

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:**BB plans to cut policy rate, experts urge caution**

- The Bangladesh Bank plans to cut policy rate – a major shift from tight monetary policy after the appointment of new governor – aiming to reduce lending rate demanded by the business community. BB Governor has called a Monetary Policy Committee meeting for Wednesday, according to central bank sources. The committee may propose a 50-basis-point cut to the policy rate from the existing 10%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-plans-cut-policy-rate-experts-urge-caution-1374666>

Trump says Iran operation could last a month or longer

- US President has suggested on Monday that war with Iran could last a month or longer.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/whatever-takes-trump-says-iran-operation-last-month-longer-rcna261324>

Bangladesh emerges resilient, growth to pick up gradually: HSBC

- Bangladesh has remained resilient despite recent economic challenges, and growth is expected to stabilise in the coming years, according to HSBC's Chief Asia Economist, Frederic Neumann. Export earnings are projected to grow by 4.1% in 2026, while remittance inflows continue to rise year-on-year. Combined with easing inflation, this trend is expected to support private consumption.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-emerges-resilient-growth-pick-gradually-hsbc-4118761>

Cenbank assures foreign banks of policy continuity under new governor

- The central bank has assured foreign correspondent banks that there will be no policy changes under the new governor and that it will clear USD 150 Mn dues with the five merged banks using government-provided funds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-assures-foreign-banks-policy-continuity-under-new-governor-1375656>

BB chief directs 'Fast Track' recovery of laundered money

- Newly appointed Bangladesh Bank (BB) Governor Md Mostaqur Rahman held a meeting with a consultant from the Stolen Asset Recovery Task Force to accelerate the return of laundered funds.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bb-chief-directs-fast-track-recovery-of-laundered-money>

Financing family card, farm-loan waiver costs BDT 11.4 Bn soon

- Financing new government's flagship schemes family card and farm-loan waiver to cost the exchequer BDT 11.4 Bn immediately. The government has already allocated a lump-sum BDT 400 Mn from the budget. A study by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) estimates that providing family cards to five million rural families with monthly support of BDT 2,000-2,500 would cost the exchequer between BDT 96 Bn and BDT 120 Bn annually.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/financing-family-card-farm-loan-waiver-costs-tk-114b-soon-1772473474>

Startups fetch USD 124 Mn in 2025

- Bangladesh's startup ecosystem experienced a significant leap in drawing investment in 2025 on the back of a major merger-and-acquisition deal of a local company with foreign one. Local startups fetched USD 124 Mn worth of funding through 12 deals during the period, reflecting a three-fold increase over that of USD 42 Mn in 2024.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/startups-fetch-124m-in-2025>

Exports fall 12% in February to USD 3.49 Bn

- Bangladesh's export earnings contracted by 3.15% year-on-year in 8MFY26, dragged down by weak garment shipments and a sharp February slowdown. Merchandise exports from Bangladesh in February fell by 12% year-on-year to USD 3.49 Bn due to a slowdown in garment shipments.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/exports-fall-12-february-349b-4118706>

Sector & Industries:**BANK & INSURANCE | Heads of Sonali Bank, IDRA, and SBC resign citing personal reasons**

- In a significant shake-up of the financial sector, the heads of three major state-linked financial institutions - Sonali Bank, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA), and Shadharan Bima Corporation (SBC) - resigned from their respective posts on Monday.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/heads-of-sonali-bank-idra-and-sbc-resign-citing-personal-reasons>

BANK | Bad loans fall by BDT 872.98 Bn in three months

- Defaulted loans in the banking sector fell to around 31% in Dec'25, down from around 36% three months earlier, following large-scale loan rescheduling under special policy support. At the end of Dec'25, defaulted loans stood at BDT 5.57 Tn compared with BDT 6.45 Tn at the end of September. Bankers said actual cash recovery remained weak. Some banks had to reschedule loans following the central bank's instructions.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bad-loans-fall-tk-87298-crore-three-months-4118961>

RMG | BGMEA halts new dealings with Aditya Birla-linked firm over unpaid USD 426,830 export bill

- Bangladesh's garment exporters' body has instructed its members to suspend new business dealings with an Indian company linked to the Aditya Birla Group after it allegedly failed to clear export dues of USD 426,830 owed to a Bangladeshi manufacturer.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bgmea-halts-new-dealings-aditya-birla-linked-firm-over-unpaid-426830-export-bill-1375496>

ENERGY | Qatar LNG halt fuels Bangladesh supply fears

- Bangladesh's energy security has come under renewed strain as escalating conflict in the Middle East disrupts global oil and gas supply routes, raising fears of shortages and price shocks if the crisis persists. While there is no immediate fuel shortage, officials and energy experts warn that a prolonged conflict could severely affect Bangladesh's import-dependent energy system.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/404562/qatar-Ing-halt-fuels-bangladesh-supply-fears>

ENERGY | Forget Opec+ output hike. Duration of Hormuz disruption is what matters

- The Opec+ decision to lift crude oil output by 206,000 barrels per day (bpd) from April is probably the least consequential decision the group has made in nearly a decade of existence.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/forget-opec-output-hike-duration-hormuz-disruption-what-matters-4119151>

Stocks:
BATBC | BATBC announces decade-low dividend of 30%

- The British American Tobacco Bangladesh Company (BATBC) has announced a 30% cash dividend for its shareholders for 2025, the lowest seen in over 10 years. Its EPS plunged by 67% YoY to BDT 10.81, compared to BDT 32.42 the previous year. However, the company did not provide any reason for such a drop in profit.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/batbc-announces-decade-low-dividend-30-4118901>

REGULATOR | BSEC removes LR Global from six mutual funds to protect investors

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has removed LR Global Bangladesh Asset Management Company Limited as the asset manager of six mutual funds over regulatory violations and alleged mismanagement. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has also initiated a process to cancel the company's registration.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/regulator-brings-lr-global-bangladesh-operations-to-an-end-1772468942>

REGULATOR | Dhaka bourse rallies on speculation over BSEC leadership change

- The Dhaka stock market rebounded sharply on Tuesday, shrugging off a global selloff triggered by escalating tensions in the Middle East, as speculation over a potential change in the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) leadership spurred buying interest among local investors.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-bourse-rallies-speculation-over-bsec-leadership-change-1375571>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 71.87	USD 14.44	25.14%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 78.71	USD 17.86	29.35%
Gold Spot*	USD 5,349.94	USD 1,008.94	23.24%
DSEX	5,534.05	668.71	13.74%
S&P 500	6,881.62	-17.20	-0.25%
FTSE 100	10,780.11	848.73	8.55%
BSE SENSEX	80,238.85	-4,554.73	-5.37%
KSE-100	151,973.00	-22,081.30	-12.69%
CSEALL	23,734.06	1,109.75	4.91%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.41 BDT

1 GBP = 164.08 BDT

1 Euro = 143.16 BDT

1 INR = 1.33 BDT

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