

Following is a summary of important business news published in the leading daily newspapers of Bangladesh. For the complete news, please follow the online link given below each news. Please note that the news summary doesn't reflect the opinion of BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited.

### No demand for credit from businesses yet

- Private sector credit growth edged down in January after a slight recovery in the previous month as businesses remain cagey about making fresh investments. In January, private sector credit growth stood at 8.32%, down from 8.37% in the previous month, according to the provisional data from the central bank. The figure is 6.48% points lower than the BB's target for this fiscal year. The credit growth would not rise until March as a number of sectors, including education, are still affected by the coronavirus-induced economic slowdown, said the managing director of Dhaka Bank.
- The country's educational institutions are still shut and a number of sectors are connected with the educational activities, which is one of the reasons for the slow credit demand. The demand for credit will increase in the March-June quarter centring on Pohela Boishakh, the Bengali new year, and Eid-ul-Fitr, the two biggest festivals in Bangladesh, he added.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/economy/2021/03/01/no-demand-for-credit-from-businesses-yet>  
<https://www.newagebd.net/article/131416/pvt-sector-credit-growth-inches-down-in-jan>

### Regulator recasts three Z-category companies' boards

- The stock market regulator has reformed the boards of directors of three poorly-performing companies in a move to bring them back to business. The three are United Airways (BD), C&A Textiles and Familytex (BD) Limited. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) recently decided to restructure the three Z-category companies' boards in order to protect the interest of investors. The capital market regulator said the new boards will get four years to revive their businesses. In case of failure, they will be delisted from the stock market.
- However, the companies will not be allowed the sale, mortgage, transfer, replacement, share pledge or disposal of any assets – including FDR – without prior approval of the commission. As per the BSEC decision, the companies which have been doing trade under the "Z" category for two years or so must restructure their incumbent boards within 45 working days. Otherwise, the directors and sponsors of those business entities will not be allowed to hold the posts of director of other listed companies and market intermediaries, it added.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/stock/regulator-recasts-three-z-category-companies-boards-208930>

### World Stock and Commodities\*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	\$62.61	\$14.09	29.04%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	\$65.59	\$13.79	26.62%
Gold Spot*	\$1,746.50	(\$148.60)	-7.84%
DSEX	5,404.80	2.73	0.05%
S&P 500	3,811.15	55.08	1.47%
FTSE 100	6,483.43	22.91	0.35%
BSE SENSEX	49,099.99	1,348.66	2.82%
KSE-100	45,865.02	2,109.64	4.82%
CSEALL	7,476.34	702.12	10.36%

### Exchange Rates

USD 1 = BDT 84.72\*  
 GBP 1 = BDT 118.51\*  
 EUR 1 = BDT 102.35\*  
 INR 1 = BDT 1.15\*

\*Currencies are taken from XE Currency Converter and Commodities are taken from Bloomberg.

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