

Weekly Market Update

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+3.16%) gained 165.56 points and closed the week at 5,399.94 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+2.85%) gained 57.10 points and stood at 2,058.95 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+2.32%) gained 24.84 points and stood at 1,096.97 points. The large cap index CDSET (+2.60%) gained 28.76 points and closed at 1,134.62 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of +10.99%, +11.08%, +9.62%, +12.92%, respectively.

Total Turnover During The Week (DSE): BDT 19.1 billion (USD 157 million)

Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 6.4 billion (Δ Week: -4.5%)

Market P/E: 15.6x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed three sessions this week. It started negatively on Sunday (-0.10%) but turned and remained positive on Monday (+1.58%) and Tuesday (+1.66%).

Sectoral Performance

All the financial sectors posted positive performance this week. NBFIL booked the highest gain of 6.23% followed by Bank (+3.54%), Mutual Fund (+3.13%), General Insurance (+2.56%), and Life Insurance (+2.01%).

All the non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted positive performance this week. Fuel & Power booked the highest gain of 3.06% followed by Food & Allied (+2.64%), Pharmaceutical (+2.26%), Telecommunication (+1.89%), and Engineering (+1.50%).

Macroeconomic Arena

US to lower tariff for Bangladesh from 20% to 19%. Reserves cross USD 29 Bn under IMF method. BB keeps policy rate at 10% due to unmet inflation target, excessive govt borrowing. BB buys USD 209 Mn more to stabilise forex market. Treasury-bill yields ease on liquidity glut. Japan EPA to cost Bangladesh BDT 200 Mn annually. Major shift from roads to rail, water targeted by 2040. Next govt must front-load economic reforms within first two years: Economists. BB to announce monetary policy today, policy rate set to stay at 10%. TEXTILE | Govt, exporters, textile millers agree to boost incentives. RMG | RMG exports to non-traditional markets dip nearly 5%. BANK | Students can now open bank accounts until 25, enjoy credit cards. BANK | Banks sign NDAs with global consortiums to sue absconding money launderers

BANK | Housing loan rescheduling rules relaxed. BANK | BB extends BDT 20 Bn refinance scheme for shipbuilding by December. MFS | BB limits P2P MFS to BDT 1000 per transaction, suspends internet banking from 9-12 Feb. ENERGY | Energy Advisor Fouzul says final decisions on power, energy sector graft left to next government. AVIATION | 14 Boeing planes at BDT 300-350 Bn: Interim govt eyes long-term deal. Govt to seal US trade deal on Monday to reduce tariff. Food grain imports surge 42% in first half of FY26. ADB may provide USD 300 Mn in 2nd tranche for delayed Dhaka-Sylhet highway. Bangladesh Bank buys another USD 196 Mn from commercial banks.

Stock Market Arena

EXCHANGE | Regulator plans crackdown on non-compliant sponsor-directors. BRACBANK | BRAC Bank rolls out Google Pay for Visa credit cards. LHB | LafargeHolcim unveils high-performance concrete product Powercrete. EBL, CITYGENINS | EBL signs bancassurance agreement with City Insurance. MTB | MTB board approves plan to raise BDT 3.46 Bn in Tier-I Capital. EBL | StanChart, Eastern Bank partner to boost export financing. TRUSTBANK | Trust Bank signs MoU with Sheba.xyz to launch digital nano loan. BSC | Bangladesh to buy four vessels from China at BDT 24.86 Bn. GENEXIL, CITYBANK | Genex Infosys director to transfer 3 Mn shares to City Bank. ASIATICLAB | Asiatic Labs' half-year profit surpasses FY25 earnings. NRBCBANK | NRBC Bank contributes BDT 70.5 Mn to startup investment fund. FORTUNE | FID seeks list of ICB employees involved. KAY&QUE | Starlink deal opens new revenue stream for Kay & Que.

DSEX ended in Green (+3.16%) in the week

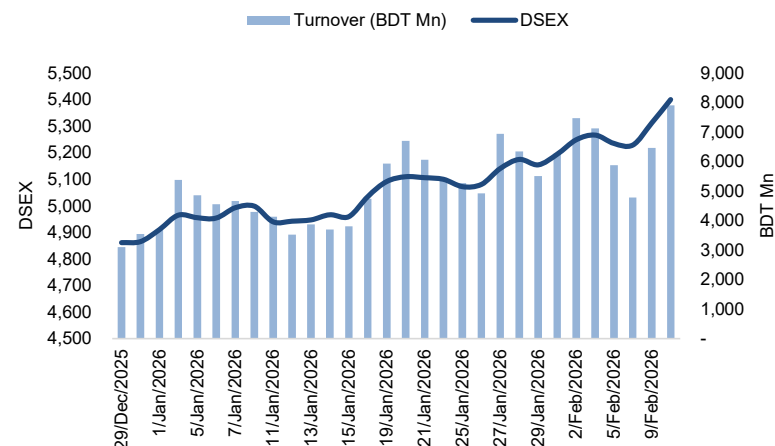
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2025	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,399.94	5,234.38	+165.56	4,865.34	3.16%	10.99%
DS30	2,058.95	2,001.85	+57.10	1,853.54	2.85%	11.08%
DSES	1,096.97	1,072.13	+24.84	1,000.72	2.32%	9.62%
CDSET	1,134.62	1,105.86	+28.76	1,004.81	2.60%	12.92%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	7,089,772	6,995,578	1.35%
	Mn USD	57,956	57,186	
Turnover	Mn BDT	19,149	26,727	-28.35%
	Mn USD	157	218	
Average Daily	Mn BDT	6,383	6,682	-4.47%
	Mn USD	52	55	
Volume	Mn Shares	765	899	-14.86%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in Last Four Weeks



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Table 3: Top Ten Gainers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
PLFSL	1.2	0.9	+37.9%	343	8.2	NM	NM
ILFSL	1.2	0.9	+37.9%	266	2.1	NM	NM
FASFIN	1.2	0.9	+36.4%	179	2.7	NM	NM
PREMIERLEA	1.1	0.8	+31.0%	146	1.5	NM	NM
GSPFINANCE	3.6	2.8	+28.6%	565	20.6	NM	NM
FAREASTFIN	1.1	0.9	+27.9%	180	1.5	NM	NM
BIFC	2.8	2.2	+27.3%	282	0.5	NM	NM
BAYLEASING	4.8	3.8	+26.3%	676	10.5	NM	NM
FIRSTFIN	4.0	3.2	+25.0%	474	6.4	NM	NM
UNIONCAP	4.5	3.6	+25.0%	777	15.7	NM	NM

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
MEGCONMILK	25.4	28.5	-10.9%	406	24.3	NM	NM
DBH1STMF	4.6	5.1	-9.8%	552	48.4	NM	0.5x
MEGHNAPET	24.2	26.4	-8.3%	290	4.8	NM	0.3x
RELIANCE1	13.2	14.0	-5.7%	799	106.0	NM	1.2x
NFML	14.0	14.7	-4.8%	1,307	39.4	51.9x	1.3x
CAPMIBBLMF	8.1	8.5	-4.7%	542	6.7	NM	0.9x
ICB3RDNRB	4.2	4.4	-4.5%	420	0.5	NM	0.8x
SHURWID	5.1	5.3	-3.8%	293	2.3	NM	0.4x
MERCINS	24.3	25.0	-2.8%	1,047	1.9	12.9x	1.4x
PRIME1ICBA	4.6	4.7	-2.1%	460	1.6	NM	0.8x

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
SIMTEX	25.1	22.6	+11.1%	1,998	623.7	23.0x	1.1x
ASIATICLAB	68.4	64.5	+6.0%	8,372	608.8	18.4x	1.2x
BRACBANK	78.6	75.5	+4.1%	156,487	551.0	10.0x	1.5x
ISLAMIBANK	52.1	52.7	-1.1%	83,881	496.2	NM	1.2x
DHAKABANK	13.5	12.5	+8.0%	14,269	440.2	15.5x	0.6x
MONNOFABR	22.3	20.8	+7.2%	2,565	364.1	NM	0.9x
SOURPHARMA	221.0	219.8	+0.5%	195,906	357.9	7.6x	1.4x
KAY&QUE	432.7	399.1	+8.4%	3,026	348.0	31.6x	4.0x
BSC	114.3	112.9	+1.2%	17,435	346.9	5.8x	1.0x
CITYBANK	27.0	26.2	+3.1%	41,073	322.9	3.1x	0.7x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
ISLAMIBANK	52.1	+58.8%	83,881	NM	1.2x
POWERGRID	33.5	+25.5%	30,613	24.5x	0.2x
CONFIDCEM	61.3	+24.6%	5,287	5.1x	0.6x
BRACBANK	78.6	+24.6%	156,487	10.0x	1.5x
RENATA	470.7	+20.1%	53,988	21.3x	1.5x
BXPBARMA	121.6	+19.1%	54,247	8.5x	1.1x
PRIMEBANK	34.1	+18.8%	39,576	4.5x	0.9x
BARKAPOWER	7.9	+17.9%	1,860	7.4x	0.3x
BSRMSTEEL	73.5	+16.5%	27,633	5.2x	0.8x
ACTIVEFINE	6.4	+16.4%	1,536	NM	0.3x

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,630.9	1,575.2	1,367.20	+3.54%	+19.29%
NBFI	968.5	911.7	860.23	+6.23%	+12.58%
Mutual Fund	507.7	492.2	478.27	+3.13%	+6.14%
General Insurance	3,195.7	3,115.9	2,879.11	+2.56%	+11.00%
Life Insurance	1,934.2	1,896.1	1,691.42	+2.01%	+14.35%
Telecommunication	4,669.7	4,583.0	4,431.51	+1.89%	+5.37%
Pharmaceutical	3,049.9	2,982.7	2,764.29	+2.26%	+10.33%
Fuel & Power	1,077.7	1,045.7	996.11	+3.06%	+8.19%
Cement	1,964.7	1,910.0	1,739.18	+2.86%	+12.97%
Services & Real Estate	972.6	939.5	949.82	+3.52%	+2.40%
Engineering	2,497.2	2,460.2	2,290.78	+1.50%	+9.01%
Food & Allied	13,978.8	13,619.1	12,942.72	+2.64%	+8.01%
IT	1,774.2	1,721.3	1,703.25	+3.07%	+4.17%
Textile	1,100.6	1,044.2	1,060.76	+5.41%	+3.76%
Paper & Printing	4,569.9	4,428.5	4,485.61	+3.19%	+1.88%
Tannery	1,891.7	1,874.6	1,806.05	+0.91%	+4.74%
Jute	11,649.2	11,453.2	11,805.57	+1.71%	-1.32%
Ceramics	392.7	387.3	370.10	+1.40%	+6.12%
Miscellaneous	3,964.6	3,945.6	3,881.56	+0.48%	+2.14%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	1,263.1	1,296.9	-2.61%	+20.50%	10.8x	0.8x
NBFI	177.6	139.3	+27.47%	+2.88%	NM	1.0x
Mutual Fund	126.8	127.7	-0.66%	+2.06%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	422.7	569.1	-25.72%	+6.86%	15.1x	1.3x
Life Insurance	213.8	368.7	-41.99%	+3.47%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	148.4	166.6	-10.93%	+2.41%	13.3x	3.9x
Pharmaceutical	921.4	959.2	-3.94%	+14.96%	12.1x	1.5x
Fuel & Power	272.9	339.6	-19.63%	+4.43%	9.7x	0.6x
Cement	86.6	122.7	-29.43%	+1.41%	23.2x	2.1x
Services & Real Estate	89.6	147.8	-39.39%	+1.45%	17.7x	0.4x
Engineering	507.8	519.1	-2.16%	+8.24%	15.8x	0.8x
Food & Allied	388.3	413.1	-6.00%	+6.30%	20.4x	3.8x
IT	130.8	167.0	-21.71%	+2.12%	26.3x	1.4x
Textile	904.7	610.7	+48.14%	+14.69%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	117.0	120.9	-3.23%	+1.90%	NM	1.2x
Tannery	37.8	51.3	-26.38%	+0.61%	NM	1.3x
Jute	15.3	16.4	-6.48%	+0.25%	NM	NM
Ceramics	69.7	39.6	+75.97%	+1.13%	NM	1.2x
Miscellaneous	265.9	287.4	-7.45%	+4.32%	89.7x	1.7x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
RUNNERAUTO	33.3	-9.3%	3,781	21.8x	0.5x
UCB	10.1	-2.9%	15,659	NM	0.4x
IFADAUTOS	21.0	-2.8%	5,633	NM	0.6x
BBSCABLES	14.9	-2.0%	3,154	NM	0.6x
ESQUIRENIT	20.1	-1.0%	2,711	NM	0.3x
MJLBD	92.0	+1.7%	29,141	10.7x	1.7x
GPHISPAT	16.3	+1.9%	7,887	85.8x	0.3x
UNIQUEHRL	39.1	+2.4%	11,511	6.6x	0.4x
SQUARETEXT	49.8	+2.7%	9,823	9.5x	0.9x
DOREENPWR	28.6	+2.9%	5,180	6.8x	0.5x

*BDT

*BDT Mn

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

US to lower tariff for Bangladesh from 20% to 19%

- The reciprocal tariff for Bangladesh to the USA has been marginally lowered at 19%. USA has granted duty-free or lower duty access to 2,500 Bangladeshi products, including pharmaceutical products, fisheries, particle board, and all kinds of food items. Bangladesh allowed 4,400 American products either duty-free or at lower duty. Garment items made from imported American cotton are allowed zero duty on export to the USA.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/us-lower-tariff-bangladesh-20-19-4102306>

Reserves cross USD 29 Bn under IMF method

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves crossed USD 29 Bn for the first time since the central bank began calculating the stock in line with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) method.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/reserves-cross-29b-under-imf-method-4102381>

BB keeps policy rate at 10% due to unmet inflation target, excessive govt borrowing

- Bangladesh Bank has continued a tight monetary stance as it sees several near-term inflation risks including upcoming national elections, Ramadan and implementation of a new national pay scale for government employees.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bb-unveils-monetary-policy-second-half-fy26-keeping-policy-rate-unchanged-10-1355671>

BB buys USD 209 Mn more to stabilise forex market

- Bangladesh Bank purchased USD 209 Mn from 19 commercial banks at a rate of BDT 122.30 on February 09.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-buys-209m-more-stabilise-forex-market-1356621>

Treasury-bill yields ease on liquidity glut

- Yields on treasury bills (T-bills) fell on Sunday as banks channelled excess liquidity into risk-free government securities amid subdued private sector credit demand ahead of the national polls.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/treasury-bill-yields-ease-on-liquidity-glut>

Japan EPA to cost Bangladesh BDT 200 Mn annually

- The newly signed Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with Japan will cost Bangladesh less than BDT 200 Mn annually in forgone import duties on Japanese goods, while potentially delivering substantial benefits through expanded exports and labour mobility to the world's fifth-largest economy.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/japan-epa-cost-bangladesh-tk-20cr-annually-4102371>

Major shift from roads to rail, water targeted by 2040

- A multimodal transportation plan has been finalised to guide all related agencies in implementing future infrastructure development projects aimed at improved connectivity for both passengers and freight. The plan is expected to reduce the modal share of roads by 65%, as well as increase the railway share by 20% and waterway by 15%, by 2040.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/major-shift-from-roads-to-rail-water-targeted-by-2040-1770657124>

Next govt must front-load economic reforms within first two years:

Economists

- The next elected government must prioritise bold economic reforms starting from its very first day in office to sustain macroeconomic stability and reignite growth momentum, economists and policy analysts have said.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/next-govt-must-front-load-economic-reforms-within-first-two-years-economists-1356836>

BB to announce monetary policy today, policy rate set to stay at 10%

- Bangladesh Bank is set to announce its latest monetary policy today, with the policy repo rate expected to remain unchanged at 10% as inflation continues to stay well above the central bank's target. The policy will be unveiled at 11am by Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur and will cover the six-month period from January to June. A BB official said that a rate cut could be considered in the next policy cycle if inflation shows a sustained decline.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-announce-monetary-policy-today-policy-rate-set-stay-10-1355571>

TEXTILE | Govt, exporters, textile millers agree to boost incentives

- Government officials, readymade garment (RMG) exporters and textile millers have reached a consensus, increasing the incentive for using local yarn to between 3.5%-5.0% from the existing 1.5%. Industry representatives also sought a 1.0% cash incentive for apparel exporters to help them remain competitive in the global market.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/govt-exporters-textile-millers-agree-to-boost-incentives-1770655877>

RMG | RMG exports to non-traditional markets dip nearly 5%

- Garment exports to non-traditional markets decreased by 4.99% YoY to USD 3.77 Bn in the 7MFY26 due to weaker demand for apparel items, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rmg-exports-non-traditional-markets-dip-nearly-5-4102161>

BANK | Students can now open bank accounts until 25, enjoy credit cards

- Bangladesh Bank has raised the age limit for opening a 'Student Banking' account to 25 years, which was previously under 18 years of age, also previously known as 'School Banking'. Customers of Student Banking will also be able to obtain credit cards and loans are provided to students would carry the maximum interest rate of 7%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/students-can-now-open-bank-accounts-until-25-enjoy-credit-cards-1356781>

BANK | Banks sign NDAs with global consortiums to sue absconding money launderers abroad

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) Governor said commercial banks have signed nondisclosure agreements (NDAs) with 12 global consortiums to file civil suits against absconding money launderers in foreign countries.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/banks-sign-ndas-with-global-consortiums-to-sue-absconding-money-launderers-abroad-bb-governor>

BANK | Moody's maintains negative outlook on banking sector

- Bangladesh's banking sector is facing mounting strains as weak growth, high inflation, and political uncertainty weigh on lenders' balance sheets, said Moody's, a leading global credit ratings and research agency.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/moodys-maintains-negative-outlook-banking-sector-4102391>

BANK | BB plans collateral audits in fraud crackdown

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) plans to directly inspect properties offered as collateral for loans exceeding BDT 500 Mn as BB Governor intensifies efforts to root out fraud and restore discipline to the crisis-hit banking sector.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-plans-collateral-audits-fraud-crackdown-4102376>

TOBACCO | Govt stops tobacco cultivation in Halda river basin

- The interim government has completely halted tobacco cultivation this year in Halda river basin area.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-stops-tobacco-cultivation-halda-river-basin-4102301>

INSURANCE | Move to equip IDRA with 'search and seizing' power

- The government has moved to give the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) 'search and seizing' powers in a bid to curb fraudulence, malpractice and irregularities in the insurance sector. The proposed amendments to the existing law have been put forward to the Ministry of Finance for the next course of action. At present, IDRA can request information from insurance companies or send inspection teams.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/move-to-equip-idra-with-search-and-seizing-power-1770655816>

Food prices push up Jan inflation to 8.58pc

- Point-to-point inflation rose to 8.58% in January, up from 8.49% in December, driven largely by a sharp rise in food prices. Food inflation in January was 8.29%, up from December's 7.71%, while non-food inflation eased to 8.81%, down from December's 9.13%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/food-prices-push-up-jan-inflation-to-858pc-1770573684>

January PMI signals slowdown in economic momentum

- Bangladesh's economy may have expanded at its slowest pace in January 2026 compared to the last seven months, as the latest Bangladesh Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) showed a marginal easing in momentum amid softer manufacturing exports.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/january-pmi-signals-slowdown-economic-momentum-4101426>

DP World deal put on hold, but port protesters refuse to budge until cancelled

- The interim government today (8 February) announced that the controversial deal to lease the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) to UAE-based DP World would not be signed during its tenure, yet port workers have refused to budge, insisting their indefinite strike will continue until the proposal is cancelled entirely.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/dp-world-deal-put-hold-port-protesters-refuse-budge-until-cancelled-1355436>

BANK | Housing loan rescheduling rules relaxed

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Sunday issued revised guidelines for rescheduling housing loans, significantly easing previous time-bound restrictions to better support borrower repayment capacity. Previously, housing loans under BDT 1.0 Bn were restricted to a maximum rescheduling period of six years.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/housing-loan-rescheduling-rules-relaxed-1770574309>

BANK | BB extends BDT 20 Bn refinance scheme for shipbuilding by December

- Bangladesh Bank has extended its BDT 20 Bn refinance scheme for the shipbuilding sector until December 2026, aiming to support industry expansion and boost export earnings.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-extends-tk2000cr-refinance-scheme-shipbuilding-december-1355481>

MFS | BB limits P2P MFS to BDT 1000 per transaction, suspends internet banking from 9-12 Feb

- Bangladesh Bank has issued a series of directives to restrict Mobile Financial Services (MFS) and Peer-to-Peer (P2P) transactions for a 96-hour period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh-election-2026/national-polls-bb-limits-p2p-mfs-tk1000-transaction-suspends-internet>

ENERGY | Energy Advisor Fouzul says final decisions on power, energy sector graft left to next government

- Energy Advisor has said the interim government has sent documents and information on corruption in the power and energy sector to the relevant authorities, leaving final decisions on the matter to the next government.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/energy-advisor-fouzul-says-final-decisions-on-power-energy-sector-graft-left-to-next-government>

AVIATION | 14 Boeing planes at BDT 300-350 Bn: Interim govt eyes long-term deal

- The government is going to sign a deal with Boeing to purchase 14 planes valued at around BDT 300-350 Bn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/aviation/news/14-boeing-planes-tk-30000-35000cr-interim-govt-eyes-long-term-deal-4101161>

Govt to seal US trade deal on Monday to reduce tariff

- Bangladesh is scheduled to sign a trade agreement with the United States on Monday aimed at reducing reciprocal tariffs, with commitments to import more American goods to narrow a trade imbalance heavily favouring Bangladesh. Under the proposed agreement, the US will not levy tariffs on garment items made from American raw materials such as cotton and exported to American markets, according to Commerce Secretary.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-seal-us-trade-deal-monday-reduce-tariff-4100416>

Food grain imports surge 42% in first half of FY26

- Bangladesh's food grain imports surged 42% year-on-year to 4.2 Mn tonnes in H1FY26 owing to higher imports, particularly by the private sector.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/food-grain-imports-surge-42-first-half-fy26-4099301>

ADB may provide USD 300 Mn in 2nd tranche for delayed Dhaka-Sylhet highway

- The USD 2.69 Bn road project has faced prolonged delays and is now scheduled for completion in December 2026, though meeting the deadline appears increasingly unlikely.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/adb-may-provide-300m-in-2nd-tranche-for-delayed-dhaka-sylhet-highway>

Bangladesh Bank buys another USD 196 Mn from commercial banks

- Bangladesh Bank purchased USD 196.50 Mn from 16 commercial banks on February 05, continuing its efforts to stabilise the foreign exchange market and support remittances and exports.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-bank-buys-another-196m-commercial-banks-1352906>

Business leaders warn economic fallout, urge CA Yunus' intervention as Ctg Port crisis deepens

- Major business associations have appealed to Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus for urgent personal intervention to defuse the escalating crisis at Chattogram Port, warning that an indefinite strike planned from tomorrow could trigger severe economic fallout just four days before the national election.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/business-leaders-warn-economic-fallout-urge-ca-yunus-intervention-ctg-port-crisis-deepens>

Cash outside banks surges ahead of national polls

- Bangladesh Bank data showed that currency outside banks rose by BDT 410 Bn within two months, reaching BDT 3.10 Tn at the end of January from BDT 2.69 Tn in November last year. Bankers said that election-related spending played a major role, as candidates increasingly relied on cash to meet campaign expenses. Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit on January 11 instructed to submit cash transaction reports for any deposit or withdrawal of BDT 1.0 Mn or more in a single day.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/290297/cash-outside-banks-surges-ahead-of-national-polls>

BANK | BB rolls out BDT 225 Bn refinancing for CMSMEs

- Bangladesh Bank has launched three refinancing facilities totalling BDT 225 Bn to expand low-cost credit for micro, small and medium enterprises, aiming to support industrial growth, boost investment and create jobs. All three facilities will be financed from Bangladesh Bank's own funds. BB has capped the customer-level interest or profit rate at 7%, while provide refinancing to participating banks and finance companies at 1%-2%.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/290512/bb-rolls-out-tk-22500-crore-refinancing-for-cmsmes>

ENERGY | Energy giants' tax arrears hit revenue drive, expose deep governance gap

- State-owned energy giants BPC and Petrobangla have accumulated over BDT 330 Bn in unpaid import duties and taxes, The mounting arrears have raised serious concerns within the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and highlighting deeper weaknesses in financial discipline and governance within the energy sector.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/energy-giants-tax-arrears-hit-revenue-drive-expose-deep-governance-gap-1770484578>

BANK | Ministry defers BB law reform, leaves it to elected govt

- The finance ministry has halted proposed amendments to the Bangladesh Bank Order of 1972, describing the changes as politically sensitive and leaving the final decision to a future elected government, officials said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/ministry-defers-bb-law-reform-leaves-it-to-elected-govt-1770483955>

PHARMACEUTICALS | Allergy drugs emerge as Bangladesh's fastest-growing pharma category

- Sales of prescription allergy drugs have surged more than any other types of medicine since the Covid-19 pandemic. Revenues from these drugs climbed to around BDT 12 Bn in the first nine months of last year, a 72% rise from the same period of 2021, according to IQVIA.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/allergy-drugs-emerge-bangladeshs-fastest-growing-pharma-category-4100501>

TELECOMMUNICATION | BTRC seeks legal advice as GP, Robi want arbitration

- Bangladesh's telecom regulator is seeking legal advice on arbitration proposals from the country's two largest mobile operators to resolve a dispute over BDT 134.47 Bn in audit claims.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/btrc-seeks-legal-advice-gp-robi-want-arbitration-4099286>

INSURANCE | IDRA pushes deep reforms to strengthen insurance sector

- As part of the reform drive, IDRA has initiated amendments to three existing laws - the Insurance Act 2010, the IDRA Act and the Insurance Corporations Act 2019. At the same time, proposals have been made for three new laws: the Insurers Resolution Act, the Actuaries Act and the Chartered Insurance Institute Act.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/idra-pushes-deep-reforms-to-strengthen-insurance-sector-1770481387>

ENERGY | Govt cuts VAT, tax to ease local LPG supply

- The council of advisers on Thursday approved a proposal to waive the 7.5% VAT and 2.0% advance tax existing on LPG at the local production and trading stages while retaining only a 7.5% VAT at the import stage.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/Power-Energy/290306/govt-cuts-vat-tax-to-ease-local-lpg-supply>

Important News: Stocks

EXCHANGE | Regulator plans crackdown on non-compliant sponsor-directors

- The securities regulator is set to take tough action against sponsor-directors who have yet to meet the minimum requirement of holding a 30 per cent joint stake in their listed companies. Currently, 35 listed entities remain non-compliant with the joint shareholding requirement of sponsor-directors, which was 23 back in August 2024.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/regulator-plans-crackdown-on-non-compliant-sponsor-directors-1770655578>

BRACBANK | BRAC Bank rolls out Google Pay for Visa credit cards

- BRAC Bank PLC has launched Google Pay for its Visa credit cardholders, allowing customers to make fast, secure and contactless payments using Android smartphones at home and abroad.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/brac-bank-rolls-out-google-pay-visa-credit-cards-4102336>

LHB | LafargeHolcim unveils high-performance concrete product Powercrete

- LafargeHolcim Bangladesh has launched "Powercrete", a specialised high-performance product designed for the ready-mix concrete (RMX) segment. Meanwhile, LafargeHolcim secured an impressive 36% year-on-year growth in profit to BDT 1.20 Bn in the third quarter through September last year, driven by higher sales of premium products and aggregates.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/lafargeholcim-unveils-high-performance-concrete-product-powercrete-1770569491>

EBL, CITYGENINS | EBL signs bancassurance agreement with City Insurance

- Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) has signed a bancassurance agreement with City Insurance PLC to expand customer access to innovative insurance solutions through EBL's extensive banking network across the country.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/eb-signs-bancassurance-agreement-with-city-insurance-1770655955>

MTB | MTB board approves plan to raise BDT 3.46 Bn in Tier-I Capital

- The Board of Directors of Mutual Trust Bank PLC (MTB) has approved a proposal to raise Tier-I Capital amounting to BDT 3.46 Bn to further strengthen the bank's core capital base.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/mtb-board-approves-plan-to-raise-tk-346-billion-in-tier-i-capital>

EBL | StanChart, Eastern Bank partner to boost export financing

- Standard Chartered Bank has signed a master receivable purchase agreement with Eastern Bank PLC to launch export receivables finance for financial institutions/banks (RFFI) in Bangladesh.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/stanchart-eastern-bank-partner-boost-export-financing-4102311>

TRUSTBANK | Trust Bank signs MoU with Sheba.xyz to launch digital nano loan

- Trust Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Sheba.xyz, one of the leading digital fintech platforms in Bangladesh, to introduce Digital Nano Loan facility.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/trust-bank-signs-mou-shebaxyz-launch-digital-nano-loan-4101376>

BSC | Bangladesh to buy four vessels from China at BDT 24.86 Bn

- Bangladesh has signed a framework agreement with China to buy four vessels worth BDT 24.86 Bn (RMB 1.67 Bn). Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) will acquire two crude oil tankers and two bulk carriers.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-buy-four-vessels-china-tk-2486cr-4101356>

GENEXIL, CITYBANK | Genex Infosys director to transfer 3 Mn shares to City Bank

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has approved the transfer of 3 Mn shares of Genex Infosys PLC held by its director Nilofar Imam to City Bank PLC, according to a disclosure issued by the bourse.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/genex-infosys-director-transfer-30-lakh-shares-city-bank-1355511>

ASIATICLAB | Asiatic Labs' half-year profit surpasses FY25 earnings

- Asiatic Laboratories has posted an impressive 86% year-on-year growth in profit to BDT 164 Mn in the second quarter of FY26, driven by higher sales amid a stable forex market.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/asiatic-labs-half-year-profit-surpasses-fy25-earnings>

NRBCBANK | NRBC Bank contributes BDT 70.5 Mn to startup investment fund

- NRBC Bank PLC has contributed more than BDT 70.5 Mn to Bangladesh Bank as part of initiatives aligned with the central bank's directives on the formation and operation of Bangladesh Startup Investment Company PLC.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/nrbc-bank-contributes-tk-705-crore-startup-investment-fund-4099211>

FORTUNE | FID seeks list of ICB employees involved

- The Financial Institutions Division (FID) has asked the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) to provide a list of Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) employees allegedly involved in the manipulation of stock price of Fortune Shoes Ltd.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/fid-seeks-list-of-icb-employees-involved>

KAY&QUE | Starlink deal opens new revenue stream for Kay & Que

- Kay & Que (Bangladesh) has become the sales agent for Starlink Satellite Internet Service in Bangladesh, a move expected to increase the company's revenue and income in the coming quarters.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/starlink-deal-opens-new-revenue-stream-for-kay-que>

UTTARAFIN | BB reconstitutes UFIL board amid financial turmoil

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has dissolved the existing board of directors of Uttara Finance and Investments Limited and formed a new board to rescue the struggling non-bank financial institution (NBFIs) from deep-rooted loan irregularities.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-bank-reconstitutes-ufil-board-amid-financial-turmoil>

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