

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:****Foreign exchange rates stable after BB tightens spending**

- Bangladesh Bank's move to curb foreign currency spending has resulted in stability in the market after a jump in hiking exchange rates over the last four months. Through several regulatory measures against some banks and money exchange houses, the volatile forex market is seemingly stable now. Banks' and kerb market's exchange rate of US dollar stood at BDT 95 and BDT 98-100 respectively.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/foreign-exchange-rates-stable-after-bb-tightens-spending-1662380044>

**Yuan gains while dollar shrinks in Bangladesh reserve**

- With China emerging as a major economic power, being the second largest economy after the United States, it has become a country of tremendous influence in the global economy and financial markets. In the last decade, it has contributed more than 30% to global economic growth, according to reports.
- The Bangladesh Bank has been building up the share of yuan in its foreign exchange reserve, cutting down the share of dollar as the Chinese currency is gaining acceptance faster in global markets for international payments as an alternative to the greenback. The share of yuan in Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserve increased to 1.32% in August this year from 1% in 2017 when the dominating US dollar reserve fell significantly to 75% from 81% during the period, according to Bangladesh Bank data.
- Other reserve currencies have also seen a surge. For instance, the euro is the second highest reserve currency and the share of euro holdings increased to 5% in August this year from 3.84% in 2017 while the share of the pound increased to 4.4% from 3.43%, according to central bank data.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/yuan-gains-while-dollar-shrinks-bangladesh-reserve-490798>

**BB asks banks to cut energy use**

- Bangladesh Bank yesterday asked banks to reduce use of electricity and energy consumption as part of the austerity measures taken by the government to contain the volatility in the foreign exchange market. In late July, Bangladesh Bank asked the lenders to cut back allocations for the use of petrol, diesel, gas and lubricant by at least 20% within this fiscal year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-asks-banks-cut-energy-use-3112011>

**External sector volatility eases on austerity**

- Austerity works as Bangladesh's import orders dropped nearly 24% or USD1.77 Bn in August following regulatory measures to ease pressure on the economy from forex crunch, officials said. The opening of letters of credit (LCs), generally known as import orders, came down to USD5.65 Bn in August 2022 from USD7.42 Bn in the same month of the previous calendar year, according to the central bank's latest statistics. It was USD6.22 Bn in July 2022.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/external-sector-volatility-eases-on-austerity-1662432004>

### **Non-RMG exports stuck at 20%**

- The share of non-apparel products in Bangladesh's exports has been stuck at about 20% for the past 10 years though the three consecutive five-year plans of the government emphasised diversifying the export base by promoting other products than readymade garments. Experts and exporters said that the export share of non-RMG products remained stagnant due to various reasons, including the lack of proper policy support.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/180319/non-rmg-exports-stuck-at-20pc>

### **Stocks:**

#### **Meghna Life declares 25% dividends**

- The board of directors of Meghna Life Insurance Company Ltd recommended 25% dividends - 15% cash and 10% stock - for the year that ended on 31 December, 2021. The annual general meeting (AGM) for shareholders to consider dividend payment proposals along with other agenda will be held on 19 October on a digital platform. The record date to identify eligible shareholders who can join the AGM and avail dividends will be 25 September.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/meghna-life-declares-25-dividends-490722>

#### **Master Feed recommends 10% cash dividend**

- Master Feed Agrotec – which is traded at the SME platform of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) as a low-cap company – has recommended a 10% cash dividend for its shareholders for the fiscal 2021-22. But its sponsors and directors will not take the dividend as the feed manufacturer suffered an operating cash crisis in the last fiscal year, said a source in the company.
- According to a stock exchange filing, Master Feed will hold its annual general meeting (AGM) on 30 November for getting shareholders' approval on the audited financial statement and recommended dividend.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/master-feed-recommends-10-cash-dividend-490746>

**World Stock and Commodities\***

<b>Index Name</b>	<b>Close Value</b>	<b>Value Change YTD</b>	<b>% Change YTD</b>
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 88.52	USD 13.31	17.70%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 94.81	USD 17.03	21.90%
Gold Spot*	USD 1,717.29	(USD 111.91)	-6.12%
DSEX	6,431.35	-325.31	-4.81%
S&P 500	3,924.26	-841.92	-17.66%
FTSE 100	7,287.43	-97.11	-1.32%
BSE SENSEX	59,245.98	992.16	1.70%
KSE-100	41,859.30	-2,736.77	-6.14%
CSEALL	9,366.39	-2,859.62	-23.39%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 95.01 BDT****1 GBP = 110.04 BDT****1 Euro = 94.57 BDT****1 INR = 1.19 BDT**

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