

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:**US Treasury chief says 15% global tariff likely implemented this week**

- US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Wednesday that Donald Trump's 15-% global tariff is likely to be rolled out this week, as the president moves to rebuild his trade agenda after a major legal setback.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/us-treasury-chief-says-15-global-tariff-likely-implemented-week-4120816>

Mideast war risks sending global economy into stagflation

- An extended conflict in the Middle East after the US and Israel launched strikes on Iran could trigger global stagflation -- a troublesome blend of high inflation and anaemic growth -- due to spiking oil and gas prices, economists warned.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/mideast-war-risks-sending-global-economy-stagflation-4120111>

Gulf conflict tightens insurance for shippers

- The outbreak of the conflict in the Middle East has seen maritime insurers cancel coverage, adding to the risk shipping companies face.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/gulf-conflict-tightens-insurance-shippers-4120086>

Combined auditing system soon to relieve taxpayers' pain, plug tax evasion

- Taxpayers may soon sigh with relief from the rigours of responding separately to multiple queries from tax and VAT officials as the government's revenue authority is integrating its outmoded auditing system.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/combined-auditing-system-soon-to-relieve-taxpayers-pain-plug-tax-evasion>

Chinese firms pledged USD 1 Bn investment in Bangladesh since Aug 2024: Embassy official

- Song Yang, commercial counsellor of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Bangladesh, has underscored a significant surge in investment commitments to Bangladesh.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/chinese-firms-pledged-nearly-1b-investment-bangladesh-aug-2024-embassy-official-1377326>

No need to be overly concerned over US trade deal: commerce minister

- There is no need to be overly concerned about the US reciprocal trade deal, as the government is regularly monitoring the recent trade agreement with the United States and will take steps to protect national interests, Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir has said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/no-need-be-overly-concerned-over-us-trade-deal-commerce-minister-4120536>

USD 10 oil price rise could add USD 80 Mn to monthly bill

- Bangladesh's monthly import bill could rise by up to USD80 Mn for every USD 10 increase in oil prices, as escalating conflict in the Middle East drives up global energy prices, according to the report prepared by BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Ltd.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/10-oil-price-rise-could-add-80m-monthly-bill-4121086>

Sadiq Ahmed leaves BB's monetary policy committee

- Bangladesh Bank postponed Wednesday's scheduled meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) at a time when Sadiq Ahmed, an economist and member of the committee, said he was leaving the body. Officials of the central bank told that there was a plan to cut the policy rate at the meeting from 10% to 9.50%, however, the meeting was suspended following massive criticism from different quarters.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/sadiq-ahmed-leaves-bbs-monetary-policy-committee-4121066>

Over 4.0m taxpayers file e-returns so far in FY26

- More than 4.0 Mn taxpayers have so far submitted their income-tax returns online for the tax year 2025-26, among them, 50,427 taxpayers have paid a wealth surcharge.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/over-40m-taxpayers-file-e-returns-so-far-in-fy26-1772644862>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | BB pauses dollar purchase to avoid exchange rate volatility as Iran war fallout looms**

- The Bangladesh Bank has decided to pause regular purchase of dollars from banks to keep the market afloat as it sees risk of exchange rate volatility in case the Middle East war prolongs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-pauses-dollar-purchase-avoid-exchange-volatility-iran-war-fallout-looms-1377576>

BANK | Banks' provision shortfall drops to BDT 1.91 Tn

- The banking sector's provision shortfall dropped to BDT 1.91 Tn at the end of December 2025 as defaulted loans declined following large-scale rescheduling ahead of the national election.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/293011/banks-provision-shortfall-drops-to-tk-191-lakh-crore>

MFS | Governor pledges 'smooth' management transition for Nagad

- Bangladesh Bank Governor has assured that the withdrawal of the central bank-appointed administrator from Nagad will be a seamless process, explicitly ruling out the possibility of any unauthorised or "overnight" takeover of the mobile financial service provider.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/governor-pledges-smooth-management-transition-nagad-1377551>

ENERGY | Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant slated for June grid integration

- Electricity from Bangladesh's long-awaited Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant could begin flowing into the national grid by June or early July as the authorities prepare to start loading nuclear fuel into the plant's first unit early next month.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/rooppur-nuclear-power-plant-slated-june-grid-integration-1377596>

ENERGY | Gas rationing begins as ME crisis squeezes supply

- State-run Petrobangla has initiated gas rationing starting Wednesday as the ongoing Middle East crisis begins to pinch Bangladesh's energy supply, officials said. About 50 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) of gas has been cut from power plants, while fertiliser factories have seen a reduction of 140 mmcf. The Energy and Mineral Resources Division has also instructed petrol pump operators to reduce fuel sales by 10% to slow depletion of national reserves.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/gas-rationing-begins-as-me-crisis-squeezes-supply-1772644670>

TRAVEL & LEISURE | Low occupancy, fewer foreign guests strain Dhaka's luxury hotels

- Despite a slight improvement toward the end of the year, Dhaka's luxury hotel industry struggled through much of 2025 amid political uncertainty, economic slowdown and declining foreign tourist arrivals.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/low-occupancy-fewer-foreign-guests-strain-dhakas-luxury-hotels-4121046>

RMG | Chinese firm to invest USD 22 Mn at Bepza Economic Zone

- Adeline Beauty Technology (Bangladesh) Co Ltd, a Chinese company, will invest USD 22 Mn to establish a fashion and beauty products manufacturing factory at the Bepza Economic Zone in Mirsharai, Chattogram.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/chinese-firm-invest-22-million-bepza-economic-zone-4120681>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | Strategic partner's stake row freezes CSE commodity exchange plan**

- The whole process of launching the country's maiden commodity exchange (CX) has come to a halt as the shareholding status of the strategic partner, ABG Ltd., a company of Bashundhara Group, crossed the maximum 25% threshold. Seven companies have already applied for licences to operate as commodity brokers at the CX to be launched by the CSE. They have completed the basic infrastructure needed for operations, and the CSE has sought regulatory approval for the commodities to be traded at the CX.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/strategic-partners-stake-row-freezes-cse-commodity-exchange-plan-1772639740>

CITYBANK | City Bank PLC joins the United Nations Principles for Responsible Banking

- City Bank PLC has signed the UN Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB) and became a member of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), a press release says.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/banks/404685/city-bank-joins-un-principles-for-responsible>

PRIMEFIN | Auditor red-flags Prime Finance over losses, capital deficit

- The auditor has raised a red flag over the continuation of business of Prime Finance & Investment as the company has been suffering losses for three years and has reported negative retained earnings since 2015. The company's total classified loans stood at BDT 7.66 Bn, which was 67.90% of its outstanding loans as of December 2023.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/auditor-red-flags-prime-finance-over-losses-capital-deficit-1772641261>

DACCADYE | Dacca Dyeing sinks deeper into crisis as half-year loss hits BDT 3720 Mn

- Dacca Dyeing and Manufacturing Company Ltd is facing a deepening financial crisis that has cast serious doubt over its ability to continue as a going concern, according to its latest audited financial statements.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dacca-dyeing-sinks-deeper-crisis-half-year-loss-hits-tk372cr-1377521>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 76.62	USD 19.19	33.41%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 83.06	USD 22.21	36.50%
Gold Spot*	USD 5,174.36	USD 833.36	19.20%
DSEX	5,323.03	457.69	9.41%
S&P 500	6,869.50	-29.32	-0.43%
FTSE 100	10,567.65	636.27	6.41%
BSE SENSEX	79,116.19	-5,677.39	-6.70%
KSE-100	155,777.20	-18,277.10	-10.50%
CSEALL	22,577.41	-46.90	-0.21%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.20 BDT****1 GBP = 163.39 BDT****1 Euro = 142.13 BDT****1 INR = 1.32 BDT**

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