

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:****Two-year treasury bond yields dip as BB buys USD 223.5 Mn more**

- The yield on two-year treasury bonds dropped to 10.51% from 10.72% after Bangladesh Bank purchased USD 223.50 Mn from 14 banks at a rate of BDT 122.30 per dollar. This liquidity injection, totaling USD 3.55 Bn since July, aims to stabilize the exchange rate while the government simultaneously raised BDT 40 Bn through bond auctions.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/two-year-treasury-bond-yields-dip-as-bb-buys-2235m-more-1767717237>

**NBR rolls out e-VAT refunds today**

- National Board of Revenue (NBR) has taken a long-awaited step of crediting VAT refunds directly to taxpayers' bank accounts through the e-VAT system. Refunds for other taxes, including income tax and customs duties, will be brought under the online system in phases.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/delight-businesses-nbr-rolls-out-e-vat-refunds-today-1327996>

**Policy rate likely to stay unchanged**

- Bangladesh Bank is expected to maintain the policy (repo) rate at 10% in its upcoming monetary policy for the second half of the fiscal year to combat inflation, which rose to 8.49% in December. BB Governor indicated that the tight monetary stance will continue until inflation drops to 7.0%, keeping the standing deposit facility at 8.0% and the lending facility at 11.50%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/policy-rate-likely-to-stay-unchanged-1767719875>

**Sector & Industries:****BANK | Cenbank doubles home loan cap to BDT 40 Mn**

- Banks with non-performing loans (NPLs) of up to 5% in their housing finance portfolios will be allowed to lend a maximum of BDT 40 Mn to an individual customer.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-doubles-home-loan-cap-tk4cr-1327921>

**BANK | BB allows digital processing of export documents**

- BB now allows electronic presentation and processing of export documents, Documents against Payment (DP) and Documents against Acceptance (DA), aiming to align export procedures with ongoing digitalisation initiatives.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bb-allows-digital-processing-of-export-documents-1767717091>

**FUEL & POWER | BPC retenders SPM O&M contract**

- The government has renewed efforts to appoint a contractor for the operation and maintenance (O&M) and marine services of Bangladesh's first single-point mooring (SPM), which has remained idle despite being completed more than a year ago, for a five-year period.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bpc-retenders-spm-om-contract-1767720514>

**TELECOM | BTRC lowers cap for spectrum acquisition**

- Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has reduced the maximum spectrum a single operator can acquire from 15MHz to 10MHz. The base price of the 700MHz band is now set at BDT 2.37 Bn per MHz for a 15-year license period, down from BDT 2.63 crore per MHz.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/btrc-lowers-cap-spectrum-acquisition-4074916>

**Stocks:****GHAIL | DSE now cancels Golden Harvest owners' share transfer to IPDC**

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has cancelled its previously approved transfer of 10 Mn shares belonging to two directors of Golden Harvest Agro Industries, a listed company, to the non-bank financial institution IPDC.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-now-cancels-golden-harvest-owners-share-transfer-ipdc-1327891>

**ICB | ICB initiates legal battle to recover BDT 9.20 Bn stuck FDRs in Padma Bank, 10 NBFI**

- Facing bleak recovery prospects, state-owned Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) has decided to initiate legal action against Padma Bank and 10 NBFI to recover BDT 9.20 Bn locked in unpaid term deposits.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/icb-initiates-legal-battle-recover-tk920cr-stuck-fdrs-padma-bank-10-nbfis-1328016>

**EXCHANGE | Investor losses in NBFI liquidation far greater than they appear**

- Shareholders of eight listed NBFI stand to lose around BDT 1.36 Bn in current market value as the Bangladesh Bank prepares to declare them non-viable. While the government has verbally approved BDT 50 Bn for depositor repayments, total deposits at the affected NBFI stood at BDT 153.70 Bn. Of this amount, BDT 35.25 Bn belonged to individual depositors, while BDT 118.45 Bn was held by banks and corporate clients.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/investor-losses-in-nbfi-liquidation-far-greater-than-they-appear-1767712541>

**Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 56.36	(USD 1.07)	-1.86%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 60.07	(USD 0.78)	-1.28%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,476.90	USD 135.90	3.13%
DSEX	4,953.61	88.27	1.81%
S&P 500	6,944.82	46.00	0.67%
FTSE 100	10,122.73	191.35	1.93%
BSE SENSEX	85,063.34	269.76	0.32%
KSE-100	185,062.11	11,007.81	6.32%
CSEALL	23,292.91	668.60	2.96%

**Exchange Rates**
**1 US Dollar = 122.18 BDT**
**1 GBP = 164.96 BDT**
**1 Euro = 142.85 BDT**
**1 INR = 1.36 BDT**

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