

*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:****Crawling peg system likely from 2024's first quarter**

- Bangladesh is likely to introduce crawling peg system for the BDT to regulate abrupt fluctuations of its value against foreign currency in the first quarter of this year, said a top banker today.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/crawling-peg-system-likely-2024s-first-quarter-3527456>

**Startups defied economic downturn in 2023: study**

- The startup ecosystem in Bangladesh showcased a notable degree of resilience and adaptability in 2023, when economic uncertainty stemming from geopolitical tensions spread worldwide.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/startups-defied-economic-downturn-2023-study-3527466>

**Counting local sales as exports, differing USD rates behind USD 12 Bn mismatch**

- The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) has identified at least five factors, including the classification of local sales by factories in export processing zones as exports, as potential explanations for the USD 12 Bn mismatch between reported export proceeds and actual shipments in the last fiscal year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/counting-local-sales-exports-differing-dollar-rates-behind-12b-mismatch-780314>

**Sector & Industry:****POWER | Govt issues over BDT 20 Bn bonds to repay power companies' dues**

- The Ministry of Finance yesterday issued bonds worth over BDT 20 Bn to Pubali Bank and City Bank to settle the debts of several power companies.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-issues-over-tk2000cr-bonds-repay-power-companies-dues-780842>

**BANK | Bangladesh plans more licences for digital banks in push to go cashless**

- The Bangladesh Bank plans to offer more permissions for digital banks, building on the progress made by mobile financial services and internet banking in recent decades.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-plans-more-licences-digital-banks-push-go-cashless-3527496>

**BANK | Banks take BDT 80 Bn special bonds so far**

- Commercial banks have so far received BDT 80 Bn worth of newly introduced special government bonds meant for settling accumulated arrears to independent power producers and fertiliser suppliers that also bear multiple financial gains, officials said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/banks-take-tk-80b-special-bonds-so-far-1706118821>

**Stocks:****BERGERPBL | Berger to invest BDT 8.13 Bn to set up third factory**

- Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited has decided to invest BDT 8.13 Bn to set up its third factory in the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/berger-invest-tk813-crore-set-third-factory-780814>

**EHL | Eastern Housing plot sales grow 7% in H1**

- Eastern Housing Limited, a prominent developer in the country, recorded a 7% surge in plot sales during the first half of the fiscal year 2023-24.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/eastern-housing-plot-sales-grow-7-h1-780822>

**JMISMDL | JMI, Apollo partner to open clinic in Dhaka**

- JMI Hospital Requisite Manufacturing Ltd, a leading producer of medical apparatuses in Bangladesh, has partnered with India's Apollo Health and Lifestyle Ltd to launch a multi-specialty clinic in the country.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/jmi-apollo-partner-open-clinic-dhaka-3527541>

**RUNNERAUTO | Runner to cut loan burden to make its revamp plan a success**

- Runner Automobiles has planned to cut down its short- and long-term loan burden by expanding its equity and focus on manufacturing electric vehicles to turn the losing concern into a profit-making business.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/runner-to-cut-loan-burden-to-make-its-revamp-plan-a-success-1706117736>

**EMERALDOIL | Emerald Oil to keep 7.81% shares as security on loan for working capital**

- Emerald Oil Industries — Spondon-branded edible oil producer — has secured regulatory approval to keep shares as security on a loan out of mandatory holdings by 30% of sponsor-directors to meet working capital.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/emerald-oil-keep-781-shares-security-loan-working-capital-780838>

**World Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 75.44	USD 3.79	5.29%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 80.35	USD 3.31	4.30%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,016.17	(USD 46.81)	-2.27%
DSEX	6,226.65	-19.84	-0.32%
S&P 500	4,868.55	98.72	2.07%
FTSE 100	7,527.67	-205.57	-2.66%
BSE SENSEX	71,060.31	-1,179.95	-1.63%
KSE-100	64,748.84	2,369.43	3.80%
CSEALL	10,279.09	-375.07	-3.52%

**Exchange Rates****1 US Dollar = 109.78 BDT****1 GBP = 139.60 BDT****1 Euro = 119.47 BDT****1 INR = 1.32 BDT**

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