

Weekly Market Update

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+1.22%) gained 66.00 points and closed the week at 5,465.93 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+1.89%) gained 38.93 points and stood at 2,097.88 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (-0.17%) lost -1.88 points and stood at 1,095.10 points. The large cap index CDSET (+0.70%) gained 7.97 points and closed at 1,142.59 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of +12.34%, +13.18%, +9.43%, +13.71%, respectively.

Total Turnover During The Week (DSE): BDT 52.5 billion (USD 429 million)

Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 10.5 billion (Δ% Week: +64.5%)

Market P/E: 15.6x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed five sessions this week. It started positively on Sunday (+3.72%) but turned negative on Monday (-0.20%) and remained negative on Tuesday (-0.34%), Wednesday (-0.92%), and Thursday (-0.96%).

Sectoral Performance

All the financial sectors posted positive performance this week. Life Insurance booked the highest gain of 2.70% followed by NBF (+1.89%), Bank (+0.31%), General Insurance (+0.10%), and Mutual Fund (+0.04%).

Non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted mixed performance this week. Pharmaceutical booked the highest gain of 1.22% followed by Food & Allied (+0.18%). Telecommunication experienced the highest loss of 0.23% followed by Fuel & Power (-0.12%), and Engineering (-0.11%).

Macroeconomic Arena

Forex reserves to hit USD 40 Bn by year-end: Governor. BB buys USD 109 Mn more from eight banks. Africa emerges as key partner, Bangladesh eyes USD 4 Bn trade. New govt faces 5 early economic tests. FICCI seeks investment friendly policies from govt. Inflation to ease in coming months: BB. Remittances reach USD 1.81 Bn in 16 days, forex reserves rise to USD 34.53 Bn. TELECOM | Legal fights heat up in telecom sector. BANK | BDT 10Mn+ household deposits rose 8% in June 2025: BB. BANK | Nabil Mustafiz named MD of Sammilito Islami Bank. BANK | Nabil Mustafizur declines Sammilito Islami Bank MD role citing health issues. BANK | Sub-branch loan growth outpaces banking sector average.

ENERGY | NBR revises LPG tax structure. Dhaka division gets half of remittances in December. Import LCs opening highest in 11 months in January. Development spending plunges to 16-year low. HC adjourns hearing on NBR split. Imported goods push up inflation in Oct-Dec.. Fuel & Power | Petrobangla struggles to recover BDT 2.1 Bn stuck in seven troubled banks. A narrow window for US cotton gains. 7,132 US products to get duty-free access;. Bangladesh missed the China plus one moment. BANK | Agent banking credit expands as rural demand picks up. Govt to scrap tariffs on 4,500 US products. Bangladesh commits to USD 18.5 Bn US farm, energy imports. BB buys USD 171 Mn through dollar auction.

Stock Market Arena

REGULATOR | BSEC seeks safeguards for small investors in bank mergers, NBF liquidations. NCCBANK | NCC BANK INKS DEAL WITH UNISOFT SYSTEMS FOR DIGITAL LOANS. POWERGRID | Power Grid to issue 1.32 billion more preference shares against govt funds. ASIATICLAB | Sponsors, directors of Asiatic Lab barred from selling shares. GREENDELTA | Green Delta declares 27% cash dividend. GPHISPAT | Second generation gets GPH Ispat shares. PREMIERCEM | Premier Cement wins approval to issue preference shares. EXCHANGE | DSE, IIX sign MoU to introduce Orange bonds, Sukuk. STANDBANKL | Standard Bank rebranded as 'Standard Islami Bank'. AFTABAUTO, NAVANACNG | Dividend disbursement lapses push Aftab Auto, Navana CNG into Z category. PRIMEBANK, EBL | Prime Bank CEO resigns, set to join Eastern Bank as MD. EXCHANGE | Election stirs stock revival hopes, but history says otherwise.

DSEX ended in Green (+1.22%) in the week

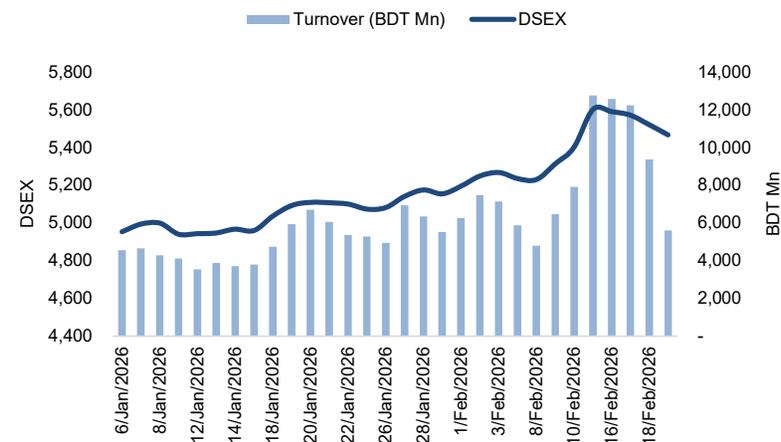
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2025	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,465.93	5,399.94	+66.00	4,865.34	1.22%	12.34%
DS30	2,097.88	2,058.95	+38.93	1,853.54	1.89%	13.18%
DSES	1,095.10	1,096.97	-1.88	1,000.72	-0.17%	9.43%
CDSET	1,142.59	1,134.62	+7.97	1,004.81	0.70%	13.71%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	7,100,380	7,089,772	
	Mn USD	58,043	57,956	0.15%
Turnover	Mn BDT	52,502	19,149	174.18%
	Mn USD	429	157	
Average Daily	Mn BDT	10,500	6,383	
	Mn USD	86	52	64.51%
Volume	Mn Shares	1,971	765	157.52%

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
NBL	5.3	4.1	+29.3%	17,065	345.5	NM	NM
BIFC	3.6	2.8	+28.6%	362	11.2	NM	NM
SALAMCRST	15.3	12.0	+27.5%	1,505	74.3	95.6x	0.8x
PREMIERLEA	1.4	1.1	+27.3%	186	6.6	NM	NM
FAREASTFIN	1.4	1.1	+27.3%	230	10.0	NM	NM
PRIMEFIN	2.7	2.2	+22.7%	737	11.1	NM	0.4x
DAFODILCOM	56.0	45.9	+22.0%	2,795	90.8	NM	4.3x
FAMILYTEX	1.8	1.5	+20.0%	637	14.0	NM	0.2x
TUNGHAI	2.4	2.0	+20.0%	256	5.1	NM	NM
SHURWID	6.1	5.1	+19.6%	350	16.4	NM	0.5x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
ISLAMIBANK	45.7	52.1	-12.3%	73,577	627.0	NM	1.0x
ICBIBANK	2.5	2.8	-10.7%	1,662	9.0	NM	NM
MIDASFIN	5.8	6.4	-9.4%	835	3.4	NM	580.0x
ALARABANK	16.0	17.6	-9.1%	18,427	93.4	42.0x	0.8x
UNIONCAP	4.1	4.5	-8.9%	708	32.0	NM	NM
CRYSTALINS	77.2	84.4	-8.5%	3,397	303.2	23.1x	2.8x
ASIATICLAB	63.0	68.4	-7.9%	7,711	948.9	17.0x	1.1x
PHOENIXFIN	3.7	4.0	-7.5%	614	19.3	NM	0.0x
EMERALDOIL	14.1	15.2	-7.2%	1,287	15.4	12.0x	NM
POWERGRID	31.1	33.5	-7.2%	28,419	23.8	22.7x	0.2x

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
SQURPHARMA	227.9	221.0	+3.1%	202,022	2,081.3	7.8x	1.4x
CITYBANK	28.8	27.0	+6.7%	43,811	1,859.1	3.3x	0.8x
DHAKABANK	13.7	13.5	+1.5%	14,480	1,467.4	15.7x	0.6x
BRACBANK	82.9	78.6	+5.5%	165,048	1,238.8	10.5x	1.6x
ASIATICLAB	63.0	68.4	-7.9%	7,711	948.9	17.0x	1.1x
ROBI	30.8	30.7	+0.3%	161,328	900.8	17.5x	2.4x
MONNOFABR	24.3	22.3	+9.0%	2,795	896.3	NM	1.0x
ORIONINFU	368.0	361.7	+1.7%	7,492	847.0	NM	23.1x
BSC	114.6	114.3	+0.3%	17,481	788.3	5.8x	1.0x
KAY&QUE	481.2	432.7	+11.2%	3,365	759.1	35.1x	4.5x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
ISLAMIBANK	45.7	+39.3%	73,577	NM	1.0x
BRACBANK	82.9	+31.4%	165,048	10.5x	1.6x
CONFIDCEM	64.4	+30.9%	5,555	5.4x	0.7x
LANKABAFIN	15.4	+25.2%	8,298	38.5x	0.8x
BXPBARMA	123.7	+21.2%	55,184	8.6x	1.1x
ACTIVEFINE	6.6	+20.0%	1,584	NM	0.3x
PRIMEBANK	34.0	+18.5%	39,460	4.5x	0.9x
CITYBANK	28.8	+18.0%	43,811	3.3x	0.8x
RENATA	461.5	+17.8%	52,932	20.9x	1.5x
POWERGRID	31.1	+16.5%	28,419	22.7x	0.2x

*BDT

*BDT Mn

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,636.1	1,630.9	1,367.20	+0.31%	+19.67%
NBFI	986.8	968.5	860.23	+1.89%	+14.71%
Mutual Fund	507.8	507.7	478.27	+0.04%	+6.18%
General Insurance	3,198.8	3,195.7	2,879.11	+0.10%	+11.10%
Life Insurance	1,986.4	1,934.2	1,691.42	+2.70%	+17.44%
Telecommunication	4,658.9	4,669.7	4,431.51	-0.23%	+5.13%
Pharmaceutical	3,087.1	3,049.9	2,764.29	+1.22%	+11.68%
Fuel & Power	1,076.4	1,077.7	996.11	-0.12%	+8.06%
Cement	1,973.1	1,964.7	1,739.18	+0.43%	+13.45%
Services & Real Estate	992.3	972.6	949.82	+2.02%	+4.47%
Engineering	2,494.5	2,497.2	2,290.78	-0.11%	+8.89%
Food & Allied	14,004.5	13,978.8	12,942.72	+0.18%	+8.20%
IT	1,832.8	1,774.2	1,703.25	+3.30%	+7.61%
Textile	1,106.5	1,100.6	1,060.76	+0.54%	+4.31%
Paper & Printing	4,809.9	4,569.9	4,485.61	+5.25%	+7.23%
Tannery	1,910.8	1,891.7	1,806.05	+1.01%	+5.80%
Jute	11,294.9	11,649.2	11,805.57	-3.04%	-4.33%
Ceramics	405.1	392.7	370.10	+3.16%	+9.47%
Miscellaneous	3,958.3	3,964.6	3,881.56	-0.16%	+1.98%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	2,138.7	1,263.1	+69.32%	+20.76%	10.7x	0.8x
NBFI	225.5	177.6	+27.00%	+2.19%	NM	1.0x
Mutual Fund	185.5	126.8	+46.23%	+1.80%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	848.6	422.7	+100.74%	+8.24%	14.2x	1.3x
Life Insurance	366.7	213.8	+71.48%	+3.56%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	286.2	148.4	+92.90%	+2.78%	13.3x	3.9x
Pharmaceutical	1,692.6	921.4	+83.71%	+16.43%	12.2x	1.6x
Fuel & Power	523.3	272.9	+91.77%	+5.08%	9.6x	0.6x
Cement	160.0	86.6	+84.78%	+1.55%	23.3x	2.1x
Services & Real Estate	247.3	89.6	+176.04%	+2.40%	18.1x	0.4x
Engineering	828.3	507.8	+63.10%	+8.04%	15.8x	0.8x
Food & Allied	476.7	388.3	+22.76%	+4.63%	20.4x	3.9x
IT	313.7	130.8	+139.90%	+3.05%	27.1x	1.5x
Textile	1,051.8	904.7	+16.26%	+10.21%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	313.2	117.0	+167.66%	+3.04%	NM	1.3x
Tannery	75.3	37.8	+99.54%	+0.73%	NM	1.4x
Jute	28.4	15.3	+85.77%	+0.28%	NM	NM
Ceramics	147.9	69.7	+112.19%	+1.44%	NM	1.2x
Miscellaneous	391.3	265.9	+47.14%	+3.80%	89.5x	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	10.0	-3.8%	15,504	NM	0.4x
ESQUIRENIT	19.8	-2.5%	2,671	NM	0.3x
IFADAUTOS	21.7	+0.5%	5,821	NM	0.6x
MJLBD	92.9	+2.7%	29,426	10.9x	1.8x
GP	265.0	+2.8%	357,830	12.1x	6.4x
UNIQUEHRL	39.3	+2.9%	11,570	6.6x	0.4x
RECKITBEN	3,526.1	+3.0%	16,661	21.0x	26.7x
UNILEVERCL	2,216.2	+3.0%	42,716	59.1x	20.6x
SQUARETEXT	50.0	+3.1%	9,863	9.5x	0.9x

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

Forex reserves to hit USD 40 Bn by year-end: Governor

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Ahsan H Mansur on Wednesday said that the foreign exchange reserve is projected to cross the USD 35 Bn mark within the current month and reach USD 40 Bn within this year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/forex-reserves-hit-40-billion-year-end-governor-1365426>

BB buys USD 109 Mn more from eight banks

- The central bank purchased USD 109 Mn more through auction from eight banks in the interbank spot market on Wednesday, at cutoff rate of BDT 122.30 per dollar.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bb-buys-109m-more-from-eight-banks-1771434859>

Africa emerges as key partner, Bangladesh eyes USD 4 Bn trade

- Business leaders say Africa offers stronger growth prospects compared to saturated markets in North America and Europe, particularly in IT-enabled services, pharmaceuticals and garments. African exports to Bangladesh stood at USD 3.76 Bn in FY23, USD 2.84 Bn in FY24 and USD 2.90 Bn in FY25.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/south-africa-emerges-key-partner-bangladesh-eyes-4b-trade-1364961>

New govt faces 5 early economic tests

- The new finance minister, Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, faces a dense web of interconnected challenges, from stabilising food prices during Ramadan to negotiating with international lenders, from managing public debt to reforming tax and banking systems, each task influences the others.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/new-govt-faces-5-early-economic-tests-4109626>

FICCI seeks investment friendly policies from govt

- The Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) hopes the government would focus on prioritising foreign direct investment (FDI)-friendly policies, backed by structural and regulatory reforms to strengthen investor confidence and ensure sustainable economic growth.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/trade-commerce/291648/ficci-seeks-investment-friendly-policies-from-govt>

Inflation to ease in coming months: BB

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) expects inflation, which has remained high in recent years, to ease in the coming months due to strong rice and winter vegetable harvests and declining global commodity prices.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/inflation-ease-coming-months-bb-4109546>

Remittances reach USD 1.81 Bn in 16 days, forex reserves rise to USD 34.53 Bn

- In the first 16 days of February, the country received USD 1.81 Bn in remittances, which is 21% more YoY.

<https://en.prothomalo.com/business/local/t83ylb34cy>

TELECOM | Legal fights heat up in telecom sector

- Operators have long competed fiercely on price, network quality, and subscriber acquisition. But 2025 saw that rivalry erupt not through marketing campaigns, but through formal complaints, regulatory challenges, and court petitions. The disputes touched on issues ranging from predatory pricing and brand misuse to the validity of a regulatory framework designed to check the dominance of the market's largest player.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/legal-fights-heat-telecom-sector-4109576>

BANK | BDT 10Mn+ household deposits rose 8% in June 2025: BB

- The number of household deposit accounts containing between BDT 10 Mn - BDT 250 Mn rose by nearly 8% year-on-year in June 2025. These accounts increased to 36,932 as of June 2025, up from 34,258 in June 2024. The total amount held in these specific deposit tiers rose from BDT 802 Bn in June 2024 to BDT 820 Bn in June 2025.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/tk-1cr-household-deposits-rose-8-june-2025-bb-4109476>

BANK | Nabil Mustafiz named MD of Sammilito Islami Bank

- The government has appointed seasoned banker Nabil Mustafizur Rahman as managing director of Sammilito Islami Bank PLC. Mr Rahman is currently an additional managing director at United Commercial Bank PLC (UCB).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/nabil-mustafiz-named-md-of-sammilito-islami-bank-1771353467>

BANK | Nabil Mustafizur declines Sammilito Islami Bank MD role citing health issues

- Nabil Mustafizur Rahman, additional managing director (MD) of United Commercial Bank (UCB), will not assume the position of managing director at state-owned Islami Bank PLC due to health reasons. Ministry of Finance's Financial Institutions Division approved his appointment on 15 February.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/nabil-mustafizur-declines-sammilito-islami-bank-md-role-citing-health-issues-1365236>

BANK | Sub-branch loan growth outpaces banking sector average

- Outstanding loans and advances disbursed through sub-branches of scheduled banks recorded a 7.9 per cent growth, from BDT 172.77 Bn in April-June 2025 to BDT 186.45 Bn in July-September 2025. Despite the higher growth, loans disbursed through sub-branches accounted for just 1.1% of the aggregate loans. Total outstanding deposits collected through sub-branches rose from BDT 680.71 Bn to BDT 720.56 Bn, registering a 5.9% growth.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/sub-branch-loan-growth-outpaces-banking-sector-average-1771434824>

Govt to focus on lowering cost of doing business: Amir Khasru

- Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, who is set to take charge as the finance and planning minister of the BNP-led new government, has set boosting investment and employment as his top priority, saying the government will focus on simplifying the business climate and lowering the cost of doing business to stimulate economic activity. He said deregulation would be introduced to ease bureaucratic complexity and reduce business costs. The minister added that as the finance minister, he will undertake a comprehensive review of the economy to determine its current condition, after which the government will outline a roadmap defining its economic direction.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/well-lower-cost-doing-business-finance-minister-amir-khasru-1364501>

New govt to seek 3-year LDC deferment

- The new government formed will seek to defer Bangladesh's graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) category to developing-nation status by at least three years, Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktedir has said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/new-govt-seek-3-year-ldc-deferment-4108846>

Machinery imports rise on hopes of political stability

- Imports of capital machinery are picking up, showing signs of renewed business interest on expectations of greater stability in both politics and the economy.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/machinery-imports-rise-hopes-political-stability-4108696>

Bangladesh's forex reserves rise to USD 29.86 Bn

- Bangladesh's total foreign exchange reserves have risen to USD 29.86 Bn. The central bank has been increasing reserves mainly by purchasing US dollars from commercial banks through auctions. A senior Bangladesh Bank official told that the supply of dollars in banks has increased due to higher remittance inflows.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladeshs-forex-reserves-rise-2986b-1364416>

10-year T-bond yields fall again

- Yields on Bangladesh's 10-year Treasury bonds declined further on Tuesday as banks channelled surplus liquidity into government securities amid subdued private sector credit demand and improved market liquidity. The cut-off yield fell to 10.37% on the day from 10.49% earlier, according to auction results.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/10-year-t-bond-yields-fall-again>

NSCs lose appeal as govt shifts to banks

- Net sales of national savings certificates (NSCs) returned to positive territory in H1FY26, but the figures show that the government continues to scale back its dependence on the high-cost instruments. As repayments outpaced fresh sales, the outstanding stock of NSCs declined to BDT 3.41 Tn in December 2025 from BDT 3.47 Tn a year earlier.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/291568/nscs-lose-appeal-as-govt-shifts-to-banks>

IT exports up 14% in Jul-Nov on AI-driven demand

- Bangladesh's information technology (IT) exports grew 13.54% in 5MFY26, buoyed by accelerating global artificial intelligence (AI) adoption and the widening digitalisation of services.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/it-exports-14-jul-nov-ai-driven-demand-4108691>

Economists, businesses urge govt to review 'one-sided' Bangladesh-US trade deal

- Economists and businesses urged the new government to take measures, in consultation with stakeholders, to review the recently signed trade agreement between Bangladesh and the US, terming the deal one-sided and imposed.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/economists-businesses-urge-govt-to-review-one-sided-bangladesh-us-trade-deal>

NBFI | BHBFC (amendment) Ordinance issued

- The government issued the Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance-2026. Key amendments include - Board of Directors can form a Standing Committee, an Audit Committee and a Shariah Committee. The interest rate on loans provided by the corporation will now be determined from time to time by the Board, subject to prior government approval. The corporation will be treated as a 'company' and will be required to pay minimum income tax accordingly.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bhbfc-amendment-ordinance-issued-1771346620>

ENERGY | NBR revises LPG tax structure

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has restructured the VAT on liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) to reduce the tax burden on consumers and stabilise the domestic fuel market. The NBR has withdrawn the 7.5% VAT at the production and trading stages of LPG, as well as the 2% advance tax on imports. Instead, imposed 7.5% VAT at import stage.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nbr-revises-lpg-tax-structure-4108686>

Dhaka division gets half of remittances in December

- Dhaka division remained the largest recipient of remittances in December, receiving nearly half of the total inflows, as migrant earnings continued to strengthen foreign currency reserves and support millions of households, according to a report by Bangladesh Bank (BB).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/dhaka-division-gets-half-remittances-december-4107816>

Import LCs opening highest in 11 months in January

- Opening of import letters of credit (LCs) rose sharply in January, reaching USD 6.61 Bn – the highest level in the past 11 months.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/import-lcs-opening-highest-11-months-january-1363486>

Development spending plunges to 16-year low

- The government's development expenditure in the first seven months of the current fiscal year 2025-26 (FY26) has slumped to its lowest level in at least 16 years amid fiscal restraints and political disruptions.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/development-spending-plunges-16-year-low-4107841>

India's US tariff parity: Real threat or overblown fear for Bangladesh?

- When Indian Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced on February 12 that India would receive the same concessional duty access on garment exports to the US as Bangladesh, alarm bells rang across Dhaka's garment districts.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/indias-us-tariff-parity-real-threat-or-overblown-fear-bangladesh-4107836>

HC adjourns hearing on NBR split

- The High Court yesterday adjourned the hearing of a writ petition challenging the government's decision to separate the functions of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and create two new divisions.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/hc-adjourns-hearing-nbr-split-4107811>

Imported goods push up inflation in Oct-Dec

- The contribution of imported goods to inflation rose in the October-December quarter of the ongoing fiscal year 2025-26 (FY26), reflecting higher prices of items brought from abroad.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/imported-goods-push-inflation-oct-dec-4107056>

Bank | BB Officers' Welfare Council protests 'hasty' move to grant digital bank licence

- The Bangladesh Bank Officers' Welfare Council has protested what it termed a hasty initiative to grant a controversial digital bank licence ahead of the formation of the newly elected government, demanding postponement of a board meeting scheduled for today (16 February).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/bb-officers-welfare-council-protests-hasty-move-grant-digital-bank-licence-1363171>

Fuel & Power | Petrobangla struggles to recover BDT 2.1 Bn stuck in seven troubled banks

- State-owned energy corporation Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla) is facing mounting challenges in recovering BDT 2.10 Bn placed as fixed deposits in seven troubled private and scheduled banks, raising concerns over funding for key gas-development projects.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/petrobangla-struggles-to-recover-tk-21b-stuck-in-seven-troubled-banks-1771265919?amp=true>

A narrow window for US cotton gains

- After a roller coaster period since the reciprocal US tariff was announced in April last year, the cut from 20 % to 19 % is modest but offers some relief. Under the new deal, certain Bangladeshi RMG and textile products made with US cotton and man-made fibres can enter the US duty free, with volumes tied to Bangladesh's purchases.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/narrow-window-us-cotton-gains-4107796>

7,132 US products to get duty-free access; Bangladesh restricted with 2,500 items under reciprocal deal

- Under a recent reciprocal trade deal signed with US, Bangladesh will grant duty-free access to 7,132 American products, while 2,500 Bangladeshi products will get the same privilege into the world's largest economy.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/7132-us-products-get-duty-free-access-bangladesh-restricted-2500-items-under-reciprocal-deal>

Imported goods push up inflation in Oct-Dec

- The contribution of imported goods to inflation rose in the October-December quarter of the ongoing fiscal year 2025-26 (FY26), reflecting higher prices of items brought from abroad.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/imported-goods-push-inflation-oct-dec-4107056>

Bangladesh missed the China plus one moment

- When global manufacturers shifted capacity out of China, Vietnam treated it as an emergency opportunity. Bangladesh, despite the conferences, the panels and decades of ambition, did not just underperform. In plain words, we failed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-missed-the-china-plus-one-moment-4107036>

BANK | Agent banking credit expands as rural demand picks up

- The loan-to-deposit ratio (LDR) in agent banking surged to 70.44% YoY in Q4'2025, indicating a gradual rise in credit disbursements in rural areas. BB attributed this growth to increased interest among banks in developing feasible infrastructure for loan disbursement and recovery through agent outlets. Currently, 23 out of 30 banks are involved in lending through agent banking.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/agent-banking-credit-expands-rural-demand-picks-4107046>

TELECOMMUNICATION | Teletalk to get spectrum despite BDT 55.0 Bn dues

- The government has directed the telecom regulator to allocate a majority share of the remaining 700 MHz spectrum to state-owned operator Teletalk Bangladesh, despite the company having more than BDT 55.0 Bn in unpaid spectrum fees and other liabilities.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/teletalk-get-spectrum-despite-tk-5500cr-dues-4107051>

Govt to scrap tariffs on 4,500 US products

- Bangladesh has agreed to eliminate customs duties, supplementary duties, and regulatory duties on approximately 4,500 products from the United States as part of the newly signed reciprocal trade agreement, marking one of the most significant tariff reduction measures in recent years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/govt-scrap-tariffs-4500-us-products-4104101>

Bangladesh commits to USD 18.5 Bn US farm, energy imports

- Bangladesh will buy USD 3.5 Bn worth of US agricultural products and USD 15 Bn of energy under a broader reciprocal trade agreement with Washington, signed on Monday. The energy imports will take place over 15 years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-commits-185b-us-farm-energy-imports-4103221>

BB buys USD 171 Mn through dollar auction

- Bangladesh Bank on Tuesday purchased USD 171 Mn from 11 commercial banks through multiple auction methods.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bb-buys-171m-through-dollar-auction>

US meat, dairy and biotech to enter on easier terms

- Under the reciprocal trade agreement, American dairy, meat and poultry producers will get sweeping access to Bangladesh's market. It also widens the door to agricultural biotechnology products without requiring labelling for genetically modified organisms.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/us-meat-dairy-and-biotech-enter-easier-terms-4104096>

Ctg port launches 'CPA Sky' to bring all port, customs services under single digital platform

- Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) launched the Port Single Window system, branded CPA Sky, aiming to integrate 100% of services involving the port, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and customs, covering cargo handling, delivery, documentation and payments.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/ctg-port-launches-cpa-sky-bring-all-port-customs-services-under-single-digital-platform>

Forex market remains largely stable amid high dollar inflow

- The BDT remained broadly stable against the US dollar, supported by improved forex liquidity and a balance of payments surplus despite higher imports. The interbank rate rose from BDT 121.80 in September to BDT 122.58 in November, before appreciating to BDT 122.22; year-on-year depreciation was 1.90%.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/291035/forex-market-remains-largely-stable-amid-high-dollar-inflow>

WB clears USD 370 Mn to clean Dhaka rivers, improve waste management

- The World Bank (WB) has approved USD 370 Mn in financing to improve sanitation and solid waste management services to reduce water pollution and restore rivers and canals in and around Dhaka.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/wb-clears-370m-clean-dhaka-rivers-improve-waste-management-4103676>

Trade deficit widens to USD 11.55 Bn in first half of FY26

- Trade deficit grew over 18% in H1FY26, driven by rising imports and declining export earnings. During the period, import bills rose 5% YoY to USD 33.67 Bn, driven partly by pre-Ramadan purchasing. Industry insiders expect the deficit to widen further in coming months as imports continue to rise while exports show no clear upward trend.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/trade-deficit-widens-1155b-first-half-fy26-4103216>

BANK | Banks' CRAR plummets to record 1.56 per cent

- Bangladesh's banking sector has reached its weakest capital position on record, with the Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio falling to 1.56% in September 2025, far below the regulatory minimum of 10%. 21 out of 61 banks failed to meet the minimum, while of them 15 reported negative CRARs, meaning their losses have wiped out core capital. Bankers said such institutions have little capacity to cope with further loan defaults and resemble hollow structures rather than viable banks.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/291249/banks-crar-plummets-to-record-156-per-cent>

BANK | Banks incur losses worth BDT 241.35 Bn in Jan-Sept

- Bangladesh's banking sector posted a massive loss in 9M 2025 as long-suppressed bad assets surfaced, provisioning needs surged and prolonged macroeconomic stress eroded earnings. Banks recorded a combined net loss of BDT 241.35 Bn in 9M2025, a sharp reversal from a net profit of BDT 126.56 Bn in 9M2024. Provisioning gaps widened as required loan-loss provisions rose to BDT 4.73 Tn by end-September, but banks had set aside only BDT 1.29 Tn.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/290831/banks-incur-losses-worth-tk-24135cr-in-jan-sept>

INSURANCE | BD to scrap 50% mandatory reinsurance with Sadharan Bima under US trade deal

- Bangladesh has agreed to abolish the long-standing requirement for non-life insurers to reinsure at least 50% of their business with state-owned Sadharan Bima Corporation (SBC) as part of trade deal. US insurers and global reinsurance firms are expected to be among the primary beneficiaries, while domestic insurers will gain greater flexibility in selecting reinsurance partners based on pricing, capacity and risk diversification. However, the reform is likely to significantly erode SBC's dominant position.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-scrap-50-mandatory-reinsurance-sadharan-bima-under-us-trade-deal-1358566>

BANK | Govt to consider compensation for shareholders of merged Islamic banks: Finance adviser

- The government will consider compensating shareholders affected by the merger of five Islamic banks, though the process will be complex and require careful, step-by-step calculations, said Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/govt-consider-compensation-shareholders-merged-islamic-banks-finance-adviser-1357461>

Important News: Stocks

REGULATOR | BSEC seeks safeguards for small investors in bank mergers, NBFIs liquidations

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has formally urged the government to safeguard the interests of general investors as the financial sector undergoes a major restructuring involving the merger of five banks and the liquidation of nine non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs). Referring to Section 77 of the Bank Resolution Ordinance 2025, the commission noted that liability for financial collapse rests with individuals or groups identified under the law – not with general shareholders.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-seeks-safeguards-small-investors-bank-mergers-nbfi-liquidations-1365646>

NCCBANK | NCC BANK INKS DEAL WITH UNISOFT SYSTEMS FOR DIGITAL LOANS

- NCC Bank has formally launched its digital loan management system (DLMS) across all branches. The solution has been designed and implemented by Unisoft Systems Limited.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-seeks-safeguards-small-investors-bank-mergers-nbfi-liquidations-1365646>

POWERGRID | Power Grid to issue 1.32 billion more preference shares against govt funds

- The securities regulator has approved Power Grid Company's proposal to issue another 1.32 Bn irredeemable and non-cumulative preference shares in favour of the power division secretary against share money deposits. The shares would be issued at BDT 10 each, totalling BDT 13.24 Bn, against share money deposits as of June 2024.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/power-grid-to-issue-132-billion-more-preference-shares-against-govt-funds-1771348399>

ASIATICLAB | Sponsors, directors of Asiatic Lab barred from selling shares

- The stock market regulator has barred the sponsors, directors, and placement shareholders of Asiatic Laboratories Limited from selling their shares after irregularities were found in the use of funds from the initial public offering (IPO) and inconsistencies in the company's expansion plans.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/sponsors-directors-asiatic-lab-barred-selling-shares-4108681>

GREENDELTA | Green Delta declares 27% cash dividend

- Green Delta Insurance has announced a 27% cash dividend for the financial year ending 31 December 2025, an increase from the 25% payout provided to shareholders the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/green-delta-declares-27-cash-dividend-1363561>

GPHISPAT | Second generation gets GPH Ispat shares

- GPH Ispat Ltd's sponsor Mohammed Almas Shimul is set to transfer 20 Mn shares to his son and daughter, both general shareholders of the company, marking the entry of the second generation into the company's shareholding structure.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/second-generation-gets-gph-ispate-shares-1363521>

PREMIERCEM | Premier Cement wins approval to issue preference shares

- The stock market regulator has finally allowed Premier Cement Mills to raise BDT 1.61 Bn by issuing preference shares to high-net-worth individuals, including commercial banks. As per regulatory approval, the cement manufacturer will issue 322 preference shares, fully redeemable and non-convertible in nature, with a five-year tenure, and semi-annual dividend. The dividend may be decided based on the average interest rate on deposits for a period of more than six months but less than one year in scheduled commercial banks, with a 1.5% up-down band. A portion of the company's high-cost loans will be paid back with the funds to be raised.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/premier-cement-wins-approval-to-issue-preference-shares-1771348367>

EXCHANGE | DSE, IIX sign MoU to introduce Orange bonds, Sukuk

- Dhaka Stock Exchange PLC (DSE) and Impact Investment Exchange (IIX) on Sunday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate on introducing and promoting Orange capital instruments, including Orange Bonds and Sukuk, in Bangladesh's capital market.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/dse-iix-sign-mou-to-introduce-orange-bonds-sukuk>

STANDBANKL | Standard Bank rebranded as 'Standard Islami Bank'

- Bangladesh Bank has officially announced the renaming of Standard Bank PLC to 'Standard Islami Bank PLC' effective February 10, 2026.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/standard-bank-rebranded-as-standard-islami-bank>

AFTABAUTO, NAVANACNG | Dividend disbursement lapses push Aftab Auto, Navana CNG into Z category

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) downgraded two companies—Aftab Automobiles and Navana CNG—to the Z category for failing to disburse approved dividends to their shareholders within the stipulated timeframe.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dividend-disbursement-lapses-push-aftab-auto-navana-cng-z-category-1362706>

PRIMEBANK, EBL | Prime Bank CEO resigns, set to join Eastern Bank as MD

- Hassan O Rashid has resigned as CEO of Prime Bank. From 1 April, Additional Managing Director Faisal Rahman will act as CEO. Meanwhile, Eastern Bank plans to appoint Rashid as managing director after Ali Reza Iftekhar's tenure ends on 19 April.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/prime-bank-ceo-resigns-set-join-eastern-bank-md-1362746>

EXCHANGE | Election stirs stock revival hopes, but history says otherwise

- Elections rarely spark dramatic rallies in Bangladesh's stock market. The trend has been consistent at least in the last six parliamentary elections. Yet stakeholders hope this time will be different.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/election-stirs-stock-revival-hopes-history-says-otherwise-4103211>

LHB | LafargeHolcim unveils salinity-resistant cement 'Holcim Coastal Guard' for coastal areas

- LafargeHolcim Bangladesh PLC (LHB) has launched a new salinity- and sulphate-resistant cement, Holcim Coastal Guard, designed to address the growing environmental challenges in the country's coastal areas.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/lafargeholcim-unveils-salinity-resistant-cement-holcim-coastal-guard-coastal-areas-4105941>

IFIC | IFIC Bank, Swisscontact to develop export-oriented vegetable sector

- IFIC Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Switzerland-based international organisation Swisscontact for a project aimed at elevating the international standards of Bangladesh's export-oriented vegetable sector and strengthening safe food export capabilities.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/ific-bank-swisscontact-develop-export-oriented-vegetable-sector-4104056>

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