

*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:****ADB plans USD 500 Mn budget support to bolster social resilience**

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is likely to provide a USD 500 Mn policy-based loan in two phases by June next year as budget support to strengthen the social resilience of people in Bangladesh, officials said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/adb-plans-500m-budget-support-to-bolster-social-resilience-1708364694>

**M&A transactions amounted to at least USD 2.5 Bn in 18 years**

- Between 2005 and 2023, around 22 deals took place, with the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector witnessing three deals amounting to USD 1.5 Bn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ma-transactions-amounted-least-25b-18-years-3548021>

**Enroll financial institution employees in universal pension scheme: Cenbank**

- The Bangladesh Bank has instructed all financial institutions in the country to bring their employees and officials under universal pension coverage.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/enroll-financial-institution-employees-universal-pension-scheme-cenbank-795650>

**Credit card spending abroad rose 19% in Dec**

- Bangladeshis travelling abroad spent BDT 5.79 Bn in December last year to buy goods and services, up 19% from a month ago, Bangladesh Bank data showed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/credit-card-spending-abroad-rose-19-dec-3548076>

**Foreign Loan: Repayment cross USD 4 Bn for first time**

- Foreign loan repayment, which was hovering around USD 3 bn since fiscal 2012-13, crossed the USD 4 bn-mark for the first time last fiscal year on the back of high interest payments and short-term loans in the power and energy sector.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/foreign-loan-repayment-cross-4b-first-time-3548126>

**Sector & Industry:****RMG | Single month RMG export hits historic high**

- The country shipped USD 4.97 Bn worth of garments in January, posting a 12.45% year-on-year growth, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) compiled by the BGMEA.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/single-month-rmg-export-hits-historic-high-3548016>

**INSURANCE | IDRA rolls out policyholder protection measures**

- For the first time in Bangladesh, the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) has issued insurance policyholder protection guidelines today to protect the interest of policyholders.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/idra-rolls-out-policyholder-protection-measures-3547851>

**TRADE | Maiden logistics policy soon to facilitate trade**

- Bangladesh has climbed two notches up in logistics index but kept languishing in the lowest position among four South Asian economies since 2019, prompting the government to make a policy for upgrading.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/maiden-logistics-policy-soon-to-facilitate-trade-1708364535>

**BANK | BB continues liquidity support to cash-strapped banks**

- The volume of cash funneled into the fund-starved banks further swelled to hit BDT 3.45 Tn in November, BDT 3.51 Tn in December and BDT 3.63 Tn in January 2024. In the first 15 days of this February, the banks had received cash bailout amounting to around BDT 1.80 Tn from the central bank, according to the BB data.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-continues-liquidity-support-to-cash-strapped-banks-1708364481>

**Stocks:****CITYGENINS, CRYSTALINS | City General Ins, Crystal Ins post higher profit**

- The City General Insurance witnessed a 34% surge in profit year-on-year to BDT 206 Mn in 2023, up from BDT 153 Mn a year before. Similarly, Crystal Insurance's profit jumped 12% to BDT 122 Mn in 2023.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/city-general-ins-crystal-ins-post-higher-profit-1708363029>

**SEAPEARL | BSEC allows Sea Pearl to convert BDT 1.2 Bn bond into shares**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has recently conditionally allowed Sea Pearl Beach Resort & Spa to convert bonds worth BDT 1.2 Bn into ordinary shares after its request after failing to repay its bondholder.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-allows-sea-pearl-convert-tk120cr-bond-shares-795638>

**DOREENPWR | Doreen gets approval to restart Narsingdi power plant**

- In a filing to the Dhaka Stock Exchange, Doreen said the Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (BREB) approved the resumption of the 22-megawatt plant as per the terms and tariff schedule of the existing power purchase agreement.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/doreen-gets-approval-restart-narsingdi-power-plant-3547576>

**World Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 79.45	USD 7.80	10.89%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 83.46	USD 6.42	8.33%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,017.78	(USD 45.20)	-2.19%
DSEX	6,258.98	12.49	0.20%
S&P 500	5,005.57	235.74	4.94%
FTSE 100	7,728.50	-4.74	-0.06%
BSE SENSEX	72,708.16	467.90	0.65%
KSE-100	60,504.38	-1,875.03	-3.01%
CSEALL	10,643.05	-11.11	-0.10%

**Exchange Rates**

1 US Dollar = 109.80 BDT  
1 GBP = 138.19 BDT  
1 Euro = 118.21 BDT  
1 INR = 1.32 BDT

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