

Economy

Govt to seal US trade deal tomorrow to reduce tariff

February 08, 2026

- Bangladesh is scheduled to sign a trade agreement with the United States tomorrow aimed at reducing reciprocal tariffs, with commitments to import more American goods to narrow a trade imbalance heavily favoring Bangladesh.
- Under the proposed agreement, the US will not levy tariffs on garment items made from American raw materials such as cotton and exported to American markets, according to Commerce Secretary Mahbubur Rahman.
- Besides, the Donald Trump administration will also reduce the reciprocal tariff rate further for Bangladesh as at least two advisers of the interim government said recently along with Secretary Rahman on several occasions. However, they did not say exactly what percentage of the reciprocal tariff may be reduced for Bangladesh.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-seal-us-trade-deal-tomorrow-reduce-tariff-4100516>

Bank

Govt cuts source tax on savings certificates for small investors

February 08, 2026

- The government has reduced the tax deducted at source (TDS) on profits from savings certificates, commonly known as Sanchaypatra, to 5pc from 10pc for investments of up to BDT 500,000 (USD 4,098), officials said.
- National Board of Revenue (NBR) issued a clarification after receiving complaints from investors who alleged that banks and savings offices were deducting 10pc tax on profits even for smaller investments.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/565270>

Bangladesh Bank buys another USD 196mn from commercial banks

February 08, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank purchased USD 196.5mn from 16 commercial banks on 5 February, continuing its efforts to stabilise the foreign exchange market and support remittances and exports.
- He said the transaction, conducted at a cut-off rate of BDT 122.30, brings the central bank's total dollar purchases for February to USD 586mn.
- Since July, Bangladesh Bank has bought over USD 4.5bn from commercial banks through similar

auctions, injecting an equivalent amount of taka into the banking system and strengthening foreign exchange reserves.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-bank-buys-another-196m-commercial-banks-1352906>

Trade and Commerce

Six new rice varieties approved for nationwide cultivation

February 08, 2026

- The Ministry of Agriculture has approved six new rice varieties, including two hybrids, for nationwide cultivation, aiming to boost production and strengthen food security for a growing population.
- With the approval, the total number of rice varieties developed by the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) rises to 127, according to a press release

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/six-new-rice-varieties-approved-nationwide-cultivation-4100541>

UK's trade preference shift offers Bangladesh rare post-LDC relief

February 08, 2026

- Changes under the UK's Developing Countries Trading Scheme will allow Bangladesh to continue exporting apparel to the UK duty-free after LDC graduation, with single-stage transformation retained, allowing garments made from imported fabric to qualify for preferences.
- The UK accounts for about 10pc of Bangladesh's exports, with apparel exports of USD 3.3bn in 2024, and policy estimates suggest the change could prevent export losses of USD 283mn to USD 350mn and help safeguard around 100,000 jobs.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/uk-s-trade-preference-shift-offers-bangladesh-rare-post-ldc-relief-4100531>

EuroCham urges urgent resumption of Ctg port operations

February 08, 2026

- European Union Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh urged immediate resumption of operations at Chattogram port, warning that disruptions are affecting export shipments and supply chain reliability.
- The port handles over 90pc of Bangladesh's international trade, and the disruption has left export goods worth USD 660mn stuck in about

13,000 containers, affecting shipments sourced by major European buyers.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/eurocham-urges-urgent-resumption-ctg-port-operations-4100546>

Gold price cut by BDT 3,266 (USD 26.8) per bhori

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- Bangladesh Jewellers Association (BAJUS) have reduced the price of gold by BDT 3,266 (USD 26.8) to BDT 258,824 (USD 2,121.5) per bhori following a decline in the local market price of pure gold.
- The decision was taken at a meeting of Standing Committee on Pricing and Price Monitoring of BAJUS held on Saturday evening

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/565299>

Allergy drugs emerge as Bangladesh's fastest-growing pharma category

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- Sales of prescription allergy drugs have surged more than any other types of medicine since the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Revenues from these drugs climbed to around BDT 12bn (USD 98mn) in the first nine months of last year, a 72pc rise from the same period of 2021, according to IQVIA

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/allergy-drugs-emerge-bangladesh's-fastest-growing-pharma-category-4100501>

Corporate

RAK Ceramics' loss widens sharply in 2025

February 08, 2026

- RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Ltd reported a sharp rise in net loss for the year ended December 31, 2025, as higher finance costs eroded profitability despite double-digit revenue growth.
- The ceramic tiles manufacturer posted a net loss of BDT 396mn (USD 3.2mn) in 2025, up significantly from BDT 27.3mn (USD 0.22mn) a year earlier, according to a price-sensitive information (PSI) disclosure

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rak-ceramics-loss-widens-sharply-2025-4098856>

ShopUp enters Saudi market with Makkah Municipality JV

February 08, 2026

- ShopUp, a business-to-business commerce platform, yesterday announced a landmark expansion of its global footprint through a strategic partnership between its Saudi-based

brand, Sary, and Al-Balad Al-Amin Technologies, the investment arm of the Holy Makkah Municipality.

- The partnership establishes a new joint venture dedicated to activating a unified digital platform designed to organize and stabilize food supply chains within the city of Makkah, according to a press release

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/shopup-enters-saudi-market-makkah-municipality-jv-4100581>

International

US, India unveil interim trade framework

February 08, 2026

- The United States and India moved closer to a trade pact on Friday, releasing an interim framework that would lower tariffs, reshape energy ties and deepen economic cooperation as both countries seek to realign global supply chains.
- The framework reaffirms a commitment to negotiations toward a broader bilateral trade agreement, the two governments said in a joint statement, while noting that further negotiations were needed to complete the pact

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/us-india-unveil-interim-trade-framework-4100536>

Google's annual revenue tops USD 400bn for first time

February 08, 2026

- Google parent Alphabet on Wednesday reported blockbuster earnings, its revenue climbing as it invests massively in cloud computing services enhanced with artificial intelligence.
- The tech giant said revenue jumped 18pc year-on-year in the quarter, and overall annual revenue topped USD 400bn for the first time at the company founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin in 1998

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/googles-annual-revenue-tops-400b-first-time-4099251>

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