

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 introduces longer-term bills to fight inflation**

- The Bangladesh Bank has decided to introduce two more bills which would have tenures much longer than those of the three bills currently available in an effort to mop up excess liquidity from the money market and rein in runaway inflation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-introduces-longer-term-bills-fight-inflation-3763236>

Provide venture capital, private equity to startups, SMEs

- Bangladesh's future depends on creating a knowledge-driven economy, and new businesses require a supportive environment to succeed alongside funding, which can come in the form of venture capital and private equity, said speakers at a discussion recently.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/provide-venture-capital-private-equity-startups-smes-3763186>

Exports to EU may fall 20%

- Bangladesh's overall exports to the European Union (EU) may fall by as much as 20% due to the combined impacts of the nation's graduation from least developed country (LDC) status and the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA), according to a study.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/exports-eu-may-fall-20-3763256>

Importers hit by dollar crisis get 8 years to repay loans

- Businessmen involved in import-dependent industries that have suffered losses due to the depreciation of the local currency against the USD will get up to eight years to repay their loans.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/importers-hit-dollar-crisis-get-8-years-repay-loans-3763251>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | Sonali Bank urges govt to issue BDT 60 Bn bonds**

- Sonali Bank PLC has requested the government to issue bonds worth BDT 60 Bn to settle outstanding loans of the sugar mills and Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) with the proceeds, officials said.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/sonali-bank-urges-govt-to-issue-tk-60b-bonds>

BANK | BB tightens loan classification rules to meet IMF conditions

- Payment failure for three months or 90 days after the due date will now lead to classification of loans regardless of type, according to new rules announced by the central bank yesterday, aligning with international best practices prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-tightens-loan-classification-rules-meet-imf-conditions-3763261>

BANK | Agrani Bank suspends new lending till Dec

- Agrani Bank has decided to suspend fresh loan approvals till December this year to improve its financial health, the lender's chairman has said. "No new lending will be approved in the fourth quarter of the 2024 calendar year," Syed Abu Naser Bukhtear Ahmed disclosed while sharing his future business plans in an exclusive interview with The Financial Express recently.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/agrani-bank-suspends-new-lending-till-dec-1732730634>

FUEL & POWER | Power producers risk wiping out investors' funds as expiry nears

- Eight listed power producers have been losing revenue as the government has moved away from quick rental plants to ease the burden of capacity charge payments and bring down the price of electricity.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/power-producers-risk-wiping-out-investors-funds-as-expiry-nears>

Stocks:**CITYBANK | IFC invests USD 50 Mn in City Bank to support SME businesses**

- IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is investing USD 50 Mn in City Bank PLC to help SMEs grow, create jobs, and boost economic recovery. On this occasion, an agreement signing ceremony was recently held at the head office of City Bank, says a statement.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ifc-invests-50m-in-city-bank-to-support-sme-businesses-1732730669>

BANKASIA | Bank Asia aims to give half of its loans to SME, retail

- Bank Asia PLC plans to increase its lending to retail and small and medium enterprises (SME) to about 50% of its total loan portfolio, according to its Managing Director Sohail RK Hussain. "We believe that both the retail and SME sectors will experience rapid growth in the near future," Hussain added.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/bank-asia-aims-give-half-its-loans-sme-retail-3762341>

GQBALLPEN | GQ Ball Pen under BSEC scanner

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has formed a three-member inquiry committee to investigate GQ Ball Pen's financial statements and investments of its sister concerns to ensure compliance, transparency, and accountability.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/gq-ball-pen-under-bsec-scanner-1004301>

EXCHANGE | BSEC bats for raising banks' special fund to BDT 3 Bn, extend tenure for 5 years

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has requested the Bangladesh Bank to extend the tenure of the commercial banks' special BDT 2 Bn capital market investment fund for another five years till February 2030.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-bats-raising-banks-special-fund-tk300-crore-extend-tenure-5-years-1004261>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 68.69	(USD 2.96)	-4.13%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 72.78	(USD 4.26)	-5.53%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,628.58	USD 565.60	27.42%
DSEX	5,197.94	-1,048.55	-16.79%
S&P 500	5,998.70	1,228.87	25.76%
FTSE 100	8,274.75	541.51	7.00%
BSE SENSEX	80,250.29	8,010.03	11.09%
KSE-100	99,269.25	36,889.84	59.14%
CSEALL	12,003.29	1,349.13	12.66%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 119.37 BDT****1 GBP = 151.19 BDT****1 Euro = 125.97 BDT****1 INR = 1.41 BDT**

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