

*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:****Mastercard forecasts 7.3% inflation in 2024**

- The Mastercard Economics Institute (MEI) has forecasted the consumer price inflation in Bangladesh to be at 7.3% next year, much lower than the government's 12-month average of 9.42% in November this year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/mastercard-forecasts-73-inflation-bangladesh-2024-756470>

**Bangladesh Bank scraps minimum interest rate on deposits**

- The Bangladesh Bank has scrapped the lower cap on deposit rates to let banks set interests in line with their business policy and collect deposits accordingly.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bangladesh-bank-scraps-minimum-interest-rate-deposits-756554>

**Banks allowed to start bancassurance business**

- The Bangladesh Bank has allowed banks to start bancassurance – an arrangement for selling insurance products through banks – in a bid to increase insurance penetration in the country.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-allowed-start-bancassurance-business-756526>

**TCB seeks BDT 16 Bn in six-month trade gap subsidy**

- The Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) has sought over BDT 16 Bn as a subsidy to cover the financial loss incurred due to selling essential commodities at subsidised rates for six months.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/tcb-seeks-tk-16b-in-six-month-trade-gap-subsidy>

**Sector & Industry:****ENERGY | Bangladesh refinery industry opens for investment, export**

- Bangladesh opens up investment by private sector in setting up refineries and marketing refined oil products both for domestic consumption and export, in a latest development aimed at unlocking energy-sector potential. Under the policy specifications, the annual capacity of a refinery has to be at least 1.50 Mn tonnes.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-refinery-industry-opens-for-investment-export>

**TEXTILE | Amann Bangladesh to invest USD 25.92 Mn in swing thread, smart yarns manufactures**

- Amann Bangladesh Limited will build Swing thread, embroidery threads and smart yarn factories at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar with an investment of USD 25.92 Mn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/amann-bangladesh-invest-2592-million-swing-thread-smart-yarns-manufactures-756426>

**RMG | Chinese firm to invest USD 11.55 Mn in Bepza EZ**

- Quality Sportswear Mfrs Ltd, a Chinese company, will invest USD 11.55 Mn to set up a garments and accessories manufacturing factory at the Bepza Economic Zone at Mirsarai in Chattogram.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/chinese-firm-invest-1155m-bepza-ez-3492776>

**HEALTHCARE | ERD signs 3 grant agreements worth USD 80.68 Mn**

- These agreements, signed with the Global Fund for Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and Malaria Programs Dhaka, Bangladesh are a substantial step towards bolstering the national efforts in controlling Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS, and in the elimination of Malaria in Bangladesh.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/erd-signs-3-grant-agreements-worth-8068m-756454>

**Stocks:****FEKDIL | Far East Knitting's profit jumps 52% on lower costs**

- Far East Knitting & Dyeing Industries Ltd reported a 51.92% year-on-year increase in profit in 2022-2023 thanks to a decline in the cost of goods sold and an increase in incomes.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/far-east-knittings-profit-jumps-52-lower-costs-3492771>

**EXCHANGE | Trades in T-bills, bonds jump in secondary market**

- Trading of treasury bills and bonds in the secondary market soared by around 162% in the past two months mainly due to their higher interest rates compared to bank deposits and the stagnation of stock market indices.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/trades-t-bills-bonds-jump-secondary-market-3492836>

**SINOBANGLA | Sinobangla allowed to raise BDT 202 Mn issuing right shares**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), in a meeting on Tuesday, has allowed Sinobangla Industries Ltd to raise BDT 202 Mn by issuing 10.1 Mn right shares.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sinobangla-allowed-raise-tk202cr-issuing-right-shares-756590>

**KBPPWBIL | Auditor finds assets, inventories of Khan Brothers missing**

- Auditor has identified exaggerated figures of sales, assets, and inventories in the FY23 financial statements of Khan Brothers PP Woven Bag Industries. In a qualified opinion published on the Dhaka Stock Exchange's (DSE) website, the auditor said there were discrepancies found in a physical examination of raw materials and finished goods

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/auditor-finds-assets-inventories-of-khan-brothers-missing-1702407062>

**World Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 68.58	(USD 6.63)	-8.82%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 73.20	(USD 4.58)	-5.89%
Gold Spot*	USD 1,978.36	USD 204.21	11.51%
DSEX	6,263.87	56.87	0.92%
S&P 500	4,643.70	804.20	20.95%
FTSE 100	7,542.77	91.03	1.22%
BSE SENSEX	69,551.03	8,710.29	14.32%
KSE-100	66,390.63	25,970.18	64.25%
CSEALL	10,850.78	2,348.29	27.62%

**Exchange Rates**

1 US Dollar = 110.00 BDT

1 GBP = 138.14 BDT

1 Euro = 118.68 BDT

1 INR = 1.32 BDT

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