

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:**10% policy rate to be reduced if inflation drops below 8.2%: BB governor**

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur said today (29 November) the central bank's policy rate is currently 10%, which will be lowered if inflation drops below 8.2%. He said the gap between the policy interest rate and inflation should be between 2.5% and 3%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/10-policy-rate-be-reduced-if-inflation-drops-below-82-bb-governor-1297531>

To graduate or not to graduate: UN delegation due in Dec for reality check

- An independent UN review team comes again in December to share its assessment report on Bangladesh's LDC graduation to ascertain whether time is ripe for its status change, officials say. In a sharing session the UN delegation would go for final consultation with Bangladesh's stakeholders, including private sector, before sealing the fate of the country's exit from the world club of least-developed countries (LDCs), they said Friday.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/to-graduate-or-not-to-graduate-un-delegation-due-in-dec-for-reality-check>

Industrial growth slows as key sectors contract

- Large industries, which make up more than 11% of the country's USD 461 Bn economy, expanded by only 2.43% in September 2025, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). These figures contrast sharply with the Bangladesh Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which rose 0.8 points to 59.1 in September, signalling a faster pace of expansion.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/industrial-growth-slows-as-key-sectors-contract-1764436733>

Govt may approve third revision of MRT-6 project tomorrow

- With massive cost escalations in areas such as consultancy and electro-mechanical systems, the government may revise the MRT-6 project for the third time tomorrow (Monday), extending the timeline by three years, officials said on Saturday. The company has requested additional funds under the third revision: BDT 3.0 Mn for honorarium, BDT 2.70 Bn for foreign loan repayment, and BDT 8.0 Mn for computers and accessories.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-may-approve-third-revision-of-mrt-6-project-tomorrow-1764437064>

Election schedule likely in second week of Dec

- The schedule for the next parliamentary elections and referendum is likely to be announced in the second week of December, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) AMM Nasir Uddin said on Saturday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/election-schedule-likely-in-second-week-of-dec-1764437404>

Country's gas production remains limited, reliance on imports rising: BERC chairman

- Bangladesh has been unable to utilise its own gas reserves due to limited progress in exploration in both offshore and onshore fields, resulting in increased reliance on imported gas, Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) Chairman Jalal Ahmed said today (29 November).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/countrys-gas-production-remains-limited-reliance-imports-rising-berc-chairman-1297886>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | Banking sector may need 5-10 yrs for NPL cleanup, says Mansur**

- Terming mammoth NPL (non-performing loan) buildups a serious problem the banking industry faces, the BB governor said he thought the sector's NPL ratio could be around 25% two years ago when the then central bank regime was claiming 8.0%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/banking-sector-may-need-5-10-yrs-for-npl-cleanup-says-mansur-1764436312>

BANK | NPLs jump to 34% as stricter rules expose hidden defaults

- Non-performing loans (NPLs) in Bangladesh's agriculture sector have surged to substantial levels, with nearly 34% of outstanding farm credit now classified as defaulted, according to the latest Bangladesh Bank (BB) data. Economists attribute the spike to deteriorating economic conditions, escalating production costs, repeated climate shocks and the persistent absence of fair prices for agricultural produce -- factors that have weakened farmers' repayment ability.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/npls-jump-to-34pc-as-stricter-rules-expose-hidden-defaults-1764437588>

BANK | Sammilito Islami Bank set to launch next week

- Sammilito Islami Bank, the proposed largest shariah-based state-run bank to be formed by merging five troubled ones, is going to be launched within the next week, said Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/sammilito-islami-bank-set-launch-next-week-4046811>

BANK | 5-bank merger: New United Islami Bank staff may face up to 20% salary cut

- Employees of the new United Islami Bank, being created through the merger of five Shariah-based lenders, may face salary cuts of up to 20%, according to verbal instructions conveyed to the five banks by the central bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/merged-bank-staff-face-20-salary-cut-1297311>

CERAMIC | Energy crisis, economic slump weigh on ceramic industry

- The country's ceramic industry is facing one of its toughest periods in recent years, as rising production costs driven by persistent energy shortages and weak domestic demand take a toll on manufacturers. "The economy isn't doing well, and that's no secret," Irfan Uddin, general secretary of the Bangladesh Ceramic Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BCMEA), said. "The ceramic sector, which depends heavily on real estate and development, is also facing serious difficulties."

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/energy-crisis-economic-slump-weigh-ceramic-industry-4046816>

Stocks:**ICB | ICB seeks CIB list waiver for its officials becoming defaulter cos' directors**

- The Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) has urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps so that its officials are not enlisted as defaulters by the central bank's Credit Information Bureau (CIB), when they are nominated as directors of any loan defaulter company.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/icb-seeks-cib-list-waiver-for-its-officials-becoming-defaulter-cos-directors-1764437277>

ICB | ICB hides losses by valuing securities at cost with regulatory approval

- According to the auditor, investments in securities are worth BDT 141.71Bn as of June this year when valued at cost prices, but their market value stood at BDT 96.65 Bn. Hence, ICB did not recognise losses amounting to BDT 45.05 Bn-from investments in securities alone-in FY25.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/icb-hides-losses-by-valuing-securities-at-cost-with-regulatory-approval-1764430670>

EXCHANGE | DSE's BDT 870 Mn FDRs in four merging banks stuck in limbo

- According to DSE's latest annual report for FY25, the bourse has BDT 873.9 Mn investment in four banks, with BDT 480 Mn in EXIM Bank, BDT 193.9 Mn in Union Bank, BDT 160 Mn in Global Islami Bank and BDT 40 Mn in Social Islami Bank. Due to a fragile situation – marked by a liquidity crunch and difficulties in repaying investors' savings – the DSE is diversifying its investments into government treasury bills, a safer investment instrument in the country, by encashing its FDRs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dses-tk87cr-fdrs-four-merging-banks-stuck-limbo-1297936>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 58.55	(USD 12.88)	-18.03%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 62.38	(USD 12.01)	-16.14%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,239.44	USD 1,630.96	62.53%
DSEX	5,028.14	-188.30	-3.61%
S&P 500	6,849.09	942.15	15.95%
FTSE 100	9,720.51	1,599.50	19.70%
BSE SENSEX	85,706.67	7,506.74	9.60%
KSE-100	166,677.70	51,418.70	44.61%
CSEALL	22,712.82	6,768.21	42.45%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.38 BDT

1 GBP = 162.05 BDT

1 Euro = 141.92 BDT

1 INR = 1.37 BDT

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