

*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:****AIIB to provide budget support under climate finance**

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is going to provide budget support under the climate finance programme, which should provide some relief to the country's foreign currency reserves. Bangladesh will be the first country to receive climate finance from AIIB

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/aiib-provide-budget-support-under-climate-finance-3559676>

**Foreign funding unlikely for non-green projects from July**

- They alert that even though Bangladesh is not a major greenhouse gas (GHG) emitter, the country would have no option but to plan expensive projects as decarbonisation and lowering GHG emissions require costly carbon-capture and-storage technology.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/foreign-funding-unlikely-for-non-green-projects-from-july-1709662080>

**Sector & Industry:****RMG | RMG export in February one of the highest**

- Bangladesh exported garments worth USD 4.49 Bn in February 2024, one of the highest for any single month, undergoing a year-on-year growth of 13.93%, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rmg-export-february-one-the-highest-3559716>

**RMG | RMG export to EU reaches USD 13.92 Bn in July-Jan**

- With an increase of 1.32% compared to the same period of previous FY, the export to Spain, France, Netherlands and Poland showed 6.05%, 4.25%, 11.77% and 20.30% growth respectively. However, local apparel exports to Italy declined by 1.81%, reports UNB.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/rmg-export-to-eu-reaches-us-1392b-in-july-jan-1709660768>

**ENERGY | Bangladesh to invite bids for offshore oil and gas exploration**

- Bangladesh will invite international bidding for oil and gas exploration in 24 blocks in the Bay of Bengal on March 10 in an effort to boost domestic energy production, the chairman of state-owned Petrobangla told Reuters on Tuesday.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bangladesh-to-invite-bids-for-offshore-oil-and-gas-exploration>

**TRADE | Appointment of contractors for deep-sea port soon**

- The Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) is likely to appoint contractors for construction of the Matarbari Deep Sea Port in Cox's Bazar very soon. The CPA has completed evaluating the technical and financial aspects of offers submitted by the Japanese joint venture contractor that qualified for the tender.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/appointment-of-contractors-for-deep-sea-port-soon-1709660755>

**NBFI | NBFI deposit rates surge to 12.11%, lending rates to 15%**

- Non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) can now offer deposit interest rates as high as 12.11%, a significant increase compared to most of the banks' 8.5-9%. As SMART currently stands at 9.61%, the highest deposit rate will exceed 12%, while lending rates will be over 15%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/nbfi-deposit-rates-surge-1211-lending-rates-15-803858>

**Stocks:****ASIATICLAB | Asiatic Lab makes trading debut today**

- Asiatic Laboratories will make its share trading debut on Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) today (Wednesday) under the 'N' category.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/asiatic-lab-makes-trading-debut-today-1709661152>

**BXPHARMA | Iqbal Ahmed made Beximco Pharma MD**

- Beximco Pharmaceuticals appointed its director Iqbal Ahmed as new Managing Director of the pharma company for five years. He had been a director of the board of Beximco Pharma since 1985. The appointment is required to be approved by the shareholders in the next annual general meeting, said the company in a statement recently.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/iqbal-ahmed-made-beximco-pharma-md-1709661265>

**World Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 78.14	USD 6.49	9.06%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 81.98	USD 4.94	6.41%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,124.97	USD 61.99	3.00%
DSEX	6,131.14	-115.35	-1.85%
S&P 500	5,078.65	308.82	6.47%
FTSE 100	7,646.16	-87.08	-1.13%
BSE SENSEX	73,677.13	1,436.87	1.99%
KSE-100	65,722.43	3,343.02	5.36%
CSEALL	10,805.23	151.07	1.42%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 109.76 BDT****1 GBP = 139.38 BDT****1 Euro = 119.11 BDT****1 INR = 1.32 BDT**

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