

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:**Oil rises as traders doubt prospects of ceasefire in Iran war**

- Oil prices rose on Friday and notched weekly gains, reflecting scepticism about prospects for a ceasefire in the month-old Iran war. Brent crude futures rose to USD 112.57 a barrel. US West Texas Intermediate futures rose to settle at USD 99.64.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/oil-rises-traders-doubt-prospects-ceasefire-iran-war-4137766>

BD is likely to get USD 250m from ADB soon as budgetary support

- A sum of USD 250 Mn may come soon from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to Bangladesh as budgetary support, officials say. An ADB mission has recently given the green signal to Bangladesh following a spot review of the needs, according to the officials.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-likely-to-get-250m-from-adb-soon-as-budgetary-support-1774633115>

Govt to reprioritise foreign-funded projects in line with election manifesto

- The government is preparing a revised priority list for foreign-funded projects currently under review in the pipeline to align them with the new administration's election manifesto, according to officials at the Economic Relations Division (ERD). ERD initiates reassessment of projects with USD 46 Bn in proposed loans to reflect shifting development goals.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-reprioritise-foreign-funded-projects-line-election-manifesto-1396226>

Oil at \$120 per barrel could add BDT 610 Bn annual burden on Bangladesh

- Researchers at a press briefing on Saturday warned that such a surge could impose an additional annual burden of BDT 610 Bn on the country's economy, raising serious concerns about sustainability, industrial growth, and employment.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/120-oil-could-add-tk-610b-annual-burden-on-bangladesh>

Energy plans strain under budget constraints

- The Energy and Mineral Resources Division has sought an additional BDT 16.30 Bn in the FY2026-27 budget, warning that a funding shortfall could disrupt key projects and weaken the country's energy security efforts. The request comes amid mounting pressure on public finances, as authorities push ahead with ambitious plans to boost domestic gas output and reduce reliance on imports.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/energy-plans-strain-under-budget-constraints-1774718253>

S&P warns of heightened energy vulnerability for Bangladesh

- Bangladesh is facing intensifying energy-related risks with limited policy flexibility, as global supply disruptions and geopolitical tensions constrain its ability to manage shocks, according to a recent report by S&P Global Ratings.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/sp-warns-heightened-energy-vulnerability-bangladesh-4137671>

Bangladesh seeks EU support for LDC graduation deferment

- Bangladesh sought the European Union's (EU) support for deferring its graduation from the group of least developed countries (LDCs).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-seeks-eu-support-ldc-graduation-deferment-4137721>

Investment, savings slide as growth slows

- Bangladesh's investment and savings ratios declined sharply in FY2024-25, reflecting a broader economic slowdown that has pushed GDP growth to its lowest level since the pandemic. Economists warn that the twin decline in investment and savings could have far-reaching consequences for employment, income growth and poverty reduction, raising fresh concerns over the country's macroeconomic stability.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/investment-savings-slide-as-growth-slows-1774718580>

Bangladesh can now export potatoes to Vietnam

- Vietnam has opened its market to potato imports from Bangladesh, creating new opportunities for local exporters and farmers.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-can-now-export-potatoes-vietnam-4137521>

Solar roadmap can slash SME costs up to 50pc

- Bangladesh's SMEs can achieve a 30%-50% reduction in operational costs through decentralised rooftop solar while securing long-term export competitiveness by meeting environmental and natural standards.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/solar-roadmap-can-slash-sme-costs-up-to-50pc-1774714793>

Sector and Industries:**BANK | Defaulted loans rises by 12% in December quarter**

- The share of defaulted loans in the banking sector for loans has risen to over 31% in the past year, as default rate stood at 31.20%, up from 19.90% during the same period the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/defaulted-loans-rises-12-december-quarter-1396286>

BANK | BB injects BDT 682.45 Bn into 12 weak banks

- Bangladesh Bank has so far injected about BDT 682.45 Bn into 12 crisis-hit banks under a special liquidity arrangement. The funds were provided between early 2023 and February 2026, mostly as very short-term loans backed by promissory notes due to a lack of eligible collateral.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/295017/bb-injects-tk-68245cr-into-12-weak-banks>

ENERGY | Lower profit sharing by foreign energy cos may prompt others to follow suit

- Foreign energy companies' mandatory contribution to workers' profit-sharing funds has been reduced from 5% to 1.5% ahead of the elected government assuming power, raising concerns that other firms may follow suit and deprive workers.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/lower-profit-sharing-by-foreign-energy-cos-may-prompt-others-to-follow-suit-1774709655>

TELECOM | Teletalk's 4G push faces scrutiny over overlap with 5G initiative

- State-owned mobile operator Teletalk Bangladesh Limited has proposed three small-scale projects involving a combined cost of BDT 1.40 Bn to expand 4G services to universities, medical colleges, key national highways and remote tourist destinations. However, the Planning Commission officials have noted that a much larger BDT 22.38 Bn project to roll out 5G services nationwide has already been under implementation since 2021.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/teletalks-4g-push-faces-scrutiny-over-overlap-with-5g-initiative>

Stocks:**REGULATOR | ICAB suspends two BSEC-listed auditors over misconduct**

- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) has suspended two audit partners from firms enlisted with the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) over violations of professional standards and misconduct.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/icab-suspends-two-bsec-listed-auditors-over-misconduct-1396161>

REGULATOR | Akij Food gets nod for BDT 5.0 Bn bond

- Akij Food & Beverage Limited, one of the largest beverage conglomerates in Bangladesh, has secured approval from the stock market regulator to issue a BDT 5.0 Bn zero-coupon bond, aiming to repay existing loans and diversify its funding sources. Akij Food & Beverage will raise BDT 3.88 Bn from the capital market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/akij-food-gets-approval-raise-tk500cr-through-bonds-1393731>

EXCHANGE | Investor pullback leaves 23pc BO accounts without shares

- Data from the Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd (CDBL) show that BO accounts with zero share balance surged from 367,423 on December 30, 2025 to 380,297 on March 25, marking an increase of 12,874 such accounts during the period.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/investor-pullback-leaves-23pc-bo-accounts-without-shares-1774629351>

BANKASIA | Bank Asia to acquire Bank Alfalah's Bangladesh operations for \$47.5 Mn

- The shareholders of Pakistan-based Bank Alfalah Limited have approved the sale and transfer of its Bangladesh operations to Dhaka-based Bank Asia Limited for approximately USD 47.5 Mn.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bank-asia-to-acquire-bank-alfalabs-bangladesh-operations-for-475-Mn>

ACI | Hackers demand USD 1.5 Mn ransom in major cyberattack

- In one of the largest corporate cyberattacks in Bangladesh, the country's leading supermarket chain Shwapno has confirmed that its customer database was breached, with hackers demanding a ransom of USD 1.5 Mn. The incident came to light after sensitive customer information-including names, mobile phone numbers and purchase histories-began circulating on social media, raising widespread concern among users.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/hackers-demand-15m-ransom-in-major-cyberattack-1774718341>

ONEBANKPLC | One Bank targets digital growth

- Private commercial ONE Bank plans to expand digital banking and strengthen engagement with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and foreign trade.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/one-bank-targets-digital-growth-4137856>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 99.64	USD 42.21	73.50%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 112.57	USD 51.72	85.00%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,494.09	USD 153.09	3.53%
DSEX	5,316.25	450.91	9.27%
S&P 500	6,368.85	-529.97	-7.68%
FTSE 100	9,967.35	35.97	0.36%
BSE SENSEX	73,583.22	-11,210.36	-13.22%
KSE-100	151,772.70	-22,281.60	-12.80%
CSEALL	21,375.73	-1,248.58	-5.52%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.76 BDT****1 GBP = 162.85 BDT****1 Euro = 141.53 BDT****1 INR = 1.29 BDT**

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