

### Economy

#### Export earnings fall for sixth consecutive month

February 05, 2026

- Bangladesh's export earnings declined for the sixth straight month in January, falling 4.6 percent to USD 3.85 bn, as key products including apparel, agricultural goods and leather saw weaker shipments.
- Shipments to most major destinations, including the US and EU, contracted in value, while slowing global demand and competitive pressures weighed on performance, prompting calls for urgent diversification and value-added export strategies.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/export-earnings-fall-for-sixth-consecutive-month>

#### Interim govt to delay implementation for new pay scale

February 05, 2026

- The interim government decided not to allocate funds for implementing a revised government pay scale before the election, meaning the new salary structure will not take effect in the current fiscal year as originally planned.
- Officials cited fiscal constraints and procedural timing as reasons, indicating that the pay scale update must wait until a new government is formed and funds are appropriated in the next budget cycle.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/interim-govt-leave-funds-new-pay-scale-4097616>

#### Power rate cut at state firms to save BDT 1,190mn (USD 9.8mn) a year

February 05, 2026

- The government approved cuts in purchase tariffs by 10-21 paisa per kilowatt for three state-owned power plants, which is expected to reduce annual electricity purchase costs by about BDT 1,190mn (USD 9.8mn).
- Reductions cover Ashuganj, Siddhirganj and Haripur plants, trimming purchase costs and lowering long-term tariff obligations, which will ease fiscal pressure on public utilities.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/power-rate-cut-state-firms-save-BDT-119cr-year-4098431>

#### Govt's overall borrowing soars BDT 50.1bn (USD 0.41bn) in Q1

February 05, 2026

- During the July-September quarter of the 2025-26 fiscal year (FY), the government's net borrowing from both domestic and external sources amounted to BDT 50.1bn (USD 0.41bn), a steep rise from BDT 2.5bn (USD 0.20bn) in the matching period a year earlier.
- Net borrowing from foreign sources reached Tk 26.88 billion during the first quarter compared to Tk 2.84 billion in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year, according to the quarterly public debt report of the Ministry of Finance (MoF).

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/govts-overall-borrowing-soars-BDT-501b-in-q1>

### Bank

#### BB buys USD 171mn, total purchases hit USD 4.32bn in FY2025-26

February 05, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank purchased USD 171mn from 16 commercial banks at BDT 122.30 per USD on Feb 4, part of frequent interventions that brought total dollar buys in early February to USD 389.5mn.
- Through these interventions, the central bank's FY2025-26 total purchases reached USD 4.32 bn, aiming to support exchange rate stability, rebuild reserves and absorb excess foreign currency liquidity.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bb-buys-171m-total-purchases-hit-432b-in-fy2025-26>

### Trade and Commerce

#### Bangladesh to sign first-ever EPA with Japan tomorrow

February 05, 2026

- Bangladesh and Japan will sign their first bilateral Economic Partnership Agreement tomorrow, aiming to boost two-way trade, strengthen investment ties and open new market access for goods and services between the two economies.
- The pact is expected to create fresh export opportunities for Bangladeshi products, facilitate regulatory cooperation and deepen economic collaboration, supporting diversification of export destinations and trade integration with a major advanced economy.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-sign-first-ever-epa-japan-tomorrow-4098446>

#### Chattogram Port paralysed as open-ended strike over NCT lease defies resolution

February 05, 2026

- The open-ended strike by port workers over NCT lease terms has paralysed operations at Chattogram Port, disrupting vessel loading, unloading and freight movement despite attempts by authorities to resolve the deadlock.
- Dockworkers rejected a negotiated settlement on lease conditions, prolonging stoppages that are holding up import and export traffic, increasing congestion and raising logistics costs for businesses relying on the country's main maritime gateway.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/chattogram-port-paralysed-open-ended-strike-over-nct-lease-defies-resolution-1352331>

### **BD stands to lose in EU, US mkts amid India tariff deals**

February 05, 2026

- Bangladesh faces sharper competition in the EU and US markets as India gains tariff advantages, including a reduction of US tariffs on Indian goods to 18pc from 50pc, potentially squeezing Bangladeshi exporters' market share.
- Industry insiders urge Bangladesh to secure a trade agreement with the EU, diversify products and markets and address supply-side constraints to sustain exports, as India's preferential access could weaken Bangladesh's competitiveness.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bd-stands-to-lose-in-eu-us-mkts-amid-india-tariff-deals>

### **Unload goods in 3 days or face action: shipping adviser to lighter vessels**

February 05, 2026

- Bangladesh Food Safety Authority tested 1,713 food samples in FY25 and found 571 unsafe, with 33.3pc showing adulteration, contamination or low nutritional content, up from 15.4pc in FY24 and 8.5pc in FY23.
- High-risk findings included 65pc of chips containing acrylamide, along with substandard edible oils and adulterated mustard oil, prompting expanded surveillance, accredited lab testing and a new public results database.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/unload-goods-3-days-or-face-action-shipping-adviser-lighter-vessels-4098116>

## Corporate

### **Zero interest, zero fees: Krishi Bank launches shariah-style FDR**

February 05, 2026

- Krishi Bank launched the Shariah-style FDR with a minimum tenure of 1 year and a maximum of 5 years, offering returns based on profit sharing rather than interest.

- The bank's authorised capital for the product rollout is BDT 4,000mn (USD 32.8mn), and the product is available with no fees on early closure, aiming to attract both retail and SME depositors.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/zero-interest-zero-fees-krishi-bank-launches-shariah-style-fdr-1352356>

### **Akij Resources set to enter electronics retailing**

February 05, 2026

- Akij Resources plans to enter the electronics retail business by opening around 30 stores this year and expanding its consumer brand portfolio beyond existing sectors.
- The company aims to leverage its distribution network and marketing capacity to capture market share in appliances and gadgets, targeting both urban and regional customers.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/akij-resources-set-enter-electronics-retailing-4098411>

## International

### **India settles for least bad option on US trade**

February 05, 2026

- India agreed to a settlement with the United States on trade issues, choosing what negotiations described as the least unfavorable option to avert escalating tariffs and protect key export sectors from higher levies.
- The deal reflects India's strategic compromise to maintain export access to the US market amid broader trade tensions, aiming to safeguard shipments in labor-intensive and agricultural industries while addressing some US concerns.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/india-settles-least-bad-option-us-trade-4098406>

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