

*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:**

#### **Global energy prices soar as oil, gas production, shipping hit**

- The benchmark Brent crude oil contract gained nearly 8% on Tuesday to above USD 83 per barrel, the highest since July 2024, taking gains since Friday to more than 15%. European gas prices soared as much as 40% before paring gains, adding to a 40% surge on Monday. Sugar, fertiliser and soy prices have all risen too.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/global-energy-prices-soar-as-oil-gas-production-shipping-hit-1772557867>

#### **Factory owners urged to clear arrears in a week**

- The government has directed factory owners to clear all outstanding wages within seven working days to ensure industrial stability ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/factory-owners-urged-clear-arrears-week-4119761>

#### **Special loan facility for February wages of export-oriented industries: BB**

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has allowed banks to provide special term loans to export-oriented industries to help them pay workers' wages for February this year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/special-loan-facility-february-wages-export-oriented-industries-bb-4119606>

#### **Japan EPA won't be effective with domestic bottlenecks, business leaders warn**

- Business leaders have warned that unless existing public and private sector barriers to investment and exports are removed, Bangladesh will not be able to fully utilise the opportunities created by the recently signed Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with Japan. Otherwise, they said, the agreement risks remaining only on paper.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/japan-epa-wont-be-effective-domestic-bottlenecks-business-leaders-warn-1376691>

#### **Iran crisis: Maersk suspends new bookings between Bangladesh, 3 other countries and Gulf region**

- Global logistics and shipping giant Maersk has suspended all new cargo bookings between Bangladesh, along with three other South Asian countries, and select Gulf destinations, citing operational risks arising from the ongoing Iran crisis and wider instability in the Middle East.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/iran-crisis-maersk-suspends-new-bookings-between-bangladesh-3-other-countries-and-gulf>

### **Sector & Industries:**

#### **BANK | Sammilito Islami Bank merger to continue: Governor**

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Md. Mustaqur Rahman on Tuesday affirmed that the operations of Sammilito Islami Bank, formed through the merger of five Shariah-based banks, will continue as planned.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/sammilito-islami-bank-merger-to-continue-governor>

**BANK | BB eases renewal rules for continuous loans until 2027**

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has relaxed rules for the renewal of continuous loans, allowing banks to renew such facilities before they turn non-performing, in a move aimed at supporting businesses amid prevailing economic challenges.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-eases-renewal-rules-continuous-loans-until-2027-4119691>

**BANK | Islamic banks post double-digit asset, investment growth in 2025**

- Islamic banks saw steady growth in deposits, investments and assets in December 2025. Deposits mobilised by the Islamic banking system rose to BDT 4.76 Tn in December 2025, registering a 9.34% YoY growth. Islamic banks' share in total banking sector deposits edged down slightly to 22.39% in December 2025. Total investments increased to BDT 5.85 Tn in December 2025, reflecting an 11.11% rise.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/islamic-banks-post-double-digit-asset-investment-growth-in-2025-1772556238>

**ENERGY | Payra, Rampal won't supply power in summer unless subsidy payments released**

- The Power Division wrote to the finance ministry warning that unless outstanding subsidy payments are released, the two largest coal-fired plants – Rampal's Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant and the Payra Power Plant – will be unable to import fuel and generate electricity. According to BPDB data, approximately BDT 7.0-8.0 Bn in subsidies is required each month for the Rampal and Payra plants. From August 2025 to January this year, subsidy arrears for the two coal-fired plants have accumulated to BDT 47.26 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/payra-rampal-wont-supply-power-summer-unless-subsidy-payments-released-1376701>

**Stocks:****REGULATOR | BSEC approves 'LankaBangla Fixed Income Fund'**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) on Tuesday approved the prospectus of 'LankaBangla Fixed Income Fund,' an open-ended mutual fund, with an initial primary target of BDT 250 Mn.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bsec-approves-lankabangla-fixed-income-fund>

**BRACBANK | BRAC Bank promotes Md. Shaheen Iqbal, Ahmed Rashid Joy to Additional Managing Directors**

- The Board of Directors of BRAC Bank has promoted Md. Shaheen Iqbal, CFA and Ahmed Rashid Joy to Additional Managing Directors (AMDs) effective from March 1, 2026, according to a press release.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/brac-bank-promotes-md-shaheen-iqbal-ahmed-rashid-joy-to-additional-managing-directors>

**PIONEERINS | Pioneer Insurance posts lower profit but declares higher dividends**

- Pioneer Insurance posted a 4.6% lower profit of BDT 446.95 Mn in 2025. The company's EPS shrank to BDT 4.57 in 2025 from BDT 4.79 in 2024. In 2025, it had to pay more claims than in the previous year, which is why profit fell this year, the company said. The Board has recommended a 25% cash and 5% stock dividends.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/pioneer-insurance-posts-lower-profit-but-declares-higher-dividends>

**PTL | Weak demand drags Paramount Textile profit by 19pc**

- Woven fabric manufacturer Paramount Textile reported more than 19% lower profit of BDT 207.78 Mn in Q2'FY26 as its revenue declined amid weaker global demand. EPS fell to BDT 1.16 in Q2'FY26 from BDT 1.44 in Q2'FY25.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/weak-demand-drags-paramount-textile-profit-by-19pc-1772554789>

**Stock and Commodities\***

<b>Index Name</b>	<b>Close Value</b>	<b>Value Change YTD</b>	<b>% Change YTD</b>
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 74.84	USD 17.41	30.32%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 81.77	USD 20.92	34.38%
Gold Spot*	USD 5,175.60	USD 834.60	19.23%
DSEX	5,325.07	459.73	9.45%
S&P 500	6,816.63	-82.19	-1.19%
FTSE 100	10,484.13	552.75	5.57%
BSE SENSEX	80,238.85	-4,554.73	-5.37%
KSE-100	157,132.10	-16,922.20	-9.72%
CSEALL	22,443.38	-180.93	-0.80%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 122.31 BDT****1 GBP = 163.01 BDT****1 Euro = 141.84 BDT****1 INR = 1.32 BDT**

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