

*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:****Moody's downgrade doesn't reflect economic progress since July upsurge: Cenbank**

- Bangladesh Bank has discounted the Moody's recent downgrade of Bangladesh's sovereign credit rating, arguing it does not accurately reflect the significant political and economic progress made since July 2024, according to a press release issued on Thursday (21 November).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/moodys-downgrade-doesnt-reflect-economic-progress-july-upsurge-cenbank-999741>

**Credit line cuts by foreign banks, rising LC confirmation charges add to inflation woes**

- A sharp reduction in trade credit lines from foreign lenders, coupled with a surge in Letter of Credit (LC) confirmation charges, is undermining efforts by Bangladesh's interim government and central bank to rein in stubbornly high inflation that has remained in double digits for over two years.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/credit-line-cuts-foreign-banks-rising-lc-confirmation-charges-add-inflation-woes-1001001>

**Fluctuations in fuel prices a threat to macroeconomic stability: Sanem**

- Fluctuations in fossil fuel prices pose a threat to Bangladesh's macroeconomic stability, potentially derailing the government's development targets, according to the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (Sanem).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/fluctuations-fuel-prices-threat-macroeconomic-stability-sanem-1000936>

**How project delays cost Bangladesh millions in penalty**

- Rising financial penalties for prolonged delays in implementing foreign-funded development projects are costing Bangladesh millions of dollars in commitment fees paid to global lenders. Undisbursed amounts with lenders accumulate commitment fees over time.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/infrastructure/how-project-delays-cost-bangladesh-millions-penalty-1000071>

**Manufacturers count higher cost of production**

- Producer prices in Bangladesh rose significantly under the impact of tightening monetary policies and restrictions on imports, with an adverse domino effect on the economy. The Producer Price Index (PPI), which tracks the prices businesses receive for goods and services, increased by over 7% year on year in July, the first month of fiscal year 2024-2025.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/manufacturers-count-higher-cost-of-production-1732386445>

**Industrial production stagnating for gas shortage, businesses decry**

- They lamented that industrial growth had either stagnated or declined in recent years, as evidenced by the downtrend in energy consumption within the sector over the past two to three years because of past mismanagement and 'theft' in the sector.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/industrial-production-stagnating-for-gas-shortage-businesses-decry-1732386392>

**Cottage industries on the wane as production falls**

- Smaller and medium industries in Bangladesh are becoming weaker as their production has steadily been down over the years, painting a grim picture of employment generation, according to officials.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/cottage-industries-on-the-wane-as-production-falls-1732386541>

**Sector & Industries:****PHARMACEUTICALS | Medicine prices won't rise after LDC graduation: Study**

- Medicine prices in Bangladesh will not go up after LDC graduation in 2026, according to a recent study of the Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/health/medicine-prices-wont-rise-after-ldc-graduation-study-1000541>

**HEALTHCARE | USD 4 Bn spent on medical tourism a year abroad**

- With Bangladeshis spending over USD 4 Bn in healthcare tourism every year, experts at a seminar have opined that it is essential for producing world class doctors and establishing equally top-notch medical facilities in the country to save a significant amount of public money.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/4b-spent-on-medical-tourism-a-year-abroad-1732386497>

**ENGINEERING | Electro Mart to invest BDT 5 Bn to scale up AC production**

- Electro Mart Limited (EML), one of Bangladesh's largest electronics and home appliance companies, announced plans to invest BDT 5 Bn over the next three years to expand its air conditioner (AC) manufacturing capacity, particularly for the Gree brand.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/electro-mart-invest-tk500cr-scale-ac-production-1000891>

**BANK | BB's leniency to blame for ailing banking sector**

- Banking rules and regulations stipulate a single borrower exposure limit but the banking regulator itself disregarded the rule routinely in the last 16 years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/bbs-leniency-blame-ailing-banking-sector-3759951>

**BANK | 6 listed banks turn non-compliant after sponsor-directors removed**

- Six listed banks have become non-compliant with the 30% shareholding requirement set by the stock market regulator after the Bangladesh Bank removed many of their shareholder-directors as part of efforts to aid their recovery and steer them away from controversial businesses.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/6-listed-banks-turn-non-compliant-after-sponsor-directors-removed-1000941>

**Stocks:****APEXTANRY | Apex Tannery plans fresh deals with exporters to sell finished leather**

- Apex Tannery Limited, a major player in leather processing and finishing in Bangladesh, has announced plans to enter into agreements with three footwear exporters again to sell its finished leather products.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/apex-tannery-plans-fresh-deals-exporters-sell-finished-leather-999411>

### **NAVANAPHAR | Navana Pharmaceuticals posts 12% profit growth in Q1**

- Navana Pharmaceuticals' profit grew in the first quarter of the current financial year thanks to strong sales. The pharma company's profit rose 12% year-on-year to BDT 133.7 Mn in the July-September period of this year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/navana-pharmaceuticals-posts-12-profit-growth-q1-3759641>

### **EPGL | Energypac Power incurs BDT 980 Mn loss, declares no dividend for FY24**

- Energypac Power Generation PLC, which was listed on the bourses in 2021, has recommended no dividend for fiscal year 2023-24 due to substantial consolidated losses. This marks the first time in four years that the company has not recommended a dividend.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/energypac-power-incurs-tk98cr-loss-declares-no-dividend-fy24-1000896>

### **EMERALDOIL | Emerald Oil halts operations due to gas crisis**

- Emerald Oil Industries, the producer of Spondon-branded edible oil, has announced the temporary halt of its operations due to an ongoing shortage of gas supply to its factory.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/emerald-oil-halts-operations-due-gas-crisis-999401>

### **SEAPEARL | Sea Pearl liabilities grow amid dwindling business**

- Sea Pearl Beach Resort has been experiencing a decline in business for months due to political uncertainties and the July-August mass uprising. Amid these challenges, its auditor has raised concerns about the company's growing burden of loans and other liabilities.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sea-pearl-liabilities-grow-amid-dwindling-business-999341>

### **ABBANK | AB Bank's health shows no signs of improvement**

- Established in 1981, the country's first commercial private bank sat on a massive BDT 101.15 Bn toxic loans till September this year. This amount represents 31% of the bank's total BDT 326.25 Bn in disbursed loans, according to official data.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/ab-banks-health-shows-no-signs-improvement-3759941>

### **ALLTEX | Loss-making Alltex Industries under regulatory scrutiny**

- The stock market watchdog has launched an investigation into poor-performing Alltex Industries to evaluate whether the company has the strength to sustain its business. A three-member inquiry committee has been asked to submit a report on its findings by the end of December.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/loss-making-alltex-industries-under-regulatory-scrutiny-1732380450>

**Stock and Commodities\***

<b>Index Name</b>	<b>Close Value</b>	<b>Value Change YTD</b>	<b>% Change YTD</b>
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 71.24	(USD 0.41)	-0.57%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 75.17	(USD 1.87)	-2.43%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,716.19	USD 653.21	31.66%
DSEX	5,197.58	-1,048.91	-16.79%
S&P 500	5,969.30	1,199.47	25.15%
FTSE 100	8,262.08	528.84	6.84%
BSE SENSEX	79,117.11	6,876.85	9.52%
KSE-100	97,798.23	35,418.82	56.78%
CSEALL	12,003.29	1,349.13	12.66%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 120.00 BDT****1 GBP = 150.63 BDT****1 Euro = 125.06 BDT****1 INR = 1.42 BDT**

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