

Weekly Market Update

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+0.75%) gained 48.99 points and closed the week at 6,564.00 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+0.82%) gained 19.33 points and stood at 2,365.69 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+0.50%) gained 7.17 points and stood at 1,436.72 points. The large cap index CDSET (+0.11%) gained 1.41 points and closed at 1,285.73 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of -2.85%, -6.59%, +0.39%, -5.40%, respectively.

Total Turnover During the Week (DSE): BDT 101.1 billion (USD 969 million)

Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 20.2 billion (Δ% Week: +42.7%)

Market P/E: 16.1x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

Market performed five sessions during this week. Market started on a positive note (+0.31%) on Sunday. It remained positive (+1.01%) on Monday. However, it turned negative on Tuesday (-0.06%) and stayed negative on Wednesday (-0.69%). Lastly, market ended on a positive note (+0.19%) on Thursday.

Sectoral Performance

• Most of the financial sectors registered negative performance this week. NBFIs experienced the highest loss of -1.78% followed by General Insurance (-1.59%), Bank (-1.23%), Mutual Fund (-0.32%), and Life Insurance (+1.55%).

• Non-financial sectors posted mixed performance this week. Pharmaceutical booked the highest gain of 2.33% followed by Fuel & Power (+1.20%), and Telecommunication (+0.05%). Food & Allied experienced the highest loss of 0.83% followed by Engineering (-0.46%).

Macroeconomic arena

• Govt okays 90,000-tonne fertiliser purchase. ADB cuts Bangladesh's GDP growth forecast to 6.6%. Forex reserves now below USD 37 Bn. Apparel export growth declines in Sept after 13-month boost. Foreign trade in Indian rupee not doable. Forex transactions through cards on the rise. 'Bangladesh to get ADB's USD 2 Bn loan this fiscal'. EPZs see record growth in investment, export, employment in FY22. Six local firms to invest USD 457 Mn in pharma, hospitality. 3 more submarine cables: Private companies to invest BDT 20 Bn. Revenue collection jumps 21% in Jul-Aug. Banks, NBFIs with low NPL allowed to issue green bond. Foreign investors put BDT 300 Bn in real estate – more to come. WB first wants to know about forex reserves. Bangladesh received over USD1 Bn remittance till Sep 15. Bangladesh should tap blue economy: Dutch-Bangla Chamber. China to help Bangladesh in developing insurance sector. French retailer Carrefour looks to expand business in Bangladesh.

• India's top lender asks exporters to trade with Bangladesh in rupee, taka. Ease for banks as exchange rate drops. NBFIs loan disbursement shoots up 46%. Steel industry suffering from 50% slump in sales. Bangladesh Forex Flexibility to Help Fight External Shocks, IMF Says. Dhaka EPZ gets USD25.62 Mn FDI. New headache: private firms' foreign loans jump to USD26 Bn. Mandatory tax return filing relaxed for loans, credit cards. Remittances thru' state banks drop 35%, private banks in positive growth. Gas shortage chokes textile millers. Businesses can do foreign trade using yuan: BB. ADP implementation 3.85% in first two months of FY23. Low fuel, capital machinery procurement drags down Aug import bill. Korea RMG market beckons. Industries worried over 57% hike in freight forwarding charges. Digital payment can be used for CMSME loans: Experts. Steel building makers get more time to clear import payments. Govt working to raise annual exports to USD100 Bn by 2026: Tipu Munshi. Fresh fruit imports fall 50% in four months on tightened rules. Bangladesh e-commerce sales to more than double by 2026: Research.

Stock Market arena

• BSEC approves BDT 700 Mn IPO of Midland Bank. IDLC Finance approves BDT 5 Bn bond. ICB Golden Jubilee MF makes trading debut tomorrow. BSEC chairman stresses restoring investor confidence in mutual funds. Jamuna Bank puts Salta Capital assets on auction. GP starts selling SIM against unused numbers. Eastern Housing posts record profits as property value soars. Prime Bank to raise BDT5.0 Bn term loan for Sajida Foundation. ADN Telecom recommends 10% cash dividend. IPO of Global Islami Bank to open October 16.

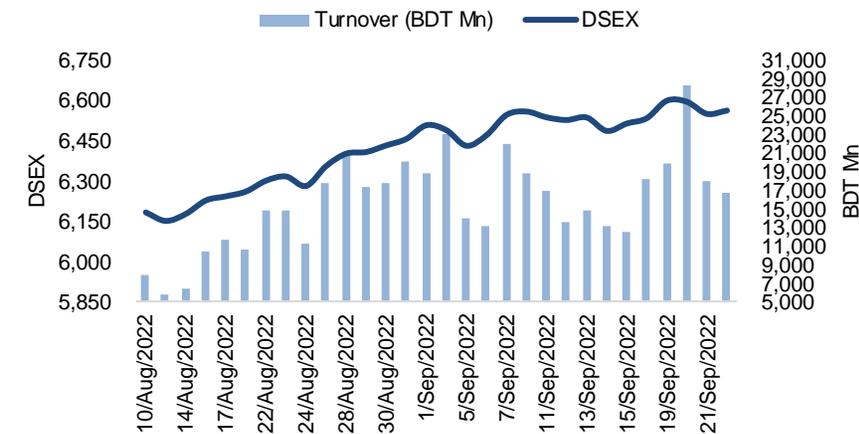
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	30-Dec-2021	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	6,564.00	6,515.01	+48.99	6,756.66	+0.75%	-2.85%
DS30	2,365.69	2,346.35	+19.33	2,532.58	+0.82%	-6.59%
DSES	1,436.72	1,429.56	+7.17	1,431.12	+0.50%	+0.39%
CDSET	1,285.73	1,284.32	+1.41	1,359.13	+0.11%	-5.40%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	5,227,440	5,201,266	
	Mn USD	50,107	49,856	+0.5%
Turnover	Mn BDT	101,104	70,829	+42.7%
	Mn USD	969	679	
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	20,221	14,166	+42.7%
	Mn USD	194	136	
Volume	Mn Shares	1,540	1,196	+28.7%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in last four weeks



Research Associate

Md. Tanvir Ahmed

(880) 1708805201

mtanvir.ahmed@bracepl.com

Research Associate

Billal Hossain

(880) 1708805229

billal.hossain@bracepl.com

Table 3: Top Ten Gainers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
BDCOM	55.4	36.3	+52.6%	3,163	1,623.2	37.0x	3.6x
SEAPEARL	125.2	85.5	+46.4%	15,118	838.7	NM	10.8x
BPML	89.9	68.5	+31.2%	15,624	1,423.7	33.2x	1.9x
AZIZPIPES	137.0	104.8	+30.7%	733	259.4	NM	NM
ORIONPHARM	149.6	116.2	+28.7%	35,006	12,404.8	36.5x	1.8x
BSC	168.9	135.4	+24.7%	25,763	4,797.0	12.5x	2.4x
INDEXAGRO	138.1	111.8	+23.5%	6,526	418.7	24.3x	2.2x
ORIONINFU	575.6	467.4	+23.1%	11,719	1,523.5	NM	42.5x
BDTHAIFOOD	51.7	42.5	+21.6%	4,214	346.5	71.0x	3.6x
ADNTEL	72.6	60.8	+19.4%	4,694	253.5	28.0x	2.7x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
SONARGAON	51.0	62.9	-18.9%	1,350	247.2	NM	4.5x
NORTHERN	242.0	288.3	-16.1%	518	89.6	NM	3.0x
SONALIANSH	618.3	721.2	-14.3%	1,677	284.4	NM	2.7x
SINOBANGLA	62.2	71.2	-12.6%	1,244	228.1	35.2x	2.3x
AMBEEPHA	531.1	604.6	-12.2%	1,275	82.8	NM	27.3x
JMISMDL	391.5	439.9	-11.0%	8,652	504.8	64.1x	3.2x
WATACHEM	221.5	247.9	-10.6%	3,283	62.9	48.4x	3.7x
APEXFOODS	212.0	237.1	-10.6%	1,209	100.5	74.4x	1.6x
NAHEEACP	68.2	76.0	-10.3%	4,662	1,031.8	23.4x	3.6x
RAHIMTEXT	215.3	239.9	-10.3%	2,037	43.1	NM	5.7x

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
ORIONPHARM	149.6	116.2	+28.7%	35,006	12,404.8	36.5x	1.8x
BEXIMCO	134.5	135.9	-1.0%	117,865	11,367.4	8.2x	1.5x
BSC	168.9	135.4	+24.7%	25,763	4,797.0	12.5x	2.4x
JHRML	131.5	115.8	+13.6%	16,476	3,580.4	44.4x	4.3x
LHBL	77.3	77.8	-0.6%	89,774	2,429.2	23.0x	5.1x
UNIQUEHRL	74.4	68.5	+8.6%	21,903	2,028.0	25.4x	0.8x
EHL	93.1	79.6	+17.0%	8,690	1,976.0	15.8x	1.3x
ACMELAB	103.2	92.7	+11.3%	21,837	1,975.7	11.0x	1.0x
SPCERAMICS	50.6	48.1	+5.2%	7,436	1,917.4	NM	1.6x
SPCL	100.8	86.6	+16.4%	18,089	1,866.2	13.5x	2.5x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD Δ%	Mcap**	PE	PB
IPDC	64.7	+67.6%	24,010	26.3x	3.8x
UNIQUEHRL	74.4	+48.2%	21,903	25.4x	0.8x
ADNTEL	72.6	+38.5%	4,694	28.0x	2.7x
SQUARETEXT	69.3	+32.8%	13,670	7.9x	1.6x
CROWNCEMNT	74.4	+19.6%	11,048	37.8x	1.4x
ACMELAB	103.2	+19.3%	21,837	11.0x	1.0x
EGEN	56.5	+18.9%	4,238	33.6x	2.6x
TRUSTBANK	34.9	+15.3%	27,166	10.5x	1.3x
IBNSINA	310.5	+14.4%	9,701	16.0x	3.7x
TITASGAS	41.5	+14.3%	41,053	12.3x	0.6x

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,444.8	1,462.7	1,589.69	-1.23%	-9.12%
NBFI	2,012.2	2,048.7	2,327.63	-1.78%	-13.55%
Mutual Fund	854.3	857.1	882.99	-0.32%	-3.25%
General Insurance	3,186.5	3,238.0	4,698.62	-1.59%	-32.18%
Life Insurance	2,503.2	2,465.0	2,687.55	+1.55%	-6.86%
Telecommunication	4,964.3	4,961.6	5,800.37	+0.05%	-14.41%
Pharmaceutical	4,025.3	3,933.8	3,866.63	+2.33%	+4.10%
Fuel & Power	1,770.2	1,749.2	1,792.97	-1.20%	-1.27%
Cement	2,641.5	2,624.5	2,534.76	+0.65%	+4.21%
Services & Real Estate	1,850.9	1,708.5	1,309.43	+8.33%	+41.35%
Engineering	4,593.4	4,614.4	4,727.46	-0.46%	-2.84%
Food & Allied	21,396.8	21,576.0	25,222.81	-0.83%	-15.17%
IT	2,897.8	2,683.7	3,274.61	+7.98%	-11.51%
Textile	1,677.3	1,699.0	1,470.60	-1.28%	+14.05%
Paper & Printing	11,035.1	10,697.4	9,680.03	+3.16%	+14.00%
Tannery	3,146.2	3,184.4	3,236.76	-1.20%	-2.80%
Jute	10,528.1	11,517.8	8,747.84	-8.59%	+20.35%
Ceramics	727.0	747.9	675.88	-2.80%	+7.56%
Miscellaneous	4,719.0	4,514.0	4,625.39	+4.54%	+2.02%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily average this Week	Daily average last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	344.5	402.8	-14.49%	+1.80%	7.8x	0.8x
NBFI	411.0	507.6	-19.04%	+2.14%	NM	3.9x
Mutual Fund	19.5	20.6	-5.37%	+0.10%	NM	0.8x
General Insurance	414.2	175.8	+135.61%	+2.16%	14.9x	1.5x
Life Insurance	542.0	413.3	+31.13%	+2.83%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	210.5	149.7	+40.61%	+1.10%	15.5x	4.6x
Pharmaceutical	4,676.5	2,994.2	+56.19%	+24.40%	18.9x	2.7x
Fuel & Power	1,071.6	617.6	+73.52%	+5.59%	11.8x	1.2x
Cement	524.8	410.9	+27.72%	+2.74%	27.6x	2.8x
Services & Real Estate	1,336.3	676.0	+97.69%	+6.97%	90.6x	1.4x
Engineering	1,589.6	1,262.5	+25.91%	+8.29%	20.3x	1.9x
Food & Allied	498.2	498.0	+17.52%	+3.05%	22.9x	8.0x
IT	1,046.3	396.5	+163.85%	+5.46%	30.7x	2.6x
Textile	1,020.9	1,110.4	-8.06%	+5.33%	26.5x	1.1x
Paper & Printing	500.7	262.4	+90.85%	+2.61%	NM	2.9x
Tannery	66.6	125.9	-47.11%	+0.35%	35.8x	3.3x
Jute	83.8	89.5	-6.40%	+0.44%	NM	36.3x
Ceramics	518.3	470.9	+10.06%	+2.70%	31.5x	2.0x
Miscellaneous	4,205.7	2,841.0	+48.04%	+21.94%	12.9x	2.2x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD Δ%	Mcap**	PE	PB
HEIDELCEM	179.1	-34.3%	10,120	NM	2.8x
PIONEERINS	71.5	-32.7%	6,054	10.7x	1.4x
LANKABAFIN	26.0	-30.3%	14,010	11.6x	1.3x
BRACBANK	38.5	-25.2%	57,619	11.3x	1.0x
ACTIVEFINE	19.3	-24.6%	4,631	83.9x	0.9x
BATBC	518.7	-18.4%	280,098	18.1x	7.4x
GP	286.6	-18.0%	386,996	11.4x	7.7x
OLYMPIC	131.9	-17.9%	26,372	18.0x	2.9x
DBH	57.8	-17.5%	11,270	10.3x	1.5x
CONFIDCEM	102.1	-16.2%	7,988	11.5x	1.3x

Important News: Business & Economy

Govt okays 90,000-tonne fertiliser purchase

- The government purchase committee yesterday gave the nod to two public agencies to buy a total of 90,000 tonnes of fertiliser from Qatar and Morocco under a state-to-state contract to augment the country's fertiliser stock for growing food in coming seasons.
- Of the amount, the Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) will buy 30,000 tonnes of triple super phosphate from Morocco at USD 687.25 per tonne, which is lower than the previous price of USD 914 per tonne.
- The remaining 60,000 tonnes will be urea fertiliser to be bought by the Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) from Qatar, according to the decision of the Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-okays-90000-tonne-fertiliser-purchase-3125321>

ADB cuts Bangladesh's GDP growth forecast to 6.6%

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has trimmed its growth forecast for Bangladesh's gross domestic product (GDP) to 6.6% for the current fiscal year from a 7.1% projection made in April. The lender said the growth momentum in Bangladesh continued in 2022, but it will slow in 2023 because of lower consumption expenditure on weaker export demand and income, an uncertain outlook, and domestic production constraints.
- The government placed a target to achieve 7.5% GDP growth in the current fiscal year. ADB's growth projection is 0.9 percentage point lower than the government target.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/adb-cuts-bangladeshs-gdp-growth-forecast-66-revises-inflation-500398>

Forex reserves now below USD 37 Bn

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves today dipped below USD 37 Bn due to high import payments against the slower than expected export earnings. The reserves stood at USD 36.98 Bn on Wednesday, down from around USD 37 Bn a day ago, according to data from Bangladesh Bank

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/forex-reserve-below-37-billion-now-3124971>

Apparel export growth declines in Sept after 13-month boost

- After a prolonged spell of growth for 13 months, Bangladesh's apparel exports have started to see the flipside – the country registered more than 12% year-on-year negative growth in the first 18 days of September.
- In these 18 days, the readymade garment sector raked in USD 1.72 Bn in contrast to USD 1.96 Bn in the same period last fiscal year, according to the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/apparel-exports-suffer-negative-growth-sept-after-13-month-boost-500198>

Foreign trade in Indian rupee not doable

- Businesses in Bangladesh will not be able to use the Indian rupee in conducting trade with entities abroad as Bangladesh Bank has not enlisted the currency as a means of settling letters of credit (LCs).
- However, entrepreneurs said if trade between Bangladesh and India takes place in the local currencies, pressure from falling US dollar reserves and associated ongoing forex market volatility would be reduced to some extent.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/indian/news/foreign-trade-indian-rupee-not-doable-3125331>

Forex transactions through cards on the rise

- Foreign currency transactions through cards soared to record BDT4.42 Bn in July as people going abroad preferred using cards as dollar crisis in the country's financial market prompted travellers to use cards. According to Bangladesh Bank data, card-based foreign currency transactions reached BDT3.994 Bn in June from BDT3.586 Bn in May.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/181502/forex-transactions-through-cards-on-the-rise>

'Bangladesh to get ADB's USD 2 Bn loan this fiscal'

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is working to hand over USD 2 Bn in loan assistance to Bangladesh by the current fiscal year, ADB Country Director Edimon Ginting said today. He shared the info in a meeting with Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal at the latter's secretariat office in Dhaka.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-get-adbs-2-billion-loan-fiscal-3124016>

EPZs see record growth in investment, export, employment in FY22

- The fiscal 2021-22 was a prolific year for the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza), with its eight export processing zones (EPZs) posting the highest-ever growth in investment, export and employment.
- The EPZs received investments to the tune of USD 410 Mn last fiscal year, which is 20.26% higher than that of the previous year, according to data obtained from Bepza. During the same period, export earnings from the EPZs grew 30.41% to USD 8.7 Bn while the number of new jobs surged by 36.13% to 64,160.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/epzs-see-record-growth-investment-export-employment-fy22-500186>

Six local firms to invest USD 457 Mn in pharma, hospitality

- Six Bangladeshi companies have showed their interest to invest USD 457 Mn at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar in Chattogram and Sabrang Tourism Park in Cox's Bazar. They have prepared six investment proposals -- one for the pharmaceuticals sector and the rest five for the hospitality sector.
- The economic zones' authority will provide 17 acres land to the entrepreneurs, which are: Healthcare Pharmaceuticals Ltd (HPL), Ifad Motors Ltd, DIRD Composite Textiles Ltd, DIPTA Garments Ltd, DIRD Garments Ltd, and East West Travels & Tours (Pvt) Ltd.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/six-local-firms-invest-457-million-pharma-hospitality-3123976>

3 more submarine cables: Private companies to invest BDT 20 Bn

- Three private firms will invest around BDT 20 Bn collectively to connect Bangladesh with at least three more submarine communication cables, in a development that would ensure smooth supply of bandwidth amid surging internet use.
- The move will also ensure that internet connections are available at more competitive prices and reduce or end bandwidth imports. India currently caters to around 40% of the country's demand for bandwidth through land cables.
- Three local companies -- Summit Communications, CdNet Communications and Metacore Subcom Ltd -- have obtained the licence to establish, maintain and operate submarine cables. Having deposited a licence awarding fee of BDT100 Mn each, excluding 15% VAT, the firms will also have to pay BDT 30 Mn as an annual licence fee.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/private-companies-invest-tk-2000cr-3124396>

Revenue collection jumps 21% in Jul-Aug

- Revenue collection by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) witnessed robust growth of 21% in the July-August period of the current fiscal year thanks to the devaluation of taka, high inflationary pressure and expansion of the economy.
- As such, the NBR has collected BDT 402.70 Bn from income tax, value added tax (VAT) and customs duty in the first two months of fiscal 2022-23, according to official documents. Revenue collection by the NBR had grown by some 14.49% during the same period last year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/revenue-collection-jumps-21pc-jul-aug-3124241>

Banks, NBFIs with low NPL allowed to issue green bond

- Bangladesh Bank on Tuesday approved a policy on issuing and financing green bonds by banks and non-bank financial institutions, saying that banks or NBFIs which hold more than 10% defaulted loans are not allowed to issue such bonds.
- The central bank issued a circular in this regard on the day. It said that a bank or a NBFI might issue green bond (after being approved by the board of directors) to raise its capital with a view to financing the proceeds in environmentally eligible projects.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/181593/banks-nbfis-with-low-npl-allowed-to-issue-green-bond>

Foreign investors put BDT 300 Bn in real estate – more to come

- At a time when the global housing boom is running out of steam, Bangladesh has been on a hot streak with continued inflows of foreign investment in the real estate sector, thanks to growing demand.
- Over the last 17 years, around 43 foreign companies from countries like Japan, Singapore, the UAE, Malaysia, Qatar, China and Korea have entered the country's thriving housing sector with investments amounting to BDT 300 Bn, according to the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida).
- Attracted by the strong housing market in Bangladesh, more and more foreign real estate companies continue to come in – as industry people say there is around BDT 300 Bn more in the pipeline that is expected to flow in next year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/foreign-investors-put-tk30kcr-real-estate-more-come-500170>

WB first wants to know about forex reserves

- World Bank has sought to know about Bangladesh's current economic situation, especially the state of forex reserve and inflation, ahead of providing USD250 Mn in budgetary support. A 10-member delegation of the international lender held a meeting in this regard with State Minister for Planning Shamsul Alam at his office in Dhaka yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/wb-first-wants-know-about-forex-reserves-3123496>

Bangladesh received over USD1 Bn remittance till Sep 15

- Bangladesh received inward remittance worth over USD1.0 Bn US dollars in the first 15 days of September, amid the forex crisis in the country. Bankers said remittance inflow shows an upward trend as the remitters are encouraged by the depreciation of the taka and they get more than BDT108 per dollar.
- The remittance inflow is expected to cross USD2.0 Bn in September. Bangladesh received remittances of USD2.09 Bn in July and USD2.03 Bn in August, which became a blessing amidst the forex crisis, reports UNB.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-received-over-1b-remittance-till-sep-15-1663585250>

Bangladesh should tap blue economy: Dutch-Bangla Chamber

- Bangladesh should devise mid- and long-term strategies to explore the "blue economy" as the country's maritime resources remained untapped despite the victory against neighbouring countries in the international tribunal on maritime boundaries in 2014.
- Sources said Bangladesh has targeted to increase the contribution of the blue economy to GDP by 9% in 2025 and 10% by 2030. According to some estimates, Bangladesh has USD120 Tn-ocean resources which could make Bangladesh an Asian superpower.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-should-tap-blue-economy-dutch-bangla-chamber-499418>

China to help Bangladesh in developing insurance sector

- Bangladesh Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) and Sinsoft Co. Ltd, a China-based company, have signed an agreement to develop the insurance industry in Bangladesh. Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jiming has said insurance will play an increasingly important role in Bangladesh's social-economic development.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/china-to-help-bangladesh-in-developing-insurance-sector-1663328836>

French retailer Carrefour looks to expand business in Bangladesh

- Carrefour, a French multinational retail chain, has expressed interest in strengthening its partnership with Bangladeshi suppliers to expand its business base here. During a courtesy visit to BGMEA President Faruque Hassan at the BGMEA Complex on Monday, Jean Marie Fouque, director (Textile Global Sourcing) of Carrefour, discussed prospects of increasing apparel sourcing from Bangladesh.
- They also had discussions about different RMG trade-related issues, including challenges and opportunities of Bangladesh's RMG industry, said a press release. They also discussed possible collaboration between Carrefour and BGMEA to support the Centre of Innovation Efficiency and Occupational Safety and Health.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/french-retailer-carrefour-looks-expand-business-bangladesh-499394>

India's top lender asks exporters to trade with Bangladesh in rupee, taka

- Top lender State Bank of India (SBI.NS) has asked exporters to avoid settling deals with Bangladesh in the dollar and other major currencies as it looks to curb exposure to Dhaka's falling reserves, according to an internal document and a source.
- The decision not to increase exposure to the dollar and other foreign currencies in relation to Bangladesh stemmed from the current economic situation and the neighbouring nation's shortage of foreign currency, the bank said in its circular. "However exposure in Indian rupee (INR) and taka will continue," it added.

<https://www.reuters.com/markets/asia/exclusive-indias-top-lender-asks-exporters-trade-with-bangladesh-rupee-taka-2022-09-19/>

Ease for banks as exchange rate drops

- The interbank exchange rate of the US dollar and average dollar buying rates by banks started to decline just a week after the public and private banks took up some special measures in coordination with the central bank.
- According to the central bank, banks traded dollars among themselves at a maximum BDT105.50 on Sunday. The price was at BDT106.75 just the previous day. Bankers said the crisis in the dollar market had eased up slightly, but they wanted to observe for a few more months to say anything concrete.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/ease-banks-exchange-rate-drops-499438>

NBFI loan disbursement shoots up 46%

- Loan disbursement by non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) surged 46% year-on-year in the April-June quarter thanks to a recovery in demand after the reopening of the economy in the second half of last year.
- Financial institutions disbursed BDT68.39 Bn in the July-April period of 2022, up from BDT46.80 Bn in the same period a year ago, according to Bangladesh Bank data released on Sunday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nbfi-loan-disbursement-shoots-46pc-3123316>

Steel industry suffering from 50% slump in sales

- The steel industry in Bangladesh is currently witnessing a steep drop in sales as the depreciation of taka against US dollar has hiked production costs at a time when consumers are unwilling to pay higher prices for the key construction material.
- Industry insiders say sales have fallen by an average of 50% to 0.25 Mn tonnes per month even though the annual demand for steel products is about 6.0 Mn tonnes in normal times.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/steel-industry-suffering-50pc-slump-sales-3123471>

Bangladesh Forex Flexibility to Help Fight External Shocks, IMF Says

- Bangladesh's pivot to a more market-driven exchange rate will help the nation fight external shocks, the International Monetary Fund said. "Greater flexibility will help buffer external shocks, manage domestic liquidity conditions, and strengthen monetary transmission," Rahul Anand, IMF mission chief for Bangladesh, said in an emailed response to questions Friday. The move is in line with IMF policy advice, he said.
- Bangladesh loosened its control on its currency this week and allowed the taka to weaken, with Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal saying the nation will gradually go for a floating exchange rate. The government is seeking a loan from the IMF and a more market-driven exchange rate is typically one of the conditions set by the Washington-based lender.
- The taka traded as low as 106.9 per dollar on Wednesday, losing 11% of its value this week, according to data from the central bank. Bangladesh Bank has injected USD10.4 Bn into the currency market since July 2021 to support the taka, according to BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Ltd.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-09-16/bangladesh-fx-flexibility-to-fight-external-shocks-imf-says?leadSource=uverify%20wall>

Dhaka EPZ gets USD25.62 Mn FDI

- Tri-nation company Gava Private Limited is going to establish a garments manufacturing unit with USD25.62 Mn in the Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ). The project from joint investors from Hong Kong, Switzerland and Sri Lanka will create about 3,086 employment opportunities for Bangladeshi nationals.
- According to the Dhaka EPZ officials, this tri-nation company will annually produce 4.4 Mn pieces of jackets, fleece jackets, t-shirts, polo shirts, sweaters, trousers, coveralls, stretch pants, denim pants, shorts, shirts, sweat-shirts, hi-vis shirts, and vests.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/2562m-new-investment-dhaka-epz-498646>

New headache: private firms' foreign loans jump to USD26 Bn

- The amount of foreign loans availed by the private sector in Bangladesh has been swelling fast since 2020, creating a major headache for the country's economy at a time when its foreign exchange reserves are plummeting.
- Various private companies in the country took foreign loans to the tune of USD25.95 Bn collectively as of June this year, up 39% year-on-year, shows data from Bangladesh Bank. Besides, short-term external debt accounted for 68.4% of all foreign loans taken by the private sector till June. The repayment tenure for a majority of these short-term loans is a maximum of three years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/new-headache-private-firms-foreign-loans-jump-26b-3122656>

Mandatory tax return filing relaxed for loans, credit cards

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has relaxed the provision of mandatory submission of tax returns for obtaining loans up to BDT2.0 Mn. Borrowers will not need to submit proof of income tax returns in case of taking loans up to BDT2.0 Mn and for credit card transactions up to BDT0.20 Mn, in the student category.
- The relaxed condition, however, will not be applicable for those who have taxable income, according to a notification issued with immediate effect by the tax authority of NBR on Sunday.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/mandatory-tax-return-filing-relaxed-loans-credit-cards-498442>

Remittances thru' state banks drop 35%, private banks in positive growth

- Remittance influx to state-run commercial banks dropped around 35% in the April-June quarter, compared to that of the same period of the previous year, while private commercial banks witnessed a positive growth of 1.57%
- The overall remittance flow was USD5733.42 Mn during the quarter, 7.22% lower year-on-year, according to the central bank's latest report. It was USD6179.48 Mn in the April-June quarter of 2021. Bankers said the June quarter trend also continued in July and August.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/remittances-thru-state-banks-drop-35-private-banks-positive-growth-498870>

Gas shortage chokes textile millers

- Textile millers across the greater Gazipur, Sreepur and Bhaluka industrial belt yesterday urged the state minister for energy, power and mineral resources to put an end to their perennial gas crisis, which is currently preventing them from continuing smooth production.
- Textile millers and other factories along this industrial belt annually produce some USD10 Bn worth of goods, particularly fabric, yarn and finished garments. However, they have been suffering from low gas pressure for the past few years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/gas-shortage-chokes-textile-millers-3122641>

Businesses can do foreign trade using yuan: BB

- Bangladesh Bank yesterday said local banks would be able to maintain accounts in Chinese yuan or renminbi with their corresponding lenders or branches abroad so as to help local businesses settle transactions for foreign trade using the currency.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/businesses-can-do-foreign-trade-using-yuan-bb-3120621>

ADP implementation 3.85% in first two months of FY23

- All ministries and divisions of the government could spend only 3.85% or BDT98.44 Bn of their respective allocations under the annual development programme (ADP) in the first two months (July-August) of the current fiscal year, revealed the latest progress report prepared by the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the Planning Ministry.
- In the same period of FY21 and FY22, the ADP implementation rate was 3.82% and 3.89%, respectively. The ADP allocation for FY23 amounts to BDT2,560.03 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/adp-implementation-385-first-two-months-fy23-496718>

Low fuel, capital machinery procurement drags down Aug import bill

- Bangladesh's import bills fell to USD5.38 Bn in August from USD6.79 Bn a month ago thanks to lower fuel and capital equipment procurement, according to the central bank. Fuel oil and capital machinery contributed more than 65% to the USD1.41 Bn import fall in August, as shown in Bangladesh Bank data.
- The country paid USD1.01 Bn in July for crude and refined fuel, which plummeted by more than 57% to USD433 million in August. Capital equipment import in July cost the country USD617 Mn, which dropped by 55% to USD276 Mn in August.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/low-fuel-capital-machinery-procurement-drags-down-aug-import-bill-498262>

Korea RMG market beckons

- Bangladesh's bid to expand into new destinations with its potential export items continues with an eye on a bigger slice of the USD10.5 Bn South Korean apparel market. Business insiders say with apparel manufacturing increasingly moving out of China because of rising costs, Bangladeshi entrepreneurs now have the opportunity to grab the Korean market that currently sources 34% of their clothing items from Beijing.
- The apparel sector expects to hit the USD1 Bn mark export to Korea in the current fiscal year with a diverse basket of items like lingerie, denim, shirt, jacket and pullover, said the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/korea-rmg-market-beckons-498294>

Industries worried over 57% hike in freight forwarding charges

- A whopping 57% increase in freight forwarding charge will cause an additional burden on importers in the country to the tune of BDT5.46 Bn annually, traders say. While local consumers will actually bear the brunt of the hiked charge, exporters fear losing competitive edge as passing the extra cost on foreign buyers will not be easy for them given the slowing trend in export demand, according to businesspeople.
- The Bangladesh Freight Forwarders Association (BAFFA) hiked forwarding charges by BDT2,000 to BDT5,500 for each import bill – effective from 1 September – citing the recent increase in fuel prices.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industries-worried-over-57-hike-freight-forwarding-charges-497354>

Digital payment can be used for CMSME loans: Experts

- Accepting of digital payment through the personal retail account could pave the way for the country's cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises (CMSMEs) to avail loans from banking channels, experts said today.
- Bangladesh Bank in November 2020 issued a circular enabling the micro and underprivileged businesses—those who have accounts with banks, mobile financial service and payment service providers—to open personal retail accounts without a trade licence.
- "CMSME covers 90% of the country's economic activities employing over 14 Mn people. But about 60% of the CMSME have no access to finance from banks and financial institutions," Shah Zia-UI Haque, an additional director of Bangladesh Bank. A record or footprint will be created when the CMSMEs would use digital platforms for transactions, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/digital-payment-can-be-used-cmsme-loan-3121561>

Steel building makers get more time to clear import payments

- Bangladesh Bank yesterday announced that makers of prefabricated steel structures will now have almost a year to clear their letters of credit for raw material imports in a bid to facilitate growth in the industry.
- Previously, payments for raw materials sourced from foreign manufacturers could be deferred for up to 180 days but the central bank decided to enhance the usance period to 360 days after prefabricated building makers urged it to reduce their cost of doing business.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/steel-building-makers-get-more-time-clear-import-payments-3120576>

Govt working to raise annual exports to USD100 Bn by 2026: Tipu Munshi

- The government and private sector entrepreneurs are working together to boost the country's export earnings to USD100 Bn by 2026, said Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi on Saturday.
- "About USD60 Bn worth of goods and services were exported in the last fiscal year. Efforts are underway to raise the overall exports to USD80 billion in 2024 and USD100 Bn in 2026," he said at a Meet the Press programme organised by the Overseas Correspondents of Bangladesh (OCAB) at the National Press Club in Dhaka.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-working-raise-annual-exports-100b-2026-tipu-munshi-498126>

Fresh fruit imports fall 50% in four months on tightened rules

- Imports of fresh fruits dropped 50% in the four months till August with the government tightening rules regarding the procurement of such non-essential items to ease pressure on depleting forex reserves. The National Board of Revenue raised the regulatory duty on imports of various fresh fruits to 20% from the earlier 3%, while the Bangladesh Bank slapped a 100% cash margin requirement for opening letters of credit for imports of such products.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/fresh-fruit-imports-fall-50-four-months-tightened-rules-497950>

Bangladesh e-commerce sales to more than double by 2026: Research

- The business-to-customer e-commerce market in Bangladesh is expected to grow by 17.61% on an annual basis, aimed at reaching BDT659.66 Bn in 2022, according to a recent market research. The e-commerce market size in 2021 was about BDT568.70 Bn and will be around BDT1,500 Bn by 2026, said the Dublin-based trade research institution ResearchAndMarkets.com.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-e-commerce-sales-more-double-2026-research-497134>

Important News: Capital Market

BSEC approves BDT 700 Mn IPO of Midland Bank

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), in a meeting Wednesday, has allowed Midland Bank Ltd to raise BDT 700 Mn from the capital market with an initial public offering (IPO). The bank will issue 70 Mn shares at a face value of BDT 10 each.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-approves-tk70cr-ipo-midland-bank-500822>

IDLC Finance approves BDT 5 Bn bond

- The board of directors of IDLC Finance Ltd has approved the issuance of a BDT 5 Bn zero-coupon bond for a tenure of two years.
- The nature of the bond is unsecured and non-convertible, stated the company disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) website on Tuesday.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/idlc-finance-approves-tk500cr-bond-500110>

ICB Golden Jubilee MF makes trading debut tomorrow

- A new closed-end mutual fund, 'ICB AMCL CMSF Golden Jubilee Mutual Fund', will make its trading debut on both the stock exchanges of the country tomorrow (Wednesday).
- The Golden Jubilee Mutual Fund received regulatory approval from the BSEC on June 28 and the total size of the fund is BDT 1.0 Bn with a face value of BDT 10 per unit.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/icb-golden-jubilee-mf-makes-trading-debut-tomorrow-1663646537>

BSEC chairman stresses restoring investor confidence in mutual funds

- Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) Chairman Professor Shibli Rubaiyat-ul Islam has stressed rebuilding investor confidence to boost mutual fund investments as they have a major role to play in stabilising the capital market.
- "The commission is attaching importance to mutual funds to restore stability in the market. Some funds are doing well and are yielding good returns for investors. Work is underway to bring some Shariah-based funds to the market in the future," he said while speaking as chief guest at the Ring the Bell ceremony of ICB AMCL CMSE Golden Jubilee Mutual Fund and Investors' Claim Settlement Programme at Hotel InterContinental in the capital on Tuesday.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bsec-chairman-stresses-restoring-investor-confidence-mutual-funds-500126>

Jamuna Bank puts Salta Capital assets on auction

- Jamuna Bank Ltd has put up the assets of brokerage firm Salta Capital Limited for auction to recover a default loan of BDT 920 Mn.
- The bank, on Tuesday, published the auction notice for selling the property shown as mortgage by the securities house as per the Money Loan Court Act.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/jamuna-bank-puts-salta-capital-assets-auction-500106>

GP starts selling SIM against unused numbers

- Grameenphone has started selling SIM cards against its suspended unused numbers, following a recent regulatory approval.
- But, the ban on the country's largest mobile network operator from selling new SIMs is still there, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) Vice-Chairman Subrata Roy Maitra told The Business Standard.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/telecom/gp-starts-selling-sim-against-unused-numbers-498758>

Eastern Housing posts record profits as property value soars

- Eastern Housing Ltd (EHL), the lone publicly traded realtor of the country, has made a record profit in 2021-22 fiscal year by realising higher gains amid the recent rises in property prices, according to the realtor's latest price sensitive information.
- The company's net profit after taxes rose 47.6% to BDT549 Mn in the fiscal year that ended on 30 June 2022. Its annual earnings per share (EPS) increased to BDT5.88, from the previous year's EPS of BDT3.98. The EHL board of directors on Thursday recommended a 20% cash dividend for FY22. On 30 June this year, the company's net asset value per share stood at BDT74.21.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/eastern-housing-posts-record-profits-property-value-soars-498266>

Prime Bank to raise BDT5.0 Bn term loan for Sajida Foundation

- Prime Bank is going to raise a staggering syndicated term loan of BDT5.0 Bn for Sajida Foundation to disburse for the latter's microfinance programme. Zahida Fizza Kabir, chief executive officer of Sajida Foundation, and Hassan O Rashid, managing director of Prime Bank, signed an agreement to this end in Dhaka recently, a press release said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/prime-bank-raise-tk-500cr-term-loan-sajida-foundation-3121846>

ADN Telecom recommends 10% cash dividend

- ADN Telecom Ltd has recommended a 10% cash dividend for its shareholders for 2022. It paid a 10% cash dividend also in the previous year. According to its financials, the company's earnings per share (EPS) slightly increased to BDT2.59, which was BDT2.57 in the previous year.
- The net asset value (NAV) per share also increased to BDT27.56, from BDT25.97 in the previous year. The annual general meeting (AGM) will be held on 7 December through a digital platform, and to identify the shareholders entitled to the dividend, the record date has been fixed on 13 October.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/adn-telecom-recommends-10-cash-dividend-498254>

IPO of Global Islami Bank to open October 16

- The initial public offering (IPO) of Global Islami Bank will open for subscription on October 16, aiming to raise BDT4.25 Bn from the capital market under the fixed-price method.
- The IPO subscription will close on October 20, according to its abridged prospectus published on Wednesday. It will be the fifth largest IPO after Robi Axiata (BDT5.23 Bn), Grameenphone (BDT4.86 Bn), MJL Bangladesh (BDT4.60 Bn) and Union Bank (BDT4.28 Bn), according to data available with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/ipo-of-global-islami-bank-to-open-october-16-1663215824>

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BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

Research

Salim Afzal Shawon, CFA	Head of Research	salim@bracepl.com	01708 805 221
Anika Mafiz	Research Analyst	anika.mafiz@bracepl.com	01708 805 206
Hossain Zaman Towhidi Khan	Senior Research Associate	hztowhidi.khan@bracepl.com	01708 805 224
Fahim Hassan	Research Associate	fahim.hassan@bracepl.com	01709 636 546
Billal Hossain	Research Associate	billal.hossain@bracepl.com	01708 805 229
Md. Tanvir Ahmed	Research Associate	mtanvir.ahmed@bracepl.com	01708 805 201

International Trade and Sales

Ahsanur Rahman Bappi	CEO	bappi@bracepl.com	01730 357 991
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BRAC EPL Research

www.bracepl.com

Symphony, Plot No.: S.E.(F) – 9(3rd Floor), Road No.: 142

Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka – 1212

Phone: + (880)-2-9852446-50

Fax: + (880)-2-9852451-52

E-Mail: research@bracepl.com