not worked as desired. He added that there is no longer much need to control inflation by reducing credit flow through monetary policy by simply increasing interest rates. Inflation will already come down somewhat.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/no-more-credit-squeeze-with-tightfisted-monetary-policy>

MPS declaration deferred over inflation issue

- The announcement of the Monetary Policy Statement (MPS) for H2FY26 scheduled for Thursday has been postponed. According to BB officials concerned, some central bank board members have sought to know the reasons behind the failure of the tight monetary stance to lower inflation.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/mps-declaration-deferred-over-inflation-issue-1769623469>

Treasury bill, bond rates plunge

- Interest rates on government treasury bills and bonds declined in January amid slow government bank borrowing and high liquidity. Bankers said that the recent fall in yields stemmed from lower government borrowing in January, ample liquidity in the banking system and weak private-sector credit demand amid slowing economic activity.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/289549/treasury-bill-bond-rates-plunge>

Taka appreciates with trade implications

- Bangladesh Bank's latest data show the real effective exchange rate (REER) of the taka against the globally losing US dollar climbed to 106.37 in November, remaining almost same with October figure. This REER rise signals that the local currency remains stronger than its equilibrium level.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/taka-appreciates-with-trade-implications-1769623539>

88% of new loans diverted to repayments in H1

- During H1'FY26, for every USD 100 received in foreign loans, USD 88 was used for debt repayment, leaving the country with only a marginal net inflow. According to the latest Foreign Assistance Monthly Report published by the Economic Relations Division (ERD), total aid disbursement stood at USD 2.5 Bn during the period, while debt servicing amounted to USD 2.2 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/foreign-loan-disbursement-falls-30-amid-rising-repayment-obligations-1346436>

Abolish minimum tax, wealth surcharges

- A national tax reform taskforce has recommended abolishing minimum taxes and removing wealth surcharges, saying that minimum taxes on firms are calculated on gross receipts and do not take profit or loss into account. The taskforce also called for scrapping excise duties on bank account and suggested introducing income tax thresholds adjusted for inflation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/abolish-minimum-tax-wealth-surcharges-4092946>

Dollar struggles to recover from losses

- The dollar struggled to bounce back Wednesday following another selloff fuelled by Donald Trump's suggestion he was happy with the currency's recent decline, while tech firms helped most Asian equity markets extend their rally.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/dollar-struggles-recover-losses-4092831>

Sector & Industries:

BANK | Banks seek nod to disclose loan defaulters' photos, lists

- Commercial banks have sought permission from Bangladesh Bank to publish photographs and lists of loan defaulters as part of efforts to recover defaulted loans.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/banks-seek-nod-to-disclose-loan-defaulters-photos-lists>

BANK | Over BDT 161 Bn stuck as BASIC Bank litigations pile up

- More than BDT 161 Bn of BASIC Bank's funds remain locked in 1,230 pending cases, the bulk of which is tied up in money loan courts under the Artha Rin Adalat.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/over-161b-stuck-as-basic-bank-litigations-pile-up>

ENERGY | India's Adani boosts electricity supply to Bangladesh despite souring diplomatic ties

- India's Adani Power is boosting electricity exports to Bangladesh, data from both governments showed, despite worsening bilateral relations and a Bangladesh government-appointed panel calling the supply overpriced. Bangladesh Power Development Board Chairman Rezaul Karim told Reuters. Karim said Bangladesh will also boost coal imports to ramp up domestic coal-fired output this year to make up for gas shortages.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/indias-adani-boosts-electricity-supply-to-bangladesh-despite-souring-diplomatic-ties>

Stocks:

EXCHANGE | Govt orders assessment of CDBL's listing potential

- The finance ministry has instructed the Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd (CDBL) and other relevant stakeholders to assess the company's potential and the appropriate timing for its listing on the stock market. The committee further recommended the removal of floor prices for all securities and ensure that the prices of newly listed securities remain unregulated on the first day of trading.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-orders-assessment-cdbls-listing-potential-4092916>

EXCHANGE | BSEC, UNDP partner to develop sustainable finance, thematic bonds

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Wednesday to foster sustainable finance and develop the thematic bond market in Bangladesh.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-undp-partner-develop-sustainable-finance-thematic-bonds-1346531>

BERGERPBL | Berger Paints' Q3 profit rises 26% on higher sales

- Berger Paints has secured a 26% year-on-year growth in profit to BDT 1.18 Bn in the third quarter through December last year, driven by higher sales amid a reduction in foreign exchange losses.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/berger-paints-q3-profit-rises-26pc-on-higher-sales-1769624895>

POWERGRID | Power Grid profit drops 72% to BDT 1.13 Bn in Oct-Dec

- Power Grid Bangladesh PLC, a state-owned power transmission firm, reported that its net profit dropped by 72% year-on-year to BDT 1.13 Bn in the October-December of FY26.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/power-grid-profit-drops-72-tk113cr-oct-dec-1346491>

BSC | BSC receives new bulk vessel Banglar Nobojatra

- Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) officially received the delivery of its newly purchased bulk vessel MV Banglar Nobojatra on Tuesday. Last year, BSC purchased two bulk carriers with its own funds for the first time. Banglar Nobojatra is the second and final vessel to be delivered.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bsc-receives-new-bulk-vessel-banglar-nobojatra-4092841>

EBL | Eastern Bank launches ‘trade hub’ at Chattogram EPZ

- Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has launched a dedicated “trade hub” at the Chattogram Export Processing Zone (CEPZ), Mirsharai in Chattogram recently to offer specialised trade-related banking services to clients operating in the area.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/eastern-bank-launches-trade-hub-chattogram-epz-4092876>

MPETROLEUM | Meghna Petroleum's Q2 profit down as demand for furnace oil drops

- Meghna Petroleum Limited (MPL) saw a marginal decline of 5.25% in profit to BDT 1.55 Bn in the second quarter of FY26 as furnace oil sales dropped.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/meghna-petroleums-q2-profit-down-as-demand-for-furnace-oil-drops-1769624821>

RUNNERAUTO | Runner slips back into losses in Q2 amid freight delivery disruptions

- Runner Automobiles endured a loss of BDT 14 Mn in the second quarter through December of FY26, due mainly to lower sales in the three-wheeler segment amid temporary supply chain disruption.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/runner-slips-back-into-losses-in-q2-amid-freight-delivery-disruptions-1769624873>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 63.62	USD 6.19	10.78%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 68.76	USD 7.91	13.00%
Gold Spot*	USD 5,505.37	USD 1,164.37	26.82%
DSEX	5,174.40	309.06	6.35%
S&P 500	6,978.04	79.22	1.15%
FTSE 100	10,154.43	223.05	2.25%
BSE SENSEX	82,344.68	-2,448.90	-2.89%
KSE-100	188,380.39	14,326.09	8.23%
CSEALL	23,992.11	1,367.80	6.05%

Exchange Rates
1 US Dollar = 122.19 BDT
1 GBP = 168.63 BDT
1 Euro = 146.12 BDT
1 INR = 1.33 BDT

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