Summary of Business News - 81

Important Trade and Economic News Published in Various Newspapers during 26 May – 22 June 2025

SI. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	এখন মাথাপিছু আয় ২,৮২০ ডলার, যা যাবংকালের সর্বোচ্চ বাংলাদেশের মানুষের মাথাপিছু আয় এখন ২ হাজার ৮২০ মার্কিন ডলার। এই মাথাপিছু আয় এ যাবংকালের রেকর্ড। ২০২৪- ২৫ অর্থবছরের সাময়িক হিসাবে বাংলাদেশ পরিসংখ্যান ব্যুরো (বিবিএস) এ তথ্য দিয়েছে। গত অর্থবছরের চেয়ে মাথাপিছু আয় বেড়েছে ৮২ ডলার। গত অর্থবছরে মাথাপিছু আয় ছিল ২৭৩৮ ডলার। আজ মঙ্গলবার বিবিএস ২০২৪-২৫ অর্থবছরের মাথাপিছু আয়, মোট দেশজ উৎপাদনের (জিডিপি) সাময়িক হিসাব দিয়েছে। সেখানে এই তথ্য পাওয়া গেছে। এর আগে ২০২১-২২ অর্থবছরে সর্বোচ্চ ২৭৯৩ ডলার মাথাপিছু আয় হয়েছিল। এরপর ডলারের দাম বেড়ে যাওয়ায় মাথাপিছু আয় ডলারের হিসাবে বাড়েনি।	27 May 2025	Prothom Alo (এখন মাথাপিছু আয় ২,৮২০ ডলার, যা যাবৎকালের সর্বোচ্চ। প্রথম আলো)	
02	Challenges slowing down economic upturn: MCCI Bangladesh's economy is showing signs of a gradual recovery amid multiple challenges featured by the global uncertainty and the ongoing political uncertainty at home. The Bangladesh economy is overcoming difficulties caused by the present political uncertainty and conflicting world scenario, according to Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. MCCI, the oldest chamber body, in its Review of Economic Situation in Bangladesh between January and March of the outgoing financial year of 2024-25, said the slow economic recovery from the headwinds had kept the growth in gross domestic products under pressure.	28 May 2025	New Age (https://www.newage bd.net/post/economy/ 266148/challenges- slowing-down- economic-upturn-mcci)	
03	Regulations approved for first commodity exchange The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has approved rules and regulations necessary to run commodity exchange markets, paving the way for the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) to launch the country's first such trading entity soon. A commodity exchange determines and enforces rules and procedures for trading standardised commodity contracts and related investment products. According to experts, a commodity exchange would allow farmers to lock in prices using forward contracting. This reduces the risk of a drastic price drop and squeezes out uneven ups and downs in commodity prices. The CSE took the initiative to launch a commodity exchange in 2022 with the aim of reducing the difference between prices paid by consumers and producers.	29 May 2025	The Daily Star (Regulations approved for first commodity exchange The Daily Star)	
04	Starlink signing deals with local firms to expand footprint Starlink is steadily consolidating its presence in Bangladesh through a series of partnership agreements with local companies, with deals spanning ground station development, colocation and data centre services, core site hosting, transmission, and international internet gateway (IIG) facilities. The Daily Star spoke to half a dozen individuals, including officials from companies involved in these partnerships. However, all requested anonymity, citing non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) signed with Starlink. Industry sources confirmed that most of the key deals have been secured by Fibre@Home and its affiliated companies.	29 May 2025	The Daily Star (Starlink Partnership With Local Firms In Bangladesh Starlink signing deals with local firms to expand footprint)	

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05	May sees second-highest remittance flow of \$2.97b REMITTANCE FLOW (In billion US dollar) MAR 3.29 APR 2.75 MAY 2.97	02 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/may-sees-second-highest-remittance-flow-of-297b-1748802044)	
06	Rising remittance inflows fetched Bangladesh US\$2.97 billion in May, the second-highest monthly receipt in its history, giving a much-needed respite to the economy facing multipronged strains amid forex dearth in recent times. In terms of growth, the country saw a 31.71-percent year-on-year increase from \$2.26 billion recorded in May 2024, according to data released Sunday by the Bangladesh Bank (BB). The May figure of \$2.97 billion was the second-highest one after March last when the Bangladeshi citizens working abroad sent \$3.30 billion back home. According to the official data, the country received a total of \$27.51 billion in remittances during the first 11 months of the current fiscal year-an increase of 28.69 per cent compared to the \$21.37 billion received in the same period of the previous fiscal year.		The Financial Express	
06	NTERIM GOVT PLACES TK7.9T MAIDEN BUDGET AMID CHALLENGES	03 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefina ncialexpress.com.bd/first-page/balancing-economic-revival-inflation-prime-promise-1748887733?date=03-06-2025)	

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07	Execution challenging, say trade bodies The proposed national budget for the fiscal year 2025-26 has been met with cautious approval by leading trade bodies, who praised its intent but flagged serious concerns about its implementation. While acknowledging the Finance Adviser's effort to address inflation, unemployment, and investment stagnation, the business groups said the budget lacks a clear and actionable roadmap to achieve these critical goals. They shared their reactions through statements issued following the budget proposal on Monday. The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) said that preparing the proposed budget was a "bold undertaking" by the Finance Adviser given the backdrop of numerous economic headwinds. These include shrinking export markets due to global inflation, sluggish domestic investment trends, elevated bank lending rates, persistent geopolitical tensions, and Bangladesh's upcoming transition from least developed country (LDC) status by 2026.	04 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/execution-challenging-say-trade-bodies-1748975807)	
08	Merchandise export earnings see double-digit growth in May The country's single-month merchandise-export earnings in May 2025 witnessed a double-digit growth of 11.45 per cent year on year to fetch US\$4.73 billion due to the sustained performance of ready-made garment industry. Bangladesh earned \$4.25 billion in May 2024, according to the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) data released on Tuesday. Earnings from ready-made garment (RMG) exports in May 2025 amounted to \$3.91 billion, up from \$3.50 billion in May 2024, representing a monthly growth of 11.85 per cent. The overall exports, however, stood at \$44.94 billion during the July-May period of FY 2024-25, reflecting a 10-percent year-on-year growth. Bangladesh fetched \$40.85 billion during the same period of the last fiscal year, the data showed.	04 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/merchandise-export-earnings-seedouble-digit-growth-in-may-1748975489)	
09	Govt releases Tk 2.5b in cash incentives for exporters The government has released Tk 2.5 billion in cash incentives for the country's exporters, marking the fourth and final installment of the export subsidy allocated for the current fiscal year (FY 2024-25). The Finance Division under the Ministry of Finance issued an official order regarding the disbursement on May 29. As in previous cases, the incentive comes with specific conditions. The funds must be distributed to eligible export sectors through designated banks.	05 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trademarket/govt-releases-tk-25b-in-cash-incentives-for-exporters-1749064513?date=05-06-2025)	
10	Bangladesh's economic outlook revised downward for next three fiscals Factors like poor investment, political uncertainty to blame The interim government has cut the country's macroeconomic outlook on a large scale trimming down the economic-growth targets for the next three fiscal years up to FY2028. Economists have, however, termed the revised economic growth targets and other macro-economic outlook as 'unrealistic' amid the prevailing political instability. The economic growth outlook has been revised downward to 5.50% for FY2026 from that of 7.0%, which was projected in last MTMPS during the ousted Sheikh Hasina government's regime. Similarly, GDP growth target has also been trimmed down to 6.0% for FY2027 in the latest MTMPS from that of 7.25% in the previous MTMPS. For FY2028, the interim government has cut the GDP growth target to 6.50% in the latest MTMPS from that of 7.50% in the previous MTMPS.	11 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladeshs-economic-outlook-revised-downward-fornext-three-fiscals-1749580953?date=11-06-2025)	

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11	Private sector credit growth remains subdued Growth rate stays below 8pc for sixth straight month Despite some minor fluctuations, private sector credit growth in Bangladesh has maintained a downward trend since the fall of the Awami League government in the wake of the July Uprising, reports bdnews24.com. According to the latest data published by Bangladesh Bank, credit growth in April stood at 7.5 per cent, marking six straight months in which private sector borrowing has remained below 8 per cent. In March, credit growth was 7.57 per cent, which had broken an eight-month streak of decline following the political upheaval in July-August last year. In February, the growth rate was 6.82 per cent and it stood at 7.15 per cent in January.	12 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefina ncialexpress.com.bd/tr ade-market/private-sector-credit-growth-remains-subdued-1749662982?date=12-06-2025)	
12	10-DAY EID HOLIDAY Businesses struggle as economic activity slows Businesses in Bangladesh have fallen into a holiday trap, with economic activity slowing due to supply chain disruptions and bank closures during the extended 10-day Eid-ul-Azha holidays. Export-import operations through land ports, delivery of goods to retailers and the supply of seasonal fruits—such as mangoes, jackfruits and litchis—have all been disrupted during this holiday period. Although the mango season is now in full swing, the market in Kansat, Shibganj upazila of Chapainawabganj, known as the country's largest mango hub, has been struggling with sluggish sales amid the long break. Since the beginning of peak harvesting, the mango market has remained paralysed by the holiday closure. As a result, prices have fallen by Tk 200 to Tk 400 per maund (40 kg) and in some cases, even more.	12 June 2025	New Age (https://www.newage bd.net/post/trade- commerce/267136/bu sinesses-struggle-as- economic-activity- slows)	
13	Govt plans incentives for Bangladeshis bringing in foreign investment The government is planning to introduce an incentive scheme for Bangladeshi individuals who help bring in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida) is drafting guidelines and preparing a concept paper with the aim of implementing the initiative in the next fiscal year. The proposal was discussed during the third meeting of the Bida Governing Board held in April, chaired by Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus. The board gave in-principle consent to the initiative at the meeting.	14 June 2025	The Business Standard (TBS) (Govt plans incentives for Bangladeshis bringing in foreign investment The Business Standard)	
14	Post-LDC foreign debt servicing a concern Ballooning external debt-servicing liabilities claim a king's ransom from the budget for the outgoing fiscal year. Such a concern is reflected in the official budget documents as the interim government presents next fiscal's budget for Bangladesh. The government is projected to repay nearly 30-percent higher or US\$2.615 billion in servicing external debt in the outgoing FY2024-25, up from \$2.02 billion in the previous fiscal year, the documents show. The finance ministry notes that the weakening of the Bangladesh Taka (BDT) against the US dollar has substantially increased the cost of foreign-debt repayments.	15 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/post-ldc-foreign-debt-servicing-a-concern-1749921920)	

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15	ABSENTEE BIG ACCOUNT-HOLDERS, CHANGED ACCOUNTING MAJOR FACTORS Classified bank loans balloon fast to a record high NPLs rise by Tk750b in three months to Tk4.20t by March end Classified loans in Bangladesh's banking industry made a quantum leap by around Tk 750 billion in just three months to a record high as of March, stoking concerns across the sector. With such leaps in the volume of non-performing loans (NPLs), the aggregate hit Tk 4.20 trillion by the end of March 2025, accounting for 24.13 per cent of the entire loans worth Tk 17.42 trillion disbursed by the country's 61 commercial banks. Constrained by such a record volume of dud money, banks have become extremely conservative and limit their credit supply to the borrowers. Besides, banks' profitability is also dented as they have to maintain a portion of funds for NPL provisioning. The country's central bank, Bangladesh Bank (BB), predicts that the rising trend in NPLs would continue in the coming quarters as it revised overdue-status-counting system for term lending to a curtailed tenure of six months from previous nine months.	16 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/classified-bank-loans-balloon-fast-to-a-record-high-1750010583?date=16-06-2025)	
16	MAY PMI HITS 58.9 IN FASTER RISE Economy poised on higher trajectory of pickup May PMI readings indicate overall economy growing faster, riding on export-led manufacturing buoyancy, uptick in agriculture, says Masrur Reaz Bangladesh's economy recorded a stronger performance in May as the country's purchasing managers' index (PMI) climbed to 58.9-up six points from April by official count. The PMI rise indicates a faster pace of economic expansion across key sectors, in a rebound from certain recent upsets, economists say in their interpretation of the purchasing-index upturn. The latest data show agriculture, manufacturing, and services sectors all posted robust gains. However, the construction sector stagnated with no month-on-month change in overall expansion. Analysts say the May figures reflect a robust momentum ahead of the Eid season and improving external demand, particularly for manufacturing exports. However, risks remain, particularly in the construction sector, which has struggled to maintain consistent growth.	16 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefina ncialexpress.com.bd/first-page/economy-poised-on-higher-trajectory-of-pickup-1750010810?date=16-06-2025)	
17	Apparel owners fear Iran-Israel war fallout on exports Global oil-price spikes may increase garment cost, bite trade returns, new BGMEA body predicts A red-hot Middle-East turmoil fuelled by the Iran-Israel war may affect Bangladesh's garment business as global oil prices could spike and increase operational costs locally. And such production-cost escalation would bite trade returns on the country's cardinal export product-readymade garments or RMG, the bigger one of two pillars of foreign-exchange reserves, after remittance. "The Iran-Israel war could be a new challenge for the local garment industry that could result in rise in global oil prices. And sustaining the competitiveness amid such situation could be very challenging," says Mahmud Hasan Khan Babu, the newly elected president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).	17 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/apparelowners-fear-iranisrael-war-fallout-onexports-1750097438?date=17-06-2025)	

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18	Google Pay to launch in Bangladesh next week Google Pay is set to be launched in Bangladesh by the middle of next week, ushering in a new era of seamless digital transactions for consumers. Local lender City Bank, in partnership with global payment giants Mastercard and Visa, is launching the contactless payment service at the Westin Dhaka hotel on June 24, according to sources involved in the process. City Bank will be the first local bank to be integrated into Google Pay, allowing its customers to use their Android smartphones to make payments at any point-of-sale (POS) terminal.	18 June 2025	The Daily Star (Google Pay Bangladesh Google Pay to launch in Bangladesh next week)	
19	Labour law to be amended by Nov: Sakhawat Bangladesh will amend its labour law by November, introducing tougher penalties for child labour, said labour and employment adviser Brigadier General (retired) M Sakhawat Hossain on Wednesday. 'The amendment process is underway and we aim to finalise it within the next two to three months — by November at the latest. Besides, penalties related to child labour will be increased several-fold in the draft law,' he said. He made the remarks while talking to reporters at a press briefing marking World Day Against Child Labour.	18 June 2025	New Age (https://www.newage bd.net/post/mis/2676 28/labour-law-to-be- amended-by-nov- sakhawat)	
20	দেশে ৩৫ লাখ শিশু শ্রমিক, ১০ লাখ ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ কাজে নিয়োজিত দেশে প্রায় ৩৫ লাখ শিশু শ্রমিক রয়েছে এবং ১০ লাখ শিশু ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ কাজে নিয়োজিত। এ তথ্য জানিয়ে শ্রম উপদেষ্টা ব্রিগেডিয়ার জেনারেল (অব.) এম সাখাওয়াত হোসেন বলেছেন, শিশুশ্রম প্রতিরোধে শিশুদের কাজে নিয়োগ করা ব্যক্তিদের শাস্তি কয়েকগুণ বাড়ানো হবে। সেই সঙ্গে পরিবর্তন করা হবে শিশুশ্রমের সংজ্ঞা। আজ বুধবার সচিবালয়ে বিশ্ব শিশুশ্রম প্রতিরোধ দিবস উপলক্ষে আয়োজিত এক সংবাদ সম্মেলনে শ্রম উপদেষ্টা এ কথা বলেন। এ সময় শ্রমসচিব এ এইচ এম সফিকুজ্জামান, শ্রম ও কর্মসংস্থান মন্ত্রণালয়ের অতিরিক্ত সচিব অমল কৃষ্ণ মণ্ডল, মো. মুনির হোসেন খান প্রমুখ উপস্থিত ছিলেন।	18 June 2025	Prothom Alo (দেশে ৩৫ লাখ শিশু শ্রমিক, ১০ লাখ ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ কাজে নিয়োজিত। প্রথম আলো)	
21	A POLITICAL UPHEAVAL TAKES A HUGE ECONOMIC TOLL Record revenue shortfall feared in outgoing fiscal June trend signals total receipt nearly trillion-taka short of FY25 target REVENUE TARGET Steer near the pared-down target at Tk4.63t in FY25	19 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefina ncialexpress.com.bd/first-page/record-revenue-shortfall-feared-in-outgoing-fiscal-1750270011)	

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22	FDI inflows to Bangladesh decline for fourth consecutive year Global FDI also drops The net inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI) in Bangladesh declined by 13.20 per cent to \$1.27 billion in 2024 from \$1.47 billion in 2023, according to The World Investment Report 2025, released on Thursday by the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva. This marks the fourth consecutive year of decline in FDI inflows since 2021. "Bangladesh saw a slight decline of 13 per cent to \$1.3 billion, but this followed a strong performance in 2023 and maintained the country's position as a top LDC recipient," added the report. On the other hand, global foreign direct investment (FDI) dropped by 11 per cent in the last year, marking the second consecutive year of decline and also confirming a sharp slowdown in productive capital flows.	20 June 2025	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/fdi-inflows-to-bangladesh-decline-for-fourth-consecutive-year-1750358489?date=20-06-2025)	
23	Govt unveils new renewable energy policy Target set to meet 20% of power demand from green sources by 2030 The government has updated the Renewable Energy Policy after 17 years, aiming to produce at least 20 percent of the national power demand from green sources by 2030. The new policy offers a 10-year corporate tax exemption for all government and private renewable energy producers, followed by another five years of partial tax exemption. The Renewable Energy Policy 2025 was uploaded on the Power Division's website yesterday. It allows all types of customers—residential, industrial, and commercial—to set up renewable energy systems on rooftops, in yards or premises. The power produced can be sold to government agencies or private entities, following the Net Metering Guidelines 2018, it said.	20 June 2025	The Daily Star (https://www.thedaily star.net/business/new s/govt-unveils-new- renewable-energy- policy-3921486)	
24	আমদানি ও সেবা ব্যয় মেটাতে ১ লাখ ডলার পাঠাতে পারবেন ব্যবসায়ীরা চলতি লেনদেনের মাধ্যমে পণ্য আমদানি ও সেবার ব্যয় মেটাতে ব্যবসায়ীরা সর্বোচ্চ এক লাখ ডলার পর্যন্ত বিদেশে পাঠাতে পারবেন। গত বৃহস্পতিবার বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের বৈদেশিক মুদ্রানীতি বিভাগ এ—সংক্রান্ত প্রজ্ঞাপন জারি করেছে। নতুন নির্দেশনার ফলে ব্যবসায়িক প্রয়োজনে বিদেশে অর্থ পাঠানো আরও সহজ ও দ্রুত হবে। নতুন নির্দেশনায় বলা হয়েছে, এখন থেকে বিদ্যমান শিল্পনীতির আওতায় থাকা সব খাতের কোম্পানি বার্ষিক বিক্রির ১ শতাংশ বা সর্বোচ্চ ১ লাখ মার্কিন ডলার, যেটি বেশি, তা বিদেশে পাঠাতে পারবে, যদি তা চলতি হিসাবে লেনদেন হয়।এর আগে এই সুবিধা শুধু উৎপাদন ও শিল্পনীতি অনুযায়ী তালিকাভুক্ত সেবা খাতের জন্য প্রযোজ্য ছিল। নতুন নির্দেশনায় এই সুবিধা আরও বাড়ানো হয়েছে। এখন থেকে ট্রেডিংসহ বিভিন্ন খাতের ব্যবসায়িক লেনদেনেও প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী অর্থ পাঠানো যাবে। নির্দেশনায় বলা হয়েছে, ব্যাংক, নন-ব্যাংক আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান, বিমা কোম্পানি, পুঁজিবাজারের মধ্যস্থতাকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান ও ক্ষুদ্রখ্বণ প্রতিষ্ঠানের মতো আর্থিক খাতগুলো নতুন নির্দেশনার বাইরে থাকবে। এ ছাড়া রয়্যালটি, কারিগরি সহায়তা, টেকনিক্যাল নলেজ ফি ও ফ্র্যাঞ্চাইজি ফি-সংক্রান্ত রেমিট্যান্সও এই বিশেষ সুবিধার আওতায় পড়বে না। বাংলাদেশ বিনিয়োগ উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষের (বিডা) জন্য দেওয়া নির্দেশনা অনুযায়ী চলবে এসব। এসব অর্থ পরিশোধ আগের মতোই নির্ধারিত অনুমোদনের মাধ্যমে পাঠাতে হবে। খাত-সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যক্তিরা বলছেন, ফলে সেবা খাতের সব ধরনের প্রতিষ্ঠান ব্যবসার জন্য বিদেশে সহজে ডলার পাঠাতে পারবে। এটি শুধু বিদ্যমান শিল্পনীতির তালিকাভুক্ত সেবা খাতের মধ্যে সীমাবদ্ধ থাকবে না। সেবা খাতসহ অন্যান্য খাতের ব্যবসা সম্প্রসারণে সহায়ক হবে এটি।	21 June 2025	Prothom Alo (https://www.protho malo.com/business/ba nk/b68ud665v2)	