

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:**BB expands inflation battle with rate hike**

- The central bank raised the key policy rate by 50 basis points to 10% yesterday, making borrowing costlier for the 11th consecutive time to tame inflation as spiralling prices remain a headache for the interim government.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-expands-inflation-battle-rate-hike-3734011>

Now IMF slashes Bangladesh's economic growth forecast to 4.5%

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has joined the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in slashing its economic growth forecast for Bangladesh, now projecting a 4.5% growth for the current fiscal year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/now-imf-slashes-bangladeshs-economic-growth-forecast-45-973376>

Revenue receipts fall 6% in Jul-Sep

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) logged BDT 709.03 Bn in the July-September period of fiscal year (FY) 2024-25, missing its target for the three months by around BDT 255.97 Bn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/revenue-receipts-fall-6-jul-sep-3734111>

Sector & Industries:**RMG | EU apparel imports drop 3.63%; Bangladesh's exports fall by 3.53%**

Total imports dropped from USD 61.56 Bn to USD 59.32 Bn. Bangladesh, one of the leading apparel suppliers to the EU, experienced a 3.53% decrease in exports, with the value of shipments falling to USD 12.91 Bn during this period, according to BGMEA.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/eu-apparel-imports-drop-363-bangladeshs-exports-fall-353-973126>

Stocks:**SQUARETEXT | Square Textile declares 32% cash dividend for FY24**

- Square Textile PLC has recommended a 32% cash dividend for its shareholders for the fiscal year 2023-24, surpassing last fiscal's 30% payout. The decision was made during the company's board meeting held today, where an additional BDT 350 Mn investment for balancing, modernisation, rehabilitation, and expansion (BMRE) was also approved.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/square-textile-declares-32-cash-dividend-fy24-973561>

SIPLC | Sena Insurance's profit declines 17% in Q3

- Sena Insurance PLC (SIPLC) reported a BDT 38.8 Mn profit for July-September 2024. The company's earnings per share (EPS) dropped to BDT 0.97 for the quarter, compared to BDT 1.18 a year earlier.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/sena-insurances-profit-declines-17-q3-3733606>

HEIDELBCEM | Heidelberg sees loss in Q3 on lower sales

- Heidelberg Materials Bangladesh, a multinational cement maker, reported a loss of BDT 7.96 Mn for the third quarter (Q3) this year due to decreased sales volume amid an economic slowdown.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/heidelberg-sees-loss-in-q3-on-lower-sales-1729619940>

SINGERBD | Singer sustains losses in Q3 as political crisis, floods weigh

- Singer Bangladesh suffered a net loss of BDT 185 Mn in the third quarter (July-September) of this year, due mainly to lower than expected sales amid recent political crisis and devastating floods. Subsequently, the earnings per share (EPS) stood at negative BDT 1.86 for July-September quarter, as against BDT 0.88 per share in the same quarter of the previous year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/singer-sustains-losses-in-q3-as-political-crisis-floods-weigh-1729619999>

BSRMLTD | BSRM Limited's revenue drops 27% in FY24

- However, its profit jumped by 48% to BDT 4.32 Bn during the last fiscal year, compared to the previous year. Its earnings per share stood at BDT 14.48, while net asset value per share of BDT 150.06.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsrm-limiteds-revenue-drops-27-fy24-973581>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 72.09	USD 0.44	0.61%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 75.90	(USD 1.14)	-1.48%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,740.15	USD 677.17	32.82%
DSEX	5,241.77	-1,004.72	-16.08%
S&P 500	5,851.20	1,081.37	22.67%
FTSE 100	8,306.54	573.30	7.41%
BSE SENSEX	80,220.72	7,980.46	11.05%
KSE-100	86,466.58	24,087.17	38.61%
CSEALL	12,003.29	1,349.13	12.66%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 119.62 BDT****1 GBP = 155.37 BDT****1 Euro = 129.24 BDT****1 INR = 1.42 BDT**

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