

*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.*

### **Bangladesh to become \$500bn economy by 2026: StanChart economists**

- Leading economists of Standard Chartered have observed that growth will be sustained over 7 per cent in FY22-26 and this should drive Bangladesh's GDP up to \$500 billion and per capita to \$3,000 by FY26.
- Standard Chartered economist for South Asia Saurav Anand said, 'Bangladesh's economy is set to accelerate after a speed bump, with GDP growth forecast at 5.5 per cent in FY21 and 7.2 per cent in FY22. The momentum will be driven by an export demand recovery, strong remittance inflows and public investment. Policy support is a prerequisite for a smooth transition to middle-income status, with per capita GDP set to reach \$3,000 by FY26.'

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/151175/bangladesh-to-become-500bn-economy-by-2026-stanchart-economists>

### **World Bank forecasts Bangladesh GDP growth at 6.4pc in FY22**

- Bangladesh's gross domestic product growth will be 6.4 per cent in the financial year of 2021-22, said the World Bank in a report on South Asia on Thursday.
- The multilateral lending agency in its June 2021 Global Economic Prospect, however, said Bangladesh's GDP to grow 5.1 per cent in the current financial year to be concluded in June 2022. The WB report, however, said the South Asian region would grow by 7.1 per cent in 2021 and 2022. While the year-on-year growth remains strong in the region, albeit from a very low base in 2020, the recovery has been uneven across countries and sectors, it said.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/151157/world-bank-forecasts-bangladesh-gdp-growth-at-64pc-in-fy22>

### **UK firms keen to invest in Bangladesh's service sectors: High Commissioner**

- A number of UK-based companies are looking to invest in different sectors in Bangladesh, including financial services, health and education, British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert Chatterton Dickson said on Thursday.
- He said issues with the National Board of Revenue, which are sometimes faced by UK firms such as British American Tobacco, Unilever and HSBC – some of the biggest taxpayers in Bangladesh – needed to be looked into. The high commissioner also recommended working on issues such as contract enforcement and intellectual property rights.
- On the capital market, High Commissioner Dickson said financial companies had a significant interest in investing in Bangladesh.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/uk-firms-keen-invest-bangladeshs-service-sectors-high-commissioner-312931>

### **Textile sector gets Tk 5,000cr investment in 9 months**

- The country's textile sector received a whopping Tk 5,000 crore as proposed investment in the January-September period of this year as businesses set up new mills and expanded their existing capacities to meet the increased export demand after the Covid outbreak.
- Experts and businesses said that demand for apparel increased on the global market as the US and European markets started to rebound from the Covid-19 shocks thanks to mass vaccination programmes.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/151214/textile-sector-gets-tk-5000cr-investment-in-9-months>

**BB extends HTM limit to help bank cut losses in bonds**

- Due to the increased interest rate of government treasury bonds, both private and state-owned banks have been suffering losses. In an effort to help the banks cut down on their losses the central bank has enhanced the held-to-maturity (HTM) limit.
- According to the new directive all banks – both primary and non-primary dealers – are now permitted to exceed the maximum held-to-maturity limit by 10 percentage points for a limited period.
- The maximum limit is reset as 120% of the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) for all non-primary dealer banks and 135% for all primary dealer banks.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-extends-htm-limit-help-bank-cut-losses-bonds-312913>

**BGMEA seeks duty-free access to Brazil for RMG products**

- Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) President Faruque Hassan has requested the government of Brazil to provide duty-free access to Bangladeshi apparel products.
- He said Bangladesh is willing to import more cotton from Brazil for its ready-made garment industry and requested cooperation from the Ambassador in this regard. They talked about the scope of collaboration and support from Brazil especially in building the capacity of Bangladesh's RMG sector in design development for value-added apparel products.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2021/10/07/bgmea-seeks-duty-free-access-to-brazil-for-rmg-products>

**Source more from Bangladesh: BGMEA president to US buyers**

- Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association president Faruque Hassan has called upon brands and buyers in the United States to source more garments, including non-cotton and high-end apparel products, from Bangladesh.
- Faruque said that unprecedented strides in safety, sustainability and social compliance in the RMG industry had earned Bangladesh global recognition and made the country a preferable sourcing destination among buyers. He also highlighted the future priorities of the apparel industry, especially increased focus on non-cotton and high-end product segment. The BGMEA president requested Richard to share the positive developments and stories about Bangladesh's RMG industry in the US.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/151210/source-more-from-bangladesh-bgmea-president-to-us-buyers>

**Net sales of savings certificates down 54% in July**

- In July, the first month of the new financial year, net sales of savings certificates have gone down about 54%. Net sales of savings certificates in July was Tk2104 crore which only a month before in June was Tk4,573 crore, according to Bangladesh Bank information.
- Total deposits in the first month of the current financial year amounted to Tk5,365 crore, 38.37% less than a year ago in July of the last financial year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/net-sales-savings-certificates-down-54-july-312868>

**Dhaka lags behind in business climate index, Ctg tops**

- Business environment in divisions other than Dhaka has been turning up to be more supportive to investors, thanks to infrastructural development in those regions and the government's decentralisation bid, according to a survey.
- Chattogram has so far remained at the top position on the business-outside-Dhaka list, followed by Khulna, Sylhet, Rangpur and Barishal, reveals the Bangladesh Business Climate Index (BBX) that has been prepared after conducting the survey.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/dhaka-lags-behind-business-climate-index-ctg-tops-312943>

**Stocks fall on profit booking**

- The stock market fell today as investors booked profits from increased share prices of some big paid-up capital-based companies. The DSEX, fell 8 points, or 0.10 per cent, to 7,342. At the DSE, 218 stocks rose, 216 declined and 51 remained unchanged. Turnover dropped 7 per cent to Tk 2,484 crore, down from Tk 2,681 crore a day earlier.
- Most of the stocks rose but investors sold some stocks of big companies to realise profits, which caused the index to drop, said a stock broker. As big companies' impact on the index is higher so their fall dragged down the index, said the broker.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/stocks-fall-profit-booking-2192886>

**Beximco to build Tk 1,700-crore solar power plant**

- Beximco Ltd is going to build a solar utility-scale power plant in Gaibandha with a cost of Tk 1,700 crore. The 230MW in alternating current (AC) will require the plants to produce 325MW in direct current (DC) and then conducting the conversion using inverters, explained Rafiqul Islam, an executive director of Beximco Group.
- The plants shall be commissioned by mid-2022, said the company. Teesta Solar and Korotoa Solar, two subsidiaries of Beximco Power Company, is going to deliver 200 and 30 megawatt (AC) power respectively.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/news/beximco-build-tk-1700-crore-solar-power-plant-2193036>

**Southeast Bank signs agreement with BB**

- Southeast Bank Limited signed an agreement on Automated Challan System (ACS) with Bangladesh Bank on October 7.
- Under this agreement, customers will be able to deposit taxes, vat, passport fees and other government fees using Automated Challan System (ACS) through all branches and sub-branches of Southeast Bank.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2021/10/07/southeast-bank-signs-agreement-with-bb>

**Agrani Insurance's Q3 earnings rise 275%**

- The Q3 (July-September) earnings of Agrani Insurance Co Ltd have increased by 275%. In a filing with the Dhaka Stock Exchange on Thursday, the company said that its earnings per share (EPS) was Tk0.60 for Q3 of 2021 against Tk0.16 for the same period of the last year. Meanwhile, its net asset value (NAV) per share stood at Tk18.14 as of September 30, 2021, and Tk18.11 as of December 31, 2020.
- Agrani Insurance last offered 5% cash and 5% stock dividend to its shareholders back in the year 2020. Its closing price was Tk54.9 during Thursday's trade.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2021/10/07/agrani-insurance-s-q3-earnings-rise-275>

### **Far East Knitting declares 10% cash**

- Far East Knitting & Dyeing Industries Limited has declared a 10% cash dividend for its shareholders for the year ending 30 June 2021. The dividend was declared at a company board meeting on Thursday.
- The company will have its annual general meeting (AGM) on 23 December 2021 to approve the declared dividend, an audited report, and other matters. The record date will be 11 November.
- According to their financial report 2021, company net profit was Tk17.28 crore, which was Tk7 crore in the previous year. During the period, its earnings per share stood at Tk0.79 and net asset value per share at Tk19.48.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/far-east-knitting-declares-10-cash-312883>

### **SBAC Bank suspends 11 officials, including 2 DMDs, over alleged irregularities**

- South Bangla Agriculture and Commerce Bank (SBAC) has suspended 11 officials, including two deputy managing directors (DMDs), due to alleged irregularities in disbursing loans. The two DMDs are Md Kamal Uddin and Shafiuddin Ahmed, said Mosleh Uddin Ahmed, managing director of SBAC.
- Other officials include the heads of credit administration and international divisions, as well as SBAC branch managers. Mosleh Uddin said the bank made the decision on October 4 in accordance with Bangladesh Bank directives.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/sbac-bank-suspends-11-officials-including-2-dmds-2192801>

**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 78.86	USD 30.34	62.53%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 82.48	USD 30.68	59.23%
Gold Spot*	USD 1,755.74	(USD 139.36)	-7.35%
DSEX	7,342.97	1,940.90	35.93%
S&P 500	4,399.76	643.69	17.14%
FTSE 100	7,078.04	617.52	9.56%
BSE SENSEX	59,677.83	11,926.50	24.98%
KSE-100	44,586.04	830.66	1.90%
CSEALL	9,671.00	2,896.78	42.76%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 85.60 BDT****1 GBP = 116.57 BDT****1 Euro = 98.92 BDT****1 INR = 1.14 BDT**

## IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

**Analyst Certification:** Each research analyst and research associate who authored this document and whose name appears herein certifies that the recommendations and opinions expressed in the research report accurately reflect their personal views about any and all of the securities or issuers discussed therein that are within the coverage universe.

**Disclaimer:** Estimates and projections herein are our own and are based on assumptions that we believe to be reasonable. Information presented herein, while obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, is not guaranteed either as to accuracy or completeness. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes a solicitation of the purchase or sale of any security. As it acts for public companies from time to time, BRAC-EPL may have a relationship with the above-mentioned company(s). This report is intended for distribution in only those jurisdictions in which BRAC-EPL is registered and any distribution outside those jurisdictions is strictly prohibited.

**Compensation of Analysts:** The compensation of research analysts is intended to reflect the value of the services they provide to the clients of BRAC-EPL. As with most other employees, the compensation of research analysts is impacted by the overall profitability of the firm, which may include revenues from corporate finance activities of the firm's Corporate Finance department. However, Research analysts' compensation is not directly related to specific corporate finance transaction.

**General Risk Factors:** BRAC-EPL will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for each company under coverage at the time of initiating research coverage and revisit this assessment when subsequent update reports are published, or material company events occur. Following are some general risks that can impact future operational and financial performance: (1) Industry fundamentals with respect to customer demand or product / service pricing could change expected revenues and earnings; (2) Issues relating to major competitors or market shares or new product expectations could change investor attitudes; (3) Unforeseen developments with respect to the management, financial condition or accounting policies alter the prospective valuation; or (4) Interest rates, currency or major segments of the economy could alter investor confidence and investment prospects.

### BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

#### Research

Salim Afzal Shaown, CFA	Head of Research	<a href="mailto:salim@bracepl.com">salim@bracepl.com</a>	01708 805 221
Nazmus Saadat, CFA	Research Analyst	<a href="mailto:nazmus.saadat@bracepl.com">nazmus.saadat@bracepl.com</a>	01708 805 229
Anika Mafiz	Research Analyst	<a href="mailto:anika.mafiz@bracepl.com">anika.mafiz@bracepl.com</a>	01708 805 206
Fahim Hassan	Research Associate	<a href="mailto:fahim.hassan@bracepl.com">fahim.hassan@bracepl.com</a>	01709 636 546

#### International Trade and Sales

Ahsanur Rahman Bappi	CEO	<a href="mailto:bappi@bracepl.com">bappi@bracepl.com</a>	01730 357 991
----------------------	-----	--	---------------

### BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

[www.bracepl.com](http://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](mailto:research@bracepl.com)