

**MONTHLY BULLETIN** 



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#### **World Bank's Economic Outlook**

- ➤ GDP: **4%** in FY25, recovering to **5.5%** in FY26
- ➤ Inflation: **9**% in FY25, **7.5**% in FY26; driven by food & energy costs
- Fiscal: Deficit at **4.3%** of GDP, current account deficit improved
- ➤ Reforms Needed: Governance, employment, financial stability ¹

#### **European Investment Bank's Commitment**

- ➤ **€2 Billion** pledged for reforms, infrastructure, and green energy
- Emphasized human rights, democracy, and rule of law
- Economic growth fell to 1.8% amid turmoil
- Supports regional energy integration <sup>2</sup>







#### Bangladesh Seeks BDT 36.96 Billion AllB Loan for CMSMEs

- Bangladesh plans to borrow BDT 36.96 billion financing, with repayment over 20 years.
- The central bank favors RMB due to lower interest rates (2.78%) compared to USD (6.43%) and Euro (4.06%) 3

#### Govt Revenue Shortfall May Hit BDT 1.05 Trillion

Revenue Growth: Only 4.4% (Jul-Dec FY25), target unreachable

#### CPD Proposals:

- Tax Reforms: Raise tax-free income to BDT 4L, highest rate to 30%
- $\triangleright$  VAT Cut: Reduce 15%  $\rightarrow$  10% to curb evasion
- > SME Boost: Expand bonded-warehouse benefits

#### **Economic Concerns:**

- > Fiscal deficit 4x higher, GDP growth below **5.5%**
- Higher export tariffs post-2026, rising foreign borrowing costs 4





# **VENTURE CAPITAL**

#### Bangladesh Edtech Market

- > 300+ edtech companies, led by 10 Minutes School & Shikho in K-12
- > USD 6 million raised in 2022
- > BYJU's collapse made investors cautious
- ➤ New comers like **Keeron** focuses on community-based learning
- Startups must prove ROI & sustainability to secure funding 5

#### Anchorless Bangladesh: Startup Growth Partner

- > Funded Loop Freight (USD 600K) & Gaze AI (USD 830K)
- ➤ Bangladesh's startup ecosystem could add **2**% to GDP by 2025
- > Targets Seed to Series B startups with tech-driven scalability
- Supports regional expansion & collaboration 6

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# **CAPITAL MARKET**

#### **Prime Bank Dividend Announcement**

- > 20% Dividend Declared 17.50% cash & 2.50% stock for 2024
- 54% NPAT Growth BDT 745 crore in 2024 vs. BDT 484 crore in 2023
- **EPS** at **BDT 6.58**, NAV per share BDT 34.27, NOCFPS BDT 3.06
- Total Assets BDT 54,812 crore, CRAR at 17.37% 7

#### Linde Bangladesh Declares 4500% Cash Dividend

- ➤ **Dividend Breakdown**: 400% final cash dividend + 4,100% interim dividend
- **EPS Surge**: BDT 421.94 in 2024 vs. BDT 15.02 in 2023
- > NAV Per Share: BDT 229.34 (down from BDT 371.27 in 2023)
- Capital Gains: BDT 600 crore earned from divesting Linde Industries Pvt Ltd
- ➤ Share Price Impact: Dropped 3.01% to BDT 1,041.60 on DSE
- Ownership: 60% held by sponsor-directors, 40% by general investors 8



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# **CAPITAL MARKET**

#### BDT 28 Crore Scam in BSEC's RIS Project

- > ACC & BSEC uncovered **BDT 28 crore** irregularities in the RIS project
- Completion report lacked BSEC chairman's signature
- ACC probe found RIS software not installed
- Project director Saifur Rahman forced into retirement 9

#### Square Pharma Chairman to Buy Over BDT 32 Crore Shares

- > Samuel S Chowdhury plans to acquire shares worth **BDT 32 crore**
- Follows similar purchases by sponsor directors Tapan & Anjan Chowdhury
- > Samuel's stake to rise from 9.32% to 9.49%
- Square Pharma's Q2 net profit rose 26% YoY to BDT 660 Crore 10



# **BANK AND NBFI**

#### Bank Deposits Recover, Inflation Drops

- ➤ Bank deposits grew 8.28% in January to BDT 17.81T, signaling recovery
- ➤ **Inflation** dropped to 9.32% in February from 9.94% in January
- ➤ Loan disbursements reached BDT 21.89T in January
- ➤ **Dollar rate** surged to BDT 122, reflecting forex pressure <sup>11</sup>

#### BB to Print BDT 2,500 Crore More

- > BDT 2,500 crore liquidity support approved for Social Islami Bank & First Security Islami Bank
- Total bailout reaches **BDT 29,910 crore** for nine struggling banks
- Economists warn of inflation risks from money printing 12





# CORPORATE

#### **MNCs' Profits Decline**

➤ Impact: 4 of 9 MNCs saw lower profits; 1 faced higher losses



Profit down 43% to BDT 51 crore



Loss widened to **BDT 54 crore** (from BDT 15 crore)



Profit slightly down to BDT 428 crore



Sales hit by lower disposable income 13

#### RFL's BDT 200 crore Factory for Global Expansion

- ➤ Investment: **BDT 200 crore** for plastic production
- Annual Exports: Expected BDT 450 crore
- ➤ Jobs: **2,500** new opportunities
- Markets: India, US, Canada, Germany, Australia, UAE, UK
- ➤ Major Order: **USD 6 million** from a US company <sup>14</sup>

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