



Summary of Business News – 99

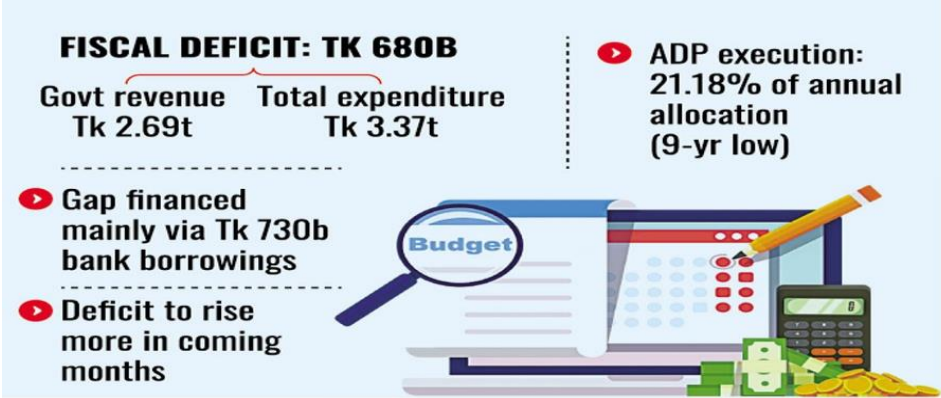
Important Trade and Economic News Published in Various Newspapers during 06 - 19 April 2026

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks																												
01	<p><u>Inflation down to 8.71pc in March</u> Food prices budge, nonfoods fuelled by rising energy costs</p>  <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <caption>Point-to-point inflation (%)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Inflation (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Mar-25</td><td>9.35</td></tr> <tr><td>Apr-25</td><td>9.17</td></tr> <tr><td>May-25</td><td>9.05</td></tr> <tr><td>Jun-25</td><td>8.48</td></tr> <tr><td>Jul-25</td><td>8.55</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug-25</td><td>8.29</td></tr> <tr><td>Sep-25</td><td>8.36</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct-25</td><td>8.17</td></tr> <tr><td>Nov-25</td><td>8.29</td></tr> <tr><td>Dec-25</td><td>8.49</td></tr> <tr><td>Jan-26</td><td>8.58</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb-26</td><td>9.13</td></tr> <tr><td>Mar-26</td><td>8.71</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Source: BBS</p> <p>Inflation in Bangladesh eases in March count as food prices give some respite although rising energy costs amid global crisis fire up nonfood price indices. Data released Sunday by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) showed headline inflation rate having fallen to 8.71 per cent in March, down 0.42-percentage points from the previous month, as measured by the consumer price index (CPI). Food inflation declined across both rural and urban areas, helping ease overall price growth. At the national level, food inflation stood at 8.24 per cent, down by 1.06-percentage points from February. In contrast, prices of nonfood commodities stayed on an upturn, pushing up nonfood inflation to 9.09 per cent, in a rise by 0.08- percentage points. The higher nonfood inflation reflects higher costs for fuels, transport and other related services.</p>	Month	Inflation (%)	Mar-25	9.35	Apr-25	9.17	May-25	9.05	Jun-25	8.48	Jul-25	8.55	Aug-25	8.29	Sep-25	8.36	Oct-25	8.17	Nov-25	8.29	Dec-25	8.49	Jan-26	8.58	Feb-26	9.13	Mar-26	8.71	06 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/inflation-down-to-871pc-in-march-1775413120?date=06-04-2026)	
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02	<p><u>Private credit growth stuck despite political transition</u></p> <p>Private-sector credit growth remains subdued despite a peaceful transition of political power, reflecting persistent economic headwinds and weak business confidence. Politics Entrepreneurs continue to hold back on expansion plans amid high borrowing costs, energy shortages and lingering uncertainties. The sluggish credit flow, as low as 6.03 per cent in February 2026, underscores the challenges facing the economy, as both lenders and borrowers adopt a cautious stance in an environment marked by financial stress and structural constraints. The rate stood at 6.03 per cent in the previous month of January as well, according to the latest data from Bangladesh Bank (BB). Officials and entrepreneurs identified factors such as higher lending rates, security concerns in industrial belts and pre-election uncertainties as key reasons behind the reluctance of businesses to expand.</p>	06 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/private-credit-growth-stuck-despite-political-transition-1775413550?date=06-04-2026)																													

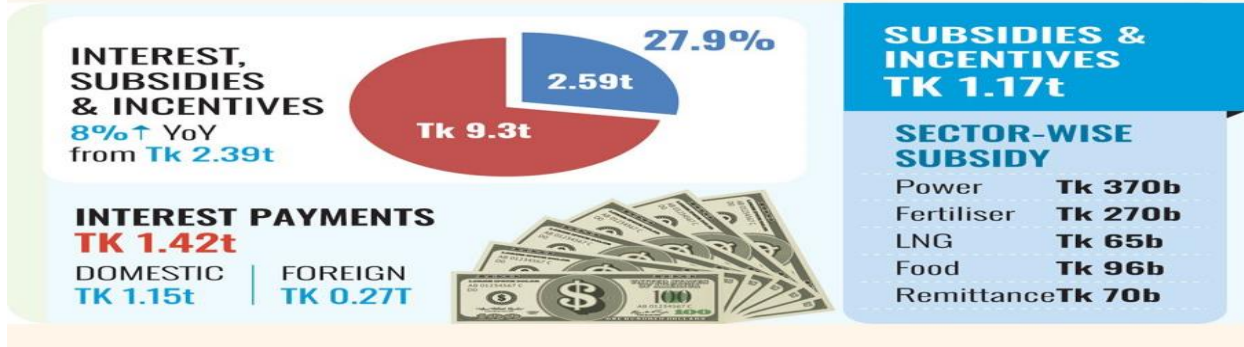
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03	<p><u>Per capita income \$2,769 in FY25: finance minister</u></p> <p>Finance minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury on Monday told the Jatiya Sangsad that Bangladesh's per capita income for the 2024–25 financial year stood at \$2,769. He made the announcement in response to a written question from Dhaka-18 lawmaker SM Jahangir Hossain during the ninth day of the first session the 13th JS, presided over by deputy speaker Kayser Kamal. The per capita income was \$2,738 in FY 2023–24. According to the minister, the figure of per capita income was based on the latest official data published by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.</p>	06 April 2026	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/post/Economy/295984/per-capita-income-2769-in-fy25-finance-minister)	
04	<p><u>MPS, THEIR COS HAVE TK33.3B DEFAULT LOANS</u></p> <p><u>NPLs balloon to Tk 5.45t</u></p> <p>Top 20 defaulters named in parliament</p> <p>Bangladesh's banking sector is bearing a burden of non-performing loans (NPLs) having ballooned to some Tk 5.45 trillion as of December 31, 2025, underlining deep-rooted weaknesses in credit discipline and financial oversight. The figure was disclosed Monday in the Jatiya Sangsad by Finance Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, along with a list of top defaulters placed in the House. He came up with the disclosure in response to a written question from lawmaker Md. Abul Hasnat of Comilla-4. The session was presided over by Deputy Speaker Kaiser Kamal.</p> <p>In a move that sheds light on the concentration of financial risks, the minister tabled a list of the country's top 20 loan defaulters-dominated by large industrial and trading groups, many of which have longstanding ties to the banking system. Multiple entities linked to S Alam Group feature prominently, alongside firms associated with Beximco and other major business houses. Analysts say the clustering of defaults within a handful of conglomerates reflects "systemic governance failures and persistent concerns over connected lending".</p>	07 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/npls-balloon-to-tk-545t-1775498004?date=07-04-2026)	
05	<p><u>PM writes to UN Secy Gen for LDC graduation deferral</u></p> <p>Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has requested the United Nations to defer Bangladesh's graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) category by at least three years to ensure a sustainable transition amid internal and external shocks. The premier on Sunday wrote to UN Secretary-General António Guterres seeking the deferral, officials said on Tuesday.</p> <p>The request, submitted to the UN chief on Monday, comes as Bangladesh grapples with a "preparatory period" that officials say was effectively derailed by a "polycrisis" of global and domestic shocks, a highly placed source told The Financial Express.</p> <p>Bangladesh was scheduled to graduate from the LDC category to a developing nation in November this year. If the UN accepts the request, the country will get an additional three years-until November 2029 -- to complete its transition.</p> <p>Following calls from leaders of top business chambers, trade bodies and some economists, the interim government had earlier recommended coordinating with fellow graduating countries such as Nepal and Lao PDR to pursue a deferral until 2030, leaving the final decision to the elected government.</p>	08 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/pm-writes-to-un-secy-gen-for-ldc-graduation-deferral-1775585154)	

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06	<p><u>Business activity slows as March PMI dips</u> Bangladesh's business activity lost momentum in March, with the latest Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) pointing to a slowdown across key sectors. While the economy continues to expand overall, emerging weaknesses in manufacturing and construction are raising concerns about the durability of growth. The moderation comes against a backdrop of global uncertainty and domestic pressures, prompting cautious optimism among analysts about the near-term economic outlook. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), released Tuesday, fell by 2.2 points to 53.5 in March 2026. A PMI reading above 50 indicates that the sector or economy is generally expanding. A reading of 50 signals no change compared to the previous month, while a reading below 50 indicates contraction.</p>	08 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/business-activity-slows-as-march-pmi-dips-1775584895)	
07	<p><u>Exporters set to get offshore dollar loans at 8% as working capital</u> In a move to lower financing costs and enhance global competitiveness, the Bangladesh Bank is set to introduce offshore dollar loans for exporters at a significantly lower interest rate. Under the proposed scheme, exporters will be able to borrow at an interest rate of 8%, substantially lower than the prevailing 14% to 16% charged on local currency loans. The central bank is expected to issue a circular shortly outlining the operational framework, officials said.</p>	08 April 2026	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/exporters-set-get-offshore-dollar-loans-8-working-capital-1405666)	
08	<p><u>ঝুঁকি এড়াতে ৪ দেশের তেলে ঝুঁকছে ইস্টার্ন রিফাইনারি</u> দেশের একমাত্র সরকারি তেল শোধনাগার ইস্টার্ন রিফাইনারিতে এত দিন মূলত মধ্যপ্রাচ্য থেকে আনা অপরিশোধিত তেলই পরিশোধন করা হতো। কিন্তু মধ্যপ্রাচ্যে যুদ্ধের কারণে অপরিশোধিত তেলের জাহাজ না আসায় শোধনাগারটির উৎপাদন এখন সংকটের মুখে। এ পরিস্থিতিতে বিকল্প উৎসের তেল শোধন করার সম্ভাব্যতা নিয়ে যাচাই-বাছাই শুরু করেছে ইস্টার্ন রিফাইনারি। জানা গেছে, প্রাথমিকভাবে বিশ্বের বিভিন্ন দেশের অপরিশোধিত তেলের বৈশিষ্ট্য পরীক্ষা করে চারটি দেশের তেলকে বাংলাদেশে ‘পরিশোধনযোগ্য’ হিসেবে চিহ্নিত করেছে ইস্টার্ন রিফাইনারি। দেশগুলো হলো নাইজেরিয়া, মালয়েশিয়া, নরওয়ে ও আলজেরিয়া। এসব দেশের ‘বনি ক্রুড’, ‘মালয়েশিয়ান ব্লেভ’, ‘আলবেইন ব্লেভ’ ও ‘আলজেরি ক্রুড’-এর বৈশিষ্ট্য পরীক্ষা করে দেখা গেছে, এগুলো বিদ্যমান শোধনপ্রক্রিয়ার সঙ্গে সামঞ্জস্যপূর্ণ। এ বিষয়ে একটি প্রতিবেদন বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম করপোরেশনে (বিপিসি) পাঠানো হয়েছে। এরপর মালয়েশিয়া থেকে এক লাখ টন তেল কেনার প্রক্রিয়াও শুরু হয়েছে, যা চলতি মাসেই দেশে আসার কথা।</p>	08 April 2026	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/dmzj6wgp59)	
09	<p><u>WB downgrades Bangladesh's FY26 economic outlook</u> <u>Forecast on GDP growth cut to 3.9pc amid headwinds</u> <u>Mideast mayhem may push 1.2m more Bangladeshis below poverty line</u> A challenging economic landscape of Bangladesh is drawn by the World Bank that downgrades the country's GDP growth to 3.9 per cent for the current fiscal year, citing some headwinds. The Washington-headquartered development financier warns that the Middle-East turmoil may push an additional 1.2 million Bangladeshi people below the poverty line, largely offsetting any potential gains. Such unhappy prediction comes in the bank's Bangladesh Development Update-Spring 2026 report published Wednesday, as the Mideast turmoil upsets normal order not only in Bangladesh but worldwide. This downward revision of Bangladesh's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for the fiscal year 2025-26 from an earlier projection of 4.6 per cent is attributed to the compounding effects of the ongoing Middle-East conflict and persistent domestic macroeconomic fragilities, according to the development update.</p>	09 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/forecast-on-gdp-growth-cut-to-39pc-amid-headwinds-1775672201)	

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10	<p>Fallout on BD economy from geopolitical fracas <u>Price stability, export demand, import costs in jeopardy</u> Latest BB report paints gloomy picture for near term</p> <p>Ongoing geopolitical tensions pose near-term risks to Bangladesh's price stability, export demand and import costs, the central bank says in the wake of the worst ruckus in the Mideast. The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has painted such a picture on the economic downside in its latest Bangladesh Bank Quarterly (BBQ) report for October-December 2025, while listing upside positives, too.</p> <p>"Proactive policy measures to maintain macroeconomic stability remain central to managing these challenges," the central bank suggests, adding that continued policy coordination and ongoing reforms in the financial and external sectors are expected to support economic resilience in the quarters ahead. The BBQ, however, notes that the newly elected democratic government, which took office at the end of February, has initiated several measures to mitigate external risks, including efforts to diversify crude-oil-import sources and reduce reliance on the Middle East. Ongoing conflicts in the Middle East have heightened the risk of volatility in global oil markets and exchange rates, according to the BBQ.</p>	09 April 2026	<p>The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/price-stability-export-demand-import-costs-in-jeopardy-1775672097)</p>	
11	<p><u>ME crisis threatens BD energy security, economic stability</u> SANEM warns of supply shocks, higher inflation, GDP slowdown as LNG routes face disruption</p>  <p>An escalating conflict in the fuel-hub Middle East is emerging as a major risk to Bangladesh's energy security with potential ripple effects across the broader economy. Suggesting a number of must-dos to save the situation, a new assessment warns that disruptions to key fuel-supply routes could intensify existing vulnerabilities and trigger inflationary and growth-related pressures. As global energy markets confront renewed instability, Bangladesh's heavy reliance on LNG import, particularly from the Gulf, has left it exposed to a "deepening supply shock with far-reaching consequences".</p> <p>The South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), in its evaluation, has observed that the developments in the Gulf have significantly affected energy production, tanker movements and maritime security.</p>	10 April 2026	<p>The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/me-crisis-threatens-bd-energy-security-economic-stability-1775758125?date=10-04-2026)</p>	

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12	<p><u>BB re-launches pre-shipment credit refinance scheme</u> Businesses hail the decision amid ongoing geopolitical tensions Bangladesh Bank (BB) has re-launched the expired pre-shipment credit-refinance scheme to facilitate exports in line with the request from the country's apex trade body. The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) made the request in this regard just three days back.</p> <p>The five-year-tenure refinance scheme involving Tk 50 billion that was initiated in 2020 expired on April 12 last year. But leaders of the country's apex trade body in a meeting with the BB governor on Monday last made an appeal for resumption of the fund to help boost exports amid ongoing geopolitical tensions following the Middle East war. The central bank in a circular issued on Thursday stated that the fund has been re-launched for the sake of helping the country sustain its exports growth, maintain production continuity, and strengthen foreign currency inflows at a time when global trade remains have been affected by geopolitical tensions.</p> <p>Under the revolving arrangement, according to the circular, an amount of Tk 50 billion from the Tk 10-billion Export Facilitation Pre-finance Fund (EFPPF) will be allocated for operating the refinance pre-shipment credit scheme, tenure of which is now extended up to 2030 with immediate effect. Loans from the refinance fund will be distributed among borrowers through the participating commercial banks on a 'First-Come-First-Served' basis, it mentioned. Regarding the maximum ceiling of exposure, it said no company or business group will be allowed to hold more than Tk 2.0 billion at a single point of time.</p>	10 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-re-launches-pre-shipment-credit-refinance-scheme-1775758496?date=10-04-2026)	
13	<p><u>Jul-Jan fiscal deficit narrows 5.0pc</u></p>  <p>FISCAL DEFICIT: TK 680B</p> <p>Govt revenue Tk 2.69t Total expenditure Tk 3.37t</p> <p>ADP execution: 21.18% of annual allocation (9-yr low)</p> <p>Gap financed mainly via Tk 730b bank borrowings</p> <p>Deficit to rise more in coming months</p> <p>Bangladesh's fiscal deficit narrowed slightly during the first seven months of the current fiscal year compared to the same period a year earlier, although government spending continued to outpace revenue collection. Data from the Bangladesh Bank shows the deficit stood at Tk 680 billion during July 2025-January 2026, about 5.0-percent lower than the Tk 717 billion recorded in the same period of the previous fiscal year.</p>	11 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/jul-jan-fiscal-deficit-narrows-50pc-1775843684?date=11-04-2026)	

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14	<p><u>RMG exports to major markets fall in July-Mar</u> The country's readymade garment exports to major global destinations declined persistently during July-March period of the current financial year 2025-26 due to weak global demand. According to detailed country-wise export data from the Export Promotion Bureau, Bangladesh exported RMG items worth \$28.58 billion in the July-March period of FY26, marking a 5.51 per cent decline from that of \$30.25 billion earned in the same period of FY25. In March 2026, RMG items, the country's highest exports earner, earned \$2.78 billion, a 19.35 per cent decline from that of \$3.45 billion in March 2025, the EPB data stated.</p> <p>Apparel Exporters said that exports had been declining over the past eight months due to weak global demand, fewer buyer inquiries, shifts in buying patterns, geopolitical tensions and intense competition, particularly on European markets. They also expressed concerns that prolonged conflict in the Middle East and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz could negatively impact the global economy again.</p>	11 April 2026	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/post/apparel/296465/rmg-exports-to-major-markets-fall-in-july-mar)	
15	<p><u>Labour (Amendment) Bill 2026</u> <u>Businesses, labour leaders seek clarity to avert unrest</u> Business and labour leaders have appreciated the government for passing the Labour (Amendment) Bill 2026 in the Jatiya Sangsad on Thursday within the stipulated timeframe, describing it as a positive step towards strengthening the country's industrial framework. However, they cautioned that lingering ambiguities in several provisions could create confusion and potentially fuel unrest if not addressed promptly. In separate reactions, trade bodies welcomed the amendment but stressed that a lack of clarity in certain areas may lead to misinterpretation at the factory level, which could strain relations between workers and employers over time. Under the amended act, trade unions can now be formed with the consent of a minimum of 20 workers -- depending on workforce size -- simplifying earlier requirements and expanding freedom of association and collective bargaining rights to previously excluded workers.</p> <p>Talking to The Financial Express, BGMEA President Mahmud Hasan Khan Babu praised the government's timely action, noting that the law applies across all industries. However, he added that while the amendment may benefit some sectors, others could face challenges due to unclear provisions. He said several sections require further clarification to prevent confusion among both workers and employers, warning that unresolved issues could disrupt workplace harmony. Industry insiders echoed similar concerns, saying ambiguity in the law could escalate into disputes or unrest, particularly in labour-intensive sectors such as garments and knitwear. They also noted that the amendment, initiated during the previous interim government, did not fully reflect decisions made in the tripartite council, contributing to existing confusion.</p>	12 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/businesses-labour-leaders-seek-clarity-to-avert-unrest-1775927977)	
16	<p><u>Next budget to tighten VAT compliance of businesses</u> The government is preparing a set of sweeping measures in the upcoming national budget to expand the VAT net and improve compliance across the business sector. Policymakers aim to bring more enterprises, particularly those in the informal economy, under the tax system without raising rates. The proposed reforms, centred on mandatory VAT registration and digital filing, are expected to significantly increase revenue collection while enhancing transparency and accountability in tax administration.</p> <p>In the budget, scheduled to be placed on June 11, 2026, Finance Minister Amir Khasru may also propose making a Business Identification Number (BIN), commonly known as a VAT registration number, mandatory for trade licence renewal. Additionally, the government is expected to make online submission of VAT returns compulsory for all businesses starting next year.</p>	13 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/next-budget-to-tighten-vat-compliance-of-businesses-1776018036)	

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17	<p>আগামী অর্থবছরে বদলে যাবে জিডিপি হিসাবের ভিত্তি বছর</p> <p>আগামী অর্থবছরে মোট দেশজ উৎপাদন (জিডিপি) হিসাব করার জন্য ভিত্তি বছর পরিবর্তন করা হবে। ২০২৫-২৬ অর্থবছরকে নতুন ভিত্তি বছর হিসেবে নির্ধারণ করা হবে। ফলে জিডিপির আকার আরও বড় হতে পারে। আজ সোমবার আগারগাঁওয়ের জাতীয় পরিসংখ্যান ভবনে জিডিপি হিসাবসংক্রান্ত এক সেমিনারে এমন তথ্য উঠে আসে। সেমিনারে প্রধান অতিথি ছিলেন পরিকল্পনা প্রতিমন্ত্রী মো. জোনায়েদ আবদুর রহিম সাকি। সেমিনারে জিডিপি হিসাবসংক্রান্ত বিভিন্ন খুঁটিনাটি বিষয় তুলে ধরা হয়। এতে মূল শ্রবক উপস্থাপন করেন বিবিএসের উপপরিচালক তোফায়েল আহমদ। তিনি বলেন, ১০ বছর পরপর ভিত্তি বছর পরিবর্তন করা হয়। সেটার অংশ হিসেবে আগামী অর্থবছরের আবারও পরিবর্তন আসছে।</p>	13 April 2026	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/7s5cgn2zpx)	
18	<p>Interest payments, subsidies, incentives to swallow big pies Officials caution this cost could rise for higher fuel prices if ME crisis persists</p>  <p>Interest payments, subsidies, incentives and cash loans could gobble up big pies of the next budget as the government earmarks over Tk 2.59 trillion on this account and officials predict higher energy costs could bloat the figure. The sum is roughly 27.86 per cent of the national budget worth Tk 9.3 trillion for fiscal year 206-27, officials at the finance division say. The amount is 7.99-percent higher than the Tk 2.39-trillion revised allocation in the current fiscal year.</p> <p>They say subsidy allocations have not been estimated taking into account a potential doubling of fuel-import costs amid the ongoing volatility and caution that if the Gulf conflict persists, additional funding will be required for gas, power and fertiliser subsidies.</p>	14 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/interest-payments-subsidies-incentives-to-swallow-big-pies-1776104336?date=14-04-2026)	
19	<p>Cabinet body formed to suggest power tariff adjustment</p> <p>The government has constituted a six-member high-level cabinet committee to recommend necessary adjustments to electricity tariffs at both wholesale and retail levels amid the ongoing Middle East crisis, volatile global oil prices and rising power-generation costs. Headed by the finance minister, the committee includes the minister for the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, the commerce minister, and the secretaries of the Finance Division, Power Division, and Energy and Mineral Resources Division, according to a gazette notification issued on April 9. The committee will examine the need for revising electricity tariffs in light of global instability affecting the country's energy sector and, after review, submit recommendations to the Cabinet.</p>	14 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/cabinet-body-formed-to-suggest-power-tariff-adjustment-1776104457?date=14-04-2026)	

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20	<p>BANKROLLING NEW BIG BUDGET AMID ADVERSITIES <u>Govt catapults revenue target to Tk 6.95t to achieve lofty ends</u></p> <p>An elevated target of collecting Tk 6.95 trillion as revenue has been set for the upcoming fiscal year to achieve new government's lofty budgetary ends like enhancing GDP growth, taming wayward inflation and advancing the economy towards a trillion-dollar mark. The total sum of revenue for financial year 2026-27 is up 23.23 per cent from the original one for the current fiscal, officials say. The target is attuned to raising the tax-to-GDP ratio to 9.21 per cent. The tax-GDP-ratio target was set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) against its budget-support credit package for Bangladesh.</p> <p>Of the revenue, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) will have to collect Tk 6.04 trillion in taxes, expecting a 21.04-per cent growth over the current year's original targets. According to finance officials, the revenue-earning target has been approved by the committee for coordination on fiscal, monetary, and currency exchange, held recently to finalise the size of the next budget.</p> <p>The total revenue-collection target is 18.2-percent higher than the revised budget for the current fiscal year while the target for the NBR is up by 20.1 per cent than that of the revised target under current budget. The post-uprising interim government had increased the revenue target by Tk 40 billion for the first time in the current fiscal year.</p>	14 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-catapults-revenue-target-to-tk-695t-to-achieve-lofty-ends-1776104572?date=14-04-2026)	
21	<p><u>PM seeks \$2bn global support to tackle Bangladesh's energy crisis</u></p> <p>Prime Minister Tarique Rahman today sought a US\$ 2 billion fund from development partners to meet Bangladesh's immediate energy needs and safeguard economic stability amid the ongoing global energy crisis. "The situation before us demands urgency, solidarity, and decisive action. Immediate support for the most vulnerable countries must be at the top of our collective agenda," he said while addressing the Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) Plus Online Summit. "We urge the international community to respond swiftly and positively to this call," he added.</p>	15 April 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/news/environment/natural-resources/energy/news/pm-seeks-2bn-global-support-tackle-bangladeshs-energy-crisis-4152266)	
22	<p><u>Govt drafts 5-year strategic plan</u></p> <p>The government has drafted a five-year strategic framework proposing to designate ICT as a special priority sector and send 20 lakh workers abroad annually. The draft framework has been made in line with the government's aim of achieving a trillion-dollar economy by 2034, according to a presentation by the General Economics Division (GED) of the Bangladesh Planning Commission at an advisory council meeting yesterday. It projects real GDP growth reaching 8 percent by fiscal year 2029-30 (FY30), nominal GDP at \$749 billion, inflation falling to 5 percent, and gross investment rising to 37.6 percent of GDP.</p>	16 April 2026	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-drafts-5-year-strategic-plan-4152386)	
23	<p><u>Bepza eyes industrialisation in North, plans new EPZs in Rangpur, Sirajganj</u></p> <p>The Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza) wants to establish two new export processing zones in Rangpur and Sirajganj to increase industrialisation in the north and encourage the use of solar energy, officials announced yesterday as they celebrated the organisation's 46th anniversary. Bepza Executive Chairman Major General Mohammad Moazzem Hossain said, "Currently, besides eight operational EPZs and two economic zones, new EPZs are being implemented in Jashore and Patuakhali, and EPZs in Rangpur and Sirajganj are in the planning stage. Once implemented, the geographical spread of the country's industrialisation will increase further."</p>	16 April 2026	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bepza-eyes-industrialisation-north-plans-new-epzs-rangpur-sirajganj-1412591)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
24	<p>CASTING TAX NET WIDER IN REVENUE HUNT <u>Govt's revenue authority ponders property taxation</u> New system likely to replace wealth surcharge failing to tax inherited, underreported assets Government's revenue authority ponders introducing property tax -- on a limited scale to start with -- in the upcoming fiscal year to hook wealthy individuals onto wider-cast tax net. The planned property-taxation system is likely to replace the existing wealth surcharge, which has proven ineffective in capturing taxes on inherited and underreported assets. A senior official of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) says the proposal is currently under active review by a dedicated committee. The panel is preparing three possible models to be submitted to high-level government policymakers by April 22, 2026. "Initially, the tax may not apply to a taxpayer's primary residence. It could also exempt a second property if it is rented out and serves as the individual's sole source of income," the official told The Financial Express.</p>	17 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govts-revenue-authority-ponders-property-taxation-1776362994?date=17-04-2026)	
25	<p><u>Fuel prices rise by Tk 15-20 per litre</u> In response to the continued increase in global fuel prices, the government has set new retail prices for all types of fuel in the domestic market. According to the latest decision, the revised rates were set to come into effect immediately after Saturday midnight. Under the new pricing structure, diesel has been fixed at Tk 115 per litre, octane at Tk 140, petrol at Tk 135, and kerosene at Tk 130. Compared with the previous rates, there has been a notable increase across all fuel categories. Diesel has risen from Tk 100 to Tk 115 per litre, an increase of Tk 15. Kerosene has gone up from Tk 112 to Tk 130, meaning consumers will pay Tk 18 more per litre. Octane has seen the highest increase, climbing from Tk 120 to Tk 140 per litre, a rise of Tk 20. Petrol has increased from Tk 116 to Tk 135 per litre, marking a Tk 19 rise. In a press release, the Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Division stated that the price adjustment was made to align with international market conditions and to ensure stability in the supply system.</p>	19 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fuel-prices-rise-by-tk-15-20-per-litre-1776532838)	
26	<p><u>BIDS, BCI to launch 'Industry 100 Index' for real-time manufacturing data</u> The Bangladesh Institute of Development Research (BIDS) and Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI) will publish regular manufacturing indexes to highlight the trends and provide reliable information on the industrial sectors including textile, garment, pharmaceuticals and leather. A stakeholder consultation meeting was held on Saturday at the BIDS conference room to discuss the research initiative titled "BIDS-BCI Industry 100 Index", which will focus on large and medium manufacturing industries across various sectors, according to a statement. The meeting was presided over by BIDS Director General Dr AK Enamul Haque, while BIDS Research Director Kazi Iqbal presented the keynote address.</p>	19 April 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bids-bci-to-launch-industry-100-index-for-real-time-manufacturing-data-1776529692)	