

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 cuts Bangladesh growth forecast to 4% for FY27**

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has trimmed its economic growth projection for Bangladesh for FY27 to 4.0%, down from its earlier forecast of 4.5% made in July, citing persistent banking-sector stress, structural bottlenecks and severe energy shortages.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/adb-cuts-bangladesh-growth-forecast-4-fy27-4280746>

Remittance inflow rises 13.8pc in FY27 till Sept 21

- Bangladesh received USD 7.89 Bn in workers' remittances during the first 83 days of FY27, marking a 13.8% increase compared with USD 6.93 Bn received during the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/remittance-inflow-rises-138pc-in-fy27-till-sept-21>

Fuel price hike to push up inflation, weaken consumption

- A sharp hike in fuel prices will push up inflation and is likely to weaken real disposable income and weigh on aggregate consumption, particularly among price-sensitive households, according to an analysis by BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Ltd. The government raised retail prices of all major petroleum products by BDT 20 per litre, which became effective from September 21.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/fuel-price-hike-push-inflation-weaken-consumption-4280461>

Freight costs from Chattogram up 25% after fuel hike

- Road freight charges from Chattogram to Dhaka and other destinations have already escalated by 25% following the fuel price adjustment. Concurrently, lighter vessel owners operating on inland waterways are preparing to raise freight rates by 25-30%.

<https://tob.news/freight-costs-from-chattogram-up-25-after-fuel-hike/>

Bangladesh opts to measure economic growth on UN scales

- Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) is planning to measure net domestic product (NDP) as recommended by the United Nations' agency concerned, according to BBS officials. The BBS might publish the first such estimates in April-May 2028, according to people familiar with the developments.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladesh-opts-to-measure-economic-growth-on-un-scales-1790097412>

Invest Bangladesh plans incentive for mobilising FDI

- Invest Bangladesh, the newly formed investment promotion agency created by merging three authorities, has prepared a guideline for a scheme that will offer eligible individuals 1.25% percent of the foreign equity they mobilise for investment in the country. The agency is also working on a foreign investment pipeline worth USD 1.3 Bn, of which more than USD 400 Mn has reached the investment decision or implementation stage.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/invest-bangladesh-plans-incentive-mobilising-fdi-4280491>

Double taxation flaws found deterrents to striking accord

- The EU has raised issues that include excessive deduction of withholding taxes, denial by tax officials of credits for taxes paid in other countries, and delays in approving Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) applications. Currently, Bangladesh has DTAAAs with 42 countries, of which 10 are EU member-states.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/double-taxation-flaws-found-deterrents-to-striking-accord>

Sector and Industries:**RMG | Govt asks RMG exporters to source 50pc yarn locally**

- The government has directed the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) and Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) to take steps to ensure that 50% of yarn used by the apparel industry is procured from local spinning mills, while the remaining 50% can be imported.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-asks-rmg-exporters-to-source-50pc-yarn-locally-1790097884>

TELECOM | Private submarine cable: BDT 15 Bn investment stuck under sea for 3 years

- A BDT 15 Bn private submarine cable investment remains stranded as Bangladesh continues importing more internet bandwidth from India to meet rising demand. Meanwhile, imported bandwidth has climbed to a five-year high, accounting for nearly 70% of total demand, up from around 60%.

<https://tob.news/private-submarine-cable-tk1500cr-investment-stuck-under-sea-for-3-years/>

INDUSTRIALS | Tariff squeeze threatens welding electrode industry

- Bangladesh Welding Electrode Manufacturers Association (BWEMA) said the change would raise the duty burden on the raw material to 88.51%, while finished welding electrode products imported under HS Code 8311.30.00 face a duty rate of 52%.

<https://tob.news/tariff-squeeze-threatens-welding-electrode-industry-2/>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | DSE to pay BDT 720 Mn to 17,332 investors hit by scams**

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) will pay up to BDT 0.5 Mn each to 17,332 investors affected by the embezzlement of five brokerage houses.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/stock/news/dse-pay-tk-72cr-17332-investors-hit-scams-4280466>

EXCHANGE | DSE targets 10 blue-chip listings by 2027

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has set a target of bringing at least 10 blue-chip companies to the capital market by 2027 to address the prolonged market slump and shortage of quality securities.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/dse-targets-10-blue-chip-listings-by-2027>

ISLAMIBANK | Leadership void leaves Islami Bank struggling

- A leadership vacuum has left Islami Bank in a state of limbo, with major decisions and strategic initiatives effectively stalled. Bangladesh Bank Executive Director has been empowered by the central bank to exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the bank's board. But he is mainly taking routine decisions and is unable to make major or strategic ones.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/leadership-void-leaves-islami-bank-struggling-4280656>

ISLAMIBANK | BB finds S Alam-era hiring irregularities at Islami Bank

- A large number of employees were recruited at Islami Bank Bangladesh during the S Alam era in violation of recruitment rules, without job advertisements or written examinations, according to a Bangladesh Bank inspection report that uncovered widespread irregularities.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-finds-s-alam-era-hiring-irregularities-islami-bank-4280481>

PRIMEFIN | Prime Finance struggles to pay outstanding dues

- Prime Finance & Investment Ltd, struggling with high non-performing loans, accumulated losses and an inability to repay depositors, has sought a waiver of a BDT 14.045 Mn fine imposed by the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/prime-finance-struggles-pay-outstanding-dues-1550981>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 89.69	USD 32.26	56.17%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 98.73	USD 37.88	62.25%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,338.34	(USD 2.66)	-0.06%
DSEX	5,540.32	674.98	13.87%
S&P 500	7,764.64	865.82	12.55%
FTSE 100	10,708.33	776.95	7.82%
BSE SENSEX	74,529.08	-10,264.50	-12.11%
KSE-100	171,402.10	-2,652.20	-1.52%
CSEALL	21,054.01	-1,570.30	-6.94%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.91 BDT****1 GBP = 163.84 BDT****1 Euro = 140.62 BDT****1 INR = 1.28 BDT**

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