

### Economy

#### Foreign reserves rise to USD 35.31bn

February 26, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Wednesday has announced that the gross foreign exchange reserves have climbed to 35.31bn US dollars, marking a significant recovery driven by robust remittance inflows and sustained dollar purchases from commercial banks.
- BB Executive Director and Spokesperson Arif Hossain Khan confirmed the figures, stating that as of February 25, gross reserves stood at 35,031.45mn dollars

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/567651>

#### Cost of 65 dev projects ramped up by BDT 798.3bn (USD 6.5bn)

February 26, 2026

- Costs of 65 projects have been ramped up by BDT 798.3bn (USD 6.5bn) in apparent prodigal reappraisals of the development schemes by the just-gone interim government during its one-and-a-half-year tenure, sources say.
- The projects, originally undertaken at a combined cost of BDT 2,240bn (USD 18.4bn), were revised to BDT 3,040 (USD 24.9bn), marking an overall cost escalation of 35.6pc.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/cost-of-65-dev-projects-ramped-up-by-BDT-79834b>

### Banking

#### NFAs surpass 34mn with deposits exceeding BDT 72.6bn (USD 0.60bn)

February 26, 2026

- Bangladesh's financial inclusion drive gathered further momentum in the December 2025 quarter, with no-frill accounts (NFAs) surpassing 34mn and deposits climbing above BDT 72.6bn (USD 0.60bn), according to the latest data from Bangladesh Bank (BB).
- The number of NFAs, low-cost accounts that can be opened with BDT 10, BDT 50 or BDT 100, stood at 34.2mn (USD 0.28mn) at the end of December 2025.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/nfas-surpass-34m-with-deposits-exceeding-BDT-726b>

### Trade and Commerce

#### Govt seeks Chinese investment in closed fertilizer factories and jute mills

February 26, 2026

- At the meeting, the government formally sought Chinese investment in several closed fertilizer factories struggling with prolonged gas shortages.
- The commerce minister said Bangladesh has six fertilizer plants whose production has been repeatedly disrupted due to inadequate gas supply.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-seeks-chinese-investment-closed-fertiliser-factories-and-jute-mills-1371311>

#### BTMA seeks clarity to operationalize US-Bangladesh zero-tariff textile deal

February 26, 2026

- In a letter to Dr Gary Adams, president and CEO of the National Cotton Council of America, on 18 February, BTMA said the 9 February agreement provides conditional zero reciprocal tariff access for textile and apparel exports to the US, linked to imports of US raw cotton and man-made fibre.
- BTMA, which represents 1,873 mills with cumulative investments exceeding USD 23bn, said US cotton accounted for around 10pc of Bangladesh's total cotton imports in 2025

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/btma-seeks-clarity-operationalise-us-bangladesh-zero-tariff-textile-deal-1371021>

### Corporate

#### Mitsui Co. Asia Pacific signs strategic partnership with ACI Logistics (Shwapno)

February 26, 2026

- Mitsui & Co. Ltd., one of Japan's leading global trading and investment companies, has agreed to partner with ACI Logistics Limited (ACIL) by providing a foreign currency-denominated convertible loan to ACIL, in accordance with the relevant regulatory approvals through its Singapore-based subsidiary Mitsui Co.
- The partnership will be implemented through a structured convertible loan facility. ACIL, a subsidiary of ACI PLC (Head Office: Bangladesh), operates "Shwapno," the largest grocery retail chain in Bangladesh, with over 836 stores nationwide.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/mitsui-co-asia-pacific-signs-strategic-partnership-with-aci-logistics-shwapno>

### Capital Market

#### Probe launched into Associated Oxygen's alleged IPO malpractices

February 26, 2026

- The market regulator has begun an investigation into Associated Oxygen over alleged irregularities in its initial public offering (IPO) application.
- A group led by Kazi Saifur Rahman of NRB Equity Management and controversial ex-NBR official Matiur Rahman had reportedly committed serious fraud, involving the issuance of placement shares and forged signatures in the prospectus to bring the company to the secondary market.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/probe-launched-into-associated-oxygens-alleged-ipo-malpractices>

### **CDBL to apply for custodian license to strengthen MF oversight**

February 26, 2026

- The Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd. (CDBL) is set to take on the role of custodian of mutual funds (MFs) in a move aimed at expanding its portfolio and playing a supportive role in the MF industry.
- The company, which has so far provided only depository services, will apply for the license required for the new role within a week, sources at the organization said.
- The development comes at a time when MF custodians are facing heavy criticism for their failure to prevent scams in fund management and when CDBL is experiencing shrinking income amid a bearish secondary market.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/cdbl-to-apply-for-custodian-licence-to-strengthen-mf-oversight>

### **International**

#### **Germany wants deeper, fairer economic cooperation with China, Merz tells Chinese Premier Li**

February 26, 2026

- Merz told Li that Germany attached great importance to maintaining and deepening its intensive economic exchanges with China, its largest trading partner last year, while emphasizing the need to ensure fair cooperation and open communication.
- "We have very specific concerns regarding our cooperation, which we want to improve and make fair," said Merz, who faces a tough balancing act of redefining an economic relationship that is increasingly unfavorable to German interests

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/world/germany-wants-deeper-fairer-economic-cooperation-china-chancellor-merz-tells-chinese-premier>

#### **EU seeks early measures to remove NTBs**

February 26, 2026

- The European Union (EU) has sought quick measures to remove non-tariff barriers (NTBs), promoting business confidence and ensuring non-discrimination.
- "We look for early measures to remove NTBs, promote business confidence, and ensure non-discrimination," said the EU Embassy on Wednesday

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/eu-seeks-early-measures-to-remove-ntbs>

#### **Iran nears deal to buy supersonic anti-ship missiles from China**

February 25, 2026

- The deal for the Chinese-made CM-302 missiles is near completion, though no delivery date has been agreed, the people said.
- The supersonic missiles have a range of about 290 kilometres and are designed to evade shipborne defenses by flying low and fast

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/world/iran-nears-deal-buy-supersonic-anti-ship-missiles-china-1370101>

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