

Weekly Market Update

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+0.73%) gained 37.97 points and closed the week at 5,257.70 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+1.10%) gained 21.85 points and stood at 2,002.21 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+0.34%) gained 3.60 points and stood at 1,063.18 points. The large cap index CDSET (+1.10%) gained 11.69 points and closed at 1,076.55 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of +8.06%, +8.02%, +6.24%, +7.14%, respectively.

Total Turnover During The Week (DSE): BDT 33.5 billion (USD 274 million)
Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 6.7 billion (Δ% Week: +0.2%)
Market P/E: 15.1x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed five sessions this week. It started negatively on Sunday (-2.06%), turned positive on Monday (+0.20%), and remained positive on Tuesday (+0.67%) and Wednesday (+3.12%). However, it ended the week negatively on Thursday (-1.13%).

Sectoral Performance

Financial sectors posted mixed performance this week. Bank booked the highest gain of 1.49% followed by General Insurance (+0.49%), and NBF (0.03%). Life Insurance experienced the highest loss of 8.19% followed by Mutual Fund (-2.94%).

Non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted mixed performance this week. Engineering booked the highest gain of 0.76% followed by Pharmaceutical (+0.26%). Food & Allied experienced the highest loss of 0.23% followed by Fuel & Power (-0.23%), and Telecommunication (-0.04%).

Macroeconomic Arena

Trade bodies seek tax cuts on raw materials, lower land and flat registration costs. Urgent reforms needed to restore macro stability, create jobs in Bangladesh: World Bank. World Bank projects Bangladesh GDP growth to slow to 3.9% in FY 25-26. Bangladesh PMI slips to 53.5 in March, indicating slower economic growth. Investor reactions to Trump agreeing to two-week ceasefire with Iran. VAT registration may become mandatory for business bank accounts. Regulator smells plot to destabilise BD forex mkt. Forex market stable, no immediate pressure for Taka devaluation: Bangladesh Bank. Submarine cable maintenance may slow Bangladesh's internet for 4 days from April 9.

Exporters set to get offshore dollar loans at 8% as working capital. Bangladesh sees slowest growth in economic units since 1996. Commerce ministry proposes duty cut on EVs to ease fuel import pressure. FDI slides 18% in Q4 2025 on policy, infrastructure hurdles. Why are T-bond yields rising again. NBR, BB move to enable real-time invoice data sharing. NBR chairman: Pressure to increase turnover tax to 2.5%. ENERGY | Decision on fuel price hike from May likely. Bangladesh's GDP growth slows to 3.03% in Q2. BANK | Sammilito Islami Bank depositors can withdraw up to BDT 1 Mn for medical treatment: BB. Govt aims for USD 1 Tn economy by 2034: Finance minister.

Stock Market Arena

SHAHJABANK | Shahjalal Islami Bank profit jumps 118%, declares 13% cash dividend. BEXIMCO | HC stresses recovery of 'questionable' Beximco loans. NBL | Tabitha Awal & Nazneen Ahmad appointed as Directors of National Bank. REGULATOR | BSEC fines Rupali Insurance directors, CEO for breaching credit rating rules. PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank promotes Md Ziaur Rahman as AMD. CITYBANK | City Bank gets regulatory nod to issue bonds of BDT 12 Bn. LINDEBD | Linde Bangladesh declares 100% cash dividend. ARAMIT | Receiver appointed for Aramit Limited by Dhaka court. MKFOOTWEAR | MK Footwear secures another export deal, targets strong overseas growth. BANKASIA | Bank Asia achieves landmark net deposit growth of BDT 40.0 Bn in Q1 2026. EXCHANGE | DSE cuts trading hours by 30 minutes amid fuel crisis. PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank announces 30% dividend for 2025.

DSEX ended in Green (+0.73%) in the week

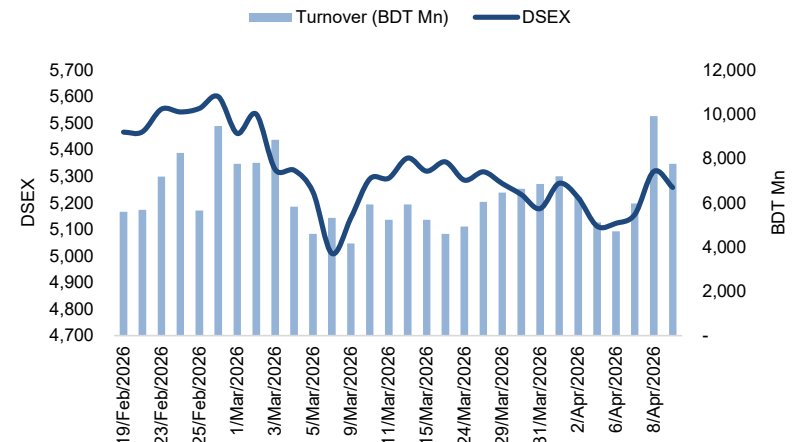
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2025	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,257.70	5,219.74	+37.97	4,865.34	0.73%	8.06%
DS30	2,002.21	1,980.36	+21.85	1,853.54	1.10%	8.02%
DSES	1,063.18	1,059.58	+3.60	1,000.72	0.34%	6.24%
CDSET	1,076.55	1,064.86	+11.69	1,004.81	1.10%	7.14%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	6,886,627	6,893,999	-0.11%
	Mn USD	56,295	56,356	-0.11%
Turnover	Mn BDT	33,483	33,417	0.20%
	Mn USD	274	273	0.20%
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	6,697	6,683	0.20%
	Mn USD	55	55	0.20%
Volume	Mn Shares	1,261	1,501	-16.00%

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
BDAUTOCA	222.0	181.1	+22.6%	960	398.6	NM	30.2x
KDSALTD	50.5	41.4	+22.0%	3,774	602.0	23.5x	1.8x
ACMEPL	25.0	21.0	+19.0%	3,375	1,149.1	NM	1.5x
BDLAMPS	164.7	140.2	+17.5%	1,734	68.7	NM	3.8x
BNICL	73.9	63.7	+16.0%	3,270	469.7	16.1x	2.5x
BENGALWTL	21.8	18.8	+16.0%	1,994	82.1	39.6x	0.8x
LOVELLO	78.3	67.7	+15.7%	7,687	917.4	33.5x	6.3x
SIPLC	72.4	62.9	+15.1%	2,896	311.9	14.0x	2.5x
HFL	13.9	12.1	+14.9%	1,266	48.3	NM	0.5x
APEXSPINN	248.0	216.8	+14.4%	2,083	341.4	75.4x	3.0x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
IFIC1STMF	3.9	4.4	-11.4%	710	97.7	NM	0.4x
PRIMEFIN	4.1	4.6	-10.9%	1,119	25.4	NM	0.6x
GSPFINANCE	4.8	5.3	-9.4%	754	14.9	NM	NM
POPULAR1MF	3.0	3.3	-9.1%	897	28.9	NM	0.3x
PHPMF1	3.2	3.5	-8.6%	902	26.7	NM	0.3x
YPL	16.4	17.9	-8.4%	1,209	29.4	NM	3.1x
GREENDELTF	3.3	3.6	-8.3%	495	5.3	NM	0.4x
BIFC	5.5	6.0	-8.3%	554	9.3	NM	NM
PLFSL	2.3	2.5	-8.0%	657	43.0	NM	NM
FASFIN	2.3	2.5	-8.0%	343	25.7	NM	NM

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
KBPPWBIL	53.5	50.3	+6.4%	5,247	1,347.5	95.5x	4.5x
ACMEPL	25.0	21.0	+19.0%	3,375	1,149.1	NM	1.5x
LOVELLO	78.3	67.7	+15.7%	7,687	917.4	33.5x	6.3x
SAPORTL	51.0	50.5	+1.0%	12,080	866.0	22.4x	1.5x
DOMINAGE	50.0	44.3	+12.9%	5,130	770.6	NM	2.9x
TECHNODRUG	36.8	33.8	+8.9%	4,858	703.8	0.0x	1.2x
CITYBANK	30.9	30.2	+2.3%	47,006	682.1	3.6x	0.8x
ORIONINFU	339.5	339.0	+0.1%	6,912	653.0	NM	21.4x
KDSALTD	50.5	41.4	+22.0%	3,774	602.0	23.5x	1.8x
ASIATICLAB	87.1	79.7	+9.3%	10,660	601.8	23.5x	1.6x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
BBSCABLES	19.8	+30.3%	4,192	NM	0.8x
ACTIVEFINE	7.0	+27.3%	1,680	NM	0.3x
CITYBANK	30.9	+26.6%	47,006	3.6x	0.8x
CONFIDCEM	61.9	+25.8%	5,339	5.2x	0.6x
SHASHDNIM	18.9	+21.2%	2,666	19.7x	0.5x
BANKASIA	22.0	+20.9%	28,215	5.4x	0.8x
ISLAMIBANK	39.1	+19.2%	62,951	NM	0.9x
LANKABAFIN	14.6	+18.7%	7,867	36.5x	0.8x
BXPHARMA	117.4	+15.0%	52,374	8.2x	1.1x
BRACBANK	71.8	+13.8%	142,948	9.1x	1.4x

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,568.9	1,545.9	1,367.20	+1.49%	+14.75%
NBFI	981.9	981.6	860.23	+0.03%	+14.15%
Mutual Fund	522.7	538.5	478.27	-2.94%	+9.28%
General Insurance	3,192.3	3,176.7	2,879.11	+0.49%	+10.88%
Life Insurance	1,718.8	1,872.1	1,691.42	-8.19%	+1.62%
Telecommunication	4,367.8	4,369.6	4,431.51	-0.04%	-1.44%
Pharmaceutical	2,976.8	2,969.0	2,764.29	+0.26%	+7.69%
Fuel & Power	1,035.0	1,037.4	996.11	-0.23%	+3.90%
Cement	1,960.9	1,936.5	1,739.18	+1.26%	+12.75%
Services & Real Estate	1,018.6	1,027.2	949.82	-0.83%	+7.25%
Engineering	2,436.1	2,417.7	2,290.78	+0.76%	+6.34%
Food & Allied	12,294.9	12,323.3	12,942.72	-0.23%	-5.01%
IT	1,974.2	1,947.4	1,703.25	+1.38%	+15.91%
Textile	1,124.5	1,126.7	1,060.76	-0.20%	+6.01%
Paper & Printing	4,642.8	4,565.1	4,485.61	+1.70%	+3.51%
Tannery	1,957.8	1,912.7	1,806.05	+2.36%	+8.40%
Jute	10,659.0	10,709.1	11,805.57	-0.47%	-9.71%
Ceramics	393.3	395.9	370.10	-0.67%	+6.26%
Miscellaneous	3,935.5	3,919.3	3,881.56	+0.42%	+1.39%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	590.5	628.3	-6.01%	+9.27%	9.8x	0.7x
NBFI	108.9	122.9	-11.36%	+1.71%	NM	1.0x
Mutual Fund	158.6	270.1	-41.29%	+2.49%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	558.6	466.2	+19.81%	+8.77%	14.6x	1.3x
Life Insurance	246.1	289.5	-15.01%	+3.86%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	105.7	101.5	+4.15%	+1.66%	12.3x	3.5x
Pharmaceutical	1,007.9	1,066.5	-5.49%	+15.83%	11.7x	1.5x
Fuel & Power	193.6	201.0	-3.67%	+3.04%	9.3x	0.6x
Cement	54.4	66.2	-17.76%	+0.86%	18.1x	2.0x
Services & Real Estate	250.8	257.6	-2.65%	+3.94%	19.7x	0.4x
Engineering	903.3	792.1	+14.03%	+14.19%	15.3x	0.8x
Food & Allied	453.3	430.2	+5.36%	+7.12%	32.1x	3.4x
IT	311.4	325.9	-4.45%	+4.89%	29.2x	1.6x
Textile	570.4	627.8	-9.14%	+8.96%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	195.3	195.9	-0.28%	+3.07%	NM	1.3x
Tannery	85.6	54.9	+55.99%	+1.34%	NM	1.4x
Jute	6.2	6.3	-1.44%	+0.10%	NM	NM
Ceramics	87.4	140.8	-37.93%	+1.37%	NM	1.2x
Miscellaneous	479.4	352.7	+35.93%	+7.53%	88.9x	1.7x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
BATBC	219.5	-11.7%	118,530	20.3x	2.1x
UCB	9.2	-11.5%	14,263	NM	0.4x
GP	244.6	-5.2%	330,283	11.2x	5.9x
LINDEBD	714.3	-4.8%	10,870	31.6x	3.4x
MJLBD	87.8	-3.0%	27,811	10.3x	1.7x
UNIQUEHRL	37.5	-1.8%	11,040	6.3x	0.4x
UNILEVERCL	2,113.7	-1.7%	40,740	51.3x	18.2x
ESQUIRENIT	20.0	-1.5%	2,698	NM	0.3x
IFADAUTOS	21.4	-0.9%	5,741	NM	0.6x
IPDC	18.8	-0.5%	7,692	16.3x	1.1x

*BDT

*BDT Mn

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

Trade bodies seek tax cuts on raw materials, lower land and flat registration costs

- Leading industry bodies have urged sweeping fiscal reforms ahead of the FY 2026–27 national budget, focusing on reducing housing costs, rationalising import duties, and easing tax burdens on manufacturers.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/trade-bodies-seek-cuts-in-raw-material-tax-land-and-registration-costs>

Urgent reforms needed to restore macro stability, create jobs in Bangladesh: World Bank

- WB noted persistent inflation, stressed banking sector, weak revenue mobilisation, and subdued private investment, is further compounded by the headwinds from the conflict in the Middle East.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/urgent-reforms-needed-restore-macro-stability-create-jobs-bangladesh-world-bank-1406506>

World Bank projects Bangladesh GDP growth to slow to 3.9% in FY 25-26

- The World Bank has drawn a challenging economic landscape for Bangladesh as it has projected the GDP growth slows down to 3.9% from its earlier projection for the fiscal year (FY) 2025-26.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/urgent-reforms-needed-to-restore-macro-stability-sustain-growth-create-jobs-wb>

Bangladesh PMI slips to 53.5 in March, indicating slower economic growth

- The reading of the Bangladesh Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) declined by 2.2 points to 53.5 in March compared to the previous month, indicating a slower pace of expansion.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladeshs-pmi-declines-by-22-points-in-march>

Investor reactions to Trump agreeing to two-week ceasefire with Iran

- Oil dived, bonds rallied and stocks surged as the ceasefire was seen as paving the way for a lasting peace and resumption of Gulf oil and gas exports.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/investor-reactions-trump-agreeing-two-week-ceasefire-with-iran-2026-04-07/>

VAT registration may become mandatory for business bank accounts

- The NBR plans to link VAT registration (BIN) with bank accounts to bring businesses that have trade licences but no VAT registration into the tax net. If implemented, it would force thousands of businesses to register for VAT and expand overall VAT coverage.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/vat-registration-may-become-mandatory-business-bank-accounts-1406706>

Regulator smells plot to destabilise BD forex mkt

- Bangladesh Bank suspects vested groups are trying to create an artificial foreign-exchange crisis by spreading rumours of the dollar reaching BDT 130. To counter this, the central bank has increased monitoring and vigilance to prevent volatility.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/regulator-smells-plot-to-destabilise-bd-forex-mkt-1775585040>

Forex market stable, no immediate pressure for Taka devaluation: Bangladesh Bank

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange (forex) market remains stable and there is no immediate pressure to devalue the Taka, according to a recent assessment by Bangladesh Bank.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/forex-market-stable-no-immediate-pressure-for-taka-devaluation-bangladesh-bank>

Submarine cable maintenance may slow Bangladesh's internet for 4 days from April 9

- Internet services in Bangladesh may experience slower speeds or partial disruptions for four days from April 9 due to scheduled maintenance work on the country's second submarine cable system, SEA-ME-WE-5.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/submarine-cable-maintenance-may-slow-bangladeshs-internet-4-days-april-9-4146761>

Trump says he agrees to suspend bombing of Iran for two weeks

- U.S. President Donald Trump said on Tuesday he has agreed to suspend the bombing of Iran for two weeks while accepting a 14-day truce proposal from mediators in the Iran war.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/trump-says-he-has-agreed-suspend-bombing-attack-iran-two-weeks-2026-04-07/>

BPDB's 17-yr accumulated losses reach BDT 2.67 Tn

- State-run Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) incurred an accumulated loss of around BDT 2.67 Tn (USD 26.75 Bn) over the past 17 years from the fiscal year 2007-08 to 2024-25. BPDB's net loss remained around BDT 903.97 Bn even after providing subsidies over the past years.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/bpdds-17-yr-accumulated-losses-reach-tk-267t>

US now Bangladesh's top soybean supplier

- The United States has become Bangladesh's top soybean supplier, as private importers increased purchases under a reciprocal trade deal and US prices eased earlier in the year when Chinese demand briefly slowed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/us-now-bangladeshs-top-soybean-supplier-4146041>

Exporters set to get offshore dollar loans at 8% as working capital

- Bangladesh Bank is set to introduce offshore dollar loans for exporters at 8% interest rate, substantially lower than the prevailing 14% to 16% charged on local currency loans.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/exporters-set-get-offshore-dollar-loans-8-working-capital-1405666>

Bangladesh sees slowest growth in economic units since 1996

- Bangladesh recorded 11.7 Mn economic units in 2024, marking the lowest growth since 1996. Between 2013 and 2024, the country saw a 50% growth in the number of economic units, which was much lower than the 111% increase in the previous decade, according to Economic Census 2024.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-sees-slowest-growth-economic-units-1996-4145671>

Commerce ministry proposes duty cut on EVs to ease fuel import pressure

- Facing persistent energy pressures and rising fuel import costs, the commerce ministry is moving to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs), particularly in commercial transport, by proposing significant duty reductions on their imports.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/govt-considers-slashing-duties-evs-ease-fuel-import-pressure-1404771>

FDI slides 18% in Q4 2025 on policy, infrastructure hurdles

- Bangladesh saw a significant decline in foreign investment in Q4'2025, with net foreign direct investment (FDI) falling by 18.42% YoY to USD 108 Mn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/fdi-slides-18-q4-2025-policy-infrastructure-hurdles-1405631>

Why are T-bond yields rising again

- The yield on 2-year Treasury bonds jumped to 10.23% at Tuesday's auction, up from 9.73% in March, while the 20-year bond yield rose to 10.61% in March from 10.45% in February this year. The surge in borrowing comes as the government struggles to balance rising expenditure against weak revenue mobilisation.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/why-are-t-bond-yields-rising-again-1775580298>

NBR, BB move to enable real-time invoice data sharing

- The National Board of Revenue and the Bangladesh Bank on Tuesday jointly established an interconnection between the Customs Asycuda World system and the Foreign Exchange Transaction Management System (FxTMS) to facilitate real-time transmission of commercial invoice data through commercial banks.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/mis/296156/nbr-bb-move-to-enable-real-time-invoice-data-sharing>

NBR chairman: Pressure to increase turnover tax to 2.5%

- National Board of Revenue chairman said that there is a talk of increasing turnover tax from 1.0% to 2.5% and applying it uniformly for everyone. He added that while they are trying not to do this but reducing taxes is very difficult.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/407184/nbr-chairman-pressure-to-increase-turnover-tax-to>

ENERGY | Decision on fuel price hike from May likely

- A decision to increase fuel prices from next month may be made following discussions at a cabinet meeting, the energy minister told parliament Tuesday, reassuring that Bangladesh holds adequate stock of fuels.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/decision-on-fuel-price-hike-from-may-likely-1775584857>

Bangladesh's GDP growth slows to 3.03% in Q2

- The provisional gross domestic product (GDP) growth in Bangladesh slowed to 3.03% in Q2FY26, compared to a revised 3.53% in Q2FY25.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladeshs-gdp-growth-slows-303-q2-4145016>

BANK | Sammilito Islami Bank depositors can withdraw up to BDT 1 Mn for medical treatment: BB

- Bangladesh Bank has said that customers of Sammilito Islami Bank can withdraw up to BDT 1 Mn for medical treatment in special cases, as depositors continue to face difficulties accessing their funds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/sammilito-islamic-bank-depositors-can-withdraw-tk10-lakh-treatment-bb-1404951>

Govt aims for USD 1 Tn economy by 2034: Finance minister

- Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury has said the government is working towards achieving a USD 1.0 Tn economy by 2034, outlining a broad set of measures to raise income and sustain economic growth.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-aims-1-trillion-economy-2034-finance-minister-1404396>

Govt plans two major bridges over Meghna under PPP

- The government has moved to build two major bridges over the Meghna River system under a public-private partnership (PPP) model, aiming to improve interdistrict connectivity.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/infrastructure/govt-plans-two-major-bridges-over-meghna-under-ppp-1404751>

Govt unlikely to implement pay hikes

- The government is unlikely to implement the proposed pay hikes for public officials and employees in the current financial year. Finance ministry officials said that the scope for providing BDT 200 Bn allocated for dearness allowance became dim amid the mounting pressure on the exchequer for subsidies for energy items.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/296043/govt-unlikely-to-implement-pay-hikes>

Govt's bank loan target surpassed in 9 months

- Government borrowing from banks has already exceeded its annual target in March, signaling mounting fiscal strain and increasing pressure on the financial system. Bangladesh Bank data showed that net government borrowing from the banking sector reached BDT 1.08 Tn during 9MFY26, surpassing the full-year target of BDT 1.04 Tn.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/296072/govts-bank-loan-target-surpassed-in-9-months>

Bangladesh's forex reserves stand at USD 29.81 Bn

- Bangladesh's total foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 29.81 Bn as of this evening (6 April), confirmed Bangladesh Bank (BB) Spokesperson and Executive Director Arief Hossain Khan.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bangladeshs-forex-reserves-stand-2981b-1404661>

Governor assures raising export development fund to USD 5 Bn: FBCCI

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Md Mostaqur Rahman today assured business leaders that the Export Development Fund (EDF) may be gradually expanded to USD 5 Bn, according to the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/governor-assures-raising-export-development-fund-5b-fbcci-4144926>

FICCI calls for clear tax roadmap to boost investment, jobs

- The Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has called for a clear roadmap to optimise the effective tax rate, urged reintroducing reduced corporate tax rate for unlisted companies on the condition of them going cashless, and a gradual reduction of withholding and minimum taxes.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ficci-calls-clear-tax-roadmap-boost-investment-jobs-4145241>

Finance bosses meet tomorrow to finalise outline

- Finance high-ups will sit to finalise the outline of the first national budget of the new government amid severe Middle East war-linked stresses that are shaking up the country's economic base. Officials say the ongoing war-linked pressures on the economy will be a top consideration of the meeting for the finance bosses in setting up targets on budgetary spending, growth and inflation in the next fiscal year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/finance-bosses-meet-tomorrow-to-finalise-outline-1775498565>

BD to discuss manpower export with Malaysia

- Bangladesh is set to discuss resuming manpower export to Malaysia, as Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister will visit Kuala Lumpur on 8 April.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/bd-to-discuss-manpower-export-with-malaysia-1775498969>

Korean firm to invest USD 24 Mn at Bepza Economic Zone

- PH Creative (BD) Limited, a South Korean company, will set up a manufacturing facility at the Bepza Economic Zone (Bepza EZ) in Mirsharai, Chattogram.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/korean-firm-invest-24-million-bepza-economic-zone-4144986>

Local lub blenders for raising duty on finished lubricants

- The Bangladesh Lub Blenders Association has urged the government to raise import duties on finished lubricants and tighten valuation rules in the FY27 budget. They proposed restoring customs duty on all types of finished lubricating oil to 25% from the current 15%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/local-lub-blenders-for-raising-duty-on-finished-lubricants-1775495307>

TELECOM | BTRC to unlock more low-band spectrum to boost coverage

- The telecom regulator will allocate spectrum from the 850 MHz and EGSM bands for a month-long trial to assess possible interference. This trial is part of preparations for future spectrum allocation through auctions or other methods to improve service quality and network reliability nationwide.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/btrc-unlock-more-low-band-spectrum-boost-coverage-4145186>

BANK | Capital shortfall in 23 banks hits BDT 2.82 Tn as default loans drag sector into negative

- The overall capital position of the country's banking sector has slipped into the negative as the shortfall surged to BDT 2.82 Tn within just three months, driven by a sharp rise in defaulted loans and long-standing weaknesses in governance and lending practices. The sector's capital-to-risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR) fell to negative 2.90% at the end of September last year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/capital-shortfall-23-banks-hits-tk282-lakh-crore-default-loans-drag-sector-negative>

Inflation falls to 8.71% in March

- Bangladesh's inflationary pressure eased in March 2026 as food items showed a downward trend during the month. Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), came down to 8.71% in March 2026 on a point-to-point basis from 9.13% a month earlier.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/inflation-falls-to-871pc-in-march>

BANK | NPLs balloon to BDT 5.45 Tn

- Finance Minister has informed Parliament that as of 31 December 2025, the total amount of defaulted loans in the banking sector stood at BDT 5.5 Tn on an outstanding basis.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/npls-balloon-to-tk-545t-1775498004>

Bangladesh not fully prepared for post-LDC smooth transition: Assessment report

- UN-sponsored assessment finds that while Bangladesh meets the graduation criteria, it is not fully prepared for a sustainable post-LDC phase due to long-standing issues such as loss of trade preferences, macroeconomic pressures, fiscal and financial vulnerabilities, and institutional and implementation weaknesses.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/substantial-gaps-remain-bangladeshs-ldc-graduation-preparedness-un-assessment-report-1403396>

LDC graduation not yet within reach amid economic pressures: Finance minister

- Bangladesh's graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) category is not yet within reach in the current situation, Finance and Planning Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury said today (5 April), citing mounting economic pressures and incomplete preparations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/ldc-graduation-not-yet-within-reach-amid-economic-pressures-finance-minister-1402951>

European firms flag concern, seek predictable tax regime

- European businesses in Bangladesh have raised concerns that the country's trade preferences for certain partners may create an uneven playing field. The EuroCham Chairperson warned that such policies could disadvantage European firms operating in Bangladesh.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/european-firms-flag-concern-seek-predictable-tax-regime-1775413788>

425.3% growth of remittance inflow till April 4

- Inflow of remittances witnessed a year-on-year growth of 425.3% reaching USD 339 Mn in the first four days of April, according to the latest data of Bangladesh Bank (BB) issued.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/4253pc-growth-of-remittance-inflow-till-april-4>

Pumping higher volume of reserve money into banks adds to inflation

- A resurgence in funneling reserve money into the market through cheap state credits to banks and dollar buy from them through regulatory intervention is stoking fears of higher inflationary regime ahead. According to latest BB data, the growth of the reserve money in the post-June period stood at 2.52%, 1.25%, 3.47%, 3.15%, 4.35%, 9.23% and a steep 10.37% in July, August, September, October, November, December and January last respectively.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/pumping-higher-volume-of-reserve-money-into-banks-adds-to-inflation-1775413057>

Private credit growth stuck despite political transition

- Private-sector credit growth remains subdued despite a peaceful transition of political power, reflecting persistent economic headwinds and weak business confidence. Entrepreneurs continue to hold back on expansion plans amid high borrowing costs, energy shortages and lingering uncertainties.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/private-credit-growth-stuck-despite-political-transition-1775413550>

Trump says US will target Iran's infrastructure on Tuesday

- US President Donald Trump on Sunday said in a Truth Social post that "Tuesday will be Power Plant Day, and Bridge Day, all wrapped up in one, in Iran."

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/world/trump-says-us-will-target-irans-infrastructure-on-tuesday>

Govt to borrow BDT 50 Bn more from banks

- The government is set to borrow an additional BDT 50 Bn from the banking sector through a special auction of 91-day treasury bills on April 8, according to Bangladesh Bank (BB) officials.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-borrow-tk-5000-crore-more-banks-4144311>

US crude benchmark opens over \$113, Brent above \$110

- Crude oil prices opened higher on Monday, with US benchmark West Texas Intermediate up 1.86% to USD 113.62 a barrel, as the war in the Middle East continues to squeeze global energy supplies. President Donald Trump has set a Tuesday deadline for Iran to end the war and reopen shipping in the critical Strait of Hormuz waterway.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/us-crude-benchmark-opens-over-113-brent-above-110-4144686>

RMG | BKMEA wants changes to amended labour law

- The Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) has sought changes in the labour law, which was amended during the immediate past interim government, as the trade body claims their opinions were not addressed in the final gazette.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bkmea-wants-changes-amended-labour-law-4144266>

RMG | RMG's reduced corporate tax won't last long: NBR chairman

- The current reduced corporate tax rates of 10 to 12 % for the readymade garment (RMG) sector may not last much longer, said National Board of Revenue (NBR) Chairman Md Abdur Rahman Khan.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rmgs-reduced-corporate-tax-wont-last-long-nbr-chairman-4144301>

TELECOM | Call to scrap voice floor price gains traction

- Speakers at a seminar have stressed that withdrawing the voice floor price could make mobile services more citizen-friendly, but cautioned that a gradual and balanced approach is needed to avoid market distortions and revenue shocks.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/call-to-scrap-voice-floor-price-gains-traction-1775408585>

BANK | Loans of top 120 defaulters' amount to over BDT 1000 Bn, only BDT 4.69 Bn recovered

- The six state-owned banks—Sonali, Agrani, Janata, Rupali, Basic, and BDBL—are unable to recover loans at the desired rate from their top 120 defaulters.

<https://en.prothomalo.com/business/local/xs9denol94>

PM targets tax, credit, logistics to unlock investment

- Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has initiated a reform drive aimed at removing longstanding barriers to investment and improving the ease of doing business, signalling a policy shift towards a more facilitative economic environment. A key approach under consideration is benchmarking reforms against peer economies such as Sri Lanka and Indonesia, with the aim of adopting tested solutions rather than developing new frameworks.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/node/1402301>

Surging freight costs threaten exports, stoke inflation fears

- Shipping costs are rising fast as capacity tightens and risks mount in the Gulf. Industry insiders say the combined impact could push overall logistics costs up by around 25%, raising import bills, squeezing exporters' margins and, ultimately, feeding into consumer inflation.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/surging-freight-costs-threaten-exports-stoke-inflation-fears-1401376>

Cenbank moves for gradual devaluation to manage fuel shock

- Bangladesh Bank has allowed a gradual depreciation of the taka against the dollar since March to cope with the sharp rise in global energy prices following the Iran war, backtracking from its earlier stance of maintaining the exchange rate through intervention.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-moves-gradual-devaluation-manage-fuel-shock-1401996>

Deposit up to BDT 0.5 Mn may get excise duty relief in next FY

- Around 10 Mn small and middle-income bank depositors may receive tax relief on deposits of up to BDT 0.5 Mn in the upcoming fiscal year. Currently, bank deposits between BDT 0.3-0.5 Mn are subject to an excise duty of BDT 150. An official estimate by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) suggests that the waiver of excise duty could result in a revenue loss of BDT 5.0 Bn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/deposit-up-to-tk-05m-may-get-excise-duty-relief-in-next-fy-1775323519>

BD's trade surplus with EU widens

- The surplus in Bangladesh's trade in goods and services with the European Union rose by nearly 10% in FY25, underpinned by robust export growth, particularly in goods, despite rising outflows in services.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bds-trade-surplus-with-eu-widens-1775323733>

Govt to buy 3 more spot LNG cargoes by early May

- Bangladesh is eyeing to buy three more liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes from the spot market by early May amid the persistent Middle East crisis and Strait of Hormuz disruptions. If these tenders become successful, the country's total LNG spot cargo buys for this year will reach 14 so far and 12 of them after the commencement of the war.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/govt-to-buy-3-more-spot-lng-cargoes-by-early-may>

Bangladesh, Japan advance Dhaka airport third terminal negotiations at fresh high-level talks

- Bangladesh and Japan held the second high-level meeting to advance negotiations on the operation and maintenance of the third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/aviation/news/bangladesh-japan-advance-dhaka-airport-third-terminal-negotiations-fresh-high-level-talks-4142586>

Businesses want uncut energy supply

- Businesses today demanded that the government ensure an uninterrupted supply of energy, ease regulations and open the third terminal to improve the business environment.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/businesses-want-uncut-energy-supply-4143206>

Shops to shut at 6pm, govt signals possible adjustment before Eid-ul-Azha

- The government has urged businesses to support energy-saving measures while signalling possible adjustments ahead of Eid-ul-Azha. The decision has been taken for three months to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply during the summer and irrigation season, amid global uncertainties affecting fuel supply.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/shops-to-shut-at-6pm-govt-signals-possible-adjustment-before-eid-ul-azha>

Govt advances Boeing purchase, eyes Airbus leasing strategy

- The government is moving to finalise a 14-aircraft Boeing purchase while pursuing interim Airbus leasing to bridge a five-year delivery gap, as part of a broader fleet modernisation and capacity expansion plan for Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/govt-advances-boeing-purchase-eyes-airbus-leasing-strategy-1775318567>

Transparency, labour rights major investment obstacles

- The US government has identified a lack of transparency in Bangladesh as a major obstacle to investment and raised concerns about labour rights.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/transparency-labour-rights-major-investment-obstacles-4142131>

RMG | Bangladesh's exports to US fall 8.5% in Jan-Feb, Vietnam, Indonesia see growth

- Apparel imports by the United States declined significantly in 2MCY26, falling by 8.53% year-on-year. Bangladeshi exporters primarily attribute the steep decline in exports to tariffs imposed by the Trump administration in mid-last year. Exports from China and India fell even more sharply while exports from Vietnam and Indonesia increased.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladeshs-exports-us-fall-85-jan-feb-vietnam-indonesia-see-growth-1402716>

RMG | Rising raw material, freight costs squeeze RMG industry

- Bangladesh's apparel industry is coming under mounting pressure as rising yarn and cotton prices, coupled with higher freight costs and longer lead times, continue to erode profit margins. Sector leaders warn if the situation persists, many mills could lose competitiveness on the global market, where buyers remain highly price-sensitive.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/rising-raw-material-freight-costs-squeeze-rmg-industry>

MFS | Nagad posts highest-ever transaction in Q1

- Leading mobile financial service (MFS) provider Nagad's transactions increased 21% year-on-year to BDT 1.11 Tn, the highest ever by the operator in Q1'26.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nagad-posts-highest-ever-transaction-q1-4142191>

BANK | Banks regain forex strength as market liquidity recovers: BB

- The banking sector has shown notable improvement in foreign exchange management and market liquidity, with both net open position (NOP) and net foreign exchange holding posting positive trends despite recent import-related pressure, according to the Bangladesh bank (BB).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/banks-regain-forex-strength-market-liquidity-recovers-bb-4142116>

BANK | Liquidity boost for Islamic banks as BB plans interbank market

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has initiated steps to launch an Islamic Interbank Money Market by June this year, aiming to improve liquidity management for Shariah-based banks. The central bank has reportedly reviewed and analysed the successful models of Islamic interbank money markets in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Bahrain.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/liquidity-boost-for-islamic-banks-as-bb-plans-interbank-market>

TELECOM | Internet subscriptions hit 3-yr low, cell phone users edge up in Feb

- The number of total internet subscribers declined to 128.27 Mn in February 2026, down from 128.99 Mn in January. Industry insiders suggest that tighter SIM regulations, reduced multi-SIM usage, and market saturation might have contributed to the decline in mobile internet subscriptions. Analysts say the divergence between declining internet users and stable mobile subscriptions suggests that while SIM ownership remains high, active internet usage is under pressure, possibly due to affordability concerns, data pricing, and changing consumption patterns.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/internet-subscriptions-hit-3-yr-low-cell-phone-users-edge-up-in-feb-1775318553>

ENERGY | LPG: Omera tops imports, US largest source

- Four companies account for 76% of the total liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) imported into the country each year. These are Omera Petroleum of East Coast Group, Petromax LPG of the Netherlands, Meghna Fresh LPG of Meghna Group, Jamuna Spacotech Joint Venture, and BM Energy (BD).

<https://en.prothomalo.com/business/local/t6llpnd9gl>

Important News: Stocks

SHAHJABANK | Shahjalal Islami Bank profit jumps 118%, declares 13% cash dividend

- Shahjalal Islami Bank has reported a sharp rise in profitability for 2025, driven by strong growth in investment income and improved operational performance, while announcing a higher cash dividend for its shareholders.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/shahjalal-islami-bank-profit-soars-118-declares-13-cash-dividend-1406421>

BEXIMCO | HC stresses recovery of 'questionable' Beximco loans

- The High Court has emphasised that the recovery of 'questionable' defaulted loans of the Beximco Group must be ensured within the legal framework, while maintaining discipline in the banking sector. The court allowed Beximco companies to continue operations under strict monitoring, considering the interests of thousands of workers and employees.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/Banking/295991/hc-stresses-recovery-of-questionable-beximco-loans>

NBL | Tabith Awal & Nazneen Ahmad appointed as Directors of National Bank

- Tabith Awal and Nazneen Ahmad have been appointed as members of the Board of Directors of National Bank PLC. They were appointed as Directors by Bangladesh Bank on March 31, 2026, under the authority conferred by Sections 45 and 47(3) of the Bank Company Act, 1991, according to a press release.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/tabith-awal-nazneen-ahmad-appointed-as-directors-of-national-bank>

REGULATOR | BSEC fines Rupali Insurance directors, CEO for breaching credit rating rules

- The securities regulator has fined the directors and top executive of Rupali Insurance Company Limited for violating credit rating regulations, highlighting ongoing concerns over compliance and governance practices in the capital market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/bsec-fines-rupali-insurance-directors-ceo-breaching-credit-rating-rules-1406616>

PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank promotes Md Ziaur Rahman as AMD

- Prime Bank PLC has promoted Md Ziaur Rahman to Additional Managing Director. With over 30 years of banking experience, he has held key roles including Branch Manager, Head of Credit Risk Management, Head of Syndicate and Structured Financing, and Head of

Corporate Business, along with extensive compliance experience.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/prime-bank-promotes-md-ziaur-rahman-as-amd>

CITYBANK | City Bank gets regulatory nod to issue bonds of BDT 12 Bn

- The market regulator has approved City Bank's plan to raise BDT 12.0 Bn through a subordinated bond to strengthen its Tier-II capital and support lending. Jamuna Bank and Trust Bank also received extensions until September 30 to raise BDT 8.0 Bn and BDT 5.0 Bn respectively via subordinated bonds.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/city-bank-gets-regulatory-nod-to-issue-bonds-of-tk-12b-1775580358>

LINDEBD | Linde Bangladesh declares 100% cash dividend

- Linde Bangladesh has announced a 100% cash dividend for the year 2025, maintaining a strong payout for shareholders despite a significant decline in profit compared to the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/linde-bangladesh-declares-100-cash-dividend-1406526>

ARAMIT | Receiver appointed for Aramit Limited by Dhaka court

- A court has appointed a receiver for Aramit Limited. In a disclosure on Tuesday, the company said the receiver was appointed following an order from the Metropolitan Senior Special Judge Court, Dhaka. Market insiders said the development could be linked to ongoing legal and financial scrutiny of the sponsor group.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/receiver-appointed-for-aramit-limited-by-dhaka-court-1775580322>

MKFOOTWEAR | MK Footwear secures another export deal, targets strong overseas growth

- Listed company MK Footwear has signed a finished shoes OEM manufacturing deal with Hong Kong-based Fundrich Global Co, Limited and a separate export agreement with China's Jinjiang Akia Sports Co Ltd, marking a strong push into global markets.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/mk-footwear-secures-another-export-deal-targets-strong-overseas-growth-1405596>

BANKASIA | Bank Asia achieves landmark net deposit growth of BDT 40.0 Bn in Q1 2026

- Bank Asia PLC achieved a net deposit growth of BDT 40.0 Bn during Q1'26. The bank said it is strengthening its position in the sector through digital transformation, enhanced customer experience and diversified product offerings.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bank-asia-achieves-landmark-net-deposit-growth-of-tk-400-billion-in-q1-2026>

EXCHANGE | DSE cuts trading hours by 30 minutes amid fuel crisis

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has announced a reduction in its daily trading hours by 30 minutes in response to the ongoing fuel crisis, aligning its operational schedule with a government directive aimed at conserving energy.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-cuts-trading-hours-30-minutes-amid-fuel-crisis-1402316>

PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank announces 30% dividend for 2025

- Prime Bank PLC, a leading commercial Bank in the country, being committed to excellence and innovation, announced its annual dividend payment for the year 2025, according to a press release.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/prime-bank-announces-30pc-dividend-for-2025>

REGULATOR | BSEC fines RACE BDT 5.5 Mn for breaching investment limits in listed bonds, T-bonds

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has fined asset management company Bangladesh RACE Management PCL BDT 5.5 Mn for failing to comply with regulatory requirements on investments in listed bonds and government treasury bonds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-fines-race-tk55-lakh-breaching-investment-limits-listed-bonds-t-bonds-1404686>

EXCHANGE | Foreign investors slash stakes in Olympic, BRAC Bank, Grameenphone amid March sell-off

- Foreign investors significantly reduced their exposure to Bangladesh's capital market in March, offloading shares in leading blue-chip companies including Olympic Industries, BRAC Bank and Grameenphone

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/foreign-investors-slash-stakes-olympic-brac-bank-grameenphone-amid-march-sell-1405551>

EXCHANGE | Stakeholders push BSEC for fast-track listing of state firms to revive market

- Market stakeholders have urged the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) to expedite the listing of profitable state-owned enterprises, calling on the regulator to present the issue to the newly elected government as a priority to help revive the struggling capital market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stakeholders-push-bsec-fast-track-listing-state-firms-revive-market-1403686>

EXCHANGE | Listed firms' profitability drops to at least 4-year low

- The last fiscal year 2024-25 (FY25) was hard for listed companies. During the period, firms saw their profitability fall to the lowest level since post-Covid, squeezed by inflation that outpaced sales growth, rising borrowing costs, political upheaval and limited public spending.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/listed-firms-profitability-drops-least-4-year-low-4145246>

EXCHANGE | Auditors flag 'going concern' threat for 37 listed companies

- A growing number of listed companies are facing serious questions over their financial viability after auditors raised "going concern" warnings for 37 firms, highlighting deep-rooted vulnerabilities within the capital market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/auditors-flag-going-concern-threat-37-listed-companies-1402596>

EBL | Eastern Bank partners with Shanta Life to roll out bancassurance services

- Eastern Bank PLC (EBL) and Shanta Life Insurance PLC have jointly launched bancassurance products and services, enabling customers to access life insurance solutions directly through banking channels.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/eastern-bank-partners-shanta-life-roll-out-bancassurance-services-4143556>

PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank becomes first in Bangladesh to disburse consumer loans against Treasury Bonds

- Prime Bank PLC has reached a major milestone by becoming the first bank in Bangladesh to offer a consumer loan secured against Treasury Bonds.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/prime-bank-becomes-first-in-bangladesh-to-disburse-consumer-loans-against-treasury-bonds>

CITYBANK | City Bank, UNDP partner to boost green bonds, climate finance

- City Bank PLC yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to accelerate climate finance in Bangladesh, with a strategic focus on developing the country's emerging green and thematic bond market.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/city-bank-undp-partner-boost-green-bonds-climate-finance-4142236>

CRAFTSMAN | Prilink Securities to sell 0.7 Mn Craftsman Footwear shares worth BDT 23.5 Mn

- Prilink Securities, a brokerage firm at the Dhaka Stock Exchange, plans to sell 0.7 Mn shares of SME-listed Craftsman Footwear and Accessories, a shoe manufacturer and exporter, worth BDT 23.5 Mn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/prilink-securities-sell-7-lakh-craftsman-footwear-shares-worth-tk235cr-1401256>

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