

*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:****BB to adopt crawling peg to curb exchange rate volatility**

- The Bangladesh Bank today said it is contemplating the implementation of a crawling peg system to regulate unusual fluctuations in the currency's value.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-adopt-crawling-peg-curb-exchange-rate-volatility-3521501>

**GDP growth target down to 6.5%, inflation target up to 7.5%**

- Bangladesh has revised down the economic growth projection for 2023-24 fiscal year to 6.5% from the initial 7.5% considering the ongoing challenges in the economy.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gdp-growth-target-down-65-inflation-target-75-3521526>

**Private sector credit growth target lowered to 10% from 11%**

- The central bank today cut the private sector credit growth target to 10% from 11% to lower demand in an economy that has been witnessing higher inflation for the past two years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/private-sector-credit-growth-target-lowered-10-11-3521481>

**Rising production costs blindside building material industry**

- Although building material makers in Bangladesh registered higher sales revenue in fiscal year (FY) 2022-23, their profits were eroded by increasing production costs, according to industry people.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/rising-production-costs-blindside-building-material-industry-3521801>

**Energy crisis, inflation major challenges for business: CPD survey**

- A majority of the businesses and executives have identified problems in energy supply and inflation as two major challenges for doing business in Bangladesh, a survey conducted by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) found.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/energy-crisis-inflation-major-challenges-business-cpd-survey-3521396>

**Sector & Industry:****ENERGY | Bangladesh's Summit to supply 1.5 Mn tonnes LNG to Petrobangla from Oct 2026**

- Bangladesh's Summit Group has signed a preliminary pact to supply 1.5 Mn tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per year to state-run Petrobangla for 15 years, starting from October 2026, its chairman, Aziz Khan, told Reuters.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladeshs-summit-supply-15-million-tonnes-lng-petrobangla-oct-2026-3521421>

**TRADE | BD, China discuss FTA negotiation, bilateral trade, investment**

- Bangladesh and China have discussed promoting Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiation, providing more financial support for bilateral trade, and attracting more Chinese enterprises to invest in Bangladesh.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bd-china-discuss-fta-negotiation-bilateral-trade-investment-1705507801>

**BANK | M&A likely for weaker banks: BB**

- Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) may be in wait as a cure for comparatively weaker banks to strengthen their capital base, as they are deemed ridden with problems, according to a central bank plan.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/ma-likely-for-weaker-banks-bb-1705512534>

**ENERGY | BD wants 4,000MW power from Nepal**

- Bangladesh is willing to buy more electricity from Nepal as the two countries work on finalising the 40 MW power deal, Bangladesh Ambassador to Nepal Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury said on Tuesday, according to a report by the Kathmandu Post in Nepal.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bd-wants-4000mw-power-from-nepal-1705513009>

**Stocks:****BPML | Bashundhara Paper sector unveil first sustainability report**

- The report, released on January 15, 2024 at Bashundhara Industrial Headquarters-2, is a testament to the companies' dedication to sustainable and responsible business practices.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bashundhara-paper-sector-unveil-first-sustainability-report-1705508256>

**World Stock and Commodities\***

| Index Name         | Close Value  | Value Change YTD | % Change YTD |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| Crude Oil (WTI)*   | USD 72.81    | USD 1.16         | 1.62%        |
| Crude Oil (Brent)* | USD 77.93    | USD 0.89         | 1.16%        |
| Gold Spot*         | USD 2,008.21 | (USD 54.77)      | -2.65%       |
| DSEX               | 6,346.21     | 99.72            | 1.60%        |
| S&P 500            | 4,739.21     | -30.62           | -0.64%       |
| FTSE 100           | 7,446.29     | -286.95          | -3.71%       |
| BSE SENSEX         | 71,500.76    | -739.50          | -1.02%       |
| KSE-100            | 63,572.75    | 1,193.34         | 1.91%        |
| CSEALL             | 10,545.88    | -108.28          | -1.02%       |

**Exchange Rates**

1 US Dollar = 109.65 BDT

1 GBP = 139.13 BDT

1 Euro = 119.45 BDT

1 INR = 1.32 BDT

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