

*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:****Govt drafting policy for tax exemptions**

- The interim government of Bangladesh is drafting a tax exemption policy, prohibiting both the government and the National Board of Revenue (NBR) from allowing tax exemptions. The move is aimed at enhancing fiscal discipline and ensuring transparency in the revenue system, according to the tax authority.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-drafting-policy-tax-exemptions-3883501>

**BB wants forex intervention fund before peg shift**

- The Bangladesh Bank plans to create a foreign exchange intervention fund, using its reserves, as it prepares to adopt a crawling peg exchange rate. The fund would help stabilise the dollar market when greater flexibility is introduced. The central bank has asked the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for more time to establish the fund before removing the floor on Net International Reserves (NIR) or switching to the crawling peg, according to a senior official.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bb-wants-forex-intervention-fund-peg-shift-1129811>

**We'll reconsider IMF loan if it stays firm on exchange rate terms: Finance adviser**

- Bangladesh will reassess its participation in the ongoing International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan programme if the attached conditions, particularly on exchange rate liberalisation, prove unfavourable, Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed has said. Speaking to the media after a purchase committee meeting at the Secretariat today (29 April), he made it clear that Bangladesh will not immediately comply with the IMF's demand to fully go for a market-based foreign exchange rate.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/well-reconsider-imf-loan-if-it-stays-firm-exchange-rate-terms-finance-adviser-1129796>

**DEPZ's production to resume at capacity from today as REB ensures uninterrupted power supply**

- The power supply crisis at Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ) has been resolved, with the Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (BREB) stepping in to ensure uninterrupted electricity, said Md Shariful Islam, executive director of DEPZ. He also assured that from today, there will be no electricity related issues at any factory or establishment within the DEPZ.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/depz-resumes-partial-production-palli-bidyut-power-after-gas-cut-power-plant>

**Decision on Bangladesh's next loan tranche likely on 5 May at IMF meeting: NBR chief**

- Bangladesh may receive a decision regarding the next tranche of its IMF loan during a meeting in Washington on 5 May, National Board of Revenue (NBR) Chairman Abdur Rahman Khan said today (29 April). Speaking to reporters after a seminar in Dhaka's Paltan, the NBR chairman said the staff-level meeting will determine whether the loan will be approved, with the final decision expected during the IMF board meeting on 23 May.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/decision-bangladeshs-next-loan-tranche-likely-5-may-imf-meeting-nbr-chief-1129396>

**Sector & Industries:****FUEL & POWER | Govt sets benchmark power tariff for coal-fired plants**

- The government has fixed the power tariff at BDT 8.45 (USD 0.766) per kilowatt-hour for the coal-fired Matarbari 1,200MW Ultra Super Critical Power Plant. The tariff was approved at a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Government Purchases yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-sets-benchmark-power-tariff-coal-fired-plants-3883511>

**Stocks:****MARICO | Marico to pay record annual dividend, driving yield up to over 15%**

- Marico Bangladesh has declared a 1,950% final cash dividend for January-March this year, with which it is going to pay record cash dividends of 3,840% for its latest financial year. Due to the record dividend declaration, the company's dividend yield is set to reach an all-time high of 15.42% for the year through March this year.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/marico-to-pay-record-annual-dividend-driving-yield-up-to-over-15pc>

**SQURPHARMA | Square Pharma posts double-digit growth, earns BDT 57.85 Bn in 9 months**

- Square Pharmaceuticals managed to post double-digit growth in revenue in the first nine months of the ongoing fiscal year. The country's leading drugmaker published unaudited statements for the first three quarters on its website today, saying its revenue stood at BDT 57.85 Bn in July-March, marking 11% year-on-year growth.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/square-pharma-posts-double-digit-growth-earns-tk5785cr-9-months-1129711>

**BSRMLTD | BSRM posts 53% profit growth in Q3**

- Bangladesh Steel Re-Rolling Mills (BSRM) reported a significant increase in profit in the third quarter of fiscal year 2024-25. BSRM's profit rose 53% year-on-year to BDT 2260.2 Mn in the January-March quarter.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bsrm-posts-53-profit-growth-q3-3883471>

**MTB | MTB recommends stock dividend as profit rises 10%**

- Mutual Trust Bank (MTB) saw its profit rise in 2024, driven by steady growth across its operations. The bank has recommended a 10% stock dividend to strengthen its capital base and sustain business expansion. The private commercial lender reported a consolidated profit of BDT 5698.4 Mn for the year ending 31 December 2024, reflecting a 10% increase compared to the previous year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/mtb-recommends-stock-dividend-profit-rises-10-3883466>

**CAPMIBBLMF | CAPM Islamic Mutual Fund incurs BDT 6.2 Mn loss in Jan-Mar**

- CAPM IBBL Islamic Mutual Fund reported a loss of BDT 6.2 Mn for the January–March quarter of the current fiscal year, according to its unaudited financial statement. The loss translates to BDT 0.09 per unit during the three-month period. As of the end of March, the fund's net asset value (NAV) stood at BDT 556.6 Mn based on market price, significantly lower than its NAV of BDT 760.8 Mn calculated on a cost-price basis.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/capm-islamic-mutual-fund-incurs-tk62-lakh-loss-jan-mar-1129791>

**POWERGRID | Power Grid slips back into red in FY25 Q3**

- Power Grid Bangladesh, the state-owned power transmission company, slipped back into the red in the third quarter (Jan–Mar) of this fiscal year, reversing its substantial second-quarter profit due to a sharp rise in finance costs and mounting foreign currency losses. Following the return to losses, Power Grid topped the losers' list on Tuesday as its share price fell by 9.71%, closing at BDT 31.6 per share.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/power-grid-slips-back-red-fy25-q3-1129726>

**TITASGAS | Titas Gas's loss swells in Q3 on higher expenses**

- Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution showed a hefty loss of BDT 2.36 Bn in the third quarter of FY25 despite a 3.4% year-on-year revenue growth. It was unable to generate enough income to cover the cost of producing and delivering the gas. The natural gas distributor's loss per share jumped to BDT 2.39 for January-March this year from BDT 2.14 for the same quarter the year before, according to price sensitive information disclosed on Tuesday.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/titas-gass-loss-swells-in-q3-on-higher-expenses>

**ICB | ICB invests BDT 10 Bn in capital market**

- The Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) has invested BDT 10 Bn in the capital market out of the BDT 30 Bn loan it secured from the government at a low interest rate, according to the state-owned investment bank. The ICB had obtained the loan from Bangladesh Bank, with a sovereign guarantee from the government, to inject into the capital market.

<http://tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/icb-invests-tk1000cr-capital-market-1128891>

**EXCHANGE | BSEC promotes orange bond to improve women's access to finance**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) promotes orange bonds to provide women entrepreneurs, especially those in rural areas, an easy financing solution, remove gender bias, and improve women's living standards, said its officials yesterday. They were addressing a workshop organised by the regulatory body at its office in the capital on orange bonds.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bsec-promotes-orange-bond-improve-womens-access-finance-3882436>

**Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 59.82	(USD 11.61)	-16.25%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 63.69	(USD 10.70)	-14.38%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,307.09	USD 698.61	26.78%
DSEX	4,935.62	-280.83	-5.38%
S&P 500	5,560.83	-346.11	-5.86%
FTSE 100	8,463.46	342.45	4.22%
BSE SENSEX	80,288.38	2,088.45	2.67%
KSE-100	114,872.18	-386.82	-0.34%
CSEALL	15,867.34	-77.27	-0.48%

**Exchange Rates**

**1 US Dollar = 121.42 BDT**

**1 GBP = 162.60 BDT**

**1 Euro = 138.16 BDT**

**1 INR = 1.43 BDT**

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