Summary of Business News – 103

Important Trade and Economic News Published in Various Newspapers during 08 – 21 June 2026

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	**[Inflation rises to 9.42pc in May]**  Point-to-point inflation accelerated further in May, driven by rising prices in both food and non-food categories, according to official data released on Sunday. Overall inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), rose to 9.42 per cent in May, data from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) showed. The increase indicates that the average price level of a fixed basket of goods and services was 9.42 per cent higher in May than in the corresponding month of the previous year. Food inflation increased to 9.06 per cent in May, while non-food inflation climbed to 9.71 per cent, reflecting persistent price pressures across the economy. Point-to-point inflation was 9.04 per cent in April.	08 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/inflation-rises-to-942pc-in-may-1780855523?date=08-06-2026)	
02	**10-member panel formed to modernise Bangladesh's tea sector** A 10-member committee has been formed to support the development, modernisation, and standardisation of Bangladesh's tea industry through coordinated policy and technical interventions. According to an official notification, the committee has been constituted with representatives from key government bodies, regulatory agencies, and stakeholders in the tea sector to strengthen research, planning, and institutional capacity within the industry. The committee is headed by Mamun Rashid, chairman of the publicly traded National Tea Company Limited and president of the business-to-business commerce platform ShopUp, who will serve as its convener.	08 June 2026	**The Daily Star** (10-member panel formed to modernise Bangladesh's tea sector | The Daily Star)	

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03	**Bangladesh PMI surges to 62.8 in May as all major sectors record expansion** Bangladesh's Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) jumped to 62.8 in May 2026, up from 54.6 in April, as all four major sectors of the economy recorded expansion for the first time in recent months. The latest PMI, released today (8 June) by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), showed that stronger performances in manufacturing and services, alongside a rebound in construction and continued growth in agriculture, drove the overall expansion.	**08 June 2026**	**The Business Standard (TBS)** **(Bangladesh PMI surges to 62.8 in May as all major sectors record expansion | The Business Standard)**	
04	**EDITORS' COUNCIL DISCUSSES WITH REGULATOR FINANCIAL-SECTOR PROBLEMS** **Bank Resolution Act provision for ownership return not 'maintainable'** **BB governor tells editors section 18(a) of the law has been recommended to be scrapped** The central bank has found the Section 18(a) of the Bank Resolution Act, which provides for ownership return of the merged troubled banks not 'maintainable' and has recommended its deletion. Bangladesh Bank Governor Md Mostaqur Rahman expressed such view Monday as Editors' Council in a meeting with him expressed deep concern over the impugned section of the act and stressed the need for its further scrutiny for the sake of the banking sector. The apex body of editors of the country's leading print-media outlets raised the concern and also listed other financial-sector problems during the meeting with the BB Governor at the central bank's headquarters in Dhaka. Explaining reasons for suggesting removal of the section, the BB governor said, " There is no scope for application of the provision. The government has already invested nearly Tk. 520 billion in five merged Islamic banks, namely, Sammilita Islamic Bank. These banks in total have Tk. 1.32 trillion depositors' money, Tk. 320 billion performing loans and Tk. 1.64 trillion non-performing loans. It might be possible to recover Tk.200--Tk.300 billion. Thus. There will be a gap of at least Tk 650 billion. None, it seems, would come to reclaim ownership. Already two months have elapsed since adoption of the law. None has showed interest until now."	**09 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** **(https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bank-resolution-act-provision-for-ownership-return-not-maintainable-1780941414?date=09-06-2026)**	
05	**FALLOUT FROM BD'S LDC GRADUATION** **Exports worth $17.5b may be at risk** **Commerce minister tells parliament** Bangladesh could face risks to exports worth approximately US$17.5 billion after graduating from the least-developed country (LDC) status due to loss of preferential market access in developed economies. Commerce Minister Khandaker Abdul Muqtadir told parliament Monday about the possible export loss, and mentioned preparatory measures to cope with such graduation aftermath. Responding to a question from Chattogram-11 lawmaker Jasim Uddin Ahmed during the second day of the second and first budget session of the 13th Jatiya Sangsad, the minister said the government had already undertaken a series of trade-and market- diversification initiatives to address the challenges.	**09 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** **(https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/exports-worth-175b-may-be-at-risk-1780941704)**	

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06	**BB stimulus package** **Agro gets 2nd-biggest Tk 100b allocation** Agriculture and rural economic activities have received the second-largest allocation, Tk.100 billion, in the Bangladesh Bank's (BB) newly announced Tk.600-billion stimulus package. The central bank unveiled the package last month to revive economic growth. The package also includes a separate Tk.30 billion fund to develop the northern region into an agriculture-based hub and a Tk.20 billion facility for frozen shrimp and fish exports. Besides, Tk.50 billion has been allocated through Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) to support cottage, micro, and small enterprises, says a Bangladesh Bank official. According to the central bank, the overall stimulus package is expected to generate employment for around 2.5 million people. Of them, nearly 0.9 million jobs are projected to be created in agriculture and rural economic activities, including crop production, agricultural labour, and food processing. The package also includes a Tk 5.0 billion startup fund - outside the Tk 100 billion allocation - for entrepreneurs seeking to enter agriculture with innovative business ideas, central bank officials say.	**10 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** (**https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/agro-gets-2nd-biggest-tk-100b-allocation-1781027690**)	
07	**BD now half a trillion dollar economy** **GDP growth rebounds to 4.14pc from 3.49pc a year ago: BBS** Bangladesh is now a half-trillion-dollar economy, as its gross domestic product (GDP) has crossed USD 500 billion mark. It has achieved this unique feat in the outgoing fiscal year (FY) 2025-26, marking a significant step towards its ambition of becoming a $1.0-trillion economy by 2034. At the same time, the country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth at constant prices expanded by 4.14 per cent, recovering from the low 3.49 per cent recorded in FY2024-25, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data unveiled on Wednesday. Per capita gross national income (GNI) has also crossed the $3,000 mark, with the BBS estimating average income at $3,020 in FY2025-26. Provisional data released by the BBS revealed that the total size of the economy at current prices surged to $501.067 billion (Tk 61.202 trillion) in FY2025-26. This marks a substantial leap from the $456 billion economy recorded in FY2024-25. Meanwhile, the estimated economic growth of 4.14 per cent is well below the government's GDP growth target of 5.5 per cent for the current fiscal year.	**11 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** (**https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-now-half-a-trillion-dollar-economy-1781114464?date=11-06-2026**)	
08	**LOFTY REVENUE TARGET FOR BIG BUDGET** **Measures speak less how to net 51pc higher revenue** **Vast incentives for local manufacturing industries indicates govt leniency in taxing** An upscale proposed national budget worth Tk 9.38 trillion say less in its fiscal measures how the government will mobilise around 51-percent higher revenue in the next fiscal year. A wide range of tax incentives for boosting local manufacturing industries has shown the government's intention not to go aggressive for revenue mobilisation, whereas the tax revenue- collection target for the National Board of Revenue (NBR) seems overambitious given the current fiscal year's lax performance. Economists fear a record Tk 1.0-trillion shortfall in tax-revenue collection this year. If such a big shortfall happens, the NBR will have to collect Tk 2.0 trillion in additional revenue to achieve the Tk 6.04 -trillion target set for the upcoming fiscal year 2026-27.	**12 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** (**https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/measures-speak-less-how-to-net-51pc-higher-revenue-1781202812?date=12-06-2026**)	

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09	KHOSRU UPBEAT ABOUT STEERING BANGLADESH OUT OF MIASMA **Economy to attain full stability and prosperity after two years** **Finance minister airs his optimism a day after presenting an upscale Tk 9.38t national budget** Bangladesh may need two years to take off from the present miasma and make the economy get full stability and prosperity, says Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury. "The country's economy will need two years from where it stands now. After that, the economy will stabilise and fully turn around in the fourth and fifth years." He came up with the optimism a day after presenting in parliament an upscale Tk 9.38-trillion national budget replete in projected upgraded macroeconomic parameters and a wide recipe of reforms to get to the goal. At a post-budget press conference held Friday in Dhaka, the finance and planning minister highlighted government intent to reform the country's public-finance architecture and explore alternative sources of funding to lower borrowing from banking sector.	13 June 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/economy-to-attain-full-stability-and-prosperity-after-two-years-1781287785?date=13-06-2026)	
10	BUDGET REACTIONS **MCCI terms Tk 6.95t revenue target ambitious** **Flags concern over its achievability** The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) termed the revenue target of Tk 6.95 trillion in the proposed Tk 9.38 trillion national budget for the coming FY'27 as ambitious and expressed concern over its achievability. One of the country's oldest chambers, the MCCI thinks that formulating this budget is both an important and challenging responsibility in the context of persistent inflationary pressure, global geopolitical uncertainties, sluggish investment, high interest rates, limited employment opportunities, and challenges in revenue mobilisation. A revenue collection target of Tk 6.95 trillion has been set for the FY 2026-2027, which is 18.20 per cent higher than the revised target for the current fiscal year. Of this amount, Tk 6.04 trillion has been assigned to the National Board of Revenue (NBR), representing an increase of 20.08 per cent over the revised target. The MCCI, in post-budget reaction, considered this target ambitious and expressed concern regarding its achievability.	13 June 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/mcci-terms-tk-695t-revenue-target-ambitious-1781288027?date=13-06-2026)	
11	**Biz licences will be issued in seven days, says Khosru** **Task force to monitor compliance** Business licences and regulatory approvals will be issued within seven days under a new government initiative, while a dedicated task force will oversee implementation and monitor compliance by agencies, Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury has said. He also stressed the need for a fundamental shift in Bangladesh's financial architecture, saying large-scale investments should increasingly rely on the capital market rather than traditional sources such as banks and the government exchequer. Describing the measures as a cornerstone of the government's deregulation agenda, the finance minister made the remarks on Saturday at the second session of the "Roadmap for Trade, Growth and Economic Diplomacy Conference 2026: Navigating Risks, Leveraging Resilience". The conference was jointly organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) at Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon in the capital.	14 June 2026	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/biz-licences-will-be-issued-in-seven-days-says-khosru-1781370532?date=14-06-2026)	

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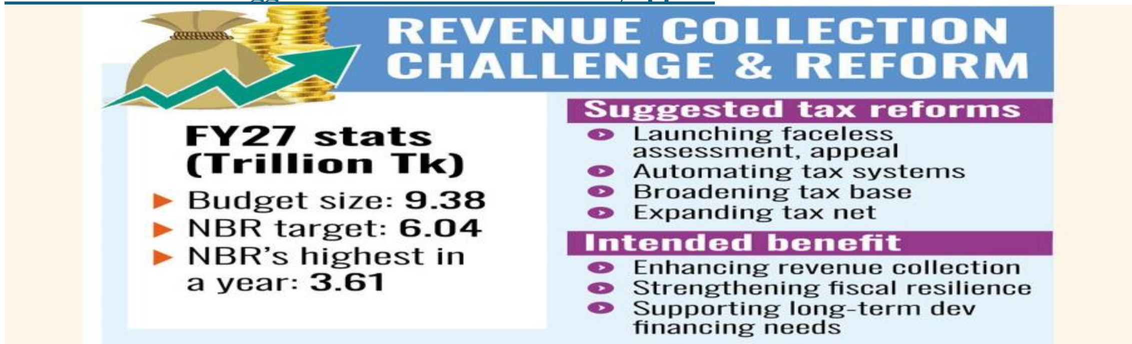
12	**A landmark dev in taxing** **Individual taxpayers to get refund of amount paid in excess of due** Individual taxpayers will receive refund of the amount paid in excess of due taxes within 60 days of the processing of their tax returns. The refund will be made under a landmark provision proposed in the Finance Bill 2026 accompanying the new budget. The refunded amount will be transferred directly into taxpayers' bank accounts electronically, marking a significant shift towards a more taxpayer-friendly and transparent tax-administration system. Tax experts have described the move as a paradigm shift that could help ensure tax justice and strengthen public confidence in the country's revenue-collection framework.	**14 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/individual-taxpayers-to-get-refund-of-amount-paid-in-excess-of-due-1781370467)	
13	**Supporting long-term dev financing needs** **Finance Division suggests faceless tax assessment, appeal**  The Finance Division has suggested a gradual introduction of faceless assessments and appeal systems for tax files to lower human discretion in order to enhance revenue collection. It would also help improve taxpayers' trust and strengthen voluntary compliance with the tax payment system, finance officials said in the Medium-Term Macroeconomic Policy Statement (MTMPS) released on Thursday.	**15 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/finance-division-suggests-faceless-tax-assessment-appeal-1781461811)	
14	**Finance Bill 2026** **NBR may scrutinise decades-old expenditures** Tax officials will be able to investigate undisclosed expenditures of individual taxpayers from any period in the past, even decades old, under a new provision proposed in the Finance Bill 2026. The move marks a significant departure from the existing tax framework, which generally prevents the reopening of tax files beyond six corresponding tax years. Individual taxpayers are also required to preserve income and expenditure records for only five years. Tax experts and business leaders fear the proposed measure could substantially expand the discretionary powers of tax officials and expose compliant taxpayers to harassment. Under the proposed provision, if tax authorities discover unexplained income, expenditure or assets that fall outside the six-year assessment window, the amount may be deemed to have arisen in the oldest year still open for assessment and taxed accordingly.	**16 June 2026**	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/nbr-may-scrutinise-decades-old-expenditures-1781547452?date=16-06-2026)	

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15	**BB eases forex rules for online exports** Bangladesh Bank has relaxed foreign-exchange regulations to support business-to-consumer (B2C) export, enabling local exporters to sell products directly to overseas buyers through globally recognised online marketplaces and e-commerce platforms. Under the new regulations, Bangladeshi exporters are now allowed to list and display their products on international online marketplaces and digital platforms accessible to foreign consumers. Exporters will be permitted to undertake small-value exports of up to US$5,000 per transaction on a Cost and Freight (CFR) basis, according to a notification issued by the Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Monday. The central bank has also waived the requirement for an Export (EXP) Form for shipments valued at up to US$1,000, provided that full payment is received in advance through banking channels or authorised digital payment systems.	16 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bb-eases-forex-rules-for-online-exports-1781547918?date=16-06-2026)	
16	**Pvt sector credit growth nears 5pc** Private sector credit growth in Bangladesh edged up to 4.98 per cent in May from 4.72 per cent in March, but remained near a record low, reflecting continued weakness in business investment and bank lending. Bangladesh Bank data showed that private sector credit growth stood at 6.1 per cent in December and 6.03 per cent in both January and February before falling to 4.72 per cent in March, the lowest level since the central bank began compiling the data in 2003. Although lending recovered slightly in May, the growth rate remained less than half of the 10.13 per cent recorded in July 2024, before political and economic uncertainty triggered a prolonged slowdown in private sector borrowing.	16 June 2026	**New Age** (https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/302893/pvt-sector-credit-growth-nears-5pc)	
17	**April sees highest import in 3.5 yrs** Bangladeshi businesses and entrepreneurs have imported goods worth $7.07 billion in April, marking a 21.4 per cent rise year-on-year and the highest monthly total in three and a half years, reports bdnews24.com. Economists, bankers, and business leaders view the rise in imports following the formation of the new government as a positive sign for the economy. They say political stability has begun to return after the election, restoring the confidence of businesses and entrepreneurs. As a result, imports of capital machinery and other goods have started to increase. An analysis of Bangladesh Bank data shows that imports reached $7.59 billion in November 2022. Since then, no month had recorded imports exceeding $7 billion. Except for a few months, monthly import spending mostly remained between $5 billion and $6 billion. Imports amounted to $5.83 billion in March, but jumped sharply to more than $7 billion in April. During the first 10 months of fiscal year 2025-26 (July-April), Bangladesh imported goods worth $61.62 billion, which was 5.92 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year. Bangladesh Bank data show that imports of capital machinery, one of the key drivers of investment growth, increased by 12.5 per cent during the July-April period.	17 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/april-sees-highest-import-in-35-yrs-1781633240?date=17-06-2026)	

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18	**[Bangladesh eyes $100m from Orange Climate Fund for growth, employment]** Bangladesh could attract up to $100 million in investment through a proposed Orange Climate Fund as policymakers, investors and market leaders push for the development of a stronger, inclusive financial ecosystem to support sustainable and climate-resilient economic growth. The investment prospect emerged at the Orange Economy Summit 2026 held in the capital on Tuesday, where stakeholders highlighted the growing role of innovative financing instruments and impact investment in mobilising long-term capital for Bangladesh's development priorities. The summit, jointly organised by the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), Impact Investment Exchange (IIX) and the Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh (PRI), focused on building Bangladesh's Orange Capital Ecosystem, expanding inclusive finance and attracting global capital to support the country's economic transformation, according to a press release.	17 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bangladesh-eyes-100m-from-orange-climate-fund-for-growth-employment-1781628157?date=17-06-2026)	
19	**[Tax-GDP ratio can be raised to 10pc in 5yrs, PM tells JS]** **He outlines measures** Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has outlined package measures aimed at raising Bangladesh's lowly tax-to-GDP ratio up to 10 per cent in next five years. The dos he lists include stronger legal action against tax-dodging, expanded digitisation of tax administration and gradual rationalisation of tax exemptions. He also expresses confidence that the country would be able to raise its tax-GDP ratio to 15 per cent by 2035. The prime minister disclosed the plans in a written reply to a question from Md. Abdullah, Member of Parliament from Munshiganj-1, during the ninth sitting of the second session of the 13th Jatiya Sangsad on Wednesday. The response was tabled in parliament.	18 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tax-gdp-ratio-can-be-raised-to-10pc-in-5yrs-pm-tells-js-1781719083)	
20	**[Budget bears deregulation roadmap to ease businesses' burdens]** **PM's adviser Titumir says amid critical views on budgetary measures** Government policymakers are pursuing a "new model" centred on inclusive investment, says Prime Minister's Adviser on Finance and Planning Dr Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir amid critical views on the new budget. He hopes this government strategy, backed by stipulated recovery measures, will help in overcoming the current economic challenges facing the country. "Investment first, investment for all, and an economy for all - this is the model we must move towards," he told a post-budget review meet held Wednesday in Dhaka. He also highlights a three-pronged revenue-management strategy based on "recovery, restoration and restructuring", saying that the approach would help revitalise the economy and strengthen public finances. Dr Titumir made the remarks at the budget discussion jointly organised by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), local think-tank Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh (PRI) and Standard Chartered Bank at Gulshan in the capital.	18 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/budget-bears-deregulation-roadmap-to-ease-businesses-burdens-1781719229)	

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21	**Govt clears path for first free trade zones** Bangladesh is planning to establish its first free trade zones (FTZs), with the government positioning the initiative as a transformative trade strategy that could slash export lead times, attract foreign suppliers and turn the country into a regional logistics hub. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs yesterday gave in-principle approval to the establishment of FTZs near the Matarbari deep-sea port in Cox's Bazar and in Anwara, near Chattogram Port, Cabinet Secretary Md Nasimul Gani said. According to officials familiar with the matter, the zones will cover around 600 acres. Development of the Anwara zone is expected to begin this year. The Matarbari FTZ is slated for 2030–2033, alongside expansion of the deep-sea port.	18 June 2026	**The Daily Star** (Bangladesh First Free Trade Zones 2026 | Govt clears path for first free trade zones | The Daily Star)	
22	**এক বছরে সুইস ব্যাংকে বাংলাদেশিদের অর্থ ৪১ শতাংশ বেড়েছে** এক বছরের ব্যবধানে সুইজারল্যান্ডের ব্যাংকগুলোতে বাংলাদেশিদের জমা অর্থের পরিমাণ প্রায় ৪১ শতাংশ বেড়েছে। ২০২৫ সালের হিসাব অনুসারে, ওই দেশের ব্যাংকে বাংলাদেশিদের জমা অর্থের পরিমাণ বেড়ে দাঁড়িয়েছে ৮৩ কোটি ৪১ লাখ সুইস ফ্রাঁ (সুইজারল্যান্ডের মুদ্রা)। ২০২৪ সালে এর পরিমাণ ছিল প্রায় ৫৯ কোটি সুইস ফ্রাঁ। আজ বৃহস্পতিবার প্রকাশিত সুইজারল্যান্ডের কেন্দ্রীয় ব্যাংক সুইস ন্যাশনাল ব্যাংকের (এসএনবি) বার্ষিক প্রতিবেদনে এ তথ্য উঠে এসেছে। বাংলাদেশে সুইস ফ্রাঁর খুব একটা প্রচলন নেই। বর্তমান বাজারদর অনুসারে এক সুইস ফ্রাঁতে ১৫২ থেকে ১৫৩ টাকা পাওয়া যায়। প্রতি সুইস ফ্রাঁ ১৫২ টাকা ধরলে সুইস ব্যাংকের প্রতিবেদন অনুসারে সুইস ব্যাংকে ২০২৫ সালের শেষে বাংলাদেশিদের অর্থ জমার পরিমাণ ১২ হাজার ৬৭৮ কোটি টাকা। প্রকাশিত প্রতিবেদন অনুযায়ী, ২০২১ সালের পর গত বছরই (২০২৫ সাল) বাংলাদেশিদের সর্বোচ্চ পরিমাণ অর্থ জমা হয়েছে সুইস ব্যাংকগুলোতে। গত ১০ বছরের মধ্যে দ্বিতীয় সর্বোচ্চ অর্থ জমা ছিল ২০২৫ সালে।	18 June 2026	**Prothom Alo** (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/bank/23uhd365rm)	
23	**Dhaka 7th most polluted city in globe** Dhaka ranked seventh among the world's most polluted cities on Friday morning, recording an Air Quality Index (AQI) score of 117, reports UNB. According to AQI standards, the city's air quality was classified as 'unhealthy for sensitive groups' at 09:00 am. Indonesia's Jakarta topped the list with an AQI score of 184, while China's Beijing and Egypt's Cairo ranked second and third with scores of 160 and 142 respectively. An AQI between 151 and 200 is considered unhealthy, meaning everyone may begin to experience health effects, while members of sensitive groups could face more serious impacts. An AQI reading between 101 and 150 is considered 'unhealthy for sensitive groups', while 151-200 is classified as 'unhealthy'. Levels of 201-300 are deemed 'very unhealthy', and readings above 301 are labelled 'hazardous', posing severe health risks.	20 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/dhaka-7th-most-polluted-city-in-globe-1781893231?date=20-06-2026)	
24	**Govt to revamp GDP, inflation calculation methods** **Two panels to review key economic indicators** The government is set to overhaul the methodology used to compile key macroeconomic indicators, including the consumer price index (CPI), inflation, wage rate index and gross domestic product (GDP), in a bid to make official statistics more accurate, realistic and aligned with international standards. As part of the initiative, two expert technical committees will be formed to review existing methodologies and recommend reforms. The government will also reassess previously published economic data of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) to identify any inconsistencies.	21 June 2026	**The Financial Express** (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-to-revamp-gdp-inflation-calculation-methods-1781977400)	