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:

WB-funded tax reform project undergoes major overhaul

- A major overhaul of a World Bank-funded tax-reform project worth BDT 10.09 Bn is under way, with a renewed focus on addressing technological and institutional gaps in tax administration and plugging loopholes that facilitate tax evasion, officials have said.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/wb-funded-tax-reform-project-undergoes-major-overhaul-1795459413

S Korea's SK Group keen to invest in LPG, LNG terminals at Matarbari

- Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Monday said that his government was working sincerely to simplify and speed up foreign investment as South Korea's SK Group expressed interest in building LPG and LNG terminals at Matarbari deep-sea port.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/323826/s-koreas-sk-group-keen-to-invest-in-lpg-lng-terminals-at-matarbari

Govt plans USD 250 Mn WB projects for slum dwellers, coastal people

- The government has taken an initiative to undertake two development projects worth USD 250 Mn with support from the World Bank to improve the living standards of slum dwellers and coastal communities.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/323823/govt-plans-250m-wb-projects-for-slum-dwellers-coastal-people

Imports outpace exports as forex reserves fall

- Bangladesh's imports are growing more than twice as fast as exports, widening the current account deficit as foreign exchange reserves decline, despite stronger remittance inflows. Under the BPM6 methodology, reserves declined to USD 29.57 Bn from USD 31.46 Bn on 29 October.

https://tob.news/imports-outpace-exports-as-forex-reserves-fall/

Foreign firm threatens e-VAT service halt over unpaid dues

- Vietnamese technology firm FPT Information System Company Limited (FPT IS) has warned that it would suspend all technical support for the development, maintenance and operation of the National Board of Revenue's (NBR) electronic VAT (e-VAT) system from November 1, citing the absence of a new contract and unpaid dues.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/foreign-firm-threatens-e-vat-service-halt-over-unpaid-dues-1795454001

Vietnam builds commodity exchange to boost farm produce

- In a bid to move from a major agricultural producer to a global price-setter, Vietnam is laying the groundwork for a domestic commodity derivatives market.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/vietnam-builds-commodity-exchange-boost-farm-produce-4331501

Sector and Industries:

BANK | NPLs surge to BDT 6.27 Tn despite repeated BB reliefs

- Defaulted loans in Bangladesh's banking sector surged to BDT 6.27 Tn in September despite repeated repayment concessions. The latest figure means that 33.80% of the banking sector's total outstanding loans of BDT 18.56 Tn had turned defaulted.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/323828/npls-surge-to-tk-627-lakh-crore-despite-repeated-bb-reliefs

BANK | Banking sector's provisioning shortfall drops BDT 40 Bn, still stands at BDT 2.18 Tn

- The banking sector's provisioning shortfall narrowed by BDT 40 Bn in the September quarter despite a rise in defaulted loans, falling to BDT 2.18 Tn from 2.22 Tn at the end of June.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banking-sectors-provisioning-shortfall-drops-tk4000cr-still-stands-tk218-lakh-crore

ENERGY | Rooppur begins 2nd phase of trial electricity supply

- The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant resumed trial electricity supply to the national grid for the second time on Monday, delivering 300-350 megawatts (MW) from its first unit.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/rooppur-begins-2nd-phase-of-trial-electricity-supply-1795459508

RMG | RMG owners offer BDT 15,800 minimum wage, workers find the amount unfair

- The owners' representatives on the minimum wage board for the readymade garment sector on Monday proposed BDT 15,800 as the minimum monthly wage for garment workers, while workers' representatives lowered their demand to BDT 22,000 from BDT 32,000 after nearly nine and a half hours of negotiations.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/323841/rmg-owners-offer-tk-15800-minimum-wage-workers-find-the-amount-unfair

RMG | RMG raw material imports eat up 36% export earnings

- Despite growth in exports, RMG sector's production remains import-dependent for raw materials. In 3MFY27, USD 3.78 Bn was spent on raw material imports for the industry. This is 35.80% of total garment export earnings.

https://tob.news/raw-material-imports-eat-up-36-export-earnings/

Stocks:

EXCHANGE | CSE rises while DSE slips on large-cap selling pressure

- The Chittagong Stock Exchange closed higher on Monday, while the Dhaka Stock Exchange slipped into negative territory as selling pressure on large-cap stocks snapped its six-session winning streak.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/stocks/323807/cse-rises-while-dse-slips-on-large-cap-selling-pressure

EXCHANGE | Anwar Group's Mehmud Industries plans IPO under book-building method

- Mehmud Industries (Pvt) Limited, a textile company of Anwar Group of Industries, plans to go public through an initial public offering (IPO) under the book-building method. Mehmud Industries plans to apply to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) in early 2027.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/anwar-groups-mehmud-industries-plans-ipo-under-book-building-method-1612036

EXCHANGE | SOEs draining public money: What govt must do

- Despite enjoying government protection, strategic market advantages and access to public funds, more than half of the listed state-owned enterprises (SOEs) have remained trapped in years of losses, leaving minority shareholders with no return on their investments.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/soes-draining-public-money-what-govt-must-do-1795453077

ROBI | Robi launches Instagram Basic Mode

- Robi Axiata has rolled out Instagram Basic Mode, a low-data service developed with Meta that keeps subscribers connected to the social platform even after their mobile data balances run out, said a press release.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/telecom/323812/robi-launches-instagram-basic-mode

ROBI | BTRC asks Robi to explain use of Cirkle brand

- The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has issued a show-cause notice to Robi Axiata PLC, asking why the telecom operator should not be directed to stop using the brand name “Cirkle”.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/btrc-asks-robi-explain-use-cirkle-brand-4331541

TRUSTBANK | Trust Bank invests BDT 150 Mn in its MFS subsidiary

- Trust Bank, a private sector lender, has decided to invest 150 Mn in its mobile financial services (MFS) subsidiary, Trust and Pay Limited, to strengthen its capital base and support business expansion.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/trust-bank-invests-tk15cr-its-mfs-subsidiary-1612061

FORTUNE | Fortune Shoes declares no dividend for FY26 as it slips into loss

- Fortune Shoes declares no dividend for FY26 as it slips into loss. Following the no-dividend declaration, Fortune Shoes' share price fell 2.16% today to close at BDT 13.60.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/fortune-shoes-declares-no-dividend-fy26-it-slips-loss-1612001

MLDYEING | BSEC launches probe into ML Dyeing over core unit closure, BDT 204.2 Mn write-off

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has launched an enquiry into listed textile company ML Dyeing Limited over the shutdown of its core dyeing unit, asset obsolescence, a BDT 204.2 Mn investment write-off and potential risks to its continued operations.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-launches-probe-ml-dyeing-over-core-unit-closure-tk2042cr-write-1612011

HEIDELBCEM, BRACBANK | BRAC Bank, Heidelberg Materials partner to strengthen distributor financing

- BRAC Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Heidelberg Materials Bangladesh PLC, to provide distributor-financing facilities to the company’s distribution network.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/brac-bank-heidelberg-materials-partner-strengthen-distributor-financing-4331486

SAIFPOWER | Everest replaces Saif Powertec as interim CCT operator

- Local logistics company Everest Port Services Ltd has won a six-month contract to operate Chittagong Container Terminal (CCT) at Chattogram port, replacing local operator Saif Powertec Ltd.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/everest-replaces-saif-powertec-interim-cct-operator-4331546

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 80.03	USD 22.60	39.35%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 89.08	USD 28.23	46.39%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,664.23	(USD 676.77)	-15.59%
DSEX	5,557.18	691.85	14.22%
S&P 500	7,237.17	338.35	4.90%
FTSE 100	10,480.82	549.44	5.53%
BSE SENSEX	82,435.99	-2,357.59	-2.78%
KSE-100	177,473.90	3,419.60	1.96%
CSEALL	21,242.52	-1,381.79	-6.11%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 124.81 BDT

1 GBP = 162.77 BDT

1 Euro = 136.19 BDT

1 INR = 1.34 BDT

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