

Weekly Market Update

Oct 17, 2024 (Week: Oct 14, 2024 – Oct 17, 2024)

Dhaka Stock Exchange

DSEX ended in Red (-3.03%) in the week

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in red this week. The benchmark index DSEX (-3.03%) lost -164.08 points and closed the week at 5,257.98 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (-2.75%) lost -54.60 points and stood at 1,930.40 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (-2.63%) lost -31.73 points and stood at 1,174.13 points. The large cap index CDSET (-2.33%) lost -25.76 points and closed at 1,079.76 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of -15.83%, -7.81%, -13.93%, -10.23%, respectively.

Total Turnover During the Week (DSE): BDT 12.7 billion (USD 106 million)

Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 3.2 billion (Δ% Week: -13.3%)

Market P/E: 14.4x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed four sessions during this week. The market started on a negative note on Monday (-0.89%) and remained negative throughout Tuesday (-0.14%), Wednesday (-0.93%) and Thursday (-1.10%).

Sectoral Performance

• All the financial sectors registered negative performance this week. Life Insurance experienced the highest loss of -6.89% followed by General Insurance (-6.88%), NBFi (-3.16%), Bank (-2.73%), and Mutual Fund (-2.68%).

• All the non-financial (large-cap) sectors registered negative performance this week. Engineering experienced the highest loss of 5.80% followed by Fuel & Power (-3.04%), Food & Allied (-2.96%), Pharmaceutical (-2.23%), and Telecommunication (-1.38%).

Macroeconomic arena

• Exports grow 6.78% in September. Current account surplus after years on robust remittances. Inward remittance through MFS hits 5-year high in August. Economic output may expand 29% if more women employed: WB. Bangladesh seeks USD 3.0 Bn ITFC loan for 2025. Bangladesh still stays at bottom in business environment. WB cuts FY25 growth forecast to 4%. Six major reasons to blame for export data mismatch: EPB. Debt servicing to peak at USD 5.3 Bn in FY27, remittance could provide cushion. TEXTILE | Bangladesh's cotton use forecast revised upwards. BANK | Card transactions hit 27-month low in August. BANK | Crisis-hit banks repaying depositors for emergencies, basic needs. BANK | Slow deposit growth in shariah banks. JUTE | No respite for jute goods makers from export fall. State entities to require 20% independent directors, timely publishing of . audited financials. BB allows USD 500 export without EXP declaration. Current slow pace of economy in Bangladesh may lead to recession: Experts.

• ENGINEERING | E-waste recycling offers USD 500 Mn annual business potential for Bangladesh: Experts. Dhaka aims to join China-led RCEP, CEPA with India on hold for now. Up to USD 1.5 Bn World Bank loans to be repurposed. Govt's bank borrowing nearly doubles in Jul-Sep. FOOD & ALLIED | Govt likely to reduce VAT on edible oil. China deflation can help BD economic refutation with cheap imports. ENERGY | Petrobangla plans to deploy BAPEX, intensify exploration. BANK | Banks stay away from lending as investor confidence shaken. RMG | Garment export to US falls 9.16% in Jan-Aug. NBFi | 16 NBFis face total provision shortfall of BDT 19.54 Bn. Inflation may moderate but remain elevated: WB.

Stock Market arena

• OLYMPIC | Olympic invests BDT 3.60 Bn in six years for business . diversification. AMPL | Al-Madina Pharma offers higher dividend to general shareholders despite profit drop. APEXTANRY | Apex Tannery decides to pay BDT 7.2 Mn as dividend, but only to general shareholders. BANGAS | Bangas to pay a 4% cash dividend; Tallu, Mithun won't. SONALIPAPR | Sonali Paper profit dips in FY24 due to volatile stock market. BSC | Shipping Corporation's loss of 2 ships will not cause major revenue cut. CITYBANK | City Bank Director Rubel Aziz to sell 3.4 Mn shares. TITASGAS | Titas Gas faces big challenges amid 7% system loss. AIL | BSEC cancels Alif Industries' BDT 3 Bn bond. EXCHANGE | DBA suggests review of demutualisation laws, reforms. FIRSTSBANK | Two of problem banks get BB recovery tips. SALVOCHEM | BSEC rejects Salvo Chemical's 6.4 Mn share issuance plan. DESCO | Desco reports BDT 5.05 Bn loss for FY24. ACMELAB, IBNSINA | Three drug makers ready to produce raw materials in API park. UNIONBANK, EXIMBANK | Troubled Union, Exim banks get BDT 5.50 Bn liquidity support from Sonali. NRBCBANK | NRBC Bank's sponsor to buy 3.2 Mn shares. GHCL | Global Heavy Chemicals shuts factory for gas crisis. EXCHANGE | Dhaka bourse seeks regulator guidance on recategorizing Z stocks.

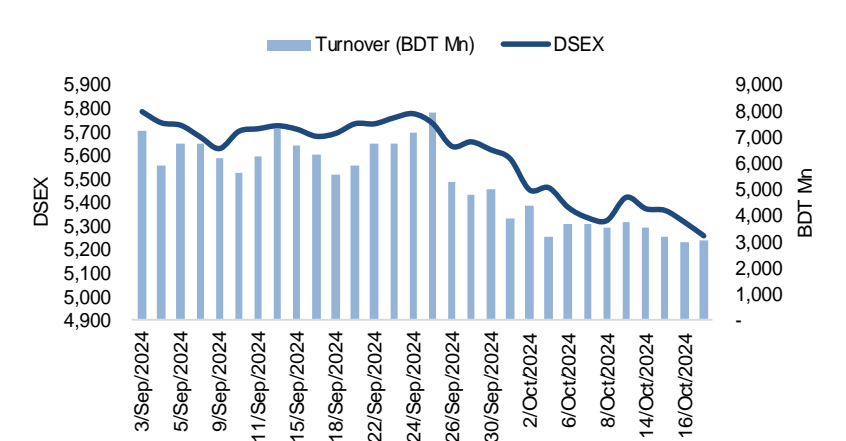
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	28-Dec-2023	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,257.98	5,422.06	-164.08	6,246.50	-3.03%	-15.83%
DS30	1,930.40	1,984.99	-54.60	2,093.83	-2.75%	-7.81%
DSES	1,174.13	1,205.87	-31.73	1,364.13	-2.63%	-13.93%
CDSET	1,079.76	1,105.52	-25.76	1,202.82	-2.33%	-10.23%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	6,691,665	6,744,166	
	Mn USD	55,764	56,201	-0.8%
Turnover	Mn BDT	12,720	14,667	-13.3%
	Mn USD	106	122	
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	3,180	3,667	-13.3%
	Mn USD	27	31	
Volume	Mn Shares	480	529	-9.3%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in last four weeks



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Table 3: Top Ten Gainers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
NTC	208.1	254.2	+37.0%	2,299	35.4	NM	NM
BIFC	11.4	9.1	+25.3%	1,148	10.1	NM	NM
AMBEEPHA	888.5	807.6	+10.0%	2,132	14.5	NM	86.9x
PTL	54.4	49.6	+9.7%	8,858	36.9	8.1x	1.4x
BSCPLC	118.5	122.6	+9.6%	22,164	39.9	14.9x	1.4x
RAHIMTEXT	145.6	135.0	+7.9%	1,377	18.7	NM	6.0x
MEGHNAPE	24.0	22.3	+7.6%	288	2.1	NM	NM
PHARMAID	670.1	626.1	+7.0%	2,091	43.7	41.2x	6.2x
NRBBANK	12.9	12.2	+5.7%	8,909	311.4	15.6x	1.0x
QOBALLPEN	133.6	126.4	+5.7%	1,193	42.0	NM	1.1x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
UNIONINS	23.1	29.8	-22.5%	1,118	10.5	20.3x	1.2x
GHCL	20.8	26.3	-20.9%	1,498	46.4	NM	0.5x
RSRSTEEEL	9.7	12.1	-19.8%	982	3.2	NM	0.2x
NORTHNRINS	30.3	36.2	-16.3%	1,293	0.5	16.3x	1.2x
TALLUSPIN	5.0	5.9	-15.3%	447	0.6	NM	0.3x
CLICL	32.8	38.5	-14.8%	1,230	12.2	NM	NM
PURABIGEN	17.4	20.3	-14.3%	1,041	11.9	10.7x	1.2x
ASIAPACINS	29.7	34.6	-14.2%	1,258	11.2	13.8x	1.2x
SHYAMPUSUG	113.4	131.9	-14.0%	567	6.9	NM	NM
AL-HAJTEX	111.6	129.6	-13.9%	2,489	21.0	NM	12.3x

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
AGNISYSL	36.2	41.2	-12.1%	2,627	859.0	33.8x	2.2x
LOVELLO	94.2	89.2	+5.6%	8,007	574.2	68.3x	7.1x
TECHNODRUG	45.7	44.9	-2.8%	6,032	478.8	0.0x	1.6x
BRACBANK	49.6	52.1	-4.8%	87,778	375.0	9.0x	1.2x
NRBBANK	12.9	12.2	+5.7%	8,909	311.4	15.6x	1.0x
ISLAMIBANK	53.9	56.8	-5.1%	86,778	302.3	13.3x	1.2x
GP	335.0	338.1	-0.9%	452,351	277.0	12.8x	6.3x
ASIATICLAB	33.8	33.4	+1.2%	4,137	242.6	NM	0.7x
SIBL	10.6	11.3	-6.2%	12,086	222.1	5.5x	0.5x
KBPPWBIL	150.0	142.0	+5.6%	14,712	209.9	NM	12.7x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
ISLAMIBANK	53.9	+65.3%	86,778	13.3x	1.2x
BRACBANK	49.6	+52.4%	87,778	9.0x	1.2x
UNILEVERCL	2,627.8	+30.1%	50,649	57.1x	23.1x
GP	335.0	+16.9%	452,351	12.8x	6.3x
OLYMPIC	173.0	+13.8%	34,589	20.7x	3.3x
PRIMEBANK	23.6	+12.4%	26,722	4.7x	0.7x
CITYBANK	21.7	+11.5%	29,232	4.4x	0.8x
IBNSINA	311.1	+8.5%	9,720	14.5x	2.8x
SQURPHARMA	224.1	+6.6%	198,654	9.8x	1.6x
JAMUNAOIL	174.5	+3.6%	19,269	4.8x	0.8x

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,481.7	1,523.3	1,455.32	-2.73%	+1.81%
NBFI	1,208.4	1,247.8	1,902.52	-3.16%	-36.49%
Mutual Fund	575.6	591.4	876.90	-2.68%	-34.36%
General Insurance	2,519.2	2,705.4	3,489.09	-6.88%	-27.80%
Life Insurance	1,934.6	2,077.8	2,637.78	-6.89%	-26.66%
Telecommunication	5,260.9	5,334.5	4,945.60	-1.38%	+6.37%
Pharmaceutical	2,938.0	3,004.9	3,732.58	-2.23%	-21.29%
Fuel & Power	1,116.3	1,151.3	1,691.80	-3.04%	-34.02%
Cement	2,108.8	2,234.9	2,523.22	-5.64%	-16.42%
Services & Real Estate	1,069.3	1,134.1	1,518.57	-5.71%	-29.59%
Engineering	2,459.0	2,610.5	4,520.40	-5.80%	-45.60%
Food & Allied	17,315.2	17,843.1	21,180.76	-2.96%	-18.25%
IT	2,251.2	2,407.8	2,894.80	-6.51%	-22.23%
Textile	1,097.5	1,131.0	1,658.23	-2.96%	-33.81%
Paper & Printing	4,495.2	4,723.4	10,093.63	-4.83%	-55.46%
Tannery	2,021.5	2,090.0	3,103.94	-3.28%	-34.87%
Jute	16,618.0	16,831.8	17,683.51	-1.27%	-6.03%
Ceramics	373.1	389.7	694.56	-4.26%	-46.29%
Miscellaneous	4,101.8	4,116.0	4,265.32	-0.35%	-3.83%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily average this Week	Daily average last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	620.5	941.5	-34.10%	+20.42%	7.7x	0.7x
NBFI	63.5	61.7	+2.96%	+2.09%	NM	NM
Mutual Fund	69.0	44.7	+54.30%	+2.27%	NM	0.5x
General Insurance	104.7	73.0	+43.36%	+3.45%	13.2x	1.1x
Life Insurance	73.5	74.3	-1.10%	+2.42%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	97.3	140.0	-30.51%	+3.20%	14.7x	4.1x
Pharmaceutical	521.7	547.9	-4.78%	+17.17%	14.4x	1.6x
Fuel & Power	110.1	167.5	-34.27%	+3.62%	17.4x	0.6x
Cement	43.6	61.3	-28.91%	+1.43%	16.3x	2.2x
Services & Real Estate	97.7	117.6	-16.85%	+3.22%	18.6x	0.4x
Engineering	163.3	197.8	-17.45%	+5.37%	12.0x	0.9x
Food & Allied	282.3	297.7	-5.16%	+9.29%	16.8x	5.0x
IT	308.3	295.4	+4.35%	+10.15%	24.4x	1.9x
Textile	244.4	205.2	+19.10%	+8.04%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	43.6	38.7	+12.84%	+1.44%	26.2x	0.9x
Tannery	20.8	26.1	-20.45%	+0.68%	39.4x	1.6x
Jute	34.9	38.0	-8.20%	+1.15%	NM	NM
Ceramics	29.3	41.4	-29.21%	+0.96%	44.2x	1.0x
Miscellaneous	109.5	87.5	+25.20%	+3.61%	37.8x	1.7x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
DOREENPWR	17.2	-71.8%	3,115	4.3x	0.3x
BBSCABLES	17.1	-65.7%	3,620	NM	0.5x
IPDC	20.3	-63.0%	7,910	22.6x	1.2x
KPCL	10.3	-61.3%	4,093	31.2x	0.6x
RUNNERAUTO	20.6	-57.4%	2,339	NM	0.3x
WALTONHIL	484.1	-53.8%	146,648	10.8x	1.3x
SUMITPOWER	16.0	-52.9%	17,086	22.5x	0.4x
ACTIVEFINE	9.1	-52.8%	2,183	NM	0.4x
BXPBARMA	72.9	-50.1%	32,522	6.1x	0.7x
IFADAUTOS	22.0	-50.1%	5,843	NM	0.6x

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

Exports grow 6.78% in September

- Bangladesh's merchandise exports grew by 6.78% year-on-year in September, primarily driven by readymade garment shipments, despite prolonged labour unrest in various parts of the country hampering production.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/export-earnings-increase-678-351-billion-962531>

Current account surplus after years on robust remittances

- The current account, a key component of the country's balance of payments, has turned positive after years, driven by a robust inflow of remittances.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/current-account-surplus-after-years-robust-remittances-962056>

Inward remittance through MFS hits 5-year high in August

- Bangladesh's migrant workers sent home BDT 11.02 Bn in remittances through mobile financial service (MFS) providers in August, marking the highest monthly receipts through digital channels in the past five years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/inward-remittance-through-mfs-hits-5-year-high-august-3726216>

Economic output may expand 29% if more women employed: WB

- Bangladesh could increase its output in the manufacturing, service and farming sectors by up to 29% simply by bringing more women into the workforce, according to the World Bank.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/economic-output-may-expand-29-if-more-women-employed-wb-3726196>

Bangladesh seeks USD 3.0 Bn ITFC loan for 2025

- Bangladesh has taken a fresh move to rebuild ties with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) as it sought a substantial USD 3.0 Bn credit from the middle eastern donor to finance the imports of fuel, LNG and fertiliser in 2025, officials said on Saturday.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-seeks-30b-itfc-loan-for-2025>

Bangladesh still stays at bottom in business environment

- Bangladesh remains near the bottom among 50 countries in providing a conducive regulatory framework for businesses, according to a World Bank report, as the country trails even its neighbors Nepal and Pakistan.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-still-stays-bottom-business-environment-3725826>

WB cuts FY25 growth forecast to 4%

- The World Bank has slashed its forecast for Bangladesh's economic growth by 1.7% points to 4% for FY25 due to "significant uncertainties following recent political turmoil" and "data unavailability".

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/wb-cuts-fy25-growth-forecast-4-percent-3724941>

Six major reasons to blame for export data mismatch: EPB

- Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) has identified six major reasons including multiple entries of same data, discount on sales volume and receipt of less than Initial LC Value behind incongruity in the country's export earnings data.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/six-major-reasons-to-blame-for-export-data-mismatch-epb>

Debt servicing to peak at USD 5.3 Bn in FY27, remittance could provide cushion

- Bangladesh's foreign debt servicing amount, including principal and interest, will reach a historic high of USD 5.3 Bn in FY27 before starting to fall in the following year. This financial burden can be offset by three months of inward remittance, according to a finance ministry document.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/debt-servicing-peak-53b-fy27-remittance-could-provide-cushion-964516>

TEXTILE | Bangladesh's cotton use forecast revised upwards

- Bangladesh's cotton consumption is expected to rise marginally to 7.8 Mn bales in marketing year 2024-25, which began in August, according to a US Department of Agriculture (USDA) report published on Friday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladeshs-cotton-use-forecast-revised-upwards-3726176>

BANK | Card transactions hit 27-month low in August

- Transactions through debit, credit and prepaid cards dipped to a 27-month low in August this year, owing to a lack of cash in ATM booths amidst security concerns and people curtailing spending for political uncertainties.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/card-transactions-hit-27-month-low-august-3724906>

BANK | Crisis-hit banks repaying depositors for emergencies, basic needs

- As crisis-hit lenders have started getting liquidity support from the inter-bank money market, they are now repaying depositors for specific purposes, such as medical emergencies, and in the case of salary disbursement or remittance encashment.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/crisis-hit-banks-repaying-depositors-emergencies-basic-needs-3725136>

BANK | Slow deposit growth in shariah banks

- The flow of deposits in shariah-based banking operations fell slightly while investment marked a steady rise in July as Bangladesh saw the build-up of a mass uprising that led to the fall of the Sheikh Hasina regime.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/slow-deposit-growth-in-shariah-banks>

JUTE | No respite for jute goods makers from export fall

- Bangladesh's exports of jute and jute goods have been falling continuously as many buyers have switched to synthetic and regenerated cotton yarn due to high prices of the golden fibre in the domestic market.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/no-respite-jute-goods-makers-export-fall-3725141>

State entities to require 20% independent directors, timely publishing of audited financials

- State-owned entities and autonomous institutions will have to publish their audited financial statements within six months after the end of the fiscal year, as part of the government's efforts to enhance their fiscal risk management and ensure financial transparency. Additionally, all state-owned entities registered with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms (RJSC) will be required to appoint at least 20% independent directors to their boards.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/state-entities-require-20-independent-directors-timely-publishing-audited-financials>

BB allows USD 500 export without EXP declaration

- The central bank has allowed a maximum of USD 500 export under business-to-consumer (B2C) on e-commerce websites without declaration on EXP form to encourage small-value exporters, according to officials.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bb-allows-500-export-without-exp-declaration-1728923974>

Current slow pace of economy in Bangladesh may lead to recession: Experts

- Currently, regardless of the measures taken through fiscal policy, no significant results are expected to be achieved within the next six months, experts observed on Monday. Although government spending has decreased, both public and private investment have significantly dropped. Additionally, the National Board of Revenue does not have a separate research cell.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/current-slow-pace-of-economy-may-lead-to-recession-experts>

Universal Pension Scheme to continue unchanged: Finance ministry

- The Ministry of Finance has decided that the Universal Pension Scheme will continue without any modifications, continuing with the four existing schemes.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/universal-pension-scheme-continue-unchanged-finance-ministry-966856>

Chinese debt rescheduling, import credits seen imperative for BD economy

- Leading economists and foreign-relations experts stressed debt rescheduling by the Chinese side raising the loan-repayment and grace periods to enable Bangladesh to absorb economic shocks, as closer cooperation between the two countries came into the limelight.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/chinese-debt-rescheduling-import-credits-seen-imperative-for-bd-economy>

Bangladesh receives nearly USD 1 Bn in remittances in 12 days of October

- Bangladesh received a substantial USD 986.63 Mn in remittances through legal channels during the first twelve days of October. This figure represents a daily average of USD 82.21 Mn, according to data released by the Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Monday (October 14)

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-receives-nearly-1-billion-in-remittances-in-12-days-of-october>

China deflation can help BD economic reflation with cheap imports

- Deep deflation in China offers Bangladesh prospect of economic reflation with cheaper imports, particularly of capital goods. Bangladesh being heavily dependent on imports from the world's second-largest economy. In May 2024 alone, Bangladesh sourced over 28% of its imports from China, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/china-deflation-can-help-bd-economic-reflation-with-cheap-imports-1>

ENERGY | Petrobangla plans to deploy BAPEX, intensify exploration

- Amid deepening energy crisis in the country, the interim government is planning to intensify hydrocarbon-exploration campaign in a major policy shift to deploy the lone local company to conduct the exploration activities.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/petrobangla-plans-to-deploy-bapex-intensify-exploration>

BANK | Banks stay away from lending as investor confidence shaken

- The country's banking sector has squeezed lending activities as investment confidence, which remained subdued for the last two years amid the dollar crisis, deteriorated further after the formation of the interim government.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-stay-away-lending-investor-confidence-shaken-966956>

RMG | Garment export to US falls 9.16% in Jan-Aug

- Garment export to the USA fell by 9.16% year-on-year to USD 4.70 Bn in the January-August period of the current year because of a fall in demand for apparels in American markets, according to data from the Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/garment-export-us-falls-916-jan-aug-3727446>

NBFI | 16 NBFIs face total provision shortfall of BDT 19.54 Bn

- Sixteen non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) faced a combined provision shortfall of BDT 19.54 Bn till June this year, reflecting that their financial health had worsened. Lenders face provision shortages when they have a high amount of non-performing loans (NPLs). It ultimately impacts their net profit.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/16-nbfis-face-total-provision-shortfall-tk-1954cr-3726961>

Inflation may moderate but remain elevated: WB

- Overall inflation is projected to decline to 9% in FY25 from 9.7% in FY24, the multilateral lender said in its October issue of the Bangladesh Development Update, released today.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/inflation-may-moderate-remain-elevated-wb-3727856>

ENGINEERING | E-waste recycling offers USD 500 Mn annual business potential for Bangladesh: Experts

- Compliant e-waste recycling could provide Bangladesh with a USD 500 Mn annual economic opportunity if the country formally manages all its electrical and electronic waste, which is currently either being informally recycled or discarded into the environment.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/e-waste-recycling-offers-500m-annual-business-potential-bangladesh-experts-966921>

Dhaka aims to join China-led RCEP, CEPA with India on hold for now

- The government has decided to prioritise joining the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the world's largest trade bloc led by China, over signing a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with India.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/dhaka-aims-join-china-led-rcep-cepa-india-hold-now-967986>

Up to USD 1.5 Bn World Bank loans to be repurposed

- The government has identified a dozen slow-paced projects funded by the World Bank, from which up to USD 1.5 Bn will be repurposed and utilised as budget support or in other policy-based reform programmes.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/15b-world-bank-loans-be-repurposed-3727631>

Govt's bank borrowing nearly doubles in Jul-Sep

- The government has nearly doubled its borrowing from commercial banks in the first three months of the current fiscal year compared to the equivalent period last year, primarily due to lower revenue collection.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/govts-bank-borrowing-nearly-doubles-jul-sep-967976>

FOOD & ALLIED | Govt likely to reduce VAT on edible oil

- The Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission recommended reducing VAT on imports of crude soybean oil and unrefined palm oil to 10% from the existing 15%.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-likely-reduce-vat-edible-oil-3728186>

ENERGY | Excelerate Energy to invest more in Bangladesh's energy sector

- Excelerate currently has investment in two offshore floating storage and regasification units in Bangladesh, which supply 1.1 Bn cubic feet of gas, accounting for some 34% of the country's daily gas supply.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/excelerate-energy-invest-more-bangladeshs-energy-sector-3728151>

ENGINEERING | Millers bring down steel production as demand falls

- The country's steel production fell significantly in September compared to the previous year as the industry reeled from a damaging slump in demand and subsequent price reduction.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/millers-bring-down-steel-production-demand-falls-3728551>

Interim government to implement new 'Statistics Policy' amid allegations of data manipulation by BBS

- The government is set to provide monthly interest on pensioner savings certificates, which will be credited directly to investors' accounts at the end of each month. It has also decided to raise the interest rates for all savings certificates.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/interim-government-implement-new-statistics-policy-amid-allegations-data-manipulation-bbs>

Gross forex reserves cross USD 25 Bn in steady rebound

- Forex reserves--one of the major macroeconomic indicators of an economy--fell to USD 24.53 Bn in terms of gross calculation by the central bank after clearing USD 1.37 Bn import payments to the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) on September 07 last while the amount stood at USD 19.46 Bn as per IMF's BMP6 arithmetic.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/gross-forex-reserves-cross-25b-in-steady-rebound-1729102613>

Call-money mkt moribund as funds switch into SDF

- Even a moratorium on injection of high-powered money by the central bank fails to resuscitate the call-money market as the affluent banks' trust deficit prompts switch of their surplus credits into state-secured SDF or standing deposit facility despite lower gains.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/call-money-mkt-moribund-as-funds-switch-into-sdf-1729102718>

Chinese company to invest USD 5.85 Mn in Adamjee EPZ

- JIDALAI Co. Ltd. is going to invest USD 5.85 Mn to set up a Pullers of Zipper manufacturing industry in Adamjee Export Processing Zone (AEPZ). This Chinese company will produce annually 70 Mn pullers of zipper where 189 Bangladeshi nationals will get jobs, says a press release.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/chinese-company-to-invest-us-585m-in-adamjee-epz-1729101558>

BANK | Improve financial health by curbing NPLs: BB to banks

- As part of Bangladesh Bank's (BB) moves to resuscitate the country's troubled banks, BB Governor Dr Ahsan H. Mansur gave the instructions at a meeting with the recently reconstructed boards of Al-Arafah Islami Bank and United Commercial Bank (UCB) at the BB headquarters.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/improve-financial-health-by-curbing-npls-bb-to-banks-1729101527>

BANK | Cash outside banks keeps rising

- The volume of cash outside the banking sector of Bangladesh has been increasing since the start of the year due to persistent inflation, the loss of consumer confidence in the sector due to the presence of ailing lenders, and the prevailing situation following the recent political changeover.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/cash-outside-banks-keeps-rising-3729456>

TRADE | Escalating logistics costs erode trade competitiveness

- Rising logistics costs are hiking the cost of doing business in Bangladesh and discouraging investors, stakeholders say and urge mapping out sector-wise predictable expenditures.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/escalating-logistics-costs-erode-trade-competitiveness-1729102663>

Important News: Stocks

OLYMPIC | Olympic invests BDT 3.60 Bn in six years for business diversification

- Olympic Industries, the country's leading branded biscuit manufacturer, has invested around BDT 3.6 Bn over the past six years in factory expansion, aiming to diversify its business and establish a strong presence across the entire confectionery industry.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/olympic-invests-tk360cr-six-years-business-diversification-965341>

AMPL | Al-Madina Pharma offers higher dividend to general shareholders despite profit drop

- Al-Madina Pharmaceuticals, a publicly listed firm on the SME platform, has proposed a 12% cash dividend exclusively for its general shareholders, excluding sponsor-directors, despite a 44% decline in net profit for FY24.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/al-madina-pharma-offers-higher-dividend-general-shareholders-despite-profit-drop>

APEXTANRY | Apex Tannery decides to pay BDT 7.2 Mn as dividend, but only to general shareholders

- Apex Tannery Limited, a major player in leather processing and finishing in Bangladesh, has recommended a 5% cash dividend for its general shareholders for the fiscal year 2023-24, despite an increase in its net loss compared to the previous fiscal year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/apex-tannery-decides-pay-tk72-lakh-dividend-only-general-shareholders-963871>

BANGAS | Bangas to pay a 4% cash dividend; Tallu, Mithun won't

- Bangas Ltd has announced a 4% cash dividend for its shareholders for the fiscal 2023-24, while Tallu Spinning Mill and Mithun Knitting have decided not to pay any dividends.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bangas-pay-4-cash-dividend-tallu-mithun-wont-962941>

SONALIPAPR | Sonali Paper profit dips in FY24 due to volatile stock market

- Sonali Paper and Board Mills – a concern of Younus Group – reported a 20% decline in profit for the fiscal 2023-24, according to company officials

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sonali-paper-profit-dips-fy24-due-volatile-stock-market-965286>

BSC | Shipping Corporation's loss of 2 ships will not cause major revenue cut

- State-run Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) encountered a sudden selling pressure on the bourses after two back-to-back fire incidents had destroyed two ships in its fleet.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/shipping-corporations-loss-of-2-ships-will-not-cause-major-revenue-cut>

EXCHANGE | Investor distrust grows over closed-end mutual funds' poor performance

- In recent years, closed-end mutual funds traded on the country's stock market have failed to meet investors' expectations due to consistently poor returns.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/investor-distrust-grows-over-closed-end-mutual-funds-poor-performance-966101>

CITYBANK | City Bank Director Rubel Aziz to sell 3.4 Mn shares

- Rubel Aziz, a director of City Bank, has announced plans to sell 3.4 Mn shares, which is around 11% of his total holdings in the bank. Aziz currently holds 30.8 Mn shares in City Bank.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/city-bank-director-rubel-aziz-sell-34-lakh-shares-3727151>

TITASGAS | Titas Gas faces big challenges amid 7% system loss

- Among the six gas distribution companies, Titas Gas has been the oldest and largest one both in terms of its operational area and volume of natural gas sales. "Some 7% system loss means the organisation loses BDT 1.5-1.8 Bn per month in revenue," said Shahnewaz Parvez, the new managing director of Titas Gas PLC. As per the official statistics, Titas Gas alone holds 55% of the gas market share while the other five companies have 45%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/titas-gas-faces-big-challenges-amid-7pc-system-loss-1728923985>

AIL | BSEC cancels Alif Industries' BDT 3 Bn bond

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has revoked a BDT 3 Bn bond issued two years ago in favour of Alif Industries, a publicly listed company.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-cancels-alif-industries-tk300cr-bond-966881>

EXCHANGE | DBA suggests review of demutualisation laws, reforms

- The DSE Brokers Association proposed several measures to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, including reviewing exchange demutualisation laws, withdrawing the 12% interest on margin loans, and disbursing interest from consolidated accounts. They also suggested implementing uneditable software, reviewing Central Counterparty Bangladesh Ltd, updating BSEC rules, disclosing share transactions, listing reputable companies, and activating mutual funds.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/stocks/247764/dba-suggests-review-of-demutualisation-laws-reforms>

FIRSTSBANK | Two of problem banks get BB recovery tips

- As part of the BB-launched salvation moves to revitalise those banks of the country which got into troubles for past wrongs, the BB governor directed the instructions in meeting with the recently reconstructed boards of First Security Islami Bank (FSIB) and Bangladesh Commerce Bank (BCB) at the BB headquarters.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/two-of-problem-banks-get-bb-recovery-tips-1729015773>

SALVOCHEM | BSEC rejects Salvo Chemical's 6.4 Mn share issuance plan

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has rejected Salvo Chemical Industry's request to raise BDT 64 Mn by issuing 6.4 Mn shares to its existing sponsor-directors.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-rejects-salvo-chemicals-64-lakh-share-issuance-plan-967866>

DESCO | Desco reports BDT 5.05 Bn loss for FY24

- State-run Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd (Desco) posted a loss of BDT 5.06 Bn for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2024. This was the second consecutive year of losses for Desco.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/desco-reports-tk-505-crore-loss-fy24-3727976>

NRBCBANK | NRBC Bank's sponsor to buy 3.2 Mn shares

- Sarwar Zaman Chaudri, a sponsor of NRBC Commercial (NRBC) Bank, has announced his plan to purchase 3.2 Mn shares, intending to increase his stake in the bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/nrbc-banks-sponsor-buy-32-lakh-shares-968591>

ACMELAB, IBNSINA | Three drug makers ready to produce raw materials in API park

- Two of the factories, ACME Laboratories and Ibn Sina Pharmaceutical, are currently awaiting regulatory approval, while the third, Healthcare Pharmaceuticals, has recently begun limited-scale commercial production of these essential drug-making raw materials.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/three-drug-makers-ready-produce-raw-materials-api-park-3729471>

UNIONBANK, EXIMBANK | Troubled Union, Exim banks get BDT 5.50 Bn liquidity support from Sonali

- Guaranteed by the central bank, state-owned Sonali Bank is extending BDT 5.50 Bn in fresh loans to two struggling private banks — Union Bank and Exim Bank — both hit by loan scams and various irregularities.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/troubled-union-exim-banks-get-tk550cr-liquidity-support-sonali-968636>

GHCL | Global Heavy Chemicals shuts factory for gas crisis

- Global Heavy Chemicals, a manufacturer of industrial chemicals, has announced the temporary suspension of its factory operations at Hasnabad in Dhaka's Keraniganj, starting on Tuesday (15 October) due to a severe gas shortage in the region, according to a stock exchange disclosure.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/global-heavy-chemicals-shuts-factory-gas-crisis-967891>

EXCHANGE | Dhaka bourse seeks regulator guidance on recategorizing Z stocks

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has sought guidance from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) regarding the recategorization of Z category stocks, as some companies have disbursed approved dividends after being downgraded.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-bourse-seeks-regulator-guidance-recategorizing-z-stocks-968606>

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