


Summary of Business News – 74


Important Trade and Economic News Published in Various Newspapers during 10 - 23 February 2025


Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	<p><u>Key economic sectors expand faster</u> January expansion index reading 65.7pt Bangladesh's key economic sectors expanded faster month- on-month in January, as reflected in the Bangladesh Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) that recorded a reading of 65.7, up 4.0 points from December's. The PMI provides a snapshot of economic activity, with a reading above 50 indicating expansion, below 50 signalling contraction, and 50 representing stagnation. The latest reading was driven by stronger expansion in agriculture, construction, and services, while the manufacturing sector experienced a slower expansion. However, the PMI report predicts that future economic momentum will depend on political stability, particularly regarding the timeline and roadmap for a transition to an elected government.</p>	10 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/key-economic-sectors-expand-faster-1739125376?date=10-02-2025)	
02	<p><u>Default loans likely to exceed 30%, raising serious concerns: BB</u> The banking sector continues to face challenges, including rising non-performing loans (NPLs), which are likely to exceed 30 percent of total outstanding loans by June this year, raising serious concerns, said Bangladesh Bank (BB). The central bank has forecast a surge in NPLs, which stood at 16.93 percent at the end of September 2024, up from 9.93 percent a year ago.</p>	10 February 2025	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/default-loans-likely-exceed-30-raising-serious-concerns-bb-3820936)	
03	<p>Funds continue to be costlier under 10pc policy rate <u>Inflation worry forces BB to continue tightfisted monetary management</u> BB unveils MPS for H2 packed with dos and don'ts The Bangladesh Bank (BB) continues to pursue contractionary monetary stance to manage inexorable inflation and financial constraints retaining the regulatory lending rate high at 10 per cent. Despite calls from businesses to lower the policy rate, the BB has retained the previous rate unchanged with a hope that inflation would drop to 7.0-8.0 per cent by June -- the end of the current fiscal year -- in the half-yearly monetary policy statement or MPS. The Standing Lending Facility (SLF) rate will remain at 11.5 per cent, while the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate will stay at 8.5 percent, maintaining a policy rate corridor of ± 150 basis points. "The monetary policy will remain tight (contractionary) until June," Dr Ahsan H. Mansur, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, told reporters at the central bank headquarters during the rollout of the MPS for second half (H2) of this fiscal.</p>	11 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/inflation-worry-forces-bb-to-continue-tightfisted-monetary-management-1739210337?date=11-02-2025)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks												
04	<p><u>BB Order, Bank Company Act to be reviewed</u> Move aimed at ensuring corporate governance in banks The central bank is going to review both the Bangladesh Bank (BB) Order and the existing Bank Company Act to ensure corporate governance in the country's banking sector. "We will update and modernise the BB Order and the Bank Company Act in line with the global practices," Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Ahsan H Mansur said responding to a question while unveiling the half-yearly monetary policy statement at a press conference at the central bank headquarters in the capital on Monday. The central bank will review each section of the Bank Company Act 1991, which was last revised in 2023 to make the sections relevant to the situation at the time, according to the central bank chief. The number of bank directors, the tenure of directors, and the number of independent directors will be strongly focused in the upcoming review of the act, he said.</p>	11 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-order-bank-company-act-to-be-reviewed-1739210494?date=11-02-2025)													
05	<p><u>Govt strategy coming for export competitiveness of 4 major sectors</u> Leather, jute, agriculture, pharmaceuticals in focus</p> <div><div><p>Presently government's annual export subsidy spending over Tk 90b</p><p>43 sectors now enjoy export incentives of 0.3-10%</p></div><div><p>EXISTING INCENTIVES</p><p>Leather and leather goods 10%</p><p>Diversified jute products 10%</p><p>Agriculture and agro-processed goods 10%</p><p>Pharmaceuticals products 6.0%</p></div><div><p>EXPORT EARNINGS (FY 2023-24)</p><table><tr><td>Leather and leather products</td><td>\$1,003m</td><td>11.6%</td></tr><tr><td>Agriculture products</td><td>\$964.24m</td><td>16.59%</td></tr><tr><td>Jute and jute goods</td><td>\$855.23m</td><td>6.17%</td></tr><tr><td>Pharmaceuticals</td><td>\$205.48m</td><td>17.14%</td></tr></table></div><div><p>GOVT ACTION</p><p>Jan 2024 Govt lowered cash incentives for almost all sectors enjoying financial support</p><p>This week Govt forms committee for brainstorming on battle plan</p><p>The committee to submit report in next two weeks</p></div></div> <p>Government authorities have got down to devising a strategy for keeping competitiveness of four major export sectors beyond apparel after 2026 when export subsidy will go following Bangladesh's graduation from world's poor-country club. The four sectors -- leather and leather goods, jute goods, agriculture and agro-processed goods, and pharmaceuticals -- are now under government focus to maintain export growth after the country graduates from the least-developed-country status, officials said. The Ministry of Finance this week formed a committee for brainstorming on what measures can be taken to maintain their export competitiveness on the global market and further raise export of the products in the post-LDC era.</p>	Leather and leather products	\$1,003m	11.6%	Agriculture products	\$964.24m	16.59%	Jute and jute goods	\$855.23m	6.17%	Pharmaceuticals	\$205.48m	17.14%	12 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-strategy-coming-for-export-competitiveness-of-4-major-sectors-1739297491?date=12-02-2025)	
Leather and leather products	\$1,003m	11.6%														
Agriculture products	\$964.24m	16.59%														
Jute and jute goods	\$855.23m	6.17%														
Pharmaceuticals	\$205.48m	17.14%														

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
06	<p><u>দেশে অনলাইনে ব্যবসা করে এক লাখের বেশি প্রতিষ্ঠান</u></p> <p>দেশে ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্যের ক্ষেত্রে অনলাইন প্ল্যাটফর্ম ও সামাজিক যোগাযোগমাধ্যমের ব্যবহার বাড়ছে। ফলে ঘরে বসেই এখন অনলাইনে কেনা যায় পছন্দের পণ্য। চাল, ডাল থেকে শুরু করে পোশাক-আশাক, দামি ফোন, ফ্রিজ, শীতাতপনিয়ন্ত্রণ যন্ত্র বা এসি সবই এখন কমবেশি অনলাইনে কেনা যায়। এমনকি দেশে বসে অনলাইনে বিদেশ থেকেও পণ্য কেনার সুযোগ তৈরি হয়েছে। সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যক্তিদের সঙ্গে কথা বলে জানা যায়, দেশের মধ্যে অনলাইনে পণ্য কিনলে এক-দুই দিনের মধ্যে তা হাতে পৌঁছে যায়। আবার দৈনন্দিন জীবনে মানুষের যাতায়াতকে সহজ করে দিয়েছে পাঠাও-উবারের মতো অনলাইননির্ভর সেবা। সব মিলিয়ে অনলাইননির্ভর ব্যবসা দিন দিন বাড়ছে। আর ব্যবসার বিস্তার বাড়তে থাকায় আর্থিক লেনদেন সহজ করতে অনলাইন ব্যাংকিংয়েরও বিস্তার ঘটছে।</p> <p>অনলাইননির্ভর ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্য ই-কমার্স ও এফ কমার্স হিসেবে এরই মধ্যে ব্যাপক পরিচিতি পেয়েছে। দেশে অনলাইননির্ভর প্ল্যাটফর্ম ব্যবহার করে ই-কমার্স ও এফ-কমার্স কী পরিমাণ প্রতিষ্ঠান ব্যবসা করছে, প্রথমবারের মতো তার একটি পরিসংখ্যান প্রকাশ করেছে বাংলাদেশ পরিসংখ্যান ব্যুরো (বিবিএস)। সম্প্রতি প্রকাশিত অর্থনৈতিক শুমারি ২০২৪ অনুসারে, দেশের ১ লাখ ১৬ হাজার ৯৭৮টি প্রতিষ্ঠান নিজেদের সেবা ও পণ্য বেচাকেনা, লেনদেনসহ বিভিন্ন কার্যক্রম অনলাইন প্ল্যাটফর্মে করে থাকে।</p>	12 February 2025	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/7xds8xn0t5)	
07	<p><u>নারী শ্রমিকের মাতৃত্বকালীন ছুটি হবে ১২০ দিন</u></p> <p>বিদ্যমান শ্রম আইন অনুযায়ী নারী শ্রমিকদের প্রসূতিকালীন ছুটি ১৬ সপ্তাহ। শ্রমিকপক্ষের দাবি অন্য সব খাতের মতো নারী শ্রমিকদের প্রসূতিকালীন ছুটি ৬ মাস বা ১৮০ দিন করা। তবে মালিকপক্ষ সেই দাবি মানতে নারাজ। তাই সরকারের পক্ষ থেকে মাঝামাঝি অবস্থান নিয়ে এই ছুটি ১২০ দিন করার প্রস্তাব করা হয়েছে। শ্রম উপদেষ্টা ব্রিগেডিয়ার জেনারেল (অব.) এম সাখাওয়াত হোসেনের সভাপতিত্বে অনুষ্ঠিত ত্রিপক্ষীয় পরামর্শ পরিষদের (টিসিসি) বৈঠকে গতকাল মঙ্গলবার নারী শ্রমিকদের প্রসূতিকালীন ছুটি ১২০ দিন করার বিষয়ে সব পক্ষ একমত হয়েছে বলে বৈঠক সূত্রে জানা গেছে।</p> <p>ঢাকার বিজয়নগরে শ্রম ভবনে অনুষ্ঠিত এ বৈঠকে শ্রমসচিব এ এইচ এম সফিকুজ্জামানসহ টিসিসির মালিক, শ্রমিক ও সরকারপক্ষের মোট ৬০ সদস্যের বেশির ভাগই উপস্থিত ছিলেন। নতুন ধারা সংযোজন এবং বিদ্যমান ধারা সংশোধনসহ ১০১টি ধারা নিয়ে কাজ করছে টিসিসি। শ্রম আইনের কিছু ধারা বিলুপ্তও করা হচ্ছে। আগামী মার্চের মধ্যে আইন সংশোধন করে অধ্যাদেশ জারির কথা রয়েছে।</p>	12 February 2025	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/5dzih0t7e9)	
08	<p><u>Govt cuts target of borrowing from banks</u></p> <p>Execution of ADP slows</p> <p>The government has slashed its bank borrowing target by 28 per cent, or Tk 385 billion, for this fiscal year, due to lower expenditures and slower implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP). Under the revised target, the government will borrow Tk 990 billion instead of Tk 1375 billion by the end of June 2025 from the country's banking system, officials said.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the central bank estimated that the government's bank borrowing may reach maximum Tk 900 billion by the end of the current fiscal year (FY), 2024-25.</p>	13 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-cuts-target-of-borrowing-from-banks-1739384534?date=13-02-2025)	

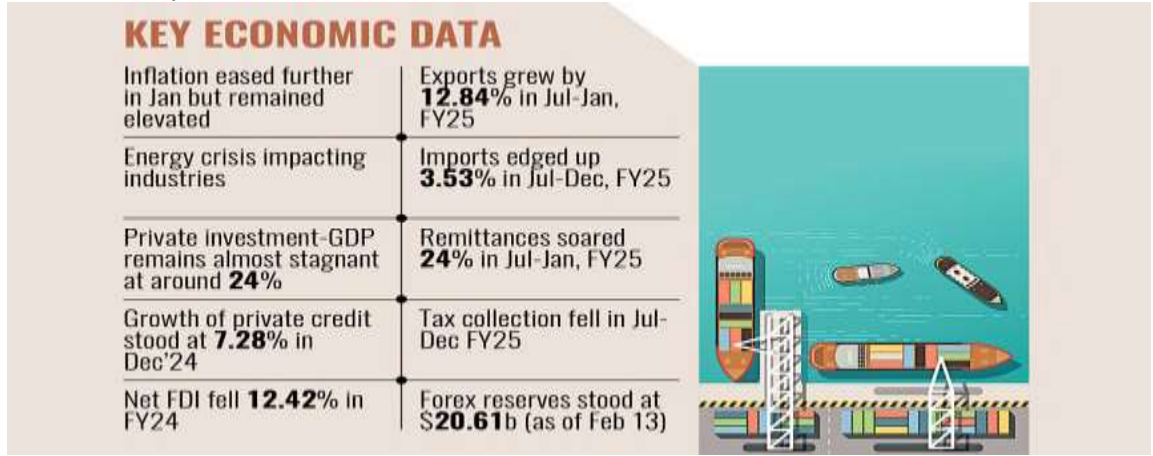
Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
09	<p>ভ্যাট-বৈষম্যের অবসান চান ব্যবসায়ীরা</p> <p>দেশের ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্যে ভ্যাট-বৈষম্য রয়েছে। গুটিকয় ব্যবসায়ী ভ্যাট দিলেও অধিকাংশই দেন না। এ জন্য যাঁরা ভ্যাট দিচ্ছেন, তাঁদের প্রতিযোগিতা সক্ষমতা কমছে। নতুন করে ভ্যাট বাড়ানোয় এই ব্যবসায়ীরাই বেশি চাপে পড়ছেন। আর যেসব ব্যবসায়ী ভ্যাট দিচ্ছেন না, তাঁদের ধারেকাছেও যেতে পারছে না সরকার। তাই ভ্যাট-বৈষম্যের অবসান হওয়া দরকার। 'ভোক্তার কাঁধে বাড়তি করের বোঝা: উত্তরণে করণীয়' শীর্ষক গোলটেবিল আলোচনায় ব্যবসায়ীরা এ কথাগুলো বলেন। নিউজ পোর্টাল জাগোনিউজ ২৪ ডটকম আয়োজনে এই গোলটেবিল গতকাল বুধবার রাজধানীর গুলশানের এমসিসিআই সম্মেলনক্ষেত্রে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়।</p> <p>এতে মূল প্রবন্ধ পাঠ করেন বেসরকারি গবেষণাপ্রতিষ্ঠান সিপিডির গবেষণা পরিচালক খন্দকার গোলাম মোয়াজ্জেম। অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত ছিলেন বাংলাদেশ উন্নয়ন গবেষণাপ্রতিষ্ঠান (বিআইডিএস) সাবেক মহাপরিচালক মুস্তফা কে মুজেরী, অর্থনীতিবিদ এম এম আকাশ, নিট পোশাকশিল্পের মালিকদের সংগঠন বিকেএমইএর সভাপতি মোহাম্মদ হাতেম প্রমুখ।</p>	13 February 2025	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/xux8ghto32)	
10	<p>Counting cost of cyclic climatic calamities Disasters inflict \$3.0b loss on Bangladesh annually Above 6.3m people affected: Germanwatch</p>  <p>Extreme weather events like floods, droughts, storms and heatwaves force Bangladesh to count a cost worth nearly US\$3.0 billion annually besides inflicting human misery on over 6.3 million people. These findings on cost of cyclic climatic calamities of recent times form a distinct part of 'The Climate Risk Index 2025' report released Thursday by Germanwatch. The Bonn-based nonprofit focuses on disproportionate impact of global climate change on Global-South countries.</p> <p>Between 1993 and 2022, more than 9,400 extreme weather events worldwide had caused nearly 0.8 million deaths and \$4.2 trillion in economic losses. Dominica, China, and Honduras were the most-affected countries, while Bangladesh ranked 31st.</p>	14 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/disasters-inflict-30b-loss-on-bangladesh-annually-1739471839?date=14-02-2025)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
11	<p><u>India's trade surplus with Bangladesh 3rd-highest</u></p> <p>Bangladesh has emerged as the country with which India has the third-highest trade surplus, with the latter's exports to the former being significantly more than its imports. Over a period of 20 months ending in November 2024, India's trade surplus with Bangladesh stood at \$9.22 billion, according to data published by the Financial Times on Thursday. During this period, India exported \$11.07 billion worth of goods to Bangladesh, while its imports from the country were just \$1.85 billion.</p> <p>The data also highlights that Bangladesh is India's eighth-largest export destination, reflecting the former's importance in the latter's global trade structure. Bangladesh is one of the South Asian economies that has such a high trade surplus with India. On the other hand, India is the second-largest trade partner of Bangladesh after China.</p>	14 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/indias-trade-surplus-with-bangladesh-3rd-highest-1739472390?date=14-02-2025)	
12	<p><u>Inflation notably erodes people's savings capacity</u></p> <p>Gross household savings down to four-year low: BBS</p>  <p>High inflation is undermining Bangladeshis' inherent saving habit that gives economists to believe that deeper financial problems may be forthcoming as high prices of commodities dent household savings and investments. They note that Bangladesh has long been a nation of savers. People traditionally set aside a significant portion of their earnings for future security, often at the cost of current consumption. But that inherent prudence seems to be shifting. Recent data from Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) show that the country's gross household savings have fallen to a four-year low.</p>	16 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/inflation-notably-erodes-peoples-savings-capacity-1739643017?date=16-02-2025)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
13	<p>Forex shortage in SoCBs <u>Now PCBs to get state guarantee against LCs to import essentials</u></p>  <p>Like state-owned commercial banks (SoCBs), the government has decided to issue state guarantees in favour of private commercial banks (PCBs) too to facilitate import of essential commodities, aiming to ensure smooth supply of such items in the local market, sources said. However, such security will be provided in local currency only to the banks with good ratings, they added.</p> <p>The ministries of power, energy and mineral resources, food, commerce, industries, and agriculture can take the next course of action to open letters of credit (LCs) with private banks for importing rice, LNG and fertiliser.</p>	16 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/now-pcbs-to-get-state-guarantee-against-lcs-to-import-essentials-1739643087?date=16-02-2025)	
14	<p>Interim govt drafts plan, eyes full digital economy, smart governance by 2030</p> <p>The interim government eyes expediting the country's digital transformation for a "full digital economy and smart governance" by 2030, a decade ahead of the Awami League government's "Smart Bangladesh by 2041" plan. According to a draft of the "National Digital Transformation Strategy," all the digital public infrastructure with artificial intelligence (AI)-powered predictive governance will be implemented in the next six years to make Bangladesh a top 15 nation in the UN E-Government Development Index.</p> <p>Within the same deadline, the government targets a "digital economy at scale" including a \$5 billion ICT export, a 50% increase in startup funding and global partnerships and making Bangladesh an AI and 4IR hub in South Asia. The country will have some 7-8 million ICT professionals by 2030, the paper says.</p>	16 February 2025	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/new-strategy-paper-eyes-full-digital-economy-smart-governance-2030-1069446)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
15	<p><u>Tax collection trails target with growth in negative trajectory</u> Receipts from returns decline 1.0pc, though number rises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Collection from well-off ones declines for crackdown against corruption ▶ Some 60-70pc individuals submit tax returns showing zero income every year <p>Tax collection against the submitted returns declined 1.53 per cent despite extending submission time thrice and the number of returns having increased by 150,000, possibly as the well-off remain on the run. On the other hand, the overall tax receipt by the revenue board trails the target far off in the first half of the current financial year, 2024-25. The deadline for submission of individuals' tax return expired Sunday. Since July 2024 till February 16, 2025, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) had received Tk 62.44 billion from returns against Tk 63.42 billion in the same period last year, official data showed.</p>	18 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tax-collection-trails-target-with-growth-in-negative-trajectory-1739815447?date=18-02-2025)	
16	<p><u>UNDP study calls for legislative reforms to promote responsible business conduct</u> To promote responsible business conduct, a study by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has called for strengthening monitoring mechanisms and establishing accountability frameworks for businesses. The study titled "Adopting Responsible Business Conduct for Bangladesh's Growth Aspirations: Global Developments, Imperatives, and Policy Priorities" outlines short-term, medium-term, and long-term actions to promote responsible business conduct (RBC). Among the long-term recommendations, the UNDP study – conducted to enhance understanding of the economic impact of RBC – emphasises the need for legislative reforms in Bangladesh. According to its executive summary, the study proposes enacting laws to make Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and responsible business practices mandatory. It also calls for the formation of a multi-stakeholder advisory body to oversee RBC implementation.</p>	18 February 2025	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/undp-study-calls-legislative-reforms-promote-responsible-business-conduct-1072111)	
17	<p><u>গ্যাস-সংকটে সুতার ব্যবসা ভারতের দিকে চলে যাচ্ছে</u> দেশে গ্যাস-সংকটের কারণে সুতার ব্যবসা ভারতে চলে যাচ্ছে বলে মন্তব্য করেছেন বস্ত্রকল মালিকদের সংগঠন বিটিএমএর সভাপতি শওকত আজিজ রাসেল। তিনি বলেন, 'গত বছর ভারত থেকে ২৭০ কোটি ডলারের সুতা এসেছে। এতে তাদের প্রায় দেড় লাখ মানুষের কর্মসংস্থান হয়েছে। আমাদের সেদিকে কোনো মনোযোগ নেই।' বাংলাদেশ বস্ত্রকল সমিতির (বিটিএমএ) সভাপতি শওকত আজিজ রাসেল বলেন, সুতা উৎপাদনে বাংলাদেশ স্বয়ংসম্পূর্ণ। তবে গ্যাস-সংকটের কারণে বস্ত্রকলগুলো অর্ধেক চলে, অর্ধেক চলে না। কিছু বন্ধও হয়েছে। এদিকে রপ্তানিমুখী তৈরি পোশাক কারখানাগুলোতে আগামী ৩-৪ মাস ভালো ক্রয়াদেশ আছে। তবে গ্যাস-সংকটের কারণে তাদের প্রয়োজনীয় সুতা সরবরাহ করতে পারছে না দেশীয় বস্ত্রকলগুলো। সে জন্য ব্যবসা অন্য দেশে (ভারতে) চলে যাচ্ছে।</p>	18 February 2025	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/f0h9932r68)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
18	<p><u>Bangladesh, IMF mutually deferred loan tranche</u></p> <p>The International Monetary Fund's move to disburse the fourth and fifth tranches of a \$4.7 billion loan together was a mutual decision, the finance ministry said in a press release yesterday. The fourth tranche was originally scheduled to be released in March, but it was deferred as Bangladesh could not meet some prior conditions. According to the press release, the instalments are disbursed upon fulfilment of conditions that have been mutually agreed upon by the government and the IMF to strengthen the foundation of the economy.</p>	19 February 2025	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-imf-mutually-deferred-loan-tranche-3827481)	
19	<p><u>Single window system streamlines export, import activities</u></p> <p>The Bangladesh Single Window system (BSW), launched on January 2, has significantly facilitated the country's export-import activities by reducing time and costs, according to a statement from the National Board of Revenue issued on Wednesday.</p> <p>The NBR statement said that within just one month and 17 days of its launch, the system has automatically issued over 100,000 certificates, licenses, and permits (CLP), marking a significant milestone in trade facilitation.</p>	19 February 2025	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/post/business-economy/258349/single-window-system-streamlines-export-import-activities)	
20	<p><u>Gas crisis looms large in Ramadan</u></p> <p>State-run Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Company Ltd (RPGCL) has floated tenders again to purchase three spot liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes for March 05-06 and March 10-11 delivery windows. The RPGCL's previous tenders, which were re-issued ones and closed on February 16, could not attract suppliers. Only one bidder took part in the bids and the price quoted was also higher, said an official, explaining the need for the re-tenders.</p> <p>Bangladesh might have to face an acute gas crisis during the coming Ramadan if its latest attempts also fail, he feared. State-run Petrobangla intends to buy one spot LNG cargo for March 05-06 delivery window and two spot LNG cargoes for March 10-11 delivery windows, a senior RPGCL official said.</p>	20 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/gas-crisis-looms-large-in-ramadan-1739988886?date=20-02-2025)	
21	<p><u>Proposals for full BB autonomy, law to resolve problem banks' issues underway</u></p> <p>Bangladesh Bank will submit a package proposal for transforming the central bank into a fully autonomous body within four months to the head of interim government, as part of full-course reforms in the banking sector Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Ahsan H. Mansur unveiled the plans, including a new law in the making, while speaking as the chief guest at a discussion Thursday in Dhaka.</p> <p>He said the chief adviser of the interim government gave the green signal for the upcoming reforms in the banking regulator. Under the plan, he said, the central bank will bring necessary changes in laws, departments, functions and areas of focuses in the days ahead to make it a modern central bank.</p>	21 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/proposals-for-full-bb-autonomy-law-to-resolve-problem-banks-issues-underway-1740075277?date=21-02-2025)	
22	<p><u>Taka stays overvalued, undercuts country's trade competitiveness</u></p> <p>BB shows REER gap at Tk 3.67</p> <p>Bangladesh's currency remains overvalued and impacts adversely the country's trade competitiveness with international trading partners, according to official statistics. According to a Bangladesh Bank's latest report, the Bangladesh Taka is overvalued by more than 3.0 per cent or Tk 3.67.</p> <p>The central bank of Bangladesh calculates the Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) index, which stood at 103.01 in January. When converted using the exchange rate, the real exchange rate stands at Tk 125.67 against the US dollar and thus leaves a gap of Tk 3.67.</p>	23 February 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/taka-stays-overvalued-undercuts-countrys-trade-competitiveness-1740244396)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
23	<p><u>Private sector struggling under mounting pressure</u> Businesses say at seminar</p>  <p>The private sector is facing increasing uncertainty as stubbornly high inflation, stagnant investments and inconsistent energy supplies continue to weigh on businesses, according to industry leaders. "In recent months, business sentiment has been significantly affected by inflationary pressures, high borrowing costs and exchange rate volatility," said Taskeen Ahmed, president of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI), at an event in Dhaka yesterday. He called for policy stability and structural reforms to restore business confidence.</p>	23 February 2025	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/private-sector-struggling-under-mounting-pressure-3831126)	
24	<p><u>ব্যবসা পরিচালনায় আট সমস্যা, শীর্ষে মূলধনের অভাব</u> এ দেশে ব্যবসা বা অর্থনৈতিক কর্মকাণ্ড পরিচালনায় মোটাদাগে আট ধরনের সমস্যায় পড়েন উদ্যোক্তারা। সমস্যাগুলোর মধ্যে শীর্ষে আছে মূলধনের অভাব। এ ছাড়া অন্য সমস্যাগুলো হলো সহজে ঋণপ্রাপ্তির জটিলতা, দক্ষ শ্রমশক্তির অভাব, কাঁচামালের অপര്യാপ্ততা, উৎপাদন খরচ বৃদ্ধি, পণ্য বিপণনের সমস্যা, পর্যাপ্ত অবকাঠামোর অভাব, বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানিসংকট। সম্প্রতি বাংলাদেশ পরিসংখ্যান ব্যুরোর (বিবিএস) প্রকাশিত অর্থনৈতিক শুমারি ২০২৪-এ এই চিত্র উঠে এসেছে। অর্থনৈতিক কর্মকাণ্ড পরিচালনা করে এমন প্রতিষ্ঠান বা পরিবার পর্যায়ে উদ্যোক্তাদের মতামতের ভিত্তিতে সমস্যাগুলো চিহ্নিত করা হয়েছে।</p>	23 February 2025	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/uw58sk88l6)	