

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:**First week of December sees remittance increase to over USD 616 Mn**

- In a promising sign for Bangladesh's economy, expatriates sent USD 616.4 Mn in remittance during the first seven days of December, according to the latest report from the Bangladesh Bank released today (8 December).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-receives-over-616-million-remittance-first-week-dec-1013451>

Bangladesh's PMI indicates key economic sectors' expansion in Nov

- Bangladesh's Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) score in November saw an increase of 6.5 points from October to reach 62.2 points indicating expansion of key economic sectors, except construction.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladeshs-pmi-indicates-key-economic-sectors-expansion-nov-1013361>

Previous govt appointed bureaucrats as cenbank governors with ill intent: Fahmida Khatun

- Despite regulations prohibiting current or former government officials from serving as central bank governor or deputy governor, bureaucratic appointments to the position had been made by the previous government to exert undue influence, said Fahmida Khatun, executive director of Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/previous-govt-appointed-bureaucrats-bb-governors-ill-intent-fahmida-khatun-1013391>

Firms struggle to sustain profitability amid demand slump, high interest

- Businesses registered a strong profitability recovery until June this year after two turbulent years marking the Ukraine war, but a decline by roughly 18% from the previous quarter has blurred their future outlook amid a slump in demand and a jump in interest rates.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/firms-struggle-sustain-profitability-amid-demand-slump-high-interest-1013741>

Govt to slash 43% of CA's spl budget

- The interim government has decided to cut approximately 43% of the special budget allocation previously designated under deposed premier Sheikh Hasina who fled to India amid a student-mass movement.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-to-slash-43pc-of-cas-spl-budget-1733684838>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | BB goes for dollar buy to bolster reserves**

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) in a major policy shift intensifies its focus on buying more US dollars from the market to protect the country's fast-depleting foreign exchange (forex) reserves, officials and bankers have said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-goes-for-dollar-buy-to-bolster-reserves-1733684324>

BANK | BB decides against another hike in interest rates

- The review meeting of the Bangladesh Bank (BB) monetary policy committee (MPC) has decided not to increase the policy interest rate for the time being, reports UNB.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bb-decides-against-another-hike-in-interest-rates-1733685006>

BANK | SoCBs' liquidity crunch amid NPL buildup under scrutiny

- Non-performing loan (NPL) buildup in Bangladesh's banking sector and liquidity stresses in the state-owned commercial banks came up for IMF scrutiny Sunday during a review of agreed reforms, officials said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/socbs-liquidity-crunch-amid-npl-buildup-under-scrutiny-1733683985>

RMG | 40% of RMG businesses face LC opening delays: BIDS survey

- A recent survey by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) has revealed that 40% of the country's ready-made garment (RMG) businesses are grappling with delays in opening letters of credit (LC) due to a shortage of US dollars.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/40-rmg-businesses-face-lc-opening-delays-bids-survey-1013711>

RMG | Bangladesh's apparel share in US market falls by 3.33%

- Bangladesh's exports grew 11.76% in 5 months from July - November of FY2024-25 compared to the same period of the previous fiscal year. However, Bangladesh's share of apparel exports into the US market decreased by 3.33% year-on-year in the January-October period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/bangladeshs-apparel-share-us-market-falls-333-1013556>

RMG | Female workforce in garment industry slips to 53%

- The share of women working in Bangladesh's garment industry decreased over the past decade, with female participation falling to 53% in 2023 from 56% in 2014, according to a recent study.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/female-workforce-garment-industry-slips-53-3771696>

CERAMICS | Moynul Islam made president of BCMEA

- Moynul Islam, vice-chairman of Monno Ceramic Industries, has been selected as the acting president of the Bangladesh Ceramic Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BCMEA) today.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/moynul-islam-made-president-bcmea-3771431>

Stocks:**ABBANK | AB Bank MD Tarique Afzal resigns**

- Tarique Afzal, the managing director of AB Bank, has resigned from his position, citing health reasons. Afzal was on leave. He submitted his resignation letter to the bank's board of directors from Canada on Friday, and senior bank officials confirmed it to The Daily Star yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/ab-bank-md-tarique-afzal-resigns-3771686>

WALTONHIL | Walton gets BDT 3.50 Bn orders at ATS Expo

- Walton received orders worth around BDT 3.50 Bn from various local and foreign companies at the "Advanced Technology Solution-ATS Expo 2024", the country's sole industrial expo organised by tech-giant Walton.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/walton-gets-tk-350cr-orders-ats-expo-3771476>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 67.56	(USD 4.09)	-5.71%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 71.46	(USD 5.58)	-7.24%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,644.84	USD 581.86	28.20%
DSEX	5,181.83	-1,064.66	-17.04%
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 = 119.73 BDT****1 GBP = 152.58 BDT****1 Euro = 126.39 BDT****1 INR = 1.41 BDT**

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