

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.

BD removed from UK's travel red list

- Grant Shapps, the Transport Secretary of UK announced Bangladesh's removal from the travel red list will be effective at 4 am on 22nd September. With this, travelers from Bangladesh who have been fully vaccinated with a UK-approved vaccine will no longer require a 10-day hotel quarantine.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bd-removed-from-uks-travel-red-list-1631985833>

Agri future 'lies in commercialization'

- For agriculture to be made lucrative for the youth in South Asia, massive commercialization through the use of technology is required. Bangladesh has done tremendously better than its many South Asian counterparts in terms of road connectivity, and the youth should use this benefit through farm entrepreneurship.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/agri-future-lies-in-commercialisation-1631985511>

BASIS for local software companies in government projects

- Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS) held its 22nd Annual General Meeting on Saturday, where it called for priority of Bangladeshi software companies in government projects, involving local companies in importing hardware and software from abroad and persuading the government to meet the conditions of production in local, and for enhancing industry research.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/basis-for-local-software-companies-in-govt-projects-1631981091>

RMG exports overwhelm Dhaka airport

- Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) is struggling to handle the mounting pressure of container cargos as buyers of international apparel brands are now keen to take their goods by air to avoid congestion at transshipment ports with growing demand at their home markets.
- Higher cargo shipping charges are also pushing the buyers and exporters to use air freights, but glitches in HSIA's scanners and weighing scales, ongoing construction works of the third terminal and insufficient storage space at its cargo village are making it very difficult to handle the extra load.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/dropped/trade/rmg-exports-overwhelm-dhaka-airport-304381>

BD eyes SOFR as LIBOR goes dead in January

- As the LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rate) based lending is to be discontinued from 2022, the Bangladesh government is looking at the potential to use the SOFR (Secured Overnight Financing Rate). The SOFR is the new global benchmark for setting interest rates on commercial and consumer loans.
- LIBOR is the average cost of borrowing, whereas SOFR is a risk-free rate based on treasury. LIBOR is known as unsecured rate but SOFR is a secured rate where treasury balance is always considered as collateral.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bd-eyes-sofr-as-libor-goes-dead-in-january-1631985815>

NRBC Bank awarded as the best bank in ‘Primary Dealer’ category

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) has announced NRBC Bank as the bank in “Primary Dealer” category for its outstanding performance during the last quarter (October-December). BB has paid BDT 535,420 as underwriting commission to the bank.
- NRBC Bank has 83 branches, 530 sub branches and 595 agent points all over the country.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/nrbc-bank-awarded-as-the-best-bank-in-primary-dealer-category-1631981028>

BSEC asks issuers to expedite listing of perpetual bonds

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has asked to accelerate the listing of perpetual bonds for the diversification of the Bangladesh bond market. The availability of perpetual bonds is expected to increase liquidity and attract new investors.
- A total of 11 banks have received the regulatory approval to issue perpetual bond. Among these banks, City Bank will issue perpetual bond worth BDT 4.0 billion, Mutual Trust Bank BDT 4.0 billion, One Bank BDT 4.0 billion, First Security Islami Bank BDT 6.0 billion, Trust Bank BDT 4.0 billion, Social Islami Bank BDT 5.0 billion, Jamuna Bank BDT 4.0 billion, Shahjalal Islami Bank BDT 5.0 billion, Islami Bank BDT 8.0 billion, EXIM Bank BDT 6.0 billion and Southeast Bank BDT 5.0 billion.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-asks-issuers-to-expedite-listing-of-perpetual-bonds-1631980904>

BAT contributes more than BDT 110m to Bangladesh Labour Welfare Foundation Fund

- British American Tobacco (BAT) Bangladesh, who are also one of the highest tax payers in the country have been contributing the Labour Welfare Foundation Fund since the inception of Bangladesh Workers Welfare Foundation Act. They have contributed approximately 15% of the fund.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bat-contributes-more-than-tk-110m-to-bangladesh-labour-welfare-foundation-fund-1631980962>

Top turnover leaders grab 23.26% of weekly transaction

- Beximco topped the chart of top 10 gainers. The company featured a turnover of BDT 5.90 billion in five sessions of last week and grabbed 5.30% of weekly market turnover. LankaBangla Finance posted a turnover of BDT 3.75 billion and grabbed 3.37% of weekly market turnover. SAIF Powertec posted a turnover of BDT 2.04 billion in last week and grabbed 1.83% of the market turnover.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/top-turnover-leaders-grab-2326pc-of-weekly-transaction-1631981047>

World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 71.97	USD 23.45	48.33%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 75.34	USD 23.54	45.44%
Gold Spot*	USD 1,754.34	(USD 140.76)	-7.43%
DSEX	7,228.31	1,826.24	33.81%
S&P 500	4,432.99	676.92	18.02%
FTSE 100	6,963.64	503.12	7.79%
BSE SENSEX	59,015.89	11,264.56	23.59%
KSE-100	46,636.08	2,880.70	6.58%
CSEALL	8,692.60	1,918.38	28.32%

Exchange Rates
1 US Dollar = 84.87 BDT
1 GBP = 116.59 BDT
1 Euro = 99.51 BDT
1 INR = 1.15 BDT

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