

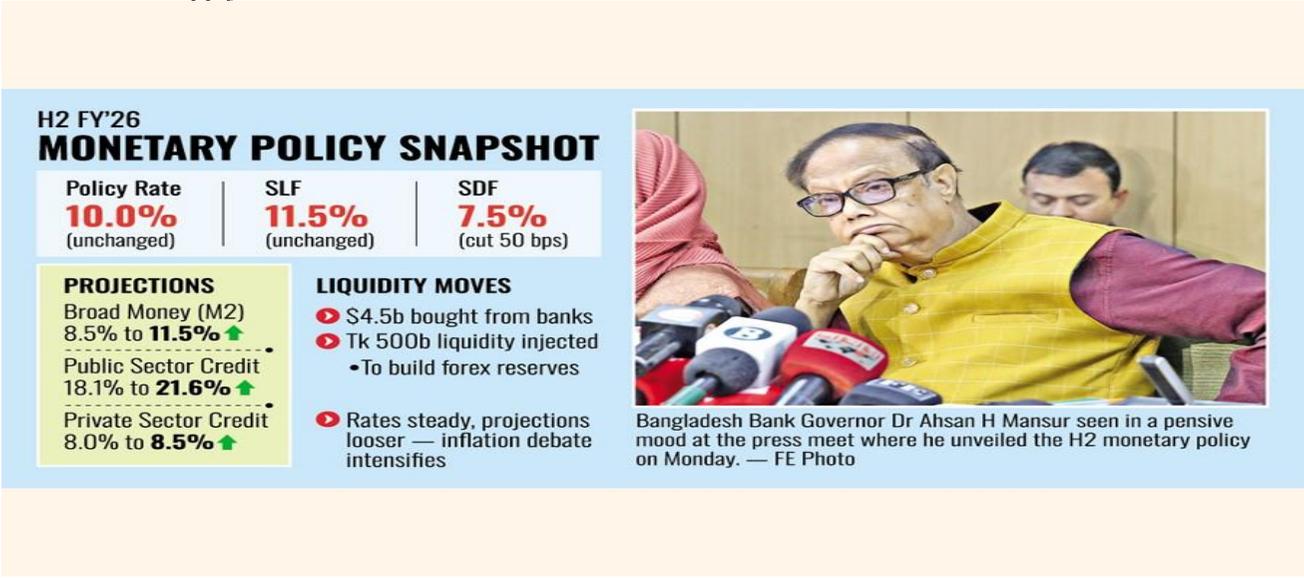
Summary of Business News – 95

Important Trade and Economic News Published in Various Newspapers during 02 – 15 February 2026

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	<p><u>Remittance inflow in Jan up by 45pc to \$ 3.17 billion</u> Bangladesh continues to see a remarkable growth in the remittance inflow with its January receipt recording US\$3.17 billion amid a peak remittance-netting period. The amount was over 45 per cent higher than that of \$2.20 billion in the corresponding period of last year. The surge in the remittance earnings gave a much-needed respite for the country that was required to boost foreign-exchange reserves for meeting various macroeconomic challenges in the post-election regime, especially when its economic activities are expected to be enhanced from the prevailing sluggishness.</p> <p>According to Bangladesh Bank (BB), the country's central bank, Bangladeshi expatriates sent home \$3.17 billion in the just-concluded month of January, which was the third-largest monthly inflow on record. The country registered the highest and second highest monthly remittance of \$3.29 billion and \$3.22 billion in March and December last year respectively.</p>	02 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/remittance-inflow-in-jan-up-by-45pc-to-317-billion-1769969703?date=02-02-2026)	
02	<p><u>Private sector credit growth hits record low</u> Private sector credit growth fell to a record low in December 2025 due to political uncertainty and an economic slowdown, signalling stagnant investment. Last month, business credit growth dropped to 6.10 percent, the lowest in at least four years, down from 6.58 percent in November, according to Bangladesh Bank data. The central bank had set a credit growth target of 7.2 percent for private businesses in December 2025 in its July–December 2025 monetary policy, after growth reached 6.5 percent by the end of June 2025.</p>	02 Feb. 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/private-sector-credit-growth-hits-record-low-4096216)	
03	<p>APPAREL ON DIVE UNDERCUT BY COMPETITORS <u>Bangladesh's exports on negative growth trajectory for months</u> RMG shipment fall in major EU countries pulls down total export turnover Bangladesh's merchandise-export earnings during the first seven months of the current fiscal year stayed on a negative growth trajectory as main earner garment shipments to major EU countries and other destinations contracted. Germany and France are among the major destinations in the European Union (EU) where apparel faced a setback, being undercut by big peers in their shift away from the tariff-walled United States, industry sources said, as the latest export-performance results published.</p> <p>The single-month merchandise-export earnings in January 2026 for the sixth consecutive month, on a year-on-year basis, also registered negative growth compared to the same month in 2025, according to the data released Monday by Export Promotion Bureau (EPB). Bangladesh earned US\$28.41 billion during the July-January period of the fiscal year 2025-26, reflecting 1.93-percent year-on-year negative growth against \$28.96 billion in the corresponding period of last fiscal.</p>	03 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladeshs-exports-on-negative-growth-trajectory-for-months-1770055383?date=03-02-2026)	

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04	<p><u>NBR begins publishing HS code-wise import data online</u> The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has started publishing HS code-wise import data on its website to enhance transparency and improve public access to trade-related information. The initiative follows long-standing demands from young entrepreneurs, students, investors, trade researchers, businesspeople and journalists for easier access to reliable import data, according to a press release. By making the data publicly available, the revenue authority aims to support data-driven analysis, informed decision-making and research across the trade and investment ecosystem.</p>	03 Feb. 2026	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/nbr-begins-publishing-hs-code-wise-import-data-online-1350991)	
05	<p><u>Govt's overall borrowing soars Tk 50.10b in Q1</u> Its interest payments also rise 27pc to Tk 316.29b: MoF The government's overall debt stock stood at Tk 21.49 trillion at the end of the first quarter (Q1) of the current fiscal year, up by less than 1.0 per cent from June 2025, according to data from the finance ministry. While the quarter-to-quarter increase appears modest, the year-on-year growth points to mounting fiscal pressure driven largely by higher external borrowing. During the July-September quarter of the 2025-26 fiscal year (FY), the government's net borrowing from both domestic and external sources amounted to Tk 50.10 billion, a steep rise from Tk 2.5 billion in the matching period a year earlier. The rise reflects the government's growing reliance on debt to finance budgetary needs. People familiar with the development at the Finance Division said the surge was primarily due to higher external borrowing. Net borrowing from foreign sources reached Tk 26.88 billion during the first quarter compared to Tk 2.84 billion in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year, according to the quarterly public debt report of the Ministry of Finance (MoF). Bangladesh's largest external creditor remains the World Bank's concessional lending arm, the International Development Association (IDA), followed by the Asian Development Bank, Japan and Russia.</p>	05 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/govts-overall-borrowing-soars-tk-5010b-in-q1-1770228890?date=05-02-2026)	
06	<p><u>BD, Japan sign full-fledged deal on economic partnership</u> Most exportable items to access fourth-largest economy sans duty Bangladesh and Japan Friday signed a landmark Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) that ushers in a new era of bilateral trade and investment cooperation and marks Dhaka's first such comprehensive pact with any country. Under the agreement, Japan will grant 100-percent duty-free access to 7,379 Bangladeshi products, including key export item readymade garments, providing a major boost to Bangladesh's post-LDC market diversification. In return, Bangladesh will offer duty-free or preferential access to 1,039 Japanese products, facilitating greater inflow of technology-intensive goods and industrial inputs. A key benefit for the apparel sector is the inclusion of the 'single transformation' rules of origin, removing complex conditions on sourcing raw materials and allowing Bangladeshi garments to enter Japan more easily.</p>	07 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-japan-sign-full-fledged-deal-on-economic-partnership-1770403618?date=07-02-2026)	

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07	<p>অন্তর্বর্তী সরকারের মেয়াদে ডিপি ওয়ার্ল্ডের সঙ্গে চুক্তি হচ্ছে না: আশিক চৌধুরী</p> <p>বর্তমান অন্তর্বর্তীকালীন সরকারের মেয়াদকালে চট্টগ্রাম বন্দরের নিউমুরিং কনটেইনার টার্মিনাল (এনসিটি) সংযুক্ত আরব আমিরাতভিত্তিক কোম্পানি ডিপি ওয়ার্ল্ডের কাছে ইজারা দেওয়ার চুক্তি সইয়ের সম্ভাবনা নেই বলে জানিয়েছেন পাবলিক প্রাইভেট পার্টনারশিপ (পিপিপি) কর্তৃপক্ষের প্রধান নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা (সিইও) এবং বাংলাদেশ বিনিয়োগ উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষের (বিডা) নির্বাহী চেয়ারম্যান আশিক চৌধুরী। আজ রোববার রাজধানীর বেইলি রোডের ফরেন সার্ভিস একাডেমিতে আয়োজিত এক সংবাদ সম্মেলনে এ কথা জানান আশিক চৌধুরী। এ সময় উপস্থিত ছিলেন প্রধান উপদেষ্টার প্রেস সচিব শফিকুল আলম।</p>	08 Feb. 2026	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/ouzbmrr2bs)	
08	<p>Food prices push up Jan inflation to 8.58pc</p> <p>Point-to-point inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), rose to 8.58 per cent in January, up 0.10 percentage points from 8.49 per cent in December, driven largely by a sharp rise in food prices, according to the latest Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data. The CPI and Wage Rate Index (WRI) report released on Sunday, showed January's inflation at an eight-month high, marking the third consecutive month of increase, despite notable easing in the non-food index.</p> <p>Experts said inflationary pressures were exacerbated by higher food prices ahead of the holy month of Ramadan and expanding flow of money in the pre election period. The report found food inflation in January at 8.29 per cent, up 0.58 percentage points from December's 7.71 per cent. On the other hand, non-food inflation eased to 8.81 per cent, down 0.31 percentage points from December's 9.13 per cent.</p>	09 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/food-prices-push-up-jan-inflation-to-858pc-1770573684?date=09-02-2026)	
09	<p>MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT PLAN FINALISED</p> <p>Major shift from roads to rail, water targeted by 2040</p> <p>A multimodal transportation plan has been finalised at the fag end of the interim government's term to guide all related agencies in implementing future infrastructure development projects aimed at improved connectivity for both passengers and freight. However, experts say the obligation to abide by the plan by all concerned remains absent due to finalising it at this stage.</p> <p>The plan suggests developing 42 multimodal hubs in the country. Developing 370km waterways and establishing 567 railway extensions to link to 25 critical water and land ports have been proposed. This is expected to reduce the modal share of roads by 65 per cent, as well as increase the railway share by 20 per cent and waterway by 15 per cent, by 2040.</p> <p>The Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges has formulated the National Integrated Multimodal Transport Sector Master Plan by targeting to shift the modal share from the overburdened road network to rails, waterways, and airways.</p>	10 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/major-shift-from-roads-to-rail-water-targeted-by-2040-1770657124?date=10-02-2026)	

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10	<p>NEW MPS WITH OLD TIGHT STANCE <u>Regulatory rate unchanged at 10pc as inflation frowns</u> Private credit supply meant to rise to stimulate investment</p>  <p>Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Ahsan H Mansur seen in a pensive mood at the press meet where he unveiled the H2 monetary policy on Monday. — FE Photo</p> <p>Bangladesh Bank has yet again decided to be clenched-fist on money supply. During the second half of this fiscal year, according to monetary policy statement (MPS), the policy rate will remain unchanged at 10 per cent as inflation frowns.</p> <p>In the new MPS unveiled Monday, the central bank, however, takes into cognizance concerns vented by economists and businesses over investment stagnation and announces some stimuli like higher credit supply to private sector. But monetary experts opine differently about the inflation-control strategy, saying that the Bangladesh Bank (BB) brings some changes in the projections of monetary policy statement that might further feed into inflation, driven largely by supply-side factors.</p>	10 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/regulatory-rate-unchanged-at-10pc-as-inflation-frowns-1770661277?date=10-02-2026)	
11	<p><u>Ctg port launches 'CPA Sky' to bring all port, customs services under single digital platform</u></p> <p>Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) today launched the Port Single Window system, branded CPA Sky, aiming to bring all export-import, customs and port-related services under a single, integrated digital platform. CPA Chairman Rear Admiral SM Moniruzzaman announced the launch at a press briefing held at the Bandar Bhaban boardroom in the afternoon (10 February). Speaking at the briefing, he said the platform would integrate 100% of services involving the port, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and customs, covering cargo handling, delivery, documentation and payments.</p>	10 Feb. 2026	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/ctg-port-launches-cpa-sky-bring-all-port-customs-services-under-single-digital-platform)	

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12	<p><u>BGMEA welcomes Bangladesh–US reciprocal tariff agreement</u></p> <p>The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has welcomed the signing of a reciprocal tariff agreement between Bangladesh and the United States, following nine months of intensive negotiations between the two countries. In a press release, BGMEA expressed its appreciation to the Government of the United States and thanked the interim government of Bangladesh, particularly Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus, National Security Adviser Khalilur Rahman, Commerce Adviser Sheikh Bashir Uddin and Commerce Secretary Mahbubur Rahman, for their leadership in reaching the agreement. The association also acknowledged the cooperation of the US Embassy in Dhaka and the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) throughout the process.</p>	10 Feb. 2026	<p>The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bgmea-welcomes-bangladesh-us-reciprocal-tariff-agreement-1357646)</p>	
13	<p><u>What comes out of hard-bargained trade deal with US</u> <u>Conditional zero duty on 86pc BD exports, rest to pay 19pc reciprocal tariffs</u></p> <div data-bbox="257 654 1187 949" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p>LIST OF GIVE-AND-TAKE SWAPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Washington agrees to create a mechanism for zero reciprocal tariffs ▶ Bangladesh to lower some tariffs over several years, ease non-tariff barriers for US goods ▶ Bangladesh pledges to buy \$15b in US energy, uphold labour, environmental protections ▶ Biman Bangladesh Airlines to buy at least 14 Boeing jets <p>ZERO-DUTY ACCESS CONDITIONAL TO PRODUCTS BEING MADE FROM AMERICAN COTTON, MMF</p> <p>Safeguard clause in pact leaves option open for future govt to exit if considered inconsistent with national interests</p> </div> <p>Around 85-86 per cent of Bangladeshi exports can access the US market duty-free while the rest be charged 19-percent tariffs under a hard-bargained bilateral trade arrangement between the two countries. The zero-duty market access is, however, conditional to products being made from imported American cotton and man-made fibres, the interim government's commerce ministry Tuesday explained what comes out of the deal. A summary of the deal shows Bangladesh agrees to lower some tariffs over several years, ease non-tariff barriers for US goods.</p>	11 Feb. 2026	<p>The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/conditional-zero-duty-on-86pc-bd-exports-rest-to-pay-19pc-reciprocal-tariffs-1770747993?date=11-02-2026)</p>	
14	<p><u>BD 13th most corrupt country on graft index</u></p> <p>Bangladesh remains among the world's most corrupt countries despite a slight improvement in its score on the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2025, highlighting what analysts describe as a persistent failure to translate political change into meaningful institutional reform. According to the CPI 2025 released by Berlin-based Transparency International (TI), Bangladesh scored 24 out of 100, up by one point from 23 in 2024. However, the country ranked 150th out of 182 countries, moving up from 151st the previous year. It ranked 13th from the bottom globally and among the lowest performers in South Asia. Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) unveiled the index at a press conference at its Dhanmondi office, where Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman painted a bleak picture of the country's anti-corruption efforts.</p>	11 Feb. 2026	<p>The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-13th-most-corrupt-country-on-graft-index-1770748061?date=11-02-2026)</p>	

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15	<p>SANS US CONSENT <u>BD cannot sign trade deals with nonmarket countries</u> Bangladesh's reciprocal trade-tariff deal with the United States is bound with strings that bar it from signing any free-trade deal or preferential economic deal with "non-market" countries, including China and Russia, without US consent. The US has officially listed 12 countries as non-market: China, Russia, Vietnam, Belarus, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. "If Bangladesh enters into a new bilateral free-trade agreement or preferential economic agreement with a non-market country, it undermines this Agreement. The United States may, if consultations with Bangladesh fail to resolve its concerns, terminate this Agreement and re-impose the applicable reciprocal tariff rate set forth in Executive Order 14257 of April 2, 2025," the deal document reads. Bangladesh is in talks with many countries on signing bilateral free-trade agreements (FTAs) and preferential economic deals ahead of leaving the club of least-developed countries (LDCs) in November next.</p>	12 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-cannot-sign-trade-deals-with-nonmarket-countries-1770830905?date=12-02-2026)	
16	<p><u>WB clears \$370m to clean Dhaka rivers, improve waste management</u> The World Bank (WB) has approved \$370 million in financing to improve sanitation and solid waste management services to reduce water pollution and restore rivers and canals in and around Dhaka. The Metro Dhaka Water Security and Resilience Program aims to strengthen the capacity of local and national institutions to curb pollution in greater Dhaka, a region that generates one-third of the country's GDP and half of its formal employment, according to a press release. The program introduces a results-based system to help city corporations and the Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) deliver measurable improvements. It is expected to provide safely managed sanitation services to 550,000 people to improve solid waste management to 500,000 people, focusing on communities most affected by service gaps.</p>	12 Feb. 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/wb-clears-370m-clean-dhaka-rivers-improve-waste-management-4103676)	
17	<p><u>Trade deficit widens to \$11.55b in first half of FY26</u> The gap between what Bangladesh buys and sells abroad, known as trade deficit, grew over 18 percent in the first half (H1) of the current fiscal year 2025-26, driven by rising imports and declining export earnings. The country's trade deficit ballooned to \$11.55 billion in the six months through December 2025, up from \$9.76 billion in the corresponding period a year earlier. During the period, import bills rose 5 percent year-on-year to \$33.67 billion, driven partly by pre-Ramadan purchasing, according to Balance of Payments (BoP) data released by the central bank. Export earnings, meanwhile, slipped 0.9 percent to \$22.12 billion.</p>	12 Feb. 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/trade-deficit-widens-1155b-first-half-fy26-4103216)	
18	<p><u>January PMI signals slowdown in economic momentum</u> Bangladesh's economy may have expanded at its slowest pace in January 2026 compared to the last seven months, as the latest Bangladesh Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) showed a marginal easing in momentum amid softer manufacturing exports. The PMI is a forward-looking indicator used globally to gauge economic direction. A reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 indicates contraction. In January, the PMI slipped by 0.3 points from the previous month to 53.9, signalling a moderation in the pace of expansion, according to the latest report by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), and Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB).</p>	12 Feb. 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/january-pmi-signals-slowdown-economic-momentum-4101426)	

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19	<p data-bbox="253 248 828 277"><u>Daunting socioeconomic tasks await new govt</u></p> <div data-bbox="253 284 1395 788" style="background-color: #f9f9f9; padding: 10px;"> <p data-bbox="600 309 949 335" style="background-color: #e57373; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">MAJOR CHALLENGES</p> <ul data-bbox="573 357 1043 767" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="573 357 1043 427">▶ Bringing discipline in fragile financial sector to revive economy <li data-bbox="573 432 1043 502">▶ Improving investment climate by improving law and order situation <li data-bbox="573 507 1043 533">▶ Containing high inflation regime <li data-bbox="573 537 1043 582">▶ Addressing low revenue mobilisation <li data-bbox="573 587 1043 612">▶ Creating jobs <li data-bbox="573 617 1043 662">▶ Bringing back trust of depositors in banking sector <li data-bbox="573 667 1043 692">▶ Addressing higher lending costs <li data-bbox="573 697 1043 767">▶ Accelerating pvt sector credit demand amid rising govt bank borrowing </div> <p data-bbox="253 823 1615 1050">The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)-led alliance is going to form a new government with heavy socioeconomic burdens after its landslide victory in the 13th national election. The \$462 billion economy has recently been passing through a sluggish state due to the absence of an elected and democratic government, resulting in multipronged macroeconomic stresses. BNP-led alliance leaders, who won the polls, also admitted the new government would face too many socioeconomic challenges. They said the alliance, after forming the government, would chalk out a list of priorities to overcome the challenges and accelerate economic activities across the country.</p>	14 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/daunting-socioeconomic-tasks-await-new-govt-1771006180)	
20	<p data-bbox="253 1062 857 1091"><u>Unity, economic reforms, rule of law main goals</u></p> <p data-bbox="253 1096 1052 1125">BD to pursue multilateral foreign policy with mutual respect: Tarique</p> <p data-bbox="253 1129 1615 1326">Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and prime minister-apparent Tarique Rahman prioritizes national unity, economic reforms and the rule of law under is upcoming government. He explains that national unity is the collective strength of the country and both the government and the opposition must work together for national development. Addressing a press briefing Saturday after the 13th National Parliamentary Election that earned his party an absolute majority in parliament, he said, "This victory belongs to Bangladesh. This victory belongs to the people. Many people sacrificed their lives for democracy. From today, we test the true essence of freedom."</p> <p data-bbox="253 1331 1615 1425">The press briefing was organised by the party at a city hotel, where he faced critical questions from local and foreign journalists on issues ranging from economy, domestic politics, and post-uprising national reconciliation to relations with major neighbouring countries.</p>	15 Feb. 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/unity-economic-reforms-rule-of-law-main-goals-1771090132)	