

## Weekly Market Update

### Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+1.53%) gained 71.17 points and closed the week at 4,709.09 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+1.89%) gained 32.74 points and stood at 1,762.37 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+1.73%) gained 17.54 points and stood at 1,028.90 points. The large cap index CDSET (+1.63%) gained 15.52 points and closed at 969.16 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of -9.73%, -9.14%, -11.98%, -9.09%, respectively.

**Total Turnover During The Week (DSE):** BDT 9.6 billion (USD 78 million)

**Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV):** BDT 2.4 billion (Δ% Week: -7.5%)

**Market P/E:** 15.0x

### Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed four sessions during this week. The market started positively on Sunday (+0.66%), and remained positive on Monday (+0.45%). However, the market dipped on Tuesday (-0.53%) before closing the week on a positive note on Wednesday (+0.95%).

### Sectoral Performance

· All the financial sectors posted positive performance this week. Bank booked the highest gain of 2.39% followed by General Insurance (+1.99%), Life Insurance (+1.15%), NBFIL (+0.47%), and Mutual Fund (+0.08%).

· All the non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted positive performance this week. Fuel & Power booked the highest gain of 2.39% followed by Engineering (+2.06%), Food & Allied (+2.01%), Telecommunication (+1.30%), and Pharmaceutical (+1.13%).

### Macroeconomic Arena

Trade deficit narrows 2.6% in July-April. Reducing penalty on false declarations will encourage smuggling: experts. Chambers warn budget may hurt business, investment. Inflation to drop below 7% within September. Proposed budget people-, business-friendly: finance adviser. Budget targets chocolate, lipstick. Exports in May highest in 23 months. Remittance jumps 32% in May. Black money whitening not commendable. BD becoming self-reliant in air shipment of its exports. Highly ambitious budget's implementation to be difficult. Govt eases tax burden for company funds. Private sector credit growth slips slightly to 7.50% in April after March rebound. Businesses decry turnover tax hike. BANK | Sonali Bank profit jumps 32% to BDT 9.88 Bn in 2024.

Reform in customs clearance, visa regime a must to boost FDI. Advance tax on bus, truck, taxi to rise by up to 88%. Primary education to see funding cut, madrasah budget to rise. Two questions, two ironies the budget must address. Govt spending in Bangladesh lowest among LDC graduating peers. Black money may still find its way into real estate. Budget for FY26: OTT platforms may get costlier. TCB gets BDT 150 Bn from govt to offset its trade gap. Jobs drying up as private sector struggles to survive. FUEL & POWER | Bapex finds gas presence at Jamalganj well. BANK | 7.5 Mn more small depositors to gain excise duty exemption next fiscal. TELECOM | Prices of local mobile phones may increase. Interim govt unveils first budget tomorrow. Rollback of protective taxes begins under new budget.

### Stock Market Arena

EXCHANGE | Budget offers mixed bag of benefits, threats for capital market. RUPALIBANK | Monirul Haque new CEO of Rupali Investment. SEAPEARL | Sea Pearl upgraded to B, stock gains nearly 8%. DHAKAINS | Dhaka Insurance recommends 10% cash dividend for 2024. EXCHANGE | DSE, brokers hail 'capital market-friendly' budget. EXCHANGE | FY26 budget proposes share trade tax cut, wider tax gap, but higher source tax on bond interest. FIRSTSBANK | First Security Islami Bank reports BDT 559.20 Bn in classified loans. IFIC | IFIC Bank slipped into losses in 2024. UCB | UCB to offer rights share. SIBL | Social Islami Bank reports BDT 209.94 Bn provision shortfall. RUPALIBANK | Rupali Bank's profit slumped 82% in 2024.

## DSEX ended in Green (+1.53%) in the week

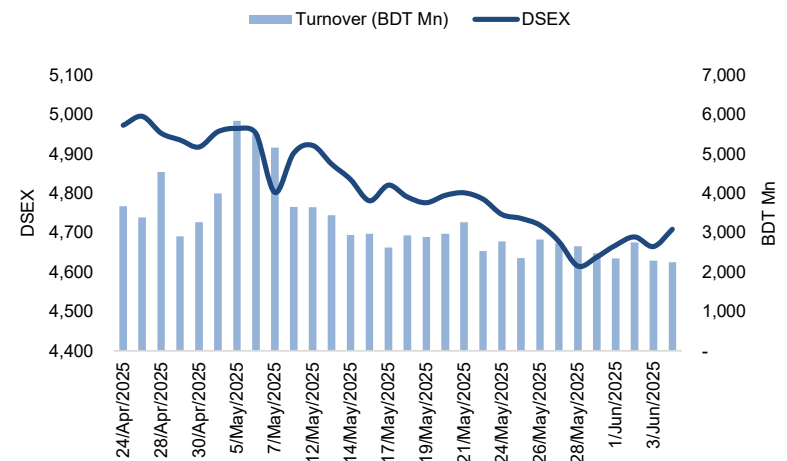
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2024	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	4,709.09	4,637.92	+71.17	5,216.44	1.53%	-9.73%
DS30	1,762.37	1,729.63	+32.74	1,939.73	1.89%	-9.14%
DSES	1,028.90	1,011.36	+17.54	1,168.90	1.73%	-11.98%
CDSET	969.16	953.64	+15.52	1,066.09	1.63%	-9.09%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	6,505,914	6,469,848	0.56%
	Mn USD	52,903	52,610	
Turnover	Mn BDT	9,641	13,033	-26.03%
	Mn USD	78	106	
Average Daily	Mn BDT	2,410	2,607	-7.54%
	Mn USD	20	21	
Volume	Mn Shares	397	696	-43.02%

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
AFTABAUTO	29.3	25.5	+14.9%	3,092	35.8	NM	0.6x
DSHGARME	75.8	66.2	+14.5%	628	33.0	NM	4.1x
MLDYEING	9.1	8.1	+12.3%	2,115	51.6	39.6x	0.7x
SONALIANS	156.2	139.6	+11.9%	1,694	54.6	NM	2.3x
TITASGAS	19.0	17.1	+11.1%	18,795	11.2	NM	0.2x
SEAPPEARL	49.3	44.5	+10.8%	5,953	222.8	NM	3.0x
LOVELLO	88.7	80.3	+10.5%	8,293	423.2	40.0x	7.0x
UNIONINS	27.6	25.0	+10.4%	1,336	11.6	14.7x	1.5x
EMERALDOIL	22.0	20.1	+9.5%	2,008	9.2	18.8x	NM
ASIAPACINS	30.4	27.8	+9.4%	1,287	6.5	17.8x	1.2x

**Table 4: Top Ten Losers**

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
PLFSL	1.8	2.0	-10.0%	514	1.4	NM	NM
SHURWID	6.3	6.9	-8.7%	361	1.2	NM	0.5x
MIDLANDBNK	24.9	27.1	-8.1%	16,406	208.1	19.6x	1.7x
UTTARAFIN	10.2	11.1	-8.1%	1,341	0.6	NM	0.2x
SIBL	7.2	7.8	-7.7%	8,209	9.1	NM	0.4x
RUPALIINS	18.0	19.5	-7.7%	1,380	7.2	17.5x	0.9x
BAYLEASING	4.1	4.4	-6.8%	578	1.9	NM	1.2x
SONALILIFE	47.0	49.9	-5.8%	2,233	1.2	NM	NM
FIRSTFIN	3.3	3.5	-5.7%	391	0.6	NM	NM
SONARGAON	35.3	37.4	-5.6%	934	120.8	NM	1.8x

**Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares**

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
BRACBANK	49.0	46.0	+6.5%	97,555	773.4	7.2x	1.2x
LOVELLO	88.7	80.3	+10.5%	8,293	423.2	40.0x	7.0x
FINEFOODS	227.6	217.1	+4.8%	3,180	315.4	51.3x	15.6x
SQURPHARMA	202.8	201.9	+0.4%	179,772	312.8	7.6x	1.3x
SEAPPEARL	49.3	44.5	+10.8%	5,953	222.8	NM	3.0x
BSC	88.6	86.6	+2.3%	13,515	216.3	4.5x	0.9x
MIDLANDBNK	24.9	27.1	-8.1%	16,406	208.1	19.6x	1.7x
BEACHHATCH	41.5	42.1	-1.4%	1,718	206.3	8.8x	2.5x
ORIONINFU	321.6	325.5	-1.2%	6,548	202.1	NM	20.5x
KDSALTD	40.7	39.6	+2.8%	3,042	161.9	18.4x	1.5x

**Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe**

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
ACI	170.6	+22.2%	14,951	NM	2.5x
BRACBANK	49.0	+12.5%	97,555	7.2x	1.2x
BARKAPOWER	10.9	+11.2%	2,567	51.9x	0.5x
ACTIVEFINE	8.6	+8.9%	2,063	NM	0.4x
UCB	10.0	+8.7%	15,504	NM	0.4x
IFADAUTOS	22.1	+8.4%	5,928	NM	0.6x
BXPBARMA	87.4	+7.1%	38,990	6.1x	0.8x
EBL	22.4	+6.6%	35,746	5.3x	0.7x
ESQUIRENIT	20.6	+5.6%	2,779	8.8x	0.3x
MARICO	2,360.0	+3.4%	74,340	12.6x	9.9x

**Table 7: Sector Indices**

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,294.3	1,264.1	1,429.64	+2.39%	-9.47%
NBFI	930.2	925.9	1,188.21	+0.47%	-21.71%
Mutual Fund	615.4	615.0	603.30	+0.08%	+2.01%
General Insurance	2,335.1	2,289.6	2,772.79	+1.99%	-15.78%
Life Insurance	1,532.8	1,515.4	1,827.34	+1.15%	-16.12%
Telecommunication	4,553.8	4,495.6	5,185.99	+1.30%	-12.19%
Pharmaceutical	2,710.9	2,680.7	2,959.70	+1.13%	-8.41%
Fuel & Power	1,049.7	1,025.2	1,108.63	+2.39%	-5.31%
Cement	1,674.3	1,667.2	1,957.26	+0.43%	-14.46%
Services & Real Estate	892.5	870.8	1,013.65	+2.49%	-11.95%
Engineering	2,186.1	2,141.9	2,496.75	+2.06%	-12.44%
Food & Allied	13,680.3	13,411.2	17,177.59	+2.01%	-20.36%
IT	1,639.1	1,634.4	1,994.92	+0.28%	-17.84%
Textile	982.3	970.4	1,093.38	+1.23%	-10.16%
Paper & Printing	3,884.5	3,846.1	3,998.20	+1.00%	-2.84%
Tannery	1,844.1	1,822.8	2,020.25	+1.17%	-8.72%
Jute	10,188.4	9,222.5	14,455.60	+10.47%	-29.52%
Ceramics	359.8	354.4	359.12	+1.52%	+0.18%
Miscellaneous	4,103.1	4,109.7	4,252.62	-0.16%	-3.52%

**Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix**

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	487.6	434.6	+12.19%	+21.92%	17.8x	0.6x
NBFI	33.2	51.3	-35.31%	+1.49%	NM	NM
Mutual Fund	83.2	132.2	-37.05%	+3.74%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	78.9	79.3	-0.61%	+3.55%	11.2x	1.0x
Life Insurance	36.9	49.3	-25.24%	+1.66%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	29.5	36.4	-19.09%	+1.33%	14.1x	3.4x
Pharmaceutical	243.0	264.4	-8.10%	+10.93%	11.9x	1.4x
Fuel & Power	137.4	237.0	-42.03%	+6.18%	17.5x	0.6x
Cement	26.8	24.0	+11.65%	+1.21%	19.1x	1.7x
Services & Real Estate	84.1	61.6	+36.46%	+3.78%	22.6x	0.4x
Engineering	172.5	259.5	-33.51%	+7.76%	11.3x	0.7x
Food & Allied	324.5	275.4	+17.80%	+14.59%	14.5x	4.0x
IT	28.6	52.0	-44.92%	+1.29%	18.2x	1.4x
Textile	236.7	236.3	+0.14%	+10.64%	NM	0.7x
Paper & Printing	43.8	64.2	-31.66%	+1.97%	NM	0.8x
Tannery	14.4	24.1	-40.34%	+0.65%	63.2x	1.5x
Jute	14.1	6.7	+111.22%	+0.63%	NM	NM
Ceramics	50.9	93.6	-45.57%	+2.29%	NM	1.0x
Miscellaneous	97.8	83.9	+16.63%	+4.40%	87.7x	1.8x

**Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe**

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
ISLAMIBANK	33.6	-30.6%	54,096	11.6x	0.7x
BATBC	267.0	-27.4%	144,180	8.7x	2.7x
PIONEERINS	35.2	-26.7%	3,443	7.6x	0.8x
ADNTEL	62.5	-26.6%	4,041	11.1x	1.9x
KPCL	9.7	-26.0%	3,855	28.5x	0.5x
POWERGRID	31.3	-25.1%	28,602	NM	0.2x
UNIQUEHRL	33.3	-24.7%	9,804	7.7x	0.4x
RENATA	479.5	-24.5%	54,997	19.5x	1.6x
EGEN	18.5	-24.2%	1,388	23.1x	0.8x
RECKITTEN	3,331.6	-23.4%	15,742	20.9x	8.7x

\*BDT

\*BDT Mn

## Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

### Trade deficit narrows 2.6% in July-April

- The country's trade deficit narrowed by 2.60% in the first ten months of the current fiscal year compared to the same period a year ago, thanks to a rise in export earnings coupled with subdued imports. During the July-April period of fiscal year (FY) 2024-25, the trade gap was USD 18.22 Bn, down from USD 18.70 Bn in the corresponding period of FY24.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/trade-deficit-narrows-26-july-april-3910596>

### Reducing penalty on false declarations will encourage smuggling: experts

- In the Finance Ordinance 2025–26, presented on Monday, the government proposed amending the Customs Act 2023 and revising the penalty structure for tax evasion related to intentional false declarations during import clearance, reducing the minimum fine from twice the evaded amount to an equivalent sum.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/reducing-penalty-false-declarations-will-encourage-smuggling-experts-3910591>

### Chambers warn budget may hurt business, investment

- Just a day after the interim government proposed the national budget and tax measures for fiscal year 2025-26, leading business chambers expressed significant concern that several measures could potentially impede business growth and affect investment.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/chambers-warn-budget-may-hurt-business-investment-3910541>

### Inflation to drop below 7% within September

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur expressed hope that inflation would come down to below 7% by August or September this year. The inflation rate stood at 9.05% in May, down from 9.17% a month earlier.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/inflation-drop-below-7-within-september-3910841>

### Proposed budget people-, business-friendly: finance adviser

- Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed has said the proposed national budget for the 2025–26 fiscal year is both people- and business-friendly.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/proposed-budget-people-business-friendly-finance-adviser-3910301>

### Budget targets chocolate, lipstick

- If you're planning to import cheap lipstick into Bangladesh anytime soon, think again. The country's interim government, in its latest budget, has quietly declared war on undervalued imports with a series of oddly specific tweaks to customs rules. Among the victims: chocolate bars, lipsticks, eye shadow, and -- wait for it -- inflatable toys. Lipstick? Now USD 40/kg, up from USD20. And that cheap inflatable unicorn your kid's been begging for? Add 14% to the price tag, thanks to a new floor of USD 4 per unit (up from USD 3.50).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/budget-targets-chocolate-lipstick-3910476>

### Exports in May highest in 23 months

- Bangladesh recorded USD 4.73 Bn in exports in May, the highest in at least 23 months, owing to increased shipments of manufactured commodities, especially apparel, ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha festival to be celebrated on Saturday. Exports grew 11.45% in May this fiscal year (2024-25) from USD 4.25 Bn in the same month the previous year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/exports-may-highest-23-months-3910866>

### Remittance jumps 32% in May

- Bangladesh recorded a sharp rise in remittance inflows in May, as migrant workers sent more money home in the run-up to Eid-ul-Azha, which falls in early June. Funds sent by migrant workers and non-resident Bangladeshis reached USD 2.97 Bn last month, up 32% from the same period a year earlier, according to data released by the Bangladesh Bank yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/remittance-jumps-32-may-3908811>

### Black money whitening not commendable

- Finance Adviser Dr Salehuddin Ahmed has acknowledged that the opportunity to whiten black money in the proposed national budget is not a commendable measure and hinted that this provision might be reviewed, if required.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/black-money-whitening-not-commendable-1748975192>

### BD becoming self-reliant in air shipment of its exports

- A surprise Indian restriction on aerial transshipment taboo on Bangladesh exports turns a blessing in disguise with the latter poised to become self-reliant in air shipment, officials say. Airfreight facilities are taking a facelift at all the country's international.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-becoming-self-reliant-in-air-shipment-of-its-exports-1748975422>

### **Highly ambitious budget's implementation to be difficult**

- The proposed national budget for the fiscal year 2025-26 has been termed highly ambitious by panellists at a post-budget discussion, who said its implementation will be difficult in the current economic and political contexts.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/highly-ambitious-budgets-implementation-to-be-difficult-1748975903>

### **Govt eases tax burden for company funds**

- Source tax deducted from various company funds will be treated as final settlement effective from the fiscal 2025-26, eliminating the need for annual tax returns and audits for these funds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/govt-eases-tax-burden-company-funds-1159736>

### **Private sector credit growth slips slightly to 7.50% in April after March rebound**

- Private sector credit growth eased slightly to 7.50% in April 2025, down from 7.57% in March, according to the latest data released by the Bangladesh Bank. This small decline comes after a notable rebound in March, when the rate had increased by 0.75% points from February's 6.82%, reaching its highest level in four months.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/private-sector-credit-growth-slips-slightly-750-april-after-march-rebound-1159731>

### **Businesses decry turnover tax hike**

- The interim government's proposal to raise the turnover tax from 0.6 percent to 1 percent from the next fiscal year has sparked an outcry among business leaders, who said the measure could deal a fresh blow to firms already struggling to stay afloat.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/businesses-decry-turnover-tax-hike-3910856>

### **BANK | Sonali Bank profit jumps 32% to BDT 9.88 Bn in 2024**

- Sonali Bank, country's largest state-owned bank, reported that its consolidated net profit jumped by 32% to BDT 9.88 Bn in 2024 compared to the previous year. According to the bank's audited statement filed on its website, its consolidated earnings per share was BDT 21.82, which was BDT 16.50 a year ago.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sonali-bank-profit-jumps-32-tk988cr-2024-1159726>

### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS | VAT hike deals fresh blow to local handset industry**

- Bangladesh's mobile phone manufacturing industry, once hailed as a potential pillar of the country's digital ambitions, is bracing for a fresh blow after the interim government proposed a hike in value-added tax (VAT) at the production stage in the national budget for fiscal year 2025-26. Under the new structure, the VAT on handsets made entirely from locally produced components was raised from 2% to 4%.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/vat-hike-deals-fresh-blow-local-handset-industry-3910861>

### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS | Truely secures USD 2 Mn to accelerate global expansion**

- Travel tech company Truely has secured USD 2 Mn in fresh funding to accelerate its expansion in the eSIM market. This brings the company's total funding to USD 5.5 Mn following a previous raise of USD 3.5 Mn in October 2024.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/truely-secures-2m-accelerate-global-expansion-3910451>

### **FUEL & POWER | LNG re-gasification hits record high at 1,050 mmcf**

- Bangladesh's liquefied natural gas (LNG) re-gasification reached its highest level ever on Monday as the regular berthing of LNG tankers to the floating storage and regasification units (FSRUs) resumed, following last week's rough weather in the Bay of Bengal. The country's LNG re-gasification surged to 1,050 Mn cubic feet per day (mmcf) on the day, driven by the increased volume of LNG supply, according to official data.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/lng-re-gasification-hits-record-high-at-1050-mmcf-1748975516>

### **AVIATION | Biman eyes 30% rise in cargo handling this year**

- Biman Bangladesh Airlines, the sole ground handler at the country's airports, eyes a 30% rise in its handling of both domestic and international cargoes to reach 0.434 Mn tonnes this year. Biman handled 0.334 Mn metric tons of international and domestic cargo in 2019, it said in a press release.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/biman-eyes-30pc-rise-in-cargo-handling-this-year-1748975987>

**TRADE | ICD-bound containers allowed direct delivery from Ctg port amid congestion dispute**

- A temporary resolution has been reached in the dispute between C&F (Clearing and Forwarding) agents and inland container depot (ICD) owners concerning the direct delivery of ICD-bound import containers from Chattogram Port.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/icd-bound-containers-allowed-direct-delivery-ctg-port-amid-congestion-dispute-1159646>

**Balancing economic revival, inflation prime promise**

- Nearly 10 months after inheriting a faltering economy marked by institutional collapse, many near-empty banks, fastest-depleting forex reserves and inflation running high, the interim government on Monday unveiled its maiden budget prepared taking ground realities into cognizance.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/balancing-economic-revival-inflation-prime-promise-1748887733>

**Targets realistic, say economists**

- Eminent economists hail the proposed budgetary measures as realistic in the current economic context at home and abroad, save some reservations. They are critical of an "ambitious" revenue target and retaining the scope for legalising undisclosed incomes as weak points of the budget proposed by the post-uprising government.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/targets-realistic-say-economists-1748887889>

**FY26 GDP growth target set at 5.5%**

- The interim government has backtracked from the previous administration's ambitious macro-economic targets as it is expecting 5.505 economic growth in the next fiscal year. It has also revised down the current fiscal year's gross domestic product (GDP) growth target to 5.0% from the earlier 6.75%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/fy26-gdp-growth-target-set-at-55pc-1748888141>

**Black money whitening allowed at a huge cost**

- Black-money holders would need to pay up to five-time higher taxes to whiten their money investing in real estate from July as the interim government retains the budgetary amnesty on harder conditions.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/black-money-whitening-allowed-at-a-huge-cost-1748888010>

**Target pared down to 8.0% this June, 6.50% by next**

- City-dwellers still feel the bite of high food prices although overall inflation eases by latest official count and the interim government pares the rate down progressively from July in the forthcoming fiscal year. The carried-over high inflation is still close to a double-digit level while the post-uprising government now fixes budgetary targets to tame it down to 8.0% this June and 6.50% by the end of the fiscal year (FY) 2025-26.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/target-pared-down-to-80pc-this-june-650pc-by-next-1748888091>

**Phasing out of protective tariffs proposed**

- The government has announced phasing out of protective tariffs for the local manufacturing industries in a bid to prepare for graduation from the least developed country status, due in November 2026. It also facilitated import of goods for the same purpose.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/phasing-out-of-protective-tariffs-proposed-1748888200>

**Listed cos to be benefitted from tax incentives**

- The government has offered tax advantages to local manufacturers of medicines, two-wheelers and three-wheelers and to the makers of electrical and electronics goods for FY26.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/listed-cos-to-be-benefitted-from-tax-incentives-1748888287>

**Budget proposes tax cuts to boost telecom, startups**

- The interim government has unveiled a tech-focused fiscal agenda in the proposed national budget for FY 2025-26, offering tax relief for telecom operators and internet service providers while expanding incentives for local startups.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/budget-proposes-tax-cuts-to-boost-telecom-startups-1748888245>

**Plan to cut electricity generation cost by 10%**

- The interim government has planned to reduce the overall cost of power generation by 10%. Finance Adviser Dr Salehuddin Ahmed unveiled the government's plan in his recorded budget speech televised on Monday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/plan-to-cut-electricity-generation-cost-by-10pc-1748891015>

### **Easily attainable target to lure cos into listing**

- Listed companies may get a tax rebate by 2.5 percentage points to 20% for FY26 and FY27 if income from all sources is transacted through banks, according to the budget laid out on Monday. The conditions for the rebate have been relaxed this time in the sense that the rebate was earlier subject to digital footprints against every single transaction exceeding BDT 0.5 Mn and annual expenses and investments exceeding BDT 3.6 Mn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/easily-attainable-target-to-lure-cos-into-listing-1748889636>

### **Initiatives proposed to create 15,000 new SME entrepreneurs**

- The government has proposed initiatives to create 15,000 new entrepreneurs in the small and medium enterprises (SME) sector over the next three years. Additionally, it plans to train 25,000 SME entrepreneurs to facilitate the establishment of product display and sales centres in divisional cities, organise regional SME product fairs in districts, and develop a central database of CMSME entrepreneurs.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/initiatives-proposed-to-create-15000-new-sme-entrepreneurs-1748890870>

### **Govt eyes BDT 50 Bn fund for public-private partnerships in FY26**

- In a push to stimulate investment, the proposed national budget for fiscal year 2025–26 has earmarked BDT 50.4 Bn for Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). In a push to stimulate investment, the proposed national budget for fiscal year 2025–26 has earmarked BDT 50.4 Bn for Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-eyes-50b-fund-for-public-private-partnerships-in-fy26>

### **Tariff rationalisation: Experts warn more competition for local industry**

- With Bangladesh set to graduate from the least developed country (LDC) status by November next year, and in light of the recent tariff hikes by the United States, the government has announced a sweeping reduction in import tariffs on nearly 500 items in the proposed national budget for FY26. Experts, however, warn that this tariff rationalisation could expose domestic import-substitute industries to increased competition.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/tariff-rationalisation-experts-warn-more-competition-local-industry-1158771>

### **Budget targets ex-citizens' laundered assets**

- One of the main targets of this government is the recovery of stolen assets, or assets that have been pilfered abroad through capital flight. One of the main targets of this government is the recovery of stolen assets, or assets that have been pilfered abroad through capital flight. To this end, the finance adviser in his budget speech declared that Bangladeshi-origin taxpayers who have later renounced their Bangladeshi citizenship but have transferred income earned in Bangladesh abroad will be penalised.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/bangladesh-budget-2025-26/news/budget-targets-ex-citizens-laundered-assets-3909936>

### **TELECOM | Tax rebate for mobile operators with 20% free float**

- A telecom operator will enjoy a 10% tax rebate if it floats 20% shares to get listed on the bourses. Banglalink is the only operator that has been in discussion for public listing for a long time. So, the tax incentive may be intended to pave the way for the listing of Banglalink.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/tax-rebate-for-mobile-operators-with-20pc-free-float-1748889813>

### **BANK | Govt launches finance sector reforms to restore confidence, reveal true banking sector health**

- The government has launched sweeping reforms to overhaul Bangladesh's troubled banking sector, aiming to restore depositor confidence and bring transparency to a system plagued by years of misgovernance and corruption.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/govt-launches-finance-sector-reforms-to-restore-confidence-reveal-truebanking-sector-health-1748890150>

### **FUEL & POWER | 12kg LPG cylinder price cut by BDT 28 for June**

- Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) has set the retail price of 12 kg LPG as BDT 1,403 for June, making it cheaper by BDT 28. The BERC slashed the LPG selling price for private operators in line with the downtrend of oil and gas prices in international market.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/12kg-lpg-cylinder-price-cut-by-tk-28-for-june-1748890375>

**FOOD & ALLIED | Decline in agro growth hits overall economy in FY'25**

- Bangladesh's agricultural growth has dropped significantly in the outgoing fiscal year (FY2024-25), falling to just 1.79% compared to 3.3% in FY2023-24. Experts warn that this notable slowdown in agriculture—the country's largest employment-generating sector—could have a ripple effect on the broader economy.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/decline-in-agro-growth-hits-overall-economy-in-fy25-1748891068>

**FOOD & ALLIED | Govt to raise foodgrain procurement target for FY'26**

- After securing an impressive 3.38 Mn tonnes of foodgrain for public storage in the outgoing fiscal year (FY2024-25), the government has set a higher procurement target of 3.7 Mn tonnes for the upcoming fiscal year (FY2025-26).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/budget-2025-26/govt-to-raise-foodgrain-procurement-target-for-fy26-1748891132>

**RMG | Budget measures to benefit RMG industry: BGMEA**

- The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has applauded the government announcement to keep the source tax on exports and corporate tax for industries unchanged in the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-26. In a positive development for industry, the budget outlines plans to reduce the overall cost of electricity generation by 10% to gradually decrease subsidies in the power sector, said the BGMEA. Furthermore, a decision has been made not to raise electricity prices shortly to control inflation, which the BGMEA deems a highly beneficial step for industries, it said.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget-measures-benefit-rmg-industry-bgmea-1158731>

**REAL ESTATE | Budget FY26: Housing sector may take a hit, flat prices set to rise**

- The proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025-26 brings little good news for the housing sector. After reviewing the budget, stakeholders have said it may further increase the risks already facing the sector. Due to an increase in VAT on services provided by housing companies, buyers of flats and commercial spaces will now face higher costs. Currently, VAT in this sector is 7.5%. In the upcoming fiscal year, it will rise to 10%. The budget also proposes to increase import duties on raw materials used in construction — particularly for rods and angle bars — from 7.5% to 10%. This means that BDT 1,700 in tax will be payable per tonne of rod under the new budget.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget-fy26-housing-sector-may-take-hit-flat-prices-set-rise-1158626>

**Interim govt unveils its maiden BDT 7.9 Tn budget today**

- Post-uprising interim government is set to present today its maiden national budget worth BDT 7.9 Tn for the fiscal year 2025-26, avowedly aligned with reforms and income parity. With no functioning parliament existing following the July-August changeover, the budget will be presented at 3.00pm outside Jatiya Sangsad (national parliament) and broadcast simultaneously on state-run BTV and other private media outlets.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/interim-govt-unveils-its-maiden-tk-79t-budget-today-1748801657>

**CA urges Chinese investors to build production hubs in BD**

- Chief Advisor Prof Muhammad Yunus called upon Chinese investors to help transform Bangladesh into a "production hub" as a big band of entrepreneurs from Beijing, led by their commerce minister, are here exploring business prospects.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/ca-urges-chinese-investors-to-build-production-hubs-in-bd-1748801749>

**May sees second-highest remittance flow of USD 2.97 Bn**

- Rising remittance inflows fetched Bangladesh USD 2.97 Bn in May, the second-highest monthly receipt in its history, giving a much-needed respite to the economy facing multipronged strains amid forex dearth in recent times.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/may-sees-second-highest-remittance-flow-of-297b-1748802044>

**Several future tax rates to be outlined**

- Several tax rates, both for individual and corporate taxpayers, would come in a prospective manner in the FY26 budget, with effect from July 2026 in a bid to help taxpayers properly plan their taxes. Individual taxpayers will enjoy an upward revision of their tax-free ceiling by BDT 25,000 from July 2026 on their income for the tax year 2025-26, officials said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/several-future-tax-rates-to-be-outlined-1748802106>

**A budget meant to fix, not to dream**

- This year's national budget does not come from an elected government—it arrives from an interim administration, arguably the most technocratic Bangladesh has seen in recent memory. Unburdened by the usual political calculations, this government has the space—and perhaps the will—to confront hard truths.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/budget-meant-fix-not-dream-1157471>

### **Reform in customs clearance, visa regime a must to boost FDI**

- Reform in the customs clearance procedure and visa regime is imperative to boost the inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI) into Bangladesh, Park Young-sik, South Korea's Ambassador to Bangladesh, said on Sunday. He emphasised the urgent need for Bangladesh to undertake economic and policy reforms to attract higher levels of FDI, particularly in light of its impending graduation from least-developed country (LDC) status in 2026.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/reform-in-customs-clearance-visa-regime-a-must-to-boost-fdi-1748802467>

### **Advance tax on bus, truck, taxi to rise by up to 88%**

- Advance tax on commercial vehicles such as buses and trucks is set to rise by as much as 88%, which could lead to higher transportation costs, according to industry insiders. Currently, advance tax on 13 types of commercially operated motor vehicles ranges from BDT 4,000 to BDT 37,500. According to sources in the finance ministry, the new rates could range from BDT 7,000 to BDT 50,000.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/advance-tax-bus-truck-taxi-rise-88-1157491>

### **Primary education to see funding cut, madrasah budget to rise**

- While allocations for primary and mass education in the national budget for the fiscal year 2025-26 are set to decrease compared to both the original and revised budgets of the current fiscal year, the technical and madrasah education sector, along with secondary and higher education, will see increased funding.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/primary-education-see-funding-cut-madrasah-budget-rise-1157486>

### **Two questions, two ironies the budget must address**

- In the forthcoming 2025-26 budget, two pressing questions warrant urgent attention: how to bolster domestic resource mobilisation and how to secure financing to mitigate post-Covid poverty and income losses. These questions are not merely fiscal but are deeply entwined with historical ironies and systemic failures that continue to haunt the nation's development trajectory. A third concern, whether the budget will offer a path out of the debt spiral, was discussed in this newspaper on May 25, 2025.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/two-questions-two-ironies-the-budget-must-address-3908706>

### **Govt spending in Bangladesh lowest among LDC graduating peers**

- Bangladesh's public spending as a share of gross domestic product (GDP) is the lowest among nations on course to graduate from the least developed country (LDC) club. Economists say that this low level of expenditure, both operational costs and development outlays, could weaken the foundations of the country's transition and leave the economy vulnerable on several fronts once it loses LDC status.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-spending-bangladesh-lowest-among-ldc-graduating-peers-3909076>

### **Black money may still find its way into real estate**

- The interim government is likely to retain the opportunity to invest undeclared wealth, commonly known as black money, in the real estate sector, albeit with a sharp increase in associated tax rates. Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed is likely to announce the new rate, which may potentially see a five-fold rise from current levels, while unveiling the national budget for the fiscal year 2025–26 today.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/black-money-may-still-find-its-way-real-estate-3909056>

### **Budget for FY26: OTT platforms may get costlier**

- The interim government is likely to impose a 10% supplementary duty on over-the-top (OTT) platform services in the upcoming budget for the fiscal year 2025-26 — a move that is expected to raise consumer costs and increase spending on paid streaming services.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/budget-fy26-ott-platforms-may-get-costlier-3908781>

### **TCB gets BDT 150 Bn from govt to offset its trade gap**

- The government has provided Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) with BDT 150 Bn as subsidy to help offset its trade gap for current fiscal 2024-'25 on account of selling key essentials at subsidised rates.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/tcb-gets-tk150b-from-govt-to-offset-its-trade-gap>

### **Jobs drying up as private sector struggles to survive**

- As companies scale back and fight for survival, Bangladesh's private sector — the lifeline of its labour market — is slowly fading. Inflation, currency swings, energy shortages, and political tensions have battered businesses for the last three years. The result: job losses are piling up quietly in a sector that employs nearly 95% of the entire workforce.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/jobs-drying-private-sector-struggles-survive-1156686>

**FUEL & POWER | Bapex finds gas presence at Jamalganj well**

- Fresh natural gas has been found in a well at Jamalganj of Madarganj Upazilla in Jamalpur district, an official of Bapex said on Sunday. "Bapex discovered the presence of gas at Madarganj, Jamalpur during preliminary tests," Mohammad Mozammel Hoque, Drilling Superintendent and project director of Jamalpur-1 exploration well project, told BSS.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bapex-finds-gas-presence-at-jamalganj-well-1748802168>

**BANK | 7.5 Mn more small depositors to gain excise duty exemption next fiscal**

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) is set to ease excise duty for small and middle-income bank depositors by raising the tax-free threshold from BDT 0.1 Mn to BDT 0.3 Mn in the upcoming fiscal year, benefiting additional 7.5 Mn depositors. Analysis of central bank data shows the total tax burden for these depositors will decrease by BDT 1.12 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/75-lakh-more-small-depositors-gain-excise-duty-exemption-next-fiscal-1156691>

**TELECOM | Prices of local mobile phones may increase**

- According to officials at the Ministry of Finance, companies involved in surface-mount technology (SMT) and general assembly processes may see VAT rates rise to 10% from the current 7.5%.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/prices-of-local-mobile-phones-may-increase>

**Interim govt unveils first budget tomorrow**

- Finance Adviser Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed is set to unveil the first budget of the interim government tomorrow (Monday), at a time when the country's economy is grappling with multiple challenges, including persistently high inflation and a slump in private investment.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/interim-govt-unveils-first-budget-tomorrow>

**Rollback of protective taxes begins under new budget**

- An envisaged rollback of protective taxes on 'made-in -Bangladesh' package of products begins in the upcoming fiscal year with the planned levying of standard 15% VAT on all goods after 2030. Also, income tax for corporate taxpayers, irrespective of being in profit or loss, is poised to go up to 1.0% from the existing 0.6%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/rollback-of-protective-taxes-begins-under-new-budget-1748713497>

**Budget to set 10 priorities**

- Facing inflation fatigue and fiscal strain, Bangladesh's interim government is betting on discipline over expansion in a new budget built around 10 priorities to stabilise the economy. To be unveiled tomorrow, the budget gives top billing to inflation control, with a target of 6.5% in the fiscal year beginning July 1. That restraint is matched by a modest growth projection of 5.5%, reflecting a shift away from the expansionary stance of recent years as the government responds to prolonged economic pressures and warnings of rising poverty from global organisations.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/bangladesh-budget-2025-26/news/budget-set-10-priorities-3908271>

**High-powered panel formed to attract FDI**

- The government has formed a high-level committee to explore and recommend incentive mechanisms for increasing foreign direct investment (FDI) in Bangladesh. According to a gazette notification issued by the chief adviser's office on May 29, the five-member committee will be led by Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/high-powered-panel-formed-attract-fdi-3908006>

**Low imports, low confidence, low growth: Is Bangladesh in a slow-burning crisis?**

- When Bangladesh's annual imports plummet by USD 10 Bn, the economic fallout extends far beyond that figure. Experts and business leaders warn that the true cost could be double, or even more, as the decline signals a deeper economic malaise.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/low-imports-low-confidence-low-growth-bangladesh-slow-burning-crisis-1156666>

**Tax-free income ceiling to be raised, slabs restructured**

- While the government plans to offer a minor concession to marginal taxpayers by raising the tax-free income threshold by BDT 25,000 to BDT 0.38 Mn, nearly all other taxpayers are set to face increased tax burdens in the upcoming national budget, according to officials concerned.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/tax-free-income-ceiling-be-raised-slabs-restructured-1156586>

### **BDT 21 Bn be set aside for election expenses in FY26 budget**

- The finance ministry is expected to earmark nearly BDT 21 Bn in the FY2025-26 national budget for the Election Commission (EC) to cover the costs of the upcoming parliamentary elections and multiple local government polls. A ministry official, requesting anonymity, told TBS that the EC had initially sought BDT 59.22 Bn to conduct around 2,500 elections, including national, city corporation, district and upazila council, municipality, and union parishad elections—both general and by-elections.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/fy26-budget-govt-allocate-tk2100cr-upcoming-national-local-govt-elections-1156251>

### **Multiple factors impede MSMEs' growth set**

- Bangladesh's highest job creating small and medium enterprises has been showing a grim picture over the last few years as their production shortfall is casting a long shadow over the nation's employment landscape, analysts said on Saturday. According to recent data by the BBS, the year-on-year industrial production growth rate in MSMEs lowered to only 5.07% in FY2024.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/multiple-factors-impede-msmes-growth-1748713787>

### **Japan eyes Bangladesh as key investment hub**

- Emerging from the initial uncertainty following last year's political transition, Japan has re-engaged with Bangladesh in a robust way, which was reflected during Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus' recent visit to Tokyo, according to foreign-policy and trade analysts. During the trip, Japan agreed to provide Bangladesh with budgetary support alongside loans and grants worth USD 1.063 Bn, while eight other memoranda of understanding were signed covering human-resource development, worker recruitment, the business environment, and factory set-ups in the Bangladesh Special Economic Zone.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/japan-eyes-bangladesh-key-investment-hub-3907996>

### **Budget may offer major tax breaks for capital market**

- The upcoming national budget for FY2025–26 is expected to feature significant tax relief measures aimed at revitalising Bangladesh's capital market, which has been struggling amid weak investor confidence. Key proposals may include widening the corporate tax gap between listed and non-listed companies to 7.5% (from the current 5%), reducing advance income tax (AIT) on securities trading from 0.05% to 0.03%, and lowering the corporate tax rate for merchant banks by 10 percentage points to 27.5%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/budget-may-offer-major-tax-breaks-capital-market-1156641>

### **China vows to boost Bangladesh's export capacity**

- Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao has said China is willing to help Bangladesh improve its export capacity, promote the integrated development of trade and investment, jointly maintain the multilateral trading system and inject more stability and certainty into the world economy. The Chinese minister laid emphasis on promoting the continuous development of the China-Bangladesh comprehensive strategic partnership, strengthen cooperation in trade, e-commerce, production and supply chains and investment.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/china-vows-boost-bangladeshs-export-capacity-1156661>

### **Bangladesh targets global trade alignment with sweeping tariff changes**

- As Bangladesh prepares to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in 2026, the government is planning significant structural reforms in the FY2025–26 budget. These reforms aim to streamline its tariff regime, curbing overprotection of local industries and aligning trade practices with global standards.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-targets-global-trade-alignment-sweeping-tariff-changes-1155156>

### **Tax exemptions for key industries to go, sweeping tax hikes planned**

- In a significant fiscal policy shift, the Bangladeshi government is set to withdraw numerous tax exemptions for key local industries in the upcoming national budget. These changes, anticipated to take effect from the next financial year, will substantially increase the tax burden on a wide range of sectors, from manufacturing and construction to e-commerce.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/tax-exemptions-key-industries-go-sweeping-tax-hikes-planned-1155706>

### **Extra incomes from past land sales can be legalised by paying 15% tax**

- Incomes from land sales over deed value during the past five years can now be legalised by paying a 15% tax as the revenue authorities plan to bring undeclared proceeds from property sales into the formal economy. According to sources at the finance ministry and the National Board of Revenue (NBR), the excess amount received from selling land or apartments over the deed value will be considered capital gain and taxed at a flat rate of 15%. This benefit will apply to income from the past five years.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/extra-incomes-past-land-sales-can-be-legalised-paying-15-tax-1156571>

**Bangladesh entrepreneurs urged to tap USD 10 Tn global packaging market**

- Given its labour-intensive nature and relatively low investment requirements, local entrepreneurs should capitalise on the potential of the USD 10 Tn global packaging industry, which is nine times larger than the apparel sector, offering significant opportunities for Bangladesh to diversify its export basket. Mahbubur Rahman, secretary at the commerce ministry, made the remarks while speaking at the launch event of the Export Market Intelligence Platform, held at a hotel in the capital today (29 May).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-entrepreneurs-urged-tap-10-trillion-global-packaging-market-1154986>

**SME production boost effort through common facility centres stalled for lack of funds**

- An effort by the SME Foundation to establish common facility centres (CFCs) for small and medium enterprise (SME) entrepreneurs across Bangladesh, aimed at enhancing production and improving product quality through the use of modern technology and machinery, has remained stalled for years due to a lack of adequate funding.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/sme-production-boost-effort-through-common-facility-centres-stalled-lack-funds-1155726>

**Bangladesh repays USD 3.5 Bn foreign debt in 10 months of FY25**

- Bangladesh repaid USD 3.5 Bn in foreign loans during the first 10 months of the current fiscal year 2024-25, exceeding the USD 3.37 Bn repaid in the entire previous fiscal. Data from the Economic Relations Division (ERD) released today (29 May) show a 24.73% year-on-year rise in total external debt repayments in the July-April period of FY25. In the same corresponding period of FY24, the amount repaid was USD 2.81 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-repays-35b-debt-10-months-fy25-1154731>

**Bida to host China-Bangladesh conference on investment**

- The Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida) is set to host the China-Bangladesh Conference on Investment and Trade on June 1 as part of efforts to attract foreign investment. The day-long summit is being jointly organised by the governments of Bangladesh and China. According to Bida sources, the event will feature around 250 Chinese investors and business delegates representing nearly 100 enterprises, including senior executives from six to seven Fortune 500 companies.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bida-host-china-bangladesh-conference-investment-3906546>

**FUEL & POWER | Nuclear power project clinches highest chunk, over BDT 100 Bn outlay**

- Now nearing completing, the gargantuan Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant project is set to receive BDT 100.12 Bn, the highest single recipient, from the Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the upcoming fiscal year. This power-generation project under the Ministry of Science and Technology has also received the highest allocation in the ADP for several consecutive years, said officials from the programming division of the Planning Commission.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/nuclear-power-project-clinches-highest-chunk-over-tk-100b-outlay>

**FUEL & POWER | Govt slashes diesel, petrol, octane prices**

- The government has adjusted fuel prices for the month of June in line with latest international market prices. Diesel price came down by BDT 2.0 per litre, petrol and octane by BDT 3.0 per litre for the month of June. Kerosene price surged by BDT 10 a litre. Under the new rates, diesel price has been re-fixed at BDT 102 per litre, petrol price at BDT 118 and octane at BDT 122 and kerosene at BDT 114 a litre.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-slashes-diesel-petrol-octane-prices-1748713648>

**FUEL & POWER | Industries may get addl gas soon after weather improves**

- The government expects to significantly augment natural gas supply to industries as soon as the ongoing rough weather, hampering the unloading and re-gasification of liquefied natural gas (LNG) for the past several days, subsides.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/industries-may-get-addl-gas-soon-after-weather-improves-1748714177>

**ENGINEERING | Industry leaders urge dedicated industrial park for light engineering sector**

- The Bangladesh Engineering Industry Owners' Association (BEIOA) has urged the government to establish a dedicated industrial park for the country's light engineering sector – similar to the Savar Leather Industrial Park, where entrepreneurs were provided plots at subsidised rates.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/leather-light-engineering-sector-also-needs-industrial-park-industry-leaders>

## Important News: Stocks

### EXCHANGE | Budget offers mixed bag of benefits, threats for capital market

- The proposed budget for FY26 offers tax benefits for some specific sectors while imposing higher taxes on other industries where growth is not under the agenda of the government for attaining economic stability. EBL Securities distinguished both the groups in a budget review and explained why one group will benefit but the other will endure more obstacles to smooth business operations.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/budget-offers-mixed-bag-of-benefits-threats-for-capital-market-1748977013>

### RUPALIBANK | Monirul Haque new CEO of Rupali Investment

- Md Monirul Haque has recently been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Rupali Investment Limited, a subsidiary company of state-owned Rupali Bank PLC and a merchant bank. Earlier this year, he was promoted to the position of General Manager through a notification issued by the Financial Institutions Division, says a statement.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/monirul-haque-new-ceo-of-rupali-investment-1748977158>

### SEAPEARL | Sea Pearl upgraded to B, stock gains nearly 8%

- After over five months in the Z category due to non-compliance for failing to hold its annual general meeting (AGM), Sea Pearl Beach Resort has been reinstated to the B category following a delayed AGM.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sea-pearl-upgraded-b-stock-gains-nearly-8-1159581>

### DHAKAINS | Dhaka Insurance recommends 10% cash dividend for 2024

- Dhaka Insurance, a non-life insurer in the country, has recommended a 10% cash dividend for its shares for 2024. The recommended dividend is 7% lower compared to 2023 as it paid 17% cash dividend to its shareholders. Due to lower dividend recommendation, shares price of Dhaka Insurance declined by 7.58% or BDT 2.7 each to BDT 32.90 each at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) today.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-insurance-recommends-10-cash-dividend-2024-1159596>

### EXCHANGE | DSE, brokers hail 'capital market-friendly' budget

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and the DSE Brokers Association of Bangladesh (DBA) have welcomed the national budget presented by the finance adviser on Monday, deeming it highly favourable for the country's capital market. DSE Chairman Mominul Islam expressed gratitude to the Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed for incorporating supportive policies aimed at developing Bangladesh's capital market, especially after the interim government assumed responsibility.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-brokers-hail-capital-market-friendly-budget-1159626>

### EXCHANGE | FY26 budget proposes share trade tax cut, wider tax gap, but higher source tax on bond interest

- Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed today (2 June) proposed several tax and regulatory measures in the FY2025-26 budget aimed at reviving Bangladesh's capital market, which has suffered from low investor confidence and past irregularities. Key proposals include widening the corporate tax gap between listed and non-listed companies to 7.5% (from the current 5%), reducing advance income tax (AIT) on securities trading from 0.05% to 0.03%, and lowering the corporate tax rate for merchant banks by 10 percentage points to 27.5%. However, the AIT or withholding tax rate on interest income from debt instruments increased to 10% from 5%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/fy26-budget-proposes-share-trade-tax-cut-wider-tax-gap-higher-source-tax-bond>

### FIRSTSBANK | First Security Islami Bank reports BDT 559.20 Bn in classified loans

- First Security Islami Bank has reported that its total classified loans stood at BDT 559.20 Bn at the end of 2024, accounting for a staggering 92% of its total loan disbursement. The bank also disclosed a provision shortfall of BDT 478.62 Bn as of 31 December 2024, which led its board of directors to forgo declaring any dividend for the year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/first-security-islami-bank-reports-tk55920cr-classified-loans-1157421>

### IFIC | IFIC Bank slipped into losses in 2024

- IFIC Bank PLC reported losses in 2024 compared to a profit in the previous year, due to lower interest spreads and deteriorating asset quality, according to a price-sensitive information disclosure by the bank. The bank reported a consolidated net loss of BDT 1.21 Bn in 2024.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/ific-bank-slipped-losses-2024-3908636>

**UCB | UCB to offer rights share**

- The United Commercial Bank (UCB), a leading private sector commercial bank, has announced a series of capital enhancement measures to strengthen its financial position. The bank's board has approved the issuance of one rights share for every two existing shares at an offer price of BDT 10 each.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ucb-to-offer-rights-share-1748804615>

**SIBL | Social Islami Bank reports BDT 209.94 Bn provision shortfall**

- Social Islami Bank has reported a provision shortfall of BDT 209.94 Bn as of 31 December 2024, prompting its board of directors to withhold any dividend declaration for the year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/social-islami-bank-reports-tk20994cr-provision-shortfall-1157406>

**RUPALIBANK | Rupali Bank's profit slumped 82% in 2024**

- Rupali Bank PLC's profit plummeted in 2024 due to declining operating income. The state-owned bank's profit dropped 82% year-on-year to BDT 112.2 Mn in 2024. The bank reported consolidated earnings per share (EPS) of BDT 0.23 for the year ending on December 31, 2024, down from BDT 1.28 (restated) a year earlier, according to a price-sensitive information disclosure.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rupali-banks-profit-slumped-82-2024-3908626>

**EXCHANGE | T-bills witness sharp rise in yields ahead of Eid-ul-Azha**

- The yields on treasury bills (T-bills) increased significantly on Sunday as banks expressed unwillingness to invest their excess liquidity in the securities ahead of the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha. The cut-off yield, generally known as interest rate, on the 91-day T-bills rose to 12.02% from 11.69% of the previous level while the yield on 182-day T-bills rose to 12.11% from 11.85%. However, the yield on 364-day T-bills reached 12.00% on the day from 11.75% earlier, according to the auction results.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/t-bills-witness-sharp-rise-in-yields-ahead-of-eid-ul-azha>

**BANKASIA | Yet another jewel in the Bank Asia's crown**

- In a significant development within the country's banking sector, Bank Asia PLC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bank Alfalah Limited, one of the largest commercial banks in Pakistan, in which Bank Asia will acquire the Bangladesh Operations of Bank Alfalah Ltd.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/print/yet-another-jewel-in-the-bank-asias-crown-1748710256>

**ALARABANK | Al-Arafah Islami Bank will not pay dividend for 2024**

- Al-Arafah Islami Bank has decided not to pay dividend to its shareholders for 2024. According to the bank's price sensitive statement that was approved at a board meeting held yesterday (28 May), its consolidated earnings per share was BDT 0.66 in 2024, which was 68% lower from BDT 2.04 in the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/al-arafah-islami-bank-will-not-pay-dividend-2024-1154381>

**RUPALIBANK | Rupali Bank reports BDT 153.75 Bn provision shortfall, no dividend for 2024**

- State-owned Rupali Bank has reported a massive provision shortfall of BDT 153.75 Bn as of 31 December 2024, prompting its board of directors to withhold any dividend declaration for the year. According to a bank's disclosure, a sharp decline in profit and its failure to meet the required provision levels under Bangladesh Bank's policy were the main reasons behind the decision.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/rupali-bank-reports-tk15375cr-provision-shortfall-no-dividend-2024-1156596>

**IFIC | IFIC Bank incurs BDT 5 Bn loss in Jan-Mar**

- IFIC Bank has reported a loss of BDT 5 Bn in the January–March quarter of this year, primarily due to a deterioration in asset quality. According to sources, the bank disclosed its unaudited quarterly financial statement at a board meeting on 29 May. During the first quarter, its consolidated loss per share stood at BDT 2.60, compared to an earnings per share of BDT 0.21 in the same period last year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/ific-bank-incurs-tk500cr-loss-jan-mar-1156546>

**NTC | BSEC extends subscription period for National Tea Company until 30 June**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has extended the validity of its consent letter for National Tea Company's share subscription offer until 30 June – marking the third such extension. The publicly listed tea producer aims to raise BDT 2.8 Bn by issuing placement shares to its existing shareholders at BDT 119.53 per share, payable in cash on the record date.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-extends-subscription-period-national-tea-company-until-30-june-1155041>

**SOUTHEASTB | Southeast Bank's profit drops 80% in 2024**

- Southeast Bank has reported that its consolidated earnings per share dropped by 80% to BDT 0.32 in 2024 compared to the previous year. According to the statement, the bank also decided not to pay any dividend to its shareholders for the last year as it is taking steps to strengthen the capital base, which will support long-term financial stability.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/southeast-banks-profit-drops-80-2024-1154966>

**PREMIERBAN | Premier Bank declares no dividend due to shortfall in provisions**

- Premier Bank has declared no dividend for 2024 due to significant shortfall in required provisions, according to its price sensitive statement. The bank approved its financial statement for the last year and announced the dividend at a meeting held today (29 May), according to sources.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/premier-bank-declares-no-dividend-due-shortfall-provisions-1154951>

**BATBC | BAT Bangladesh has to vacate Mohakhali HQ as SC rejects lease appeal**

- British American Tobacco (BAT) Bangladesh, a leading multinational cigarette manufacturer, must vacate its head office and factory premises in the capital's Mohakhali DOHS after the Supreme Court rejected its appeal to extend the land lease agreement with the Dhaka Cantonment Board.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/court/bat-bangladesh-has-vacate-mohakhali-hq-sc-rejects-lease-appeal-1155046>

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