

*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:****Reserves can hit USD 24.3 Bn this fiscal**

- Bangladesh's gross foreign reserves can top up to USD 24.3 Bn by the end of the fiscal year if greater exchange rate flexibility is allowed and a tighter monetary policy is pursued, the IMF said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/reserves-can-hit-243b-fiscal-3493996>

**Bangladesh to secure USD 1.31 Bn loan in Dec: Cenbank**

- Bangladesh is on track to secure USD 1.31 Bn in foreign loans this December from various sources, including the International Monetary Fund (IMF), according to the central bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-secure-131-billion-loan-dec-cenbank-756846>

**Bankers cut USD rates by BDT 0.25**

- Bankers today decided to cut the buying and the selling rates of the US dollar by BDT 0.25 as Bangladesh's foreign currency reserves received a fillip after the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved the second instalment of its USD 4.7 Bn loan.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bankers-cut-us-dollar-rates-tk-025-3493926>

**Govt's bank borrowing falls 88% in 5 months**

- Data from the Bangladesh Bank show that from July to November, the government borrowed BDT 312.74 Bn and repaid BDT 276.35 Bn to the central bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/govts-bank-borrowing-falls-88-5-months-756658>

**NBR considers extension of tax exemption**

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) is planning to extend tax exemptions on interest income of foreign lenders who have lent to local firms.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nbr-considers-extension-tax-exemption-3493916>

**Sector & Industry:****RMG | Shimmy Technologies trains RMG workers to adapt to automation**

- Shimmy Technologies, a New York-based industrial EdTech company has trained over 6,000 workers from various readymade garment (RMG) factories and technical training centres in the country in the last seven years.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/shimmy-technologies-trains-rmg-workers-adapt-automation-757098>

**TRADE | CPA hopes to sign deals with 2 firms by June**

- Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) is hopeful of signing agreements with two global firms by June next year for the construction of two of three container terminals under a mega Bay Terminal project on the Chattogram port's expansion.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/cpa-hopes-sign-deals-2-firms-june-3493881>

**TRADE | Little headway in eight years**

- Bangladesh Railway's plan to develop three inland container depots (ICDs) in different locations across the country has made little or no headway due to non-cooperation from different quarters.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/little-headway-in-eight-years-1702489546>

**Stocks:****AFCAGRO | AFC Agro, S Korean firm team up to make molecular diagnostic kits**

- AFC Agro Biotech Ltd has entered into an agreement with South Korean firm Bioneer Corporation to produce a range of molecular diagnostic kits for the detection of mosquito-borne viral diseases such as dengue and chikungunya.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/afc-agro-s-korean-firm-team-make-molecular-diagnostic-kits-3493531>

**HIMADRI | BSEC okays Himadri's 250% stock dividend instead of 700%**

- Earlier, the company declared the highest-ever dividend — 700% stock and 10% cash — for the fiscal 2022-23.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-okays-himadris-250-stock-dividend-instead-700-757138>

**ICB | Investment Corp's cash crisis deepened by floor price restriction**

- The Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB), one of the largest investors in the country's capital market and non-bank financial institutions, finds itself deeper in a financial crisis brought on by the floor price restrictions preventing it from selling its shares in the capital market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/investment-corps-cash-crisis-deepened-floor-price-restriction-756682>

**World Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 69.83	(USD 5.38)	-7.15%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 74.67	(USD 3.11)	-4.00%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,033.83	USD 259.68	14.64%
DSEX	6,262.87	55.87	0.90%
S&P 500	4,707.09	867.59	22.60%
FTSE 100	7,548.44	96.70	1.30%
BSE SENSEX	69,584.60	8,743.86	14.37%
KSE-100	65,309.24	24,888.79	61.57%
CSEALL	10,836.82	2,334.33	27.45%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 109.49 BDT****1 GBP = 138.50 BDT****1 Euro = 119.37 BDT****1 INR = 1.31 BDT**

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