

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:**Global Gateway: Bangladesh, EU sign EUR 400 Mn partnership for renewable energy**

- President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen together with Prime Minister Hasina on Wednesday launched the negotiations on a new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement to expand and develop the relationship between the EU and Bangladesh at the Global Gateway Forum.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/govt-signs-multiple-loan-and-grants-agreement-amounting-eu477-million-eib-eu-726554>

Govt to buy LNG from Excelerate under 15-year pact

- Bangladesh will purchase liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Excelerate Gas Marketing Ltd Partnership, a subsidiary of Excelerate Energy, under a 15-year contract from 2026.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-buy-lng-excelerate-under-15-year-pact-3452901>

Bangladesh opts for yuan loans for cost savings

- The Bangladesh Bank has given its consent to proceed with Chinese loan offers in its own currency, the yuan, as a cost-saving alternative to dollar-denominated financing. The decision follows the finance ministry's request for the central bank's assessment of the pros and cons of Chinese loans in yuan versus the traditional US dollar.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-opts-yuan-loans-cost-savings-726790>

Nagad gets Lol to open digital bank

- Bangladesh Bank today issued a letter with its seal of approval to Nagad Digital Bank for launching a full-fledged digital bank in the country, according to a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nagad-gets-loi-open-digital-bank-3452571>

Stocks:**WALTONHIL | Walton returns to profit**

- Walton Hi-Tech Industries PLC saw its profits bounce back in the first quarter of the current fiscal year mainly due to lower finance costs. Walton, a powerhouse in the local market for consumer electronics, logged profits of BDT 2.02 Bn in the July-September period of 2023-24. It incurred losses of BDT 460 Mn during the same period the previous year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/walton-returns-profit-3452651>

ROBI | Robi profit jumps 200% in Jan-Sep

- Robi Axiata Limited – the country's second-largest mobile network operator – has reported a 203% year-on-year jump in its net profit during the first nine months of 2023. According to its unaudited financial statement for the January–September period, its net profit grew to BDT 1.7235 Bn, which was BDT 576.7 Mn the same period last year while its revenue surged by 18% to BDT 74.3107 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/robi-profit-jumps-200-jan-sep-726518>

World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 85.25	USD 10.04	13.35%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 89.94	USD 12.16	15.63%
Gold Spot*	USD 1,985.18	USD 211.03	11.89%
DSEX	6,282.48	75.48	1.22%
S&P 500	4,186.77	347.27	9.04%
FTSE 100	7,414.34	-37.40	-0.50%
BSE SENSEX	64,049.06	3,208.32	5.27%
KSE-100	51,125.32	10,704.87	26.48%
CSEALL	10,614.46	2,111.97	24.84%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 110.28 BDT****1 GBP = 133.30 BDT****1 Euro = 116.34 BDT****1 INR = 1.33 BDT**

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