

### Economy

#### Govt's debt burden crosses BDT 22,000bn (USD 180bn)

May 05, 2026

- Bangladesh's total public debt burden has crossed BDT 22,000bn (USD 180bn) by December 2025 with a growing reliance on domestic sources as the government looks to "insulate the economy from foreign currency risks".
- Of the total debt, BDT 3,000bn (USD 24.6bn) was borrowed during the interim government period, according to the finance ministry's latest quarterly bulletin.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govts-debt-burden-crosses-BDT-22-lakh-crore-4167671>

#### Govt to launch broad-based drive for netting larger NTR, non-NBR revenues

May 05, 2026

- The government launches a broad-based drive to augment revenue receipts outside the NBR purview with a target of netting BDT 910bn (USD 7.5bn) for the forthcoming fiscal year, as a bigger budget is imminent. Official count shows the amount for the fiscal 2026-27 is 39.5pc higher from that of the outgoing fiscal year's target.
- Of the total sum, the Finance Division is set to fix a non-tax revenue target of BDT 660bn (USD 5.4bn), up from BDT 460bn (USD 3.8bn) in the current fiscal year, 2025-26, while the target for non-NBR taxes is expected to be raised to BDT 250bn (USD 2.05bn) from BDT 190bn (USD 1.6bn).

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/govt-to-launch-broad-based-drive-for-netting-larger-ntr-non-nbr-revenues>

### Banking

#### T-bill yields mixed

May 05, 2026

- Yields on treasury bills showed a mixed trend on Sunday, reflecting banks' growing preference for shorter-term government securities as they navigate excess liquidity and weak private sector credit demand
- The cut-off yield on 91-day T-bills remained unchanged at 10.17pc on the day, according to the auction results. In contrast, the yield on 182-day T-bills edged up to 10.50pc from 10.49pc, while the rate on 364-day T-bills rose to 10.69pc from 10.64pc.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/t-bill-yields-mixed>

### Trade and Commerce

#### USTR high-ups to visit Bangladesh to discuss trade deal

May 05, 2026

- A delegation of US trade representatives, led by Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia Brendan Lynch, will travel to Dhaka from May 5-7 to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral relations on trade and investment.
- The United States looks forward to partnering on the implementation of the US-Bangladesh Agreement on Reciprocal Trade, which aims to enhance economic growth in both countries by improving market access, removing barriers to investment, and boosting commercial opportunities, according to a statement.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/ustr-high-ups-visit-bangladesh-discuss-trade-deal-4167396>

#### Apparel makers to seek clarity on US cotton tariff deal

May 05, 2026

- Bangladeshi garment exporters will today ask visiting US trade officials in Dhaka to clarify how a promised zero reciprocal tariff will apply to apparel made with American cotton and other US textile inputs.
- The provision is included in the US-Bangladesh Agreement on Reciprocal Trade signed in February this year, but exporters say they have yet to benefit from it.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/apparel-makers-seek-clarity-us-cotton-tariff-deal-4167686>

### Corporate

#### UCB profit jumps on strong investment income despite margin pressure

May 05, 2026

- United Commercial Bank (UCB) secured a whopping 198pc year-on-year increase in consolidated profit to BDT 238mn (USD 1.95mn) in 2025 as it reaped handsome returns from investment income.
- Investment earnings, including income from Treasuries, subordinated bonds, other private sector bonds, and investments, more than doubled to BDT 15.2bn (USD 0.12bn) in 2025, according to the company's latest financial statement

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/ucb-profit-jumps-on-strong-investment-income-despite-margin-pressure>

### Capital Market

#### DSE brokers urge BSEC to lift floor price on Beximco, Islami Bank

May 05, 2026

- In a letter sent to the capital market regulator on 03 May, the association of brokerage houses requested the immediate withdrawal of the floor price for the two companies.
- The letter said that due to the floor price imposed by the commission, Beximco Ltd has remained largely inactive in the stock market for a prolonged period.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-brokers-urge-bsec-lift-floor-price-beximco-islami-bank-1429116>

#### State-owned oil firms see gains; gas, industries among losers in Q3

May 05, 2026

- State-owned companies listed on the stock market delivered mixed performances in the January-March quarter of the 2025-26 fiscal year, reflecting uneven sectoral health.
- Quarterly public disclosures show energy firms, particularly oil marketing companies, remained profitable, while several entities in financial, gas and industrial sectors continued to incur losses, signaling structural weaknesses.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/state-owned-oil-firms-see-gains-gas-industries-among-losers-q3-1429681>

#### BSEC warns of legal action over lack of female independent directors

May 05, 2026

- Listed companies without a female independent director on their boards will face legal action if they fail to appoint at least one by June this year, according to a press release issued on Sunday.
- The instruction came at a meeting between representatives of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and company secretaries.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/bsec-warns-of-legal-action-over-lack-of-female-independent-directors>

#### Pharma firms resilient as profits grow strongly in July-March FY26

May 05, 2026

- Most listed drug manufacturers in Bangladesh posted double-digit year-on-year profit growth in the first nine months through March, supported

by rising demand, efficient cost management, and a stable forex market.

- Market analysts attributed the growth to higher sales volumes, improved operational efficiency, and sustained demand for medicines both domestically and in export markets.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/pharma-firms-resilient-as-profits-grow-strongly-in-july-march-fy26>

### Telecom

#### Telcos seek VAT removal on spectrum fees

May 05, 2026

- Mobile operators have called on the National Board of Revenue (NBR) to withdraw value-added tax (VAT) on spectrum and spectrum-related fees, arguing the levy contradicts global norms and undermines investment in the sector.
- In a recent letter sent to the NBR chairman, the Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh (AMTOB) described the proposed withdrawal as a vital step to rectify a fundamental misalignment in Bangladesh's VAT regime.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/telcos-seek-vat-removal-spectrum-fees-4167656>

### International

#### Mamata era ends in West Bengal as BJP storms to landslide win

May 05, 2026

- The BJP's landslide victory in West Bengal carries significance for Bangladesh, as the state shares long borders and migration featured prominently in the campaign.
- According to the Election Commission of India, the BJP won 206 of 294 seats, while the TMC trailed with 81.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/world/south-asia/mamata-era-ends-west-bengal-bjp-storms-landslide-win-1429761>

#### India resumes wheat exports after 4 years

May 05, 2026

- Indian traders have begun exporting wheat for the first time in four years, as ample stocks, higher global prices and firmer freight rates have opened a window for them to make small shipments to buyers in Asia and the Middle East, trade sources said.
- Consumer goods conglomerate ITC has started loading 22,000 metric tons of wheat at the western port of Kandla for shipment to the United Arab Emirates, sources said, declining to be identified as they were not authorized to speak to the media

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/india-resumes-wheat-exports-after-4-years-4167636>

### **Dubai airport passenger traffic falls 66pc amid war**

May 05, 2026

- Dubai airport's passenger traffic plunged by two-thirds in March following Iran's attacks on the United Arab Emirates during the Middle East war, the emirate's media office said in a statement on Monday.
- Traveller numbers at Dubai International, usually the world's busiest for international passenger traffic, sank to 2.5mn, down 66pc year on year, Dubai Media Office said.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/dubai-airport-passenger-traffic-falls-66-amid-war-4167631>

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