

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.

**Macro:****Revised budget may be BDT 500 Bn smaller**

- Bangladesh's national budget for fiscal year 2024-25 is likely to be reduced by more than BDT 500 Bn, with the entire cut expected to be made in funds meant for the annual development programme (ADP).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/revised-budget-may-be-tk-50000cr-smaller-3770641>

**Investment abroad hits USD 2 Bn in 6 years**

- According to data released by Bangladesh Bank (BB) recently, outbound FDI from Bangladesh in the past six years till fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 stood at USD 2.07 Bn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/investment-abroad-hits-2b-6-years-3770631>

**Business leaders call for delaying LDC graduation by 3-6 years**

- Business leaders have called for a delay of 3 to 6 years in Bangladesh's graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) status, arguing that the country will lose its global market competitiveness if the transition comes too soon.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/business-leaders-call-delaying-ldc-graduation-3-6-years-1012871>

**Bangladesh economy should be more open to escape middle-income trap: WB chief economist**

- 6 Bn people in middle-income countries are in a race against time and the external environment is making things harder, he said at the Annual BIDS Conference on Development (ABCD) 2024, organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), in Dhaka today.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-economy-should-be-more-open-escape-middle-income-trap-wb-chief-economist-1012491>

**Inflation increases in November to 11.38%**

- The inflation rate jumped to a record high at 11.38% in November, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Food inflation surged to 13.8% during the month. Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, also edged higher, reaching 9.39% in November compared to 9.34% in the previous month.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/inflation-hits-record-high-in-november>

**Sector & Industries:****FOOD & ALLIED | ADB, Meghna Group sign USD 20 Mn deal for green flour mill**

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Meghna Group of Industries have signed a USD 20 Mn loan agreement to support the construction of a greenfield, state-of-the-art, energy-efficient flour-milling plant in Bangladesh.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/trade-market/adb-meghna-group-sign-20m-deal-for-green-flour-mill-1733422342>

**FUEL & POWER | Numerous IOCs upbeat about bay gas exploration**

- "We are hoping that a good number of IOCs will submit bids for oil-and-gas exploration in the Bay of Bengal as many of them purchased bid documents and kept enquiring on it for long," a senior Petrobangla official told the FE Saturday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/numerous-iocs-upbeat-about-bay-gas-exploration-1733595909>

**BANK | Inflation eating up most bank deposit gains**

- Most bank depositors in Bangladesh see their capital-gains evaporate as high inflation continues to outstrip fixed-deposit interest, stoking concerns about the real value of their money.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/inflation-eating-up-most-bank-deposit-gains-1733506976>

**BANK | Agri loan disbursement down 21.48% in July-October**

- Agricultural loan disbursement in Bangladesh experienced a noticeable downturn during the first four months of FY25 compared to the same period of the previous fiscal year. The Bangladesh Bank (BB) data shows disbursement stood at BDT 93.91 Bn in July-October of FY25, down from BDT 119.6 Bn in the corresponding period of FY24.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/agri-loan-disbursement-down-2148pc-in-july-october-1733507244>

**BANK | Private sector credit growth dwindles amid lower demand**

- Private-sector-credit growth fell further in October 2024 mainly due to lower demand, particularly for trade financing, as uncertainty is still prevailing since August 05, bankers said. The growth came down to 8.30% in October 2024 year-on-year from 9.20% a month ago, according to the Bangladesh Bank's latest statistics.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/private-sector-credit-growth-dwindles-amid-lower-demand-1733424286>

**NBFI | 13 NBFIs spent BDT 8.3 Mn on Mujib Borsho**

- Despite the profit erosion over the years, a good number of non-banking financial institutions (NBFIs) spent a huge amount of money on celebrating 'Mujib Borsho', sources said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/13-nbfis-spent-tk-83m-on-mujib-borsho-1733596597>

**FOOD & ALLIED | BSFIC seeks BDT 2.24 Bn for payments to retirees**

- According to sources, BSFIS has pleaded with the government to provide the money from the losses that accumulated through trade gaps and subsidy at more than BDT 80 Bn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bsfic-seeks-tk-224b-for-payments-to-retirees-1733596538>

**FUEL & POWER | Uninterrupted LNG supply to cost BDT 50 Bn in state subsidy soon**

- The Petrobangla authority in a letter to the Energy and Mineral Resources Division, which was forwarded to the Finance Division late last month, estimated that the shortage of funds to import required LNG until December 30 will stand at BDT 57.82 Bn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/uninterrupted-lng-supply-to-cost-tk-50b-in-state-subsidy-soon-1733506907>

**Stocks:****IFIC | A company with a table, two chairs even got crores of loan: How IFIC was fleeced of BDT 71.29 Bn**

- Northstone Engineering Ltd got registered with the Registrar of Joint Stock Company in November 2019. Within five days it opened an account with IFIC Bank's Gulshan branch and two days later, it got a BDT 8.07 Bn sub-contract for Dohazari-Cox's Bazar rail line.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/company-table-two-chairs-even-got-crores-loan-how-ific-was-fleeced-tk7129cr-1012921>

**BEXIMCO | Govt plans to put 32 Beximco cos on sale to resolve workers' unrest**

- The interim government plans to sell ownership of 32 companies under the Beximco Group as a long-term solution to the ongoing workers' unrest over unpaid salaries and allowances.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/govt-plans-put-32-beximco-cos-sale-resolve-workers-unrest-1011521>

**SALVOCHEM | Salvo Chemical now plans to issue shares at BDT 16 each to its sponsor-directors**

- To meet regulatory requirements, Salvo Chemical Industry Ltd has revised its plan and has now decided to issue shares at BDT 16 each to its existing sponsor-directors, instead of the earlier price of BDT 10 each.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/salvo-chemical-now-plans-to-issue-shares-at-tk-16-each-to-its-sponsor-directors-1733499051>

**BSC | BSC issues tender to dispose of two old oil tankers**

- An international tender was issued yesterday to dispose of both the 37-year-old ships, which cost the corporation around BDT 200 Mn annually for maintenance and repairs to keep them operational.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bsc-issues-tender-dispose-two-old-oil-tankers-3769156>

**EXCHANGE | Hiru, allies face hefty fines this time for stock manipulation**

- Department of Cooperatives official Md Abul Khayer and his associates have been slammed with fines worth more than BDT 1.35 Bn for manipulating share prices of four listed companies.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/hiru-allies-face-hefty-fines-this-time-for-stock-manipulation-1733421828>

**Stock and Commodities\***

<b>Index Name</b>	<b>Close Value</b>	<b>Value Change YTD</b>	<b>% Change YTD</b>
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 67.20	(USD 4.45)	-6.21%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 71.12	(USD 5.92)	-7.68%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,633.37	USD 570.39	27.65%
DSEX	5,196.82	-1,049.67	-16.80%
S&P 500	6,090.30	1,320.47	27.68%
FTSE 100	8,308.61	575.37	7.44%
BSE SENSEX	81,709.12	9,468.86	13.11%
KSE-100	109,053.95	46,674.54	74.82%
CSEALL	12,003.29	1,349.13	12.66%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 119.50 BDT****1 GBP = 152.33 BDT****1 Euro = 126.36 BDT****1 INR = 1.41 BDT**

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