

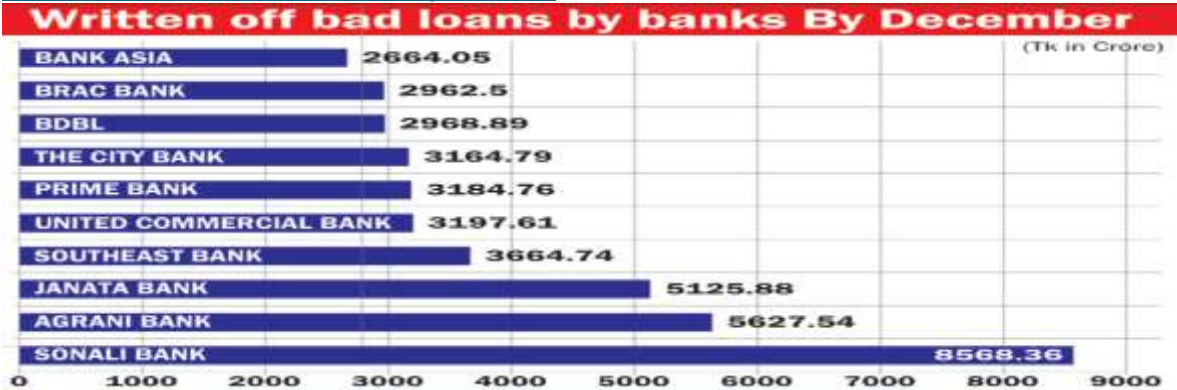
## Summary of Business News – 77

### Important Trade and Economic News Published in Various Newspapers during 24 March – 14 April 2025

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	<p><b><u>Tk 12.5b remittance, export incentives released It is the 3rd instalment allocated for FY25</u></b></p> <p>The government has released Tk 12.50 billion to pay remittance and export incentives, according to sources. Cash incentives of some Tk 10 billion and Tk 2.5 billion were released for remittance beneficiaries and local exporters, respectively, through separate orders issued by the Finance Division recently.</p> <p>This is the third instalment of such incentives allocated for the current financial year.</p>	24 March 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/tk-125b-remittance-export-incentives-released-it-is-the-3rd-instalment-allocated-for-fy25-1742752598?date=24-03-2025">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/tk-125b-remittance-export-incentives-released-it-is-the-3rd-instalment-allocated-for-fy25-1742752598?date=24-03-2025</a> )	
02	<p><b><u>NBR smells a rat over 1.0m nil e-returns</u></b></p> <p><b>Picture of manual returns almost the same</b></p> <p>The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has detected two-thirds of e-return filers having claimed zero taxable income in fiscal year '24, suspecting concealment of actual income by many. Out of 1.5 million online tax returns, the filers of some 1.0 million have claimed they have no taxable income, said NBR Chairman Md Abdur Rahman Khan on Monday at a pre-budget meeting with Economic Reporters' Forum (ERF) held at the revenue board's office. He said the situation is almost the same for manually-submitted tax returns.</p>	25 March 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/nbr-smells-a-rat-over-10m-nil-e-returns-1742840422">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/nbr-smells-a-rat-over-10m-nil-e-returns-1742840422</a> )	
03	<p><b><u>এলডিসি উত্তরণের কর্মকৌশল বাস্তবায়নে ছয় সদস্যের বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটি গঠন</u></b></p> <p>স্বল্পোন্নত দেশ থেকে (এলডিসি) উত্তরণের চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবিলায় মাধ্যমে রূপান্তর প্রক্রিয়াকে মসৃণ করার পরিকল্পনা বা স্মুথ ট্রানজিশন স্ট্র্যাটেজি (এসটিএস) বাস্তবায়নে ছয় সদস্যের বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটি গঠন করেছে সরকার। সম্প্রতি সরকারের পক্ষ থেকে এ কমিটি গঠন করা হয়। এদিকে এলডিসি উত্তরণকে মসৃণ ও টেকসই করার লক্ষ্যে ইতিমধ্যে সরকারের পক্ষ থেকে এসটিএস কর্মকৌশল অনুমোদন ও প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে। এই কর্মকৌশল বাস্তবায়নের বিষয়ে সংশ্লিষ্টদের পরামর্শ দিয়ে সহায়তার জন্য এই কমিটি গঠন করা হয়েছে। ছয় সদস্যের বিশেষ কমিটির প্রধান করা হয়েছে প্রধান উপদেষ্টার বিশেষ সহকারী (প্রতিমন্ত্রী) আনিসুজ্জামান চৌধুরীকে। অপর পাঁচ সদস্য হলেন—বেসরকারি গবেষণা সংস্থা সেন্টার ফর পলিসি ডায়ালগের (সিপিডি) সম্মাননীয় ফেলো মোস্তাফিজুর রহমান, বাংলাদেশ উন্নয়ন গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠানের (বিআইডিএস) গবেষণা পরিচালক মঞ্জুর হোসেন, বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয়ের অতিরিক্ত সচিব (রপ্তানি অনুবিভাগ) মো. আবদুর রহিম খান, গবেষণা সংস্থা রিসার্চ অ্যান্ড পলিসি ইন্টিগ্রেশন ফর ডেভেলপমেন্টের (র্যাপিড) চেয়ারম্যান মোহাম্মদ আবদুর রাজ্জাক এবং বিআইডিএসের অর্থবিষয়ক কমিটির চেয়ারম্যান কাজী ইকবাল।</p>	26 March 2025	Prothom Alo ( <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/re8r35sa06">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/re8r35sa06</a> )	
04	<p><b><u>BB allows start-ups to invest up to \$10,000 abroad</u></b></p> <p>The central bank has relaxed its regulations, allowing start-ups to invest up to \$10,000 abroad by establishing legal entities, officials said. General permission is granted to establish a legal entity abroad with an amount up to \$10,000 or equivalent by way of investment for supporting a start-up in Bangladesh, according to a notification issued by the Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Thursday.</p> <p>A start-up is a company or project undertaken by an entrepreneur to seek, develop, and validate a scalable business model. Actually, start-ups are in their initial stages of operation, meaning they are relatively young businesses compared to established companies.</p>	28 March 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bb-allows-start-ups-to-invest-up-to-10000-abroad-1743095925?date=28-03-2025">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bb-allows-start-ups-to-invest-up-to-10000-abroad-1743095925?date=28-03-2025</a> )	

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05	<p><b><u>Trade bodies to run democratically: Bashir</u></b>  Commerce Adviser Sk. Bashir Uddin has said the government wants to run the trade organizations completely under democratic system. In view of this, he said, fresh moves are underway for framing rules under the Trade Organizations Act, reports BSS. "The government want to make the election process of the representatives of the trade bodies democratically as much as possible," he said. Sk. Bashir said this while talking recently with the national news agency on the moves for framing new rules for the trade organizations at his office at Bangladesh Secretariat.</p> <p>The interim government has started formulating the rules under the 'Trade Organizations Act 2023'. Following framing the rules, the election of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) will be held. According to officials of the FBCCI and Commerce Ministry, the new rules may reduce the total number of directors from the current 80 to below 50 while the number of nominated directors might be reduced from 34 to 12. The Commerce Adviser said, "We're bringing the election process of presidents, vice presidents and others under direct election. However, in order to enhance their capacity we've kept provision for inclusion of some nominated members in the BGMEA, BKMEA, and MCCI."</p>	29 March 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/trade-bodies-to-run-democratically-bashir-1743183799?date=29-03-2025">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/trade-bodies-to-run-democratically-bashir-1743183799?date=29-03-2025</a> )	
06	<p><b><u>Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka sign deal to strengthen capital markets</u></b>  The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX), and Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) have signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation among the three bourses. The agreement, signed on Thursday in Colombo, aims to facilitate technology development and sharing, human resource collaboration, product development, regulatory coordination, investor protection, and knowledge exchange across the markets, according to a press release issued by the DSE yesterday.</p>	31 March 2025	The Daily Star ( <a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-pakistan-and-sri-lanka-sign-deal-strengthen-capital-markets-3861171">https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-pakistan-and-sri-lanka-sign-deal-strengthen-capital-markets-3861171</a> )	
07	<p><b><u>IMF credit-review mission due on Apr 5</u></b>  <b><u>BD needs to add Tk570b to raise tax-GDP ratio</u></b>  <b>Lender communicates updated condition to be met in next fiscal for remaining \$2.39b of \$4.7b package</b>  Bangladesh will need to add Tk 570 billion to its tax-to-GDP ratio under one of updated conditions the IMF sets for releasing the remaining US\$2.39 billion from its lending package. Officials say the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is set to revise the target for enhancing the country's tax-GDP ratio by 1.1 per cent from 0.7 per cent for the upcoming fiscal year. The upward adjustment would require the National Board of Revenue (NBR) to mobilise the aforesaid additional amount of Tk 570 billion in tax revenue in the fiscal year 2025-26. The amount is equivalent to one and a half months' collection by the NBR this year.</p> <p>Officials said they had received the message on upward revision of the tax-GDP target ahead of an IMF mission's visit to Bangladesh on April 5 next. The IMF delegation is likely to place the revised conditions on disbursement of the deferred fourth and the fifth tranches of its \$4.7-billion loan on April 6, 2025 at a meeting with the revenue board. Currently, the tax-GDP ratio is below 7.9 per cent in Bangladesh-rated one of the lowest in South Asia for reasons that include much-needed reforms and digitisation. A senior official of the NBR said the targets revised upward accumulate last three years' missed ones which require 0.5- percent additional tax-GDP each in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 and 0.7 in FY 2025-26.</p>	03 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-needs-to-add-tk570b-to-raise-tax-gdp-ratio-1743612066?date=03-04-2025">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-needs-to-add-tk570b-to-raise-tax-gdp-ratio-1743612066?date=03-04-2025</a> )	

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08	<p><b><u>Trump's tariffs stoke worry in trade circles</u></b></p> <p>A phenomenal worldwide US tariff hike stokes worries in Bangladesh's overall trade circles with apparel makers fearing chain effects especially on apparel export to its single-largest market. According to exporters, Bangladeshi suppliers might face huge price squeeze from the US buyers as high tariffs would raise the products' price while the possibility of investment being relocated from other countries, especially from China, might face setbacks. The fears stoked up as the United States announced a 37-percent tariff on imports from Bangladesh as part of President Donald Trump's sweeping new 'reciprocal tariffs' policy.</p> <p>According to a chart published by the White House on Wednesday, the US government claims that Bangladesh effectively imposes a 74-percent tariff on American goods, and in response, a 37-percent "discounted reciprocal tariff" will now be levied on Bangladeshi products entering the US market.</p> <p>The announcement is likely to have a major cascading impact on Bangladesh's exports as the country is largely dependent on the export of readymade garments. Apparel makers have expressed concern, saying the steep tariff would erode the country's competitive advantage. They also opine that they would face tough competition with India and Pakistan as the US has imposed 26-percent and 29-percent tariffs on them respectively.</p>	04 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/trumps-tariffs-stoke-worry-in-trade-circles-1743701105?date=04-04-2025">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/trumps-tariffs-stoke-worry-in-trade-circles-1743701105?date=04-04-2025</a> )	
09	<p><b><u>Ultimate goal is to join ASEAN as a full member</u></b></p> <p><b>Prof Yunus says, seeking support from Thai elite</b></p> <p>BANGKOK, April 4 (UNB): Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus on Friday sought support from the elite of Thai society for Dhaka's efforts to join the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). "That is where our future is," the Chief Adviser told Thai dignitaries at a breakfast meeting at a hotel in the Thailand's capital city of Bangkok.</p> <p>Bangladesh has planned to join the ASEAN as its sectoral dialogue partner, but Professor Yunus said the ultimate goal is to join as a full member of the key regional group.</p> <p>The Chief Adviser said Bangladesh believes in multilateralism, and it is a proud member of SAARC and BIMSTEC. He said the regional groups should step up their efforts to foster economic growth and bring people closer.</p>	05 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/ultimate-goal-is-to-join-asean-as-a-full-member-1743783067?date=05-04-2025">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/ultimate-goal-is-to-join-asean-as-a-full-member-1743783067?date=05-04-2025</a> )	
10	<p><b><u>All govt depts in action for rationalising US import tariffs</u></b></p> <p>All government departments swing into action to explore ways, including tariff rationalization, to mitigate adverse impact of the Trump-triggered global trade war on Bangladesh's already-woe-stricken economy. The jacked-up US tariffs, 37 per cent on Bangladeshi goods, higher than that of its competitors, have triggered concerns among all ministries and agencies, including the Ministries of Finance, and Commerce, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), along with exporters of apparel, leather, ceramics etc.</p> <p>An initial finding by the NBR and BIDA detects thirty import items from the United States having higher tariffs. The items, including generation and generating set, valve, meat (beef), agro-items, some raw materials and capital machinery, have duties ranging from 26.2 per cent to 80 per cent.</p>	06 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/all-govt-depts-in-action-for-rationalising-us-import-tariffs-1743873870">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/all-govt-depts-in-action-for-rationalising-us-import-tariffs-1743873870</a> )	

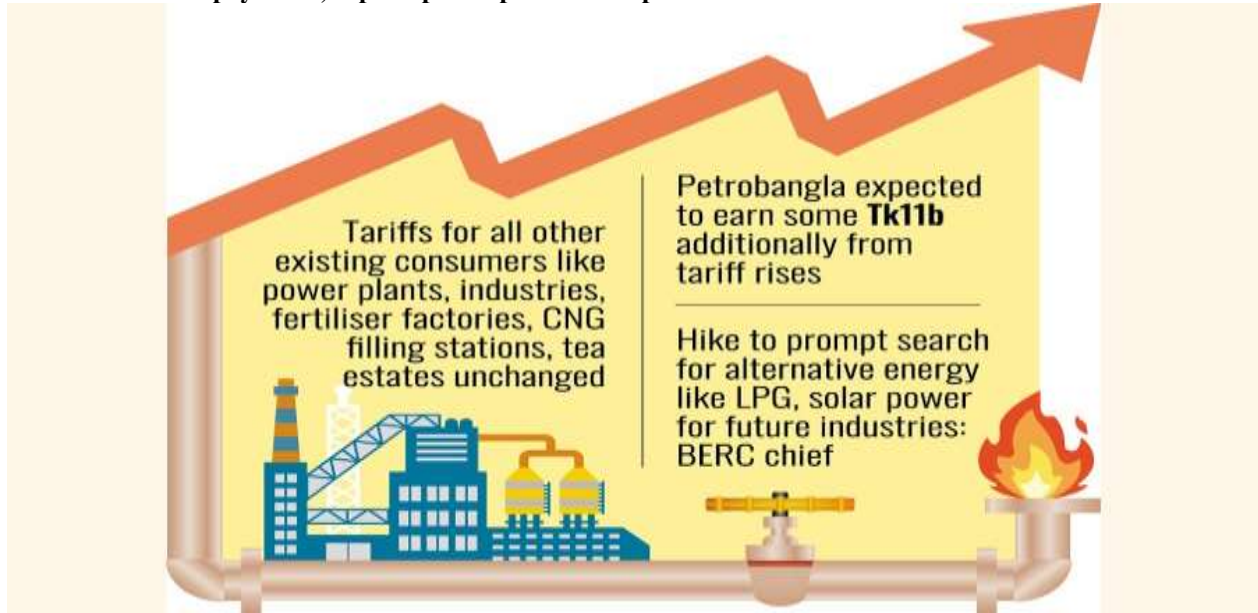
Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
11	<p><b>Tk 41,129cr bad loans written off by 10 banks</b></p>  <p>The top 10 banks in Bangladesh have collectively written off Tk 41,129 crore in bad loans by the end of December 2024, accounting for nearly half of the total written-off loans in the banking sector, according to Bangladesh Bank data.</p> <p>Banks typically resort to loan write-offs when they determine that the chances of recovering the money lent are practically nil, banking experts said. Written-off bad loans have increased due to a higher rate of non-performing loans and write-off policy relaxation by the central bank in February 2024, they said.</p>	06 April 2025	New Age ( <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/261604/tk-41129cr-bad-loans-written-off-by-10-banks">https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/261604/tk-41129cr-bad-loans-written-off-by-10-banks</a> )	
12	<p><b>Over 60 large borrowers seek loan restructuring amid mounting losses</b></p> <p>At least 60 institutions have applied to the Bangladesh Bank for loan restructuring, citing losses stemming from factors beyond their control. The applications concern defaulted loans ranging from Tk150 crore to Tk12,500 crore, with most applicants seeking restructuring facilities for up to 15 years, according to central bank sources. In January, the Bangladesh Bank formed a five-member selection committee to recommend policy support aimed at reviving distressed borrowers by restructuring their financial operations. The objective is twofold: to restore these institutions to operational viability and ensure banks recover outstanding loans.</p>	06 April 2025	The Business Standard (TBS) ( <a href="https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/over-60-large-borrowers-seek-loan-restructuring-amid-mounting-losses-1108721">https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/over-60-large-borrowers-seek-loan-restructuring-amid-mounting-losses-1108721</a> )	
13	<p><b>March remittances smash all records</b></p> <p>Bangladesh's inward remittance inflow crossed the \$3.0 billion mark for the first time in history in March this year, which gave the much-needed impetus to the country's depleting foreign currency reserves. According to the Bangladesh Bank (BB) data, Bangladeshi citizens working abroad sent remittances equivalent to \$3.29 billion in March, a nearly 65 per cent jump from the \$1.99 billion that came in the same month a year earlier, driven by the celebration of the Eid-ul-Fitr festival. Inward remittances were \$2.53 billion in February this year, the data shows. Moreover, the inflow of remittances during the July-March period of the current fiscal year grew by more than 27 per cent to \$21.78 billion from \$17.07 billion in the same period of FY24.</p>	07 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/march-remittances-smash-all-records-1743960728">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/march-remittances-smash-all-records-1743960728</a> )	

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14	<p><b><u>Bangladesh offers zero tariffs on 100 more US goods to narrow trade gap</u></b></p> <p>Bangladesh is ready to offer zero import tariffs for another 100 US goods in addition to the existing 190, in order to minimise the trade gap and address Trump's reciprocal tariffs, according to a letter from Commerce Adviser Sk. Bashir Uddin sent to US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer today. Bangladesh is one of the largest importers of US cotton, manufactures readymade garments, and faces higher tariffs on its exports to the United States, the adviser wrote in the letter. "Our tariff schedule contains 190 product lines with zero tariffs, and another 100 product lines are being considered for inclusion in the zero-tariff schedule." "Since the withdrawal of preferential access for Bangladeshi exports to the US, your esteemed government has been imposing a 15 percent tariff on all goods from Bangladesh, while we impose a weighted average tariff on US products of 6.10 percent—where raw cotton and steel scrap face tariff rates of 0 percent and 1 percent respectively," the adviser said.</p>	07 April 2025	The Daily Star ( <a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-offers-zero-tariffs-100-more-us-goods-narrow-trade-gap-3865856">https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-offers-zero-tariffs-100-more-us-goods-narrow-trade-gap-3865856</a> )	
15	<p><b><u>Starlink gets nod to launch in Bangladesh</u></b></p> <p>Starlink, a US-based satellite internet provider owned by billionaire Elon Musk, has received formal approval from the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida) to begin operations in Bangladesh — a move hailed as a step forward in bridging the digital divide. The go-ahead was given to the SpaceX subsidiary on March 29, said Ashik Chowdhury, executive chairman of Bida and the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (Beza).</p>	07 April 2025	The Daily Star ( <a href="#">Starlink gets nod to launch in Bangladesh   The Daily Star</a> )	
16	<p><b><u>Do not shift financial burden onto suppliers</u></b></p> <p><b>BGMEA to global buyers</b></p> <p>Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has requested global apparel brands and retailers not to shift the financial burden onto suppliers as some buyers are in negotiation with Bangladeshi apparel makers to mitigate the impact of the latest US tariff regime. Expressing deep concern in an open letter to global buyers on Sunday night, the apparel apex body said the recent announcement of the reciprocal tariff, particularly the 37 per cent tariff on Bangladeshi exports to the United States, has placed all in an 'unexpectedly challenging situation'. "We fully recognise the pressure this has created at your end. The uncertainty surrounding cost structures, supply chain planning, and long-term sourcing decisions is significant, and we acknowledge your circumstances with utmost sincerity," BGMEA administrator Anwar Hossain said in the letter. The US is the single largest export destination for Bangladeshi made exportable goods mostly readymade garments.</p>	08 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/do-not-shift-financial-burden-onto-suppliers-1744046852">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/do-not-shift-financial-burden-onto-suppliers-1744046852</a> )	
17	<p><b><u>Fall in food cost, boost in non-food</u></b></p> <p><b>Mar inflation rate up at 9.35pc, food down to 8.93pc</b></p> <p>Food inflation cooled to some extent amid harvests galore but non-food one recorded a rise in March with the end-result of a bit elevated overall rate in the month, official data showed. After a straight three months' lower trend, Bangladesh's point-to-point inflation rate last month, however, recorded a bit higher at 9.35 per cent from 9.32 per cent in the previous month February, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data unveiled Tuesday. Inflation climbed to a 13-month high at 11.38 per cent in November this fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 but started falling in the subsequent months of December, January and February. Meanwhile, the March inflation rate was higher due to the higher trend in the non-food items against an easing trend in food inflation. The rate of non-food inflation increased to 9.70 per cent in the past month of March from 9.38 per cent in the previous month. On the other hand, the food-inflation rate fell to 8.93 per cent last month from 9.24 per cent in the previous month.</p>	09 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fall-in-food-cost-boost-in-non-food-1744131724">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fall-in-food-cost-boost-in-non-food-1744131724</a> )	



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18	<p><b><u>Pvt sector credit growth slumps to 21-year low</u></b>  <b>US tariffs may add woes</b></p> <p>The private sector credit growth in Bangladesh fell to 6.82 per cent in February, hitting its lowest in 21 years, according to available data. The Bangladesh Bank data showed that the growth was the lowest since February 2004 when the rate was 14.4 per cent. Economists said that the plunge reflected a deepening crisis in the country's banking and business sector, as credit growth continued to fall for the seventh consecutive month. The reciprocal tariffs the United States has imposed on Bangladeshi products may deepen the crisis, they said.</p> <p>The private sector credit growth stood at 7.15 per cent in January 2025, 7.28 per cent in December, 7.66 per cent in November, 8.3 per cent in October, 9.2 per cent in September, 9.86 per cent in August, 10.13 per cent in July and 9.84 per cent in June 2024, according to the Bangladesh Bank data.</p> <p>The downward trend began in November 2022, but the situation worsened amid political uncertainty after the political changeover on August 5, 2024.</p> <p>Bangladesh Bank's new monetary policy, announced in January, maintained a private sector credit growth target of 9.8 per cent through July 2025.</p>	09 April 2025	New Age ( <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/261886/pvt-sector-credit-growth-slumps-to-21-year-low#google_vignette">https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/261886/pvt-sector-credit-growth-slumps-to-21-year-low#google_vignette</a> )	
19	<p><b><u>UK allows 92pc BD products duty-free access after 2029</u></b>  <b>Trade envoy tells investment summit</b></p> <p>Beyond the current scheme of trade preferences, United Kingdom will continue to provide 92 per cent of Bangladeshi exports duty-free access to the UK market. Baroness Rosie Winterton, UK Trade envoy in Bangladesh, conveyed the assurance at the Bangladesh Investment Summit 2025 in Dhaka on Wednesday.</p> <p>"Bangladesh is the biggest beneficiary of UK's trade-preference scheme, the developing country's trading scheme. This gives Bangladesh duty-free and quota-free access to the UK market until 2029. And after that date, 92 per cent of Bangladeshi exports will continue to get duty-free access to the UK," she said.</p>	10 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/uk-allows-92pc-bd-products-duty-free-access-after-2029-1744218160">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/uk-allows-92pc-bd-products-duty-free-access-after-2029-1744218160</a> )	
20	<p><b><u>India cancels transshipment facility for Bangladesh</u></b>  <b>Bangladesh's exports to Nepal or Bhutan won't be affected, it clarifies</b></p> <p>The Indian government has cancelled the transshipment facility that allowed Bangladesh to use the land customs stations of its neighbour to export cargo to third countries.</p> <p>However, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Wednesday clarified that the decision would not affect Bangladesh's exports to Nepal or Bhutan transiting through the Indian territory.</p> <p>"The transshipment facility extended to Bangladesh had over a period of time resulted in significant congestion at our airports and ports. Logistical delays and higher costs were hindering our own exports and creating backlogs," MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told the weekly press briefing in Delhi.</p> <p>"The facility, therefore, has been withdrawn with effect from April 8, 2025. To clarify, these measures do not impact Bangladesh exports to Nepal or Bhutan transiting through Indian territory," he added. Earlier on Tuesday, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) of India issued a notification cancelling the facility.</p>	10 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/india-cancels-transshipment-facility-for-bangladesh-1744218420">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/india-cancels-transshipment-facility-for-bangladesh-1744218420</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
21	<p><b><u>ADB considerably cuts BD's growth forecast</u></b></p> <p>The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has significantly cut Bangladesh's economic growth forecast, suggesting necessary reforms by this government to achieve higher growth. It has also drawn a grim picture for Bangladesh as it says the global economic slowdown sparked by the sweeping US tariff may hit GDP (gross domestic product) expansion.</p> <p>The Manila-based lender cut the GDP projection significantly by 1.20 percentage points to 3.9 per cent for fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 from that of its earlier projection last September, according to the ADB's Asian Development Outlook (ADO). The economic growth outlook was unveiled in Dhaka on Wednesday.</p> <p>The ADO in September 2024 forecasted that Bangladesh would expand at 5.1 per cent rate in the FY2025. Its economic growth projection in April 2024 was much higher at 6.6 per cent.</p>	10 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/adb-considerably-cuts-bds-growth-forecast-1744218642">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/adb-considerably-cuts-bds-growth-forecast-1744218642</a> )	
22	<p><b><u>Donald Trump pauses reciprocal tariffs for 90 days, except for China</u></b></p> <p>US President Donald Trump declared a complete halt on all 'reciprocal' tariffs that took effect at midnight, with the exception of those imposed on China. Trump announced that tariffs on China would rise from 104 per cent to 125 per cent, reports CNN.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Bangladesh interim government's chief adviser Muhammad Yunus has expressed his gratitude to president Trump for his decision.</p>	10 April 2025	New Age ( <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/post/Trade-Commerce/261988/donald-trump-pauses-reciprocal-tariffs-for-90-days-except-for-china">https://www.newagebd.net/post/Trade-Commerce/261988/donald-trump-pauses-reciprocal-tariffs-for-90-days-except-for-china</a> )	
23	<p><b><u>Bangladesh Investment Summit 2025</u></b></p> <p><b><u>FDI commitments worth \$260m received</u></b></p> <p>The four-day Bangladesh Investment Summit-2025 aimed at boosting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) concluded on Thursday, with approximately 450 potential investors from around the globe in attendance. A \$260 million worth of FDI commitment was received in the first three days of the event, said Nahian Rahman Rochi, Head of Business Development, Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA).</p> <p>"A specific roadmap will be developed to address the key obstacles identified during the conference to attract more FDI, while efforts will also be made to create an FDI pipeline and translate commitments into action through communication with representatives from the participating institutions," he said. Nahian Rahman Rochi made the remarks at a press conference after the conclusion of the summit at the InterContinental Dhaka where he shared the key highlights and achievements of the event.</p>	11 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fdi-commitments-worth-260m-received-1744306164?date=11-04-2025">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fdi-commitments-worth-260m-received-1744306164?date=11-04-2025</a> )	
24	<p><b><u>ডলার ইনডেক্সের মান তিন বছরের মধ্যে সর্বনিম্ন</u></b></p> <p>যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের প্রেসিডেন্ট ডোনাল্ড ট্রাম্পের পাল্টা শুল্ক আরোপের প্রতিক্রিয়ায় ডলারের শক্তিও খর্ব হচ্ছে। গত তিন বছরের মধ্যে শুক্রবার বিশ্বের সবচেয়ে শক্তিশালী এই মুদ্রার রেকর্ড দরপতন হয়েছে। বিশ্বের ছয়টি মুদ্রার বিপরীতে যে ইউএস ডলার ইনডেক্স প্রণয়ন করা হয়, গত শুক্রবার তার শূন্য দশমিক ৫৬ শতাংশ পতন হয়েছে। শুক্রবার ডলারের বিপরীতে ইউরোর দরপতন হয়েছে ১ দশমিক ২৫ শতাংশ। প্রতি ইউরোর বিপরীতে এখন ১ দশমিক ১৩ ডলার পাওয়া যাচ্ছে। একইভাবে জাপানি মুদ্রা ইয়েনের বিপরীতেও ডলারের দরপতন হয়েছে। দরপতনের হার শূন্য দশমিক ৫১ শতাংশ। দরপতন হয়েছে ব্রিটিশ পাউন্ডের বিপরীতেও; সেদিন পাউন্ডের দর বেড়েছে শূন্য দশমিক ৮৯ শতাংশ।</p> <p>বাংলাদেশের বাজারে অবশ্য গত কয়েক মাস ধরে ডলারের দর স্থিতিশীল। প্রতি ডলার এখন ১২২ টাকা দরে বেচাকেনা হচ্ছে।</p>	13 April 2025	Prothom Alo ( <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/world-business/tj6iubz8jk">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/world-business/tj6iubz8jk</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
25	<p><b>Businesses, rights groups' outcry goes unheard</b>  <b><u>Gas prices jacked up 33pc for industrial usages</u></b>  <b>New industries to pay Tk40, captive power plants Tk42 per unit</b></p>  <p>New industries are now to pay Tk 40 and captive power plants Tk 42 per cubic meter of gas as the government jacked up tariffs of the basic fuel by 33 per cent on average, overriding objections. The hike takes "immediate effect from today," it was officially announced as Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) Sunday pushed the decision through protests and opposition from businesses and rights groups. Heretofore, the tariff rate for new industries had been Tk 30 and for captive power plants Tk 31.50 a unit.</p>	14 April 2025	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/gas-prices-jacked-up-33pc-for-industrial-usages-1744568005">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/gas-prices-jacked-up-33pc-for-industrial-usages-1744568005</a> )	
26	<p><b><u>No scope to cut corporate tax</u></b>  <b>NBR chairman says</b>  The National Board of Revenue (NBR) yesterday said there was no scope to reduce corporate or individual tax rates in the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, a stance that businesses opposed.  At a pre-budget discussion organised by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), Daily Samakal and Channel 24 at the InterContinental Dhaka, NBR Chairman Abdur Rahman Khan said the national debt burden has increased over the past 50 years and those debts need to be repaid. To do so, Bangladesh needs to collect more revenue from domestic sources, he stated.</p>	14 April 2025	The Daily Star ( <a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/no-scope-cut-corporate-tax-3870841">https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/no-scope-cut-corporate-tax-3870841</a> )	



Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
27	<p><u>ট্রাম্পের শুল্ক: করণীয় নির্ধারণে বেসরকারি খাতকে যুক্ত করার আহ্বান ব্যবসায়ীদের</u></p> <p>মার্কিন প্রেসিডেন্ট ডোনাল্ড ট্রাম্প যে ৯০ দিনের জন্য পাল্টা শুল্ক স্থগিত করেছেন, এই সময় বাংলাদেশকে যথাযথভাবে কাজে লাগাতে হবে বলে মনে করেন দেশের ব্যবসায়ী নেতারা। তাঁরা মনে করেন, এখন থেকেই প্রস্তুতি নিতে হবে। তা না হলে বড়দিনের ক্রয়াদেশ ধরা কঠিন হয়ে যাবে। সেই সঙ্গে এ প্রক্রিয়ায় দেশের বেসরকারি খাতকে যুক্ত করতে হবে।</p> <p>আজ রোববার রাজধানীর বনানীর একটি হোটেলে আয়োজিত প্রাতরাশ সভায় এসব কথা বলেন নাসিম মঞ্জুর। যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের আরোপিত শুল্কের বিষয়ে উদ্বেগ ও প্রস্তাব তুলে ধরতে এই সভার আয়োজন করে আমেরিকান চেম্বার অব কমার্স ইন বাংলাদেশ (অ্যামচেম)।</p>	14 April 2025	Prothom Alo ( <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/p7uka0k02j">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/p7uka0k02j</a> )	