


Summary of Business News – 98

Important Trade and Economic News Published in Various Newspapers during 16 March – 05 April 2026


Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	<p>NEW PUSH FOR REVENUE RAISING <u>Plethora of products, services under tax surveillance</u> A 10-member team in hunt to maximize all-encompassing value-added tax</p>  <p>NBR PLAN TO RAISE VAT COLLECTION NBR forms 10-member taskforce Purpose: to increase VAT collection and improve tax-GDP ratio</p> <p>PRODUCTS AND SERVICES UNDER SURVEILLANCE Around 100 high-revenue items (50 products and 50 services) will be monitored for VAT compliance</p> <p>MAJOR PRODUCTS INCLUDE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Cigarettes ▶ Petroleum products ▶ Medicines <p>MAJOR SERVICES INCLUDE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Suppliers ▶ Mobile-phone services ▶ Construction contractors ▶ Banking services ▶ Electricity distribution <p>REVENUE TARGETS</p> <p>Annual VAT target Tk 1.71 trillion</p> <hr/> <p>Collected until Feb Tk 580 billion</p> <hr/> <p>Still needed in remaining 4 months Tk 743.18 billion</p>	16 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/plethora-of-products-services-under-tax-surveillance-1773599090?date=16-03-2026)	
02	<p><u>Iran war could wipe out up to 3% of Bangladesh GDP</u> A prolonged US-Israel war on Iran could reduce Bangladesh’s gross domestic product (GDP) by as much as 3 percent over the next two years, according to a new policy analysis by the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (Sanem). The study says that Bangladesh’s heavy reliance on imported energy, remittances from Gulf countries, and global trade networks leaves the economy exposed to geopolitical shocks in the Middle East. “Real wages could come under pressure and export growth would likely slow,” the report said. The study was conducted by using the Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) computable general equilibrium model, a widely used analytical framework for assessing global trade and policy shocks.</p>	16 March 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/iran-war-could-wipe-out-3-bangladesh-gdp-4129661)	

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03	<p><u>Bangladesh Bank allows exporters to send docs directly to buyers</u> Consignments worth up to \$100,000 The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has allowed exporters to send transport or shipping documents directly to foreign buyers for export consignments worth up to \$100,000, aiming to facilitate foreign trade. Authorised Dealer (AD) banks will allow exporters to arrange transport documents in the name of foreign importers or other designated parties for shipments valued at up to \$100,000 or the equivalent, according to a notification issued by the central bank on Monday.</p> <p>Under the new arrangement, exporters will also be able to dispatch those documents directly to the importers or their nominated parties. Officials at the central bank said the latest measure aims to help exporters meet the requirements of international buyers, many of whom prefer shipping documents to be issued in their own names and sent directly to them to expedite the release of goods. At the same time, the central bank has put in place safeguards to ensure that export earnings are repatriated to the country on time, they added.</p>	17 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/bangladesh-bank-allows-exporters-to-send-docs-directly-to-buyers-1773683460?date=17-03-2026)	
04	<p><u>Duty-free car privilege for MPs to end in next budget</u> Finance minister tells FE The government is set to abolish the long-standing duty-free vehicle import facility for Members of Parliament (MPs) in the upcoming national budget session, marking a significant shift in tax policy aimed at curbing privileges linked to public office. Finance Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury said the decision reflects a broader commitment to transparency and equitable taxation, following years of criticism over abuse of the scheme and substantial revenue losses.</p> <p>The controversial privilege, granted under the Members of Parliament (Remuneration and Allowances) Order, 1973, will be scrapped through necessary legal amendments, he told The Financial Express on Wednesday.</p>	19 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/duty-free-car-privilege-for-mps-to-end-in-next-budget-1773856837?date=19-03-2026)	
05	<p><u>US emerges as Bangladesh's key trade partner</u> Washington briefly overtakes India as Dhaka's second-largest partner amid shifting import trends Trade ties between Bangladesh and the United States strengthened notably in 2025, with Washington temporarily overtaking India to become Dhaka's second-largest trading partner during several months of the year. While China and India continue to dominate Bangladesh's trade landscape, the shift highlights evolving dynamics driven by changing import patterns, policy shifts and rising demand for key goods from the US.</p> <p>According to trade data released by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the US climbed to the second position in May, August and December 2025, reflecting a surge in Bangladeshi imports from the world's largest economy. In December alone, the US accounted for 9.6 per cent of Bangladesh's total trade, edging past India, whose share slipped to 8.09 per cent during the month. China, however, maintained its lead with close to a 20 per cent market share.</p> <p>Economists say the development reflects less of a structural shift and more of a cyclical adjustment driven by policy and pricing factors. Higher tariff measures and evolving trade policies under the administration of President Donald Trump, combined with Bangladesh's increased demand for certain imports - particularly agricultural commodities, machinery and energy-related products - contributed to the spike.</p>	25 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/us-emerges-as-bangladeshs-key-trade-partner-1774376406?date=25-03-2026)	

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06	<p>মধ্যপ্রাচ্যের সংঘাতজনিত সংকট মোকাবিলায় এডিবি'র বিশেষ সহায়তা প্যাকেজ</p> <p>মধ্যপ্রাচ্যের চলমান সংঘাতের কারণে উদ্ভূত অর্থনৈতিক ও আর্থিক চাপ মোকাবিলায় উন্নয়নশীল সদস্যদেশগুলোর জন্য বিশেষ সহায়তা বা ঋণ প্যাকেজ ঘোষণা করেছে এশীয় উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক (এডিবি)। সংস্থাটির প্রেসিডেন্ট মাসাতো কানদা বলেন, এই সহায়তার অর্থ দ্রুত বিতরণযোগ্য, প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী এই সহায়তার পরিমাণ বাড়ানো হবে।</p> <p>এ ছাড়া সহজ শর্তে এই অর্থ দেওয়া হবে। এর মধ্যে যেমন বাজেট সহায়তা থাকছে, তেমনি থাকছে বাণিজ্য ও সরবরাহ অর্থায়নের মাধ্যমে জরুরি পণ্য, যেমন এখন তেল আমদানিতে সহায়তা।</p>	25 March 2026	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/fczn34gqkp)	
07	<p>Foreign debt hits record \$113.52b</p> <p>Rising borrowing, external shocks push IMF risk outlook higher</p> <p>The country's foreign debt climbed to a record US\$113.52 billion at the end of 2025, pushing the country into the IMF's 'moderate' debt risk category amid growing economic pressures and external uncertainties. This combined public-and private-sector debt marks an increase from the previous July-September quarter, official data released on Wednesday showed, signalling a persistent upward trend in the nation's borrowing. While the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had previously classified Bangladesh's debt risk as 'low', recent assessments have shifted it to 'moderate' due to rising debt-to-export ratios and constraints in revenue mobilisation.</p> <p>The latest central bank data show a broad-based increase in borrowing across both public and private sectors during the final quarter of 2025. This surge follows a brief period of stabilisation. At the end of the previous quarter in September 2025, total external debt stood slightly lower at \$112.12 billion, according to Bangladesh Bank (BB) data released on Wednesday.</p> <p>Public sector debt rose to \$93.462 billion during the October-December quarter of 2025, up by \$903 million from \$92.559 billion in the previous July-September quarter. Private sector debt also increased to \$20.058 billion in the October-December quarter of 2025, \$400 million higher than the \$19.658 billion recorded in the preceding quarter, the BB data showed.</p>	26 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/foreign-debt-hits-record-11352b-1774463062?date=26-03-2026)	
08	<p>SUPPORTING LPG IMPORT</p> <p>BB relaxes borrower exposure cap</p> <p>The central bank has relaxed the single-borrower- exposure limit for banks to facilitate liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) import as supply concerns deepen following disruptions linked to the Iran war. In a circular issued on Tuesday, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) said banks may extend additional credit to LPG importers even if their exposure exceeds the existing 25 per cent ceiling, subject to prior approval from the central bank. The BB said it will determine the allowable exposure limit on a case-by-case basis until December 31 this calendar year.</p> <p>The move is aimed at ensuring uninterrupted LPG import and preventing any supply disruption in the domestic market, according to BB officials. Under the existing provisions, the total financing facilities by any bank to any single person or enterprise or organisation of a group are not to exceed 25 per cent of the bank's total capital at any point of time, subject to the condition that the maximum fund-based financing facilities (funded facilities) will be 15 per cent of its total capital base.</p>	26 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-relaxes-borrower-exposure-cap-1774462796?date=26-03-2026)	

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09	<p>ME ENERGY BLOCKAGES <u>S&P predicts three-pronged onslaught on Bangladesh economy</u> Global ratings agency stresses energy diversification across Asia</p> <p>Bangladesh is increasingly exposed to global energy shocks as escalating conflict in the Middle East threatens to disrupt supply chains across Asia, S&P Global Ratings predicts and stresses fuel-sourcing diversification. In its latest report released on March 26, the agency warns that Asia-Pacific economies-heavily reliant on Middle-Eastern fuels-could face a severe energy-availability crisis, with Bangladesh among the most vulnerable due to its import dependence. The report says the potential closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a critical oil-shipping route, is turning a geopolitical conflict into a full-blown "energy shock and supply-chain crisis". However, Iran Thursday said fuel ships meant for Bangladesh would be allowed to pass through. The region sources about 40 per cent of its energy imports from the Middle East, making alternatives difficult in the short term.</p> <p>Bangladesh is the second-largest LNG importer having 72-percent dependence on the region after Pakistan. The S&P report says energy supply, not price, is the biggest threat. Unlike previous crises driven mainly by rising oil prices, the current risk lies in physical shortages of fuel, which could hit countries like Bangladesh harder.</p>	28 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/sp-predicts-three-pronged-onslaught-on-bangladesh-economy-1774633047?date=28-03-2026)	
10	<p>Economic woes from oil crossing \$120 threshold <u>Govt may have to spend extra Tk 610b annually</u> Every \$10 increase in Brent crude price per barrel translates into \$1b additional annual expenditure for Bangladesh: Study</p> <p>Bangladesh faces a looming economic challenge stemming from global oil price crossing a critical threshold of US\$120 per barrel amid the escalating Mideast tensions, with an extra burden on its cautiously tailored budget. Researchers at a press briefing Saturday warned that such an oil surge could impose a huge burden of Tk 610 billion in additional annual spending to fuel the country's economy. Their note of alert is underlined with serious concerns about economic sustainability, industrial growth, and employment. Change Initiative has carried out a study on this score where the researchers have revealed that every \$10 increase in Brent crude-oil price per barrel translates into nearly \$1 billion in extra annual expenditure for Bangladesh.</p> <p>The country imports about 95 per cent of its energy needs, and this dependency leaves the economy "highly vulnerable to global market volatility", the study notes, in the wake of energy blockages in the Gulf amid the hit-and-kill US-Israel war against Iran. If prices remain above \$120 for an extended period, the annual cost could balloon to \$4-5 billion, creating unprecedented fiscal pressure.</p>	29 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-may-have-to-spend-extra-tk-610b-annually-1774717939)	
11	<p><u>Bank Asia to acquire Bank Alfalah's local operations for \$47.5m</u></p> <p>The shareholders of Pakistan-based Bank Alfalah Limited have approved the sale and transfer of its Bangladesh operations to Dhaka-based Bank Asia Limited for approximately \$47.5 million (equivalent to around Tk 5.80 billion), reports UNB.</p> <p>A source at Bank Asia confirmed that as part of the acquisition, an internal audit of Bank Alfalah's Bangladesh operations has already been completed. The process, which began several months ago, is now nearing its final stages following the approval by the Pakistani bank's shareholders. Bank Asia will soon officially take over the assets and operations of Bank Alfalah in Bangladesh.</p>	29 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bank-asia-to-acquire-bank-alfalahs-local-operations-for-475m-1774718379)	

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12	<p><u>বাণিজ্যের আড়ালে বাংলাদেশ থেকে ১০ বছরে ৬ হাজার ৮৩০ কোটি ডলার পাচার</u></p> <p>বাণিজ্যের আড়ালে বাংলাদেশ থেকে গত ১০ বছরে ৬ হাজার ৮৩০ কোটি ডলারের সমপরিমাণ অর্থ পাচার হয়েছে। বর্তমান বাজারদরে (প্রতি ডলার ১২২ টাকা ধরে) এর পরিমাণ ৮ লাখ ৩৩ হাজার কোটি টাকার বেশি। প্রতিবছর গড়ে ৬৮৩ কোটি ডলারের বেশি পাচার হয়। ২৬ মার্চ যুক্তরাষ্ট্রভিত্তিক আন্তর্জাতিক সংস্থা গ্লোবাল ফাইন্যান্সিয়াল ইন্সটিটিউট (জিএফআই) বাণিজ্যের আড়ালে এশিয়ার উন্নয়নশীল দেশগুলো থেকে অর্থ পাচার-সংক্রান্ত প্রতিবেদন প্রকাশ করে। সেখানে বাংলাদেশ থেকে অর্থ পাচারের এই চিত্র উঠে আসে। প্রতিবেদন অনুসারে, এশিয়ার উন্নয়নশীল দেশগুলো থেকে অর্থ পাচার হওয়া ১০টি দেশের একটি হলো বাংলাদেশ।</p>	29 March 2026	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/82keh414u4)	
13	<p><u>Bangladesh joins WTO investment facilitation pact</u></p> <p>Bangladesh has formally announced its decision to join the Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement at the World Trade Organization's 14th Ministerial Conference (MC 14), marking its first entry into a plurilateral trade initiative. The move signals Dhaka's growing engagement in global investment frameworks, even as divisions among major economies continue to stall efforts to integrate the pact into the WTO's legal structure. Following the decision on the third day of the MC14, the total number of the agreement's co-sponsors has risen to 129. Earlier on Thursday, Türkiye lifted its objections to joining the IFD deal, which is widely seen as a China-led initiative.</p> <p>In the WTO context, a plurilateral agreement is one entered into by a group of members rather than the entire membership. Such arrangements are intended to allow willing countries to move forward while others remain unprepared or reluctant. Earlier, on March 17, Bangladesh's Cabinet approved the proposal to join the IFDA under the WTO's plurilateral Joint Statement Initiative. The decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting held at the Secretariat, chaired by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman. MC14 is being held in Yaoundé, the capital of Cameroon, where trade ministers and negotiators from 166 member countries are meeting to address key issues such as WTO reform, investment, e-commerce, fisheries and agricultural subsidies.</p>	30 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bangladesh-joins-wto-investment-facilitation-pact-1774806846)	
14	<p><u>BD, India fast-track currency swap in cross-border biz transactions</u></p> <p><u>Easing forex crunch, leapfrogging LC-opening hurdles drive move</u></p> <p>Bangladesh and India have begun formal discussions on bilateral currency-swap arrangement in cross-order trade transactions, sources say. Although the high-profile initiative to settle portion of bilateral trade in Indian Rupee (INR) had launched in July 2023, not through taka-rupee swap, struggled to gain traction due to a significant trade imbalance and availability of limited INR liquidity, they added. The proposed swap mechanism is now being treated as a top-tier policy priority, in the wake of world trade disruption and foreign-exchange constraints. By bypassing the traditional greenback-intermediated route, the move aims to ease the mounting pressure on foreign-exchange reserves while providing much-needed relief to importers and exporters facing LC (letter of credit)-opening hurdles. The proposal, highlighted during a meeting between Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktedir and Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Pranay Verma in Dhaka earlier this month, aims to decouple regional trade from its heavy reliance on the third-party currencies. The proposed arrangement would allow for the direct exchange of Bangladeshi Taka and the Indian Rupee (INR), they also said.</p>	31 March 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-india-fast-track-currency-swap-in-cross-border-biz-transactions-1774893258?date=31-03-2026)	

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15	<p><u>Ctg port regains 'zero waiting time'</u> Chattogram port, the country's main gateway for import and export trade, has regained the much-desired 'zero waiting time' with no ships now waiting at the outer anchorage. In a press release issued on Sunday night, Chittagong Port Authority secretary Syed Refayet Hamim said the achievement was made possible through coordinated planning, efficient management, and cooperation among all stakeholders. He said that the development had enabled ships to complete loading and unloading faster, reduce turnaround time, and ensure quicker delivery of goods. The release said that since the beginning of Ramadan, the CPA had continued its all-out efforts to keep ship waiting time at zero to maintain the country's supply chain.</p> <p>After achieving 'zero waiting time' in September, Chattogram port maintained the status through October, November, and December. The operation lost momentum from late January to early February due to a work stoppage and other factors. With operations returning to full swing, the waiting time has once again been brought down to zero, Syed Refayet said, adding that the port remained operational even during the Eid holidays.</p>	31 March 2026	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/post/trade-commerce/295234/ctg-port-regains-zero-waiting-time)																	
16	<p><u>LDC Graduation Review</u> <u>Govt to hold high-level consultation amid push for 2029 timeline</u> The government is set to hold a high-level national multi-stakeholder consultation to assess Bangladesh's progress towards graduating from the Least-Developed Country (LDC) category, sources said. The consultation comes at a critical juncture, as Bangladesh has recently sought to defer its final graduation timeline by three years, shifting the target date from 2026 to 2029. This request for an extension aims to provide more time to stabilise the economy amid global inflationary pressures and to retain vital duty-free trade benefits for a longer period. The consultation will be held on April 5 at the NEC Conference Room in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.</p> <p>Finance and Planning Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury is expected to attend the event as the chief guest. Foreign Minister, Commerce Minister, Prime Minister's Adviser on Finance and Planning, and UN Under-Secretary-General Rabab Fatima are slated to join as special guests. Md. Shahriar Kader Siddiky, secretary of the Economic Relations Division (ERD), will chair the session. Officials said the consultation will review key findings of the UN report and help formulate a coordinated national strategy to ensure a smooth transition from the LDC status.</p>	01 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-to-hold-high-level-consultation-amid-push-for-2029-timeline-1774980322)																	
17	<p><u>Aid disbursements during Jul-Feb decline 26.2pc</u></p>  <table border="1"> <caption>JUL-FEB STATS</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>FY25 (In billion US dollar)</th> <th>FY26 (In billion US dollar)</th> <th>% Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FOREIGN AID INFLOWS</td> <td>4.13</td> <td>3.05</td> <td>26.2% ↓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEBT REPAYMENT</td> <td>2.64</td> <td>2.90</td> <td>10.36% ↑</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FOREIGN AID COMMITMENTS</td> <td>2.35</td> <td>2.43</td> <td>3.4% ↑</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Bangladesh is facing a tight fiscal landscape as foreign-aid disbursements saw a significant year-on-year decline while debt-repayment obligations continued to swell during the July-February period of the current fiscal year, officials say.</p>	Category	FY25 (In billion US dollar)	FY26 (In billion US dollar)	% Change	FOREIGN AID INFLOWS	4.13	3.05	26.2% ↓	DEBT REPAYMENT	2.64	2.90	10.36% ↑	FOREIGN AID COMMITMENTS	2.35	2.43	3.4% ↑	01 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/aid-disbursements-during-jul-feb-decline-262pc-1774980649)	
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18	<p>BD ranks 105th on Good Life Index 2026 Bangladesh continues to trail behind several neighbouring countries in overall quality of life, according to the latest Good Life Index 2026. The South Asian country shared 105th position with Vanuatu in the list, securing 57.3 scores, reveals the index, released by CS Global Partners. The index, which combines the Human Development Index (HDI) and Environmental Performance Index (EPI), highlights disparities in health, education, living standards and environmental sustainability across nations.</p> <p>Regional disparities are further evident when compared with emerging Asian benchmarks such as Malaysia or Thailand, which rank significantly higher due to better environmental governance and higher per capita income levels. Top countries in the list are: Norway, Germany, Switzerland, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom, Denmark, Luxembourg, Hong Kong (SAR China), Monaco. On the other hand, low ranking countries include Burkina Faso, Afghanistan, Yemen, Burundi, Niger, Mali, Central African Republic, Chad, South Sudan, and Somalia.</p>	02 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-ranks-105th-on-good-life-index-2026-1775067007)	
19	<p><u>Remittance hits record \$3.75b in March</u> Bangladesh's remittance receipts touched a historic milestone in March, as expatriates funneled record volumes of foreign currency into the country to support families for the Eid-ul-Fitr festivities, even though regional conflict cast a long shadow over future inflows. According to the latest data from Bangladesh Bank (BB), the monthly inflow skyrocketed to \$3.75 billion-the highest level recorded since at least July 2019. This represents a robust 14-per-cent year-on-year growth compared to the \$3.29 billion received in March 2025. The March surge has significantly bolstered the country's external account during a period of macroeconomic volatility. March's performance eclipsed February's \$3.02 billion inflow, highlighting a seasonal push driven by religious celebrations. Total remittances for the first three quarters of FY 2025-26 reached about \$26.21 billion. This cumulative figure reflects a 20-per-cent spike over the same period in the previous fiscal year.</p>	02 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/remittance-hits-record-375b-in-march-1775067225)	
20	<p>Exports way down for eight consecutive months <u>March posts 18.07pc negative growth</u> Exporters see no silver lining over next months for global turmoil Merchandise-export earnings of Bangladesh have been on a climb-down for eight consecutive months with the single-month tally for last March having registered an 18.07-percent year-on-year negative growth. In March 2026, Bangladesh received US\$3.48 billion in export earnings which was US\$4.28 billion in March 2025, according to the data released Thursday by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB).</p> <p>Meantime, the overall export earnings during the first nine months of the current fiscal year also stayed on a negative-growth trajectory as main-earner garment shipments to major countries, including the United States, Germany, the UK, Italy and France and other destinations like India, Japan and Australia all contracted. Bangladesh earned US\$35.38 billion during the July-March period of the fiscal year 2025-26, reflecting 4.85-percent year-on-year negative growth against \$37.19 billion in the corresponding period of last fiscal.</p> <p>Exports went into a year-on-year negative growth in August 2025, when the country recorded a 2.93-percent fall. The climb-down was followed by a decline of 4.61 per cent, 7.43 per cent, 5.58 per cent, 14.25 per cent, 0.50 per cent and 12.03 per cent in September, October, November, December, January and February respectively.</p>	03 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/march-posts-1807pc-negative-growth-1775152429?date=03-04-2026)	

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21	<p><u>সংকটেও এলপিজি আমদানি বাড়িয়েছেন ব্যবসায়ীরা</u> মধ্যপ্রাচ্যের যুদ্ধের কারণে চাহিদা অনুযায়ী প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাস ও জ্বালানি তেল আমদানিতে হিমশিম খাচ্ছে সরকার। আবার তিন মাস আগে উদ্যোগ নিয়েও সরকার তরলীকৃত পেট্রোলিয়াম গ্যাস বা এলপিজির একটি চালানও আমদানি করতে পারেনি। তবে সংকটের সময়ে দেশের ব্যবসায়ীরা বিপুল পরিমাণ এলপিজি আমদানি করেছেন। জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডের (এনবিআর) তথ্য অনুযায়ী, গত মার্চ মাসে এলপিজি আমদানি হয়েছে ২ লাখ ১১ হাজার টন, যা গত বছরের একই সময়ের চেয়ে ৩৮ শতাংশ বেশি। আর এ সময়ে এলপিজির পুরোটাই এনেছে বেসরকারি খাত। এলপিজি আমদানি বৃদ্ধি পাওয়ায় রান্নার প্রয়োজনীয় এই গ্যাস সরবরাহ নিয়ে দুশ্চিন্তা কম। তবে সরবরাহে কিছুটা স্বস্তি এলেও এলপিজির দাম নিয়ে ভোক্তাদের জন্য কিছুটা দুশ্চিন্তা অপেক্ষা করছে। কারণ, বিশ্ববাজারে এপ্রিল মাসের জন্য সৌদি আরবের রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত্ব তেল কোম্পানি আরামকো এলপিজির দাম ৪৪ শতাংশ বাড়িয়েছে। আবার জাহাজভাড়াও বেড়েছে দ্বিগুণের বেশি।</p>	03 April 2026	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/8b30o3n9ls)	
22	<p><u>Rising raw material, freight costs squeeze RMG industry</u> Private-Sector Advisory Council meet on industry situation today Bangladesh's apparel industry is coming under mounting pressure as rising yarn and cotton prices, coupled with higher freight costs and longer lead times, continue to erode profit margins, entrepreneurs say. Apparel Industry insiders say the ongoing turmoil in the Middle East has disrupted global supply chains, pushing up the cost of key raw materials used in garment production. At the same time, manufacturers are struggling with shortages of diesel needed to run backup generators during load-shedding. Sector leaders warn if the situation persists, many mills could lose competitiveness on the global market, where buyers remain highly price-sensitive.</p>	04 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/rising-raw-material-freight-costs-squeeze-rmg-industry-1775239595?date=04-04-2026)	
23	<p><u>A much-hyped new govt move on economic front</u> <u>PM launches reform drive to ease business, attract investment</u> Offshore finance mobilisation by businesses envisaged, FDI in banks, insurance to be allowed Prime Minister Tarique Rahman kick-starts a much-cherished reform drive to remove key bottlenecks to private sector and enhance ease of doing business with the cardinal goal of attracting fresh investment from home and abroad and accelerating job creation. The crucial move came at a high-level meeting with Bangladesh's top business leaders at the Prime Minister's Office on Saturday, where the government also activated the Private-Sector Advisory Council (PSAC) to steer a time-bound reform agenda over the next two years. Chaired by the Prime Minister, the council will serve as a platform to align policy with business needs and ensure implementation of reforms to improve competitiveness and the investment climate. After the meeting was over, talking to The Financial Express, Pacific Jeans Managing Director Syed Mohammed Tanvir said the PSAC has been selected as a sounding board for the HPM to capture ground-level realities of manufacturing in Bangladesh from local companies. The newly formed PSAC is scheduled to meet every three months to monitor progress.</p>	05 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/pm-launches-reform-drive-to-ease-business-attract-investment-1775322906)	

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24	<p><u>Bangladesh overtakes China in RMG export to US</u> Bangladesh overtook China in garment exports to the United States during the January-February period of 2026, as China lost its top position amid the impact of American reciprocal tariffs, according to data from the Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA) released yesterday. China is now the third-largest garment exporter to the US, while Vietnam has become the top apparel exporter, with Bangladesh ranking second, the data showed. In January-February, Bangladesh exported garments worth \$1.37 billion, down 8.53 percent compared with the same period last year. Vietnam exported garments worth \$2.7 billion, up 2.88 percent year-on-year. China, however, exported garments worth \$1.17 billion in the same period, posting a negative growth of 57.65 percent compared with January-February 2025. Overall, the US imported garments worth \$11.53 billion during the period, registering a 13.47 percent year-on-year decline.</p>	05 April 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-overtakes-china-rmg-export-us-4143501)	
25	<p><u>Bangladesh's exports to US fall 8.5% in Jan-Feb, Vietnam, Indonesia see growth</u> Apparel imports by the United States – Bangladesh's largest single export market – declined significantly in the first two months of 2026, falling by 8.53% year-on-year. Bangladeshi exporters primarily attribute the steep decline in exports to tariffs imposed by the Trump administration in mid-last year. Exports from China and India fell even more sharply over the same period. The country's overall apparel import fell by more than 13%.</p>	05 April 2026	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladeshs-exports-us-fall-85-jan-feb-vietnam-indonesia-see-growth-1402716)	