

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:**Policy reforms and political voice key to sustainable growth for MSMEs: Experts**

- The country's Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) urgently need supportive policies, affordable financing, effective market access, and political representation to ensure their sustainable growth, experts said at a discussion event in the capital today (29 June). They said the MSME sector, despite its significant contribution to the economy, has long suffered from neglect. They warned that ignoring the sector could have detrimental long-term consequences for the national economy.

<http://tbsnews.net/economy/policy-reforms-and-political-voice-key-sustainable-growth-msmes-experts-1177011>

Online submission of export-import papers made mandatory

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) made the online submission of export-import related certificates, licences, and permits (CLPs) compulsory from yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/online-submission-export-import-papers-made-mandatory-3929846>

Govt slashes interest rates on savings certificates

- The government has slashed the interest rates on all major National Savings Certificates (NSCs) by 47 to 57 basis points after six months, as part of a move towards a market-driven interest rate system.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-slashes-interest-rates-savings-certificates-3929801>

Over 150 imports to be costlier with 2.0 % AIT

- Over 150 imports, including essentials and capital goods for industries, are set to be costlier with a 2.0% advance income tax levied, businesses said. The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has imposed the AIT on the import of 150 items under nearly 200 HS (Harmonized System) codes, as per the tax-deduction-at-source rules 2025.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/over-150-imports-to-be-costlier-with-20pc-ait-1751392167>

Ctg Port handles record 3.29 Mn containers in FY25

- Chattogram Port, the country's premier seaport, handled a total of 3.29 Mn TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) of containers in the fiscal year 2024-25, marking an increase of 0.13 Mn TEUs compared to the previous year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ctg-port-handles-record-329m-containers-in-fy25-1751388245>

Record 1.7 Mn taxpayers file returns online in FY25

- In a major leap towards digital tax compliance, more than 1.7 Mn taxpayers filed their income tax returns online in the fiscal year 2024-25, which ended on Monday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/record-17m-taxpayers-file-returns-online-in-fy25-1751388544>

Sector & Industries:**TRADE | Container congestion eases at Ctg Port, full recovery expected within a week**

- Container movement at Chattogram Port and its associated inland depots is gradually returning to normal, following the withdrawal of customs officials' pen-down strike and complete shutdown programme that had disrupted cargo operations for weeks. Both import and export operations have resumed, though officials and stakeholders said it may take another week to fully resolve the congestion. Despite the situation, the port reported a new record in container handling in FY25, managing a record 3.3 Mn TEUs – the highest volume since container operations began 48 years ago in 1977. Revenue collection also hit BDT 754.32 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/container-congestion-eases-ctg-port-full-recovery-expected-within-week-1178776>

BANK | Depositors leave troubled banks for stronger rivals

- Depositors, in times of financial uncertainty, usually move their money away from troubled banks to institutions with stronger balance sheets. That is exactly what unfolded in 2024, when 11 banks collectively lost BDT 237 Bn in deposits.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/depositors-leave-troubled-banks-stronger-rivals-3930401>

RMG | Reforms, diversification could supercharge RMG exports

- Bangladesh's readymade garment (RMG) sector could be on the cusp of a transformative leap, with the potential to earn up to USD 94 Bn in annual export earnings by 2029, if the country expands into non-traditional markets and embraces manmade fibre (MMF) production.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/reforms-diversification-could-supercharge-rmg-exports-1751392454>

BANK | May sees below 7% pvt credit growth amid political, banking strains

- Low business confidence amid political uncertainty is slowing private sector loan growth, while rising bad loans in banks are causing a shortage of funds, making it harder for banks to lend. According to the latest Bangladesh Bank report, private sector credit growth stood at 6.95% in May this year – well below the central bank's target of 9.8%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/may-sees-below-7-pvt-credit-growth-amid-political-banking-strains-1178826>

FUEL & POWER | Chevron keen to invest in further exploration of two onshore blocks

- Chevron Bangladesh, a part of the global energy company Chevron, has expressed its keenness to invest in further exploration of two onshore gas blocks - block-11 and block-12 - in the country's gas-rich north-eastern region along with a compression station project.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/chevron-keen-to-invest-in-further-exploration-of-two-onshore-blocks-1751388462>

FUEL & POWER | Eastern Refinery's second unit to be built with govt funding

- The government has finally decided to construct Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL) Unit-2 with state funding, moving away from its earlier plan of seeking foreign investment. Besides, the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) has taken up plans to establish two more refineries in Matarbari and Payra.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/eastern-refinerys-second-unit-be-built-govt-funding-3930126>

Stocks:**BERGERPBL | Berger Paints Bangladesh to invest in packaging sector**

- Berger Paints Bangladesh, the country's leading multinational coatings manufacturer, has decided to expand into the packaging sector by forming a new subsidiary. The decision was approved at a board meeting on 30 June, according to a price-sensitive disclosure published on the company's website. As per the statement, Berger Paints will establish a new company named Jenson and Nicholson Packaging Limited (JNPL). The parent company will invest BDT 51 Mn to acquire a 51% equity stake in JNPL, while its wholly owned subsidiary, Jenson and Nicholson (Bangladesh) Limited, will contribute BDT 49 Mn for the remaining 49% stake.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/berger-paints-bangladesh-invest-packaging-sector-1178766>

FASFIN | FAS Finance sinks deeper into the red

- FAS Finance & Investment offers no good news to investors as the non-bank financial institution (NBFI) reported a bigger loss – BDT 3.19 Bn - for 2024, compared to the year before.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/fas-finance-sinks-deeper-into-the-red-1751388183>

EXCHANGE | Bangladesh equity market 2nd worst in Asia in H1 2025

- Bangladesh's stock market was the second worst performer among Asian frontier markets in the first half of 2025, with the benchmark index sliding and no new listing. Sri Lanka showed the best performance as its equity index had a 13.9% return, while Thailand is at the bottom of the ranking with its index losing more than 22%.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/bangladesh-equity-market-2nd-worst-in-asia-in-h1-2025>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 65.49	(USD 5.94)	-8.32%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 67.15	(USD 7.24)	-9.73%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,339.37	USD 730.89	28.02%
DSEX	4,838.39	-378.05	-7.25%
S&P 500	6,198.05	291.11	4.93%
FTSE 100	8,785.33	664.32	8.18%
BSE SENSEX	83,697.29	5,497.36	7.03%
KSE-100	128,199.43	12,940.43	11.23%
CSEALL	17,996.73	2,052.12	12.87%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.70 BDT****1 GBP = 168.68 BDT****1 Euro = 144.79 BDT****1 INR = 1.43 BDT**

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