

Weekly Market Update

DSEX ended in Green (+2.25%) in the week

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in green this week. The benchmark index DSEX (+2.25%) gained 116.93 points and closed the week at 5,316.33 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (+2.05%) gained 39.49 points and stood at 1,965.54 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (+3.76%) gained 43.01 points and stood at 1,187.91 points. The large cap index CDSET (+1.95%) gained 20.85 points and closed at 1,090.55 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of -14.89%, -6.13%, -12.92%, -9.33%, respectively.

Total Turnover During The Week (DSE): BDT 30.3 billion (USD 252 million)
Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 6.1 billion (Δ% Week: +45.4%)
Market P/E: 15.5x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed five sessions during this week. The market started negatively on Sunday (-0.16%) but turned out positive on Monday (+1.19%) and remained positive on Tuesday (+2.14%). The market turned negative again on Wednesday (-0.33%) and ended negative as well on Thursday (-0.58%).

Sectoral Performance

· All the financial sectors posted positive performance this week. Life Insurance booked the highest gain of 3.65% followed by NBFi (+2.56%), Bank (+0.96%), Mutual Fund (+0.76%), and General Insurance (+0.32%).

· Most of the non-financial (large-cap) sectors posted positive performance this week. Fuel & Power booked the highest gain of 5.02% followed by Pharmaceutical (+3.32%), Engineering (+2.79%), Telecommunication (+0.65%), and Food & Allied (-0.60%).

Macroeconomic Arena

Current-account deficit shrinks amid signs of economic pickup. VAT waived for export cos. Japan negotiating EPA with Bangladesh: Envoy. New ordinance to grant commission for recovering laundered money. The US goes red: Another round of Trump presidency. BANK | No liquidity crisis, BDT 55.85 Bn support provided to 7 banks: Cenbank. FUEL & POWER | Tenders invited for importing LNG cargoes from spot mkt. WB agrees to lend USD 400 Mn for bankrolling project. Bangladesh-India informal trade estimated at USD 11 Bn: NBR official. No need for any hard copies in online tax submission: NBR. NBFi | A third of NBFis hold over 73% of bad loans. BANK | BB to lift LC restrictions on crisis-hit banks. FOOD & ALLIED | RFL starts exporting geysers to Oman.

RMG | Surging orders set to boost denim exports. FUEL & POWER | Adani changes course, decides to resume power supply soon. Rising remittance provides a breather amid forex crisis. Govt lifts investment cap on wage earner bond. ENERGY | Now coal power plants scaling back production. BANK | S Alam Group faces first auction of mortgaged assets for defaulting BDT 18. 50 Bn loans. Annually up to USD 15 Bn laundered from Bangladesh during last Awami League tenure. e-invoice NBR's latest trial on VAT system. BANK | BB removes interest rate cap on RFCD accounts. BANK | Regulator rings cyber-heist alarm for banks. FUEL & POWER | Bids invited to import two more spot LNG cargoes. RMG | Bangladesh skips India, reroutes global textile exports through Maldives.

Stock Market Arena

PADMAOIL | Padma Oil's profit jumps on higher sales, fixed income. ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank appoints 4 audit firms to investigate irregularities. ICB | Govt to issue state guarantee for BDT 30 Bn BB loan to ICB. KOHINOOR | Kohinoor Chemical declares highest dividends in decades. ASIATICLAB | BSEC launches probe into Asiatic Laboratories' financials, IPO fund usage. FIRSTSBANK | First Security Islami Bank incurs BDT 310 Mn loss in Q3. CROWNCEMNT | Crown Cement posts BDT 1 Bn profit in FY24. CITYBANK | City Bank's operating profit increases by 77% in 9 months. MKFOOTWEAR | MK Footwear's profit shrinks by 20% in FY24. GENNEXT | Labour unrest, capital shortage force Generation Next to shut down. EXCHANGE | New 15% tax rate set for capital gains over BDT 5 Mn, irrespective of time held. LINDEBD | Linde Bangladesh sees 30-fold rise in profit. EXCHANGE | Why BSEC rejects B Brothers' fund raising again. CITYBANK | City Bank's Q3 profit jumps 41% on higher investment income.

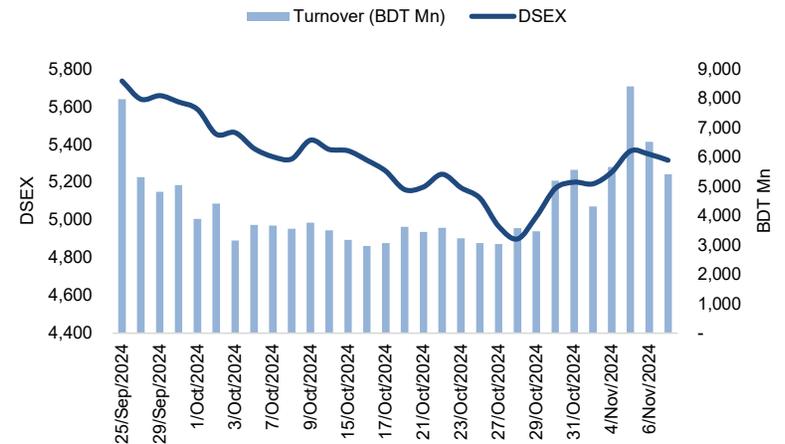
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	28-Dec-2023	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,316.33	5,199.40	+116.93	6,246.50	2.25%	-14.89%
DS30	1,965.54	1,926.05	+39.49	2,093.83	2.05%	-6.13%
DSES	1,187.91	1,144.90	+43.01	1,364.13	3.76%	-12.92%
CDSET	1,090.55	1,069.70	+20.85	1,202.82	1.95%	-9.33%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
Mcap	Mn BDT	6,718,100	6,653,321	
	Mn USD	55,984	55,444	1.0%
Turnover	Mn BDT	30,291	20,833	45.4%
	Mn USD	252	174	
Average Daily Turnover	Mn BDT	6,058	4,167	45.4%
	Mn USD	50	35	
Volume	Mn Shares	1,147	912	25.8%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in Last Four Weeks



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Table 3: Top Ten Gainers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
GHCL	26.1	18.3	+42.6%	1,879	118.9	NM	0.6x
SPCERAMICS	15.2	11.8	+28.8%	2,234	163.1	95.0x	0.5x
AFTABAUTO	38.8	31.0	+25.2%	4,095	356.1	NM	0.8x
MIDLANDBNK	34.6	27.9	+24.0%	22,133	506.3	20.0x	2.4x
ARAMITCEM	14.0	11.4	+22.8%	474	4.8	NM	NM
ENVOYTEX	43.3	35.6	+21.6%	7,263	25.7	12.1x	0.8x
LEGACYFOOT	48.2	40.0	+20.5%	2,076	20.5	NM	4.3x
ORIONPHARM	45.5	37.8	+20.4%	10,647	873.6	10.4x	0.5x
SALAMCRST	12.6	10.5	+20.0%	1,239	18.6	78.8x	0.7x
FUWANGFOOD	15.0	12.5	+20.0%	1,663	174.8	NM	6.1x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
PRIMEFIN	5.1	5.7	-10.5%	1,392	2.7	NM	0.6x
PHARMAID	615.5	673.3	-8.6%	1,920	316.8	31.4x	5.6x
SHYAMPSUG	90.2	98.2	-8.1%	451	7.8	NM	NM
PURABIGEN	18.7	20.3	-7.9%	1,118	13.1	10.7x	1.3x
RENWICKJA	597.8	645.0	-7.3%	1,196	0.9	NM	NM
FAREASTFIN	3.8	4.1	-7.3%	623	2.1	NM	NM
KBPPWBIL	141.6	152.7	-7.3%	13,888	214.6	NM	11.9x
QUEENSOUTH	12.0	12.9	-7.0%	1,831	22.6	40.0x	0.8x
ZEALBANGLA	85.3	91.6	-6.9%	512	2.1	NM	NM
ILFSL	4.1	4.4	-6.8%	909	1.8	NM	NM

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
ORIONPHARM	45.5	37.8	+20.4%	10,647	873.6	10.4x	0.5x
BSC	90.0	80.7	+11.5%	13,728	829.2	4.7x	0.8x
ISLAMIBANK	57.6	53.0	+8.7%	92,735	708.9	19.9x	1.3x
FEKDIL	20.9	19.1	+9.4%	4,572	673.9	12.7x	1.0x
AGNISYSL	34.1	34.0	+0.3%	2,474	609.8	31.9x	2.1x
BRACBANK	50.9	51.6	-1.4%	90,078	537.1	8.1x	1.2x
ORIONINFU	337.8	282.1	+19.7%	6,878	507.5	NM	22.6x
MIDLANDBNK	34.6	27.9	+24.0%	22,133	506.3	20.0x	2.4x
ACMELAB	79.4	79.1	+0.4%	16,801	505.8	6.8x	0.7x
GP	321.1	314.2	+2.2%	433,581	496.6	12.2x	7.5x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
ISLAMIBANK	57.6	+76.7%	92,735	19.9x	1.3x
BRACBANK	50.9	+56.4%	90,078	8.1x	1.2x
UNILEVERCL	2,681.9	+32.8%	51,692	70.3x	22.0x
JAMUNAOIL	192.4	+14.2%	21,246	5.2x	0.9x
CITYBANK	21.8	+12.1%	29,366	4.1x	0.7x
GP	321.1	+12.0%	433,581	12.2x	7.5x
MPETROLEUM	218.0	+9.8%	23,591	5.1x	1.0x
PRIMEBANK	23.0	+9.5%	26,043	4.1x	0.7x
MJLBD	92.9	+7.2%	29,426	10.7x	1.9x
IBNSINA	306.0	+6.8%	9,561	14.3x	2.7x

**BDT*
**BDT Mn*
Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,473.7	1,459.6	1,455.32	+0.96%	+1.26%
NBFI	1,280.9	1,248.8	1,902.52	+2.56%	-32.68%
Mutual Fund	620.8	616.1	876.90	+0.76%	-29.21%
General Insurance	2,635.0	2,626.6	3,489.09	+0.32%	-24.48%
Life Insurance	1,888.6	1,822.2	2,637.78	+3.65%	-28.40%
Telecommunication	5,151.1	5,118.0	4,945.60	+0.65%	+4.16%
Pharmaceutical	3,017.5	2,920.6	3,732.58	+3.32%	-19.16%
Fuel & Power	1,162.9	1,107.3	1,691.80	+5.02%	-31.26%
Cement	2,085.7	2,059.9	2,523.22	+1.25%	-17.34%
Services & Real Estate	1,150.6	1,064.9	1,518.57	+8.05%	-24.23%
Engineering	2,568.8	2,499.2	4,520.40	+2.79%	-43.17%
Food & Allied	17,201.8	17,305.3	21,180.76	-0.60%	-18.79%
IT	2,135.2	2,108.6	2,894.80	+1.26%	-26.24%
Textile	1,116.1	1,067.4	1,658.23	+4.56%	-32.69%
Paper & Printing	4,413.1	3,999.2	10,093.63	+10.35%	-56.28%
Tannery	1,988.2	1,964.8	3,103.94	+1.19%	-35.95%
Jute	17,856.2	16,647.5	17,683.51	+7.26%	+0.98%
Ceramics	382.9	355.0	694.56	+7.87%	-44.87%
Miscellaneous	4,170.0	4,150.2	4,265.32	+0.48%	-2.23%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily Avg this Week	Daily Avg last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	915.5	770.2	+18.87%	+15.59%	9.0x	0.7x
NBFI	256.4	157.6	+62.74%	+4.37%	NM	NM
Mutual Fund	157.8	95.5	+65.32%	+2.69%	NM	0.6x
General Insurance	215.7	156.2	+38.08%	+3.67%	13.8x	1.2x
Life Insurance	98.8	79.6	+24.05%	+1.68%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	177.0	150.1	+17.98%	+3.02%	14.1x	4.3x
Pharmaceutical	1,156.9	668.9	+72.96%	+19.70%	14.1x	1.6x
Fuel & Power	354.2	154.7	+128.90%	+6.03%	16.8x	0.6x
Cement	57.4	36.9	+55.30%	+0.98%	16.3x	2.1x
Services & Real Estate	347.6	178.0	+95.28%	+5.92%	19.7x	0.5x
Engineering	450.2	278.0	+61.91%	+7.67%	13.3x	0.9x
Food & Allied	337.0	313.0	+7.67%	+5.74%	16.9x	4.5x
IT	316.3	226.9	+39.38%	+5.39%	19.4x	1.8x
Textile	521.4	430.0	+21.25%	+8.88%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	80.4	50.3	+59.95%	+1.37%	35.4x	0.9x
Tannery	24.9	18.5	+34.67%	+0.42%	61.6x	1.6x
Jute	80.5	31.3	+156.86%	+1.37%	NM	NM
Ceramics	67.7	34.7	+95.09%	+1.15%	NM	1.0x
Miscellaneous	255.7	160.1	+59.71%	+4.36%	37.7x	1.7x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
DOREENPWR	21.6	-64.6%	3,912	11.9x	0.4x
BSCABLES	18.4	-63.1%	3,895	NM	0.6x
IPDC	20.3	-63.0%	7,910	25.2x	1.2x
KPCL	12.0	-54.9%	4,769	80.0x	0.7x
ACTIVEFINE	8.8	-54.4%	2,111	NM	0.4x
SUMITPOWER	16.3	-52.1%	17,406	23.0x	0.4x
WALTONHIL	523.8	-50.0%	158,674	11.7x	1.4x
IFADAUTOS	22.3	-49.4%	5,923	NM	0.6x
TITASGAS	22.0	-46.2%	21,763	NM	0.2x
ACI	142.5	-45.2%	10,859	NM	1.6x

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

Current-account deficit shrinks amid signs of economic pickup

- Current balance-of-payments (BoP) data show signs of Bangladesh's economy picking up with export receipts rising, imports returning to positive growth and a strong rebound in remittances. This has led to a narrower current-account deficit, while both the financial and capital accounts have gained posted surpluses.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/current-account-deficit-shrinks-amid-signs-of-economic-pickup-1730917628>

VAT waived for export cos

- Export-oriented companies would enjoy value-added tax (VAT) waiver on transfer of capital machinery and spare parts on three conditions, one of which is that both of the companies must have valid bond licences, according to a new General Order (GO) issued by the VAT wing of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) on Wednesday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/vat-waived-for-export-cos-1730918281>

Japan negotiating EPA with Bangladesh: Envoy

- Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh IWAMA Kiminori said that Japan is actively working on various development projects in Bangladesh, including the construction of the Dhaka Metro Rail and a terminal at Dhaka Airport.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/japan-negotiating-epa-bangladesh-envoy-986546>

New ordinance to grant commission for recovering laundered money

- Officials who will be able to successfully bring back laundered money will get a portion of repatriated money, as per a decision made at a meeting of a money-laundering-prevention taskforce on July 4 this year with the attorney-general in the chair.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/new-ordinance-to-grant-commission-for-recovering-laundered-money-1730917868>

The US goes red: Another round of Trump presidency

- Trump won the presidency through the electoral system and the popular vote, which has not happened in the past two decades. The night started off as it does, with red states.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/the-us-goes-red-another-round-trump-presidency-3746446>

BANK | No liquidity crisis, BDT 55.85 Bn support provided to 7 banks:

Cenbank

- Bangladesh Bank has assured the public that there is no liquidity crisis in the banking sector, emphasising that depositors' funds remain secure.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/no-liquidity-crisis-tk5585cr-support-provided-7-banks-cenbank-986321>

BANK | New regulatory rules to augment liquidity feeding

- Liquidity support to some crisis-stricken banks may be ramped up through a new mechanism, the central bank says, and assures depositors of their money's security. The cash-hungry commercial lenders have already availed nearly BDT 56 Bn from well-off banks under regulatory guarantees. Spokesperson for the Bangladesh Bank (BB) Husne Ara Shikha disclosed the plans at a press conference held at the central bank headquarters in Dhaka on Wednesday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/new-regulatory-rules-to-augment-liquidity-feeding-1730917748>

BANK | Govt to devise plan to retrieve BDT 8.73 Bn climate fund from Padma Bank

- The interim government is going to formulate a specific roadmap to recover funds of the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust (BCCT), amounting to BDT 8.73 Bn, that have been held up in Padma Bank since 2016.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-devise-plan-retrieve-tk-873cr-climate-fund-padma-bank-3746786>

FUEL & POWER | Tenders invited for importing LNG cargoes from spot mkt

- State-run Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Company Ltd (RPGCL) invited two fresh tenders and reissued a previous tender to procure three spot LNG cargoes. The new tenders aim to make purchases for the December 14-15 and December 20-21 delivery windows, while the reissued tender is scheduled for the December 7-8 delivery window.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tenders-invited-for-importing-lng-cargoes-from-spot-mkt-1730917922>

WB agrees to lend USD 400 Mn for bankrolling project

- A latest World Bank financing worth USD 400 Mn is expected for strengthening financial-safety net and crisis preparedness in Bangladesh, officials said about the funding that specially focuses tidying up the banking sector. The money will go for bankrolling the Financial Sector Support Project (FSSP) -II. Total tenure of the project will be five years.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/wb-agrees-to-lend-400m-for-bankrolling-project-1730828819>

Bangladesh-India informal trade estimated at USD 11 Bn: NBR official

- Despite the growth in formal trade between Bangladesh and India, a substantial volume of informal trade persists, estimated at USD 11 Bn, according to a senior official from the National Board of Revenue (NBR).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-india-informal-trade-estimated-11b-nbr-official-985631>

No need for any hard copies in online tax submission: NBR

- The National Board of Revenue on Tuesday said hard copies need not be submitted to VAT office after filing online returns, coefficient declarations, etc, reports UNB. The NBR said that it has been informed that in some cases hard copies are sought by the VAT Officers after filing online returns, which is not legal.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/no-need-for-any-hard-copies-in-online-tax-submission-nbr-1730829679>

BANK | Govt securities boost 20 banks' performance in Jan-Sept

- Most of the listed banks secured a double-digit profit growth year-on-year in the nine months through September this year, driven by substantial income from investments in government securities. However, interest expenses on deposits were high too.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/govt-securities-boost-20-banks-performance-in-jan-sept-1730823897>

FOOD & ALLIED | Refiners seek sugar import at 10% LC margin

- Local sugar refiners have urged the government to keep the LC (letter of credit) margin at a lower level for sugar import to ensure its uninterrupted supply during the upcoming fasting month of Ramadan, sources said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/refiners-seek-sugar-import-at-10pc-lc-margin-1730829569>

NBFI | A third of NBFIs hold over 73% of bad loans

- As of June this year, central bank data showed that soured loans at the 35 NBFIs in the country totalled a record BDT 247.11 Bn, with BDT 181.64 Bn concentrated in 12 NBFIs.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/third-nbfis-hold-over-73-bad-loans-3745841>

Dhaka urges EU to relax new GSP criteria

- Bangladesh has requested the European Union to consider revising its new (draft) GSP scheme, particularly the safeguard clauses, so that all exportable products including ready-made garments can avail of the trade privileges beyond 2029.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/dhaka-urges-eu-relax-new-gsp-criteria-984746>

ADB warns Bangladesh losing up to 16.2% of GDP by 2070

- Bangladesh may face substantial economic losses due to climate change by 2070, particularly from reduced labour productivity, sea-level rise, increased emissions, and river flooding, according to a latest report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/adb-warns-bangladesh-losing-up-to-162pc-of-gdp-by-2070-1730742955>

BANK | BB to lift LC restrictions on crisis-hit banks

- The measure, which was imposed in August this year, prevented banks from opening LCs only by keeping a 100% margin. The development came following a meeting at the Bangladesh Bank headquarters yesterday between officials of the ailing banks and central bank officials.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-lift-lc-restrictions-crisis-hit-banks-3744891>

FOOD & ALLIED | RFL starts exporting geysers to Oman

- Kamruzzaman Kamal, director (Marketing) of PRAN-RFL Group said, "Our aim is to expand the export market by exporting all kinds of PRAN-RFL products in various countries. The global geyser market is valued at approximately USD 30 Bn, presenting a significant opportunity for us to grow our export.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/rfl-starts-exporting-geysers-to-oman-1730738562>

TELECOM | BTRC to issue more NTTN licences if needed

- Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) will issue more Nationwide Telecommunication Transmission Network (NTTN) licences if services to customers are compromised as the regulator prioritises service quality, said BTRC Chairman Maj Gen (retd) Md Emdad Ul Bari yesterday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/btrc-issue-more-nttn-licences-if-needed-3744706>

BANK | Dhaka North toils to withdraw deposits from 4 crisis-hit banks linked to S Alam Group

- Four shariah-based banks, which were controlled by the controversial business conglomerate S Alam Group, cannot pay back deposits of the Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) amounting to BDT 290 Mn due to a liquidity crisis.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/dhaka-north-toils-withdraw-deposits-4-crisis-hit-banks-linked-s-alam-group-984756>

BANK | Paltry disbursement, high cost of funds compound crisis

- Drawn-out disbursement process and excessive cost of fund in the central bank-guaranteed liquidity feeding to the crisis-ridden commercial banks are making it more of a hindrance than help, bankers said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/paltry-disbursement-high-cost-of-funds-compound-crisis-1730742301>

RMG | Surging orders set to boost denim exports

- Bangladeshi denim exporters, denim fabric millers, and their buyers are very optimistic about business growth this year, as they are receiving more orders thanks to the economic recovery in their major export destinations.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/surging-orders-set-boost-denim-exports-984751>

FUEL & POWER | Adani changes course, decides to resume power supply soon

- India's Adani changes course and decides to resume power supply from its closed plant unit shortly as payment row eases following accord on LC revision. Sources said Monday, both parties agreed to amend the letter of credit (LC) terms on payment of USD 170 Mn to the Indian conglomerate.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/adani-changes-course-decides-to-resume-power-supply-soon-1730742674>

Rising remittance provides a breather amid forex crisis

- In October, remittances sent home by Bangladesh's migrant workers rose 21.31% year-on-year to USD 2.39 Bn following a 40% jump in August and 80% jump in September, central bank data showed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rising-remittance-provides-breather-amid-forex-crisis-3744106>

Govt lifts investment cap on wage earner bond

- The government has removed the highest investment limit of the Wage Earner Development Bond to encourage non-resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) to send more foreign currency to the country, which has been facing a forex shortage for more than two and half years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-lifts-investment-cap-wage-earner-bond-3744086>

Bangladesh explores avenue to boost revenue collection

- Bangladesh has significant potential for mobilising revenue collection, as highlighted by a recent official assessment on revenue buoyancy, a measure reflecting how tax revenues respond to economic growth.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladesh-explores-avenue-to-boost-revenue-collection>

BD should pursue FTAs with more countries

- According to the keynote presentation, Bangladesh exported merchandise worth USD 677 Mn to Korea while importing USD 2.357 Bn worth of goods from the East Asian nation in 2022, resulting in a significant trade deficit.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bd-should-pursue-ftas-with-more-countries-1730656638>

RMG | Chinese fabric recycler to invest USD 35 Mn in Mongla EPZ

- Xingchen Textile Co Ltd, a Chinese company, signed a deal with Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza) yesterday to invest USD 35.03 Mn in setting up a textile recycling factory in Mongla Export Processing Zone (EPZ).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/chinese-fabric-recycler-invest-35m-mongla-epz-3744016>

ENERGY | Now coal power plants scaling back production

- Coal-fired power plants are dialling down production or even shutting down due to financial, legal or technical issues, leading to power cuts across the country, especially the rural areas

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/now-coal-power-plants-scaling-back-production-3743916>

ENERGY | Adani dues to be cleared fast

- The government will accelerate the payment of the dues of Adani Power after the Indian power giant threatened to cut off electricity supply if its outstanding amount is not cleared by November 7.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/adani-dues-be-cleared-fast-3744156>

BANK | S Alam Group faces first auction of mortgaged assets for defaulting BDT 18.50 Bn loans

- In a move to recover BDT 18.50 Bn unpaid loans from S Alam Group, Janata Bank has announced auctioning off collateral assets of Global Trading Corporation Limited, a subsidiary of the controversial conglomerate.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/s-alam-group-faces-first-auction-mortgaged-assets-defaulting-tk1850cr-loans-983801>

Annually up to USD 15 Bn laundered from Bangladesh during last Awami League tenure

- The TIB executive director made the comments at a seminar on laundered money and how to recover the money, held at the office of the Economic Reporters' Forum in Dhaka. Trade-based money laundering was one of the major ways of money laundering, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/annually-15-billion-laundered-bangladesh-during-last-awami-league-tenure-3742756>

e-invoice NBR's latest trial on VAT system

- Introducing e-invoice is the latest trial for mending porous VAT-collection system as the revenue board opts for dumping device-based taxing after prolonged piloting, sources say. The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has moved to introduce electronic invoicing system to automate VAT collection from businesses at the first go.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/e-invoice-nbrs-latest-trial-on-vat-system-1730397938>

AL govt patronised corrupt nexus to syphon off project funds, White Paper body finds

- During the tenure of the ousted Awami League government, projects were frequently awarded at prices significantly above standard rates through open tender. In other cases, projects would be granted via unsolicited processes. In both cases, the quoted rates were always high and there would be ample opportunities for corruption.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/corrupt-nexus-monopolised-govt-entities-siphoned-public-funds-debapriya-981141>

BANK | BB removes interest rate cap on RFCD accounts

- RFCDs are savings accounts that Bangladeshi residents can open and maintain with foreign currency brought in from travel abroad. Previously, banks were required to pay an additional 1.5% interest on deposits in these accounts, based on the international benchmark Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-removes-interest-rate-cap-rfcd-accounts-3741946>

BANK | Regulator rings cyber-heist alarm for banks

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB), in a circular issued by its information and communication technology department, has said instances of illegal transactions by using dual-currency card on the facebook add manager have been found in some of the banks after analysing and observing regular information of security intelligence of Bangladesh Cyber Security Intelligence (BCSI).

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/regulator-rings-cyber-heist-alarm-for-banks-1730483259>

BANK | Crawling peg hardly works as banks duck interbank forex mkt

- Commercial banks have changed strategy on foreign-currency management with its concentration on interbank swap and dollar-euro trades to avert shocks stemming from crawling-peg regime, thereby leaving the interbank forex market virtually derelict.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/crawling-peg-hardly-works-as-banks-duck-interbank-forex-mkt-1730568150>

FUEL & POWER | Bids invited to import two more spot LNG cargoes

- State-run Rupantarita Prakritik Gas Company Limited (RPGCL) floated tenders to purchase two more spot LNG cargoes for December 4-5 and December 7-8 delivery windows, a senior RPGCL official told the FE on Saturday. The RPGCL floated tenders for these spot LNG cargoes on October 30 and October 31 with the bid submission deadline ending on November 3.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bids-invited-to-import-two-more-spot-lng-cargoes-1730568600>

RMG | Bangladesh skips India, reroutes global textile exports through Maldives

- Bangladesh, the world's second-largest garment producer, has opted to bypass India and ship its textiles to global markets through the Maldives, hurting the cargo revenue prospects of India's airports and ports amid strained bilateral ties, reports Mint.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-skips-india-reroutes-global-textile-exports-through-maldives-3743021>

FUEL & POWER | Power generation at Matarbari plant halts

- The production of two units of the Matarbari Ultra Super Critical Coal-Fired Power Plant has been stopped due to a coal shortage with effective from Saturday. The Matarbari power plant had been receiving its coal supply from Japan's Sumitomo Corporation. The contract for 2,205,000 MT of coal with the Japanese company ended back in August after the delivery of the last consignment.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/power-generation-at-matarbari-plant-halts-1730568849>

FUEL & POWER | Outstanding bills: Adani halves power supply to Bangladesh

- Bangladesh reported a shortfall of more than 1,600MW on Thursday night after the 1,496 megawatt Adani plant reduced supply. Earlier, Adani Power Jharkhand Limited (APJL) had written to the power secretary, asking the Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB) to pay the bills by October 30.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/outstanding-bills-adani-halves-power-supply-bangladesh-3742081>

RMG | No cash incentive for exporting shoe-bag made of synthetic-fabrics mix under bond facility

- Exporters will no longer enjoy any cash incentive for shoes and bags made of a mixture of synthetic materials and fabrics under the bond and duty drawback facilities, the central bank said today (31 October).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/no-cash-incentive-exporting-shoe-bag-made-synthetic-fabrics-mix-under-bond-facility-980461>

BANK | BDT 30 Bn export fund held up in four troubled banks

- This has made it difficult for sound banks to get adequate liquidity from the Export Facilitation Pre-Finance Fund (EFPF) to lend to local exporters for raw material purchases from foreign markets.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/tk-3000cr-export-fund-held-four-troubled-banks-3741981>

BANK | 8 banks face losses in Jul-Sep as provision against bad loans rises

- Eight banks reported losses in the July-September quarter of this year, following the central bank's tightened measures to maintain adequate provisions for classified loans.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/8-banks-face-losses-jul-sep-provision-against-bad-loans-rises-981611>

ENGINEERING | Nasir Group family feud now turns into company liquidation plea

- A dispute among the family members of Nasir Group, a leading Bangladeshi conglomerate known for glass manufacturing, has escalated into a legal plea for the liquidation of one of its more than 12 companies — Nasir Float Glass Industries Ltd.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/nasir-group-family-feud-now-turns-company-liquidation-plea-981651>

Important News: Stocks

PADMAOIL | Padma Oil's profit jumps on higher sales, fixed income

- The state-run Padma Oil Company secured an almost 17% year-on-year growth in profit to BDT 4.08 Bn in FY24, driven by higher sales of petroleum products and increased non-operating income.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/padma-oils-profit-jumps-on-higher-sales-fixed-income-1730916311>

ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank appoints 4 audit firms to investigate irregularities post S Alam Group takeover

- Islami Bank PLC's board of directors has appointed four audit firms to investigate irregularities in the bank after it was occupied by S Alam Group.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/islami-bank-appoints-4-audit-firms-investigate-irregularities-post-s-alam-group>

ICB | Govt to issue state guarantee for BDT 30 Bn BB loan to ICB

- The government is set to issue a sovereign guarantee against a BDT 30 Bn loan expected to be provided by the Bangladesh Bank to the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) that has long been suffering from a fund crisis.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-to-issue-state-guarantee-for-tk-30b-bb-loan-to-icb-1730918330>

KOHINOOR | Kohinoor Chemical declares highest dividends in decades

- Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Limited has announced a record dividend for the fiscal year 2023-24, declaring a 50% cash dividend and a 10% stock dividend for shareholders – the company's highest payout in decades.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/kohinoor-chemical-declares-highest-dividends-decades-985586>

NCCBANK | Former chairman announces plan to increase stake in NCC Bank

- Tofazzal Hossain, a sponsor and former chairman of National Credit and Commerce (NCC) Bank, has announced plans to increase his stake in the bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/former-chairman-announces-plan-increase-stake-ncc-bank-983736>

ASIATICLAB | BSEC launches probe into Asiatic Laboratories' financials, IPO fund usage

- The committee will review Asiatic Laboratories' financial records from 2017 to 2022 and investigate how the IPO proceeds were utilised, BSEC's Executive Director and spokesperson Mohammad Rezaul Karim told The Business Standard.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-launches-probe-asiatic-laboratories-financials-ipo-fund-usage-985636>

PUBALIBANK | PUBALI BANK LAUNCHES 'ISLAMIC CORNER'

- Pubali Bank, one of the country's leading commercial banks, launched 'Islamic Corners' across its branches nationwide to cater to the growing demand for Shariah-compliant banking services.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/pubali-bank-launches-islamic-corner-1730824044>

FIRSTSBANK | First Security Islami Bank incurs BDT 310 Mn loss in Q3

- First Security Islami Bank PLC suffered a loss of BDT 313.1 Mn in the third quarter of this year, as its investment income fell and the cost of deposits increased. The bank's loss in the July-September quarter reflects a sharp reversal from BDT 384.1 Mn profit posted in the same period last year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/first-security-islami-bank-incurs-tk-31cr-loss-q3-3745806>

CROWNCEMNT | Crown Cement posts BDT 1 Bn profit in FY24

- The company posted a profit of BDT 1 Bn for 2023-24 fiscal year. The profit growth reflected solid year-on-year earnings per share (EPS) growth of 64%, climbing from BDT 4.11 to BDT 6.74, according to a recent Dhaka Stock Exchange filing.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/crown-cement-posts-tk-100-crore-profit-fy24-3744411>

CITYBANK | City Bank's operating profit increases by 77% in 9 months

- City Bank reported a consolidated operating profit of BDT 16.53 Bn in January-September of this year, representing a 77% growth compared to BDT 9.32 Bn during the same nine-month period last year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/city-banks-operating-profit-increases-77-9-months-984616>

MKFOOTWEAR | MK Footwear's profit shrinks by 20% in FY24

- MK Footwear, a listed firm on the SME platform of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), reported today that its profit fell by 20.53% in the 2023-24 fiscal year compared to the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/mk-footwears-profit-shrinks-20-fy24-984681>

GENNEXT | Labour unrest, capital shortage force Generation Next to shut down

- Generation Next Fashions, a publicly listed apparel manufacturing firm, has permanently closed its factory operations due to labour unrest and a working capital shortage, with its managing director, chairman, and directors reportedly fleeing the country.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/labour-unrest-capital-shortage-force-generation-next-shut-down-984631>

EXCHANGE | New 15% tax rate set for capital gains over BDT 5 Mn, irrespective of time held

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has set a 15% tax rate on annual capital gains exceeding BDT 5 Mn from the buying and selling of listed company shares, regardless of the holding period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/tax-rate-capital-gains-over-tk50-lakh-now-15-irrespective-time-frame-984036>

EXCHANGE | BSEC guidelines direct timely cash dividend notifications for investors

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) introduced new guidelines today (4 November) to protect investors by streamlining cash dividend distribution and the issuance of "tax deduction at source certificates" for listed companies.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-guidelines-direct-timely-cash-dividend-notifications-investors-984621>

LINDEBD | Linde Bangladesh sees 30-fold rise in profit

- Linde Bangladesh Ltd, a leading medical and industrial gas supplier, saw a massive surge in its profit in the July-September quarter of 2024 compared to the corresponding period last year, according to its latest quarterly financial statements.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/linde-bangladesh-sees-30-fold-rise-profit-3744101>

IFIC | IFIC Bank issues notice to Shakib for BDT 41.3 Mn loan repayment

- IFIC Bank has served a legal notice to Shakib Al Hasan Agro Farm Ltd, an entity owned by its namesake and the former captain of the Bangladesh national cricket team, after a cheque issued by the company bounced.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ific-bank-issues-notice-shakib-tk-413cr-loan-repayment-3743636>

NCCBANK | Former chairman announces plan to increase stake in NCC Bank

- Tofazzal Hossain, a sponsor and former chairman of National Credit and Commerce (NCC) Bank, has announced plans to increase his stake in the bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/former-chairman-announces-plan-increase-stake-ncc-bank-983736>

EXCHANGE | Why BSEC rejects B Brothers' fund raising again

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has rejected the initial public offering (IPO) of B Brothers Garments Co Ltd for the second time due to multiple regulatory violations and inconsistencies in financial documentation.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/why-bsec-rejects-b-brothers-fund-raising-again-983751>

CITYBANK | City Bank's Q3 profit jumps 41% on higher investment income

- City Bank PLC posted an impressive 41% year-on-year profit growth, reaching BDT 2.01 Bn in the third quarter (Q3) of this year, driven by substantial income from investments, particularly in government securities. The private commercial bank's consolidated earnings per share (EPS) stood at BDT 1.49 for this July-September quarter, up from BDT 1.05 in the same quarter last year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/city-banks-q3-profit-jumps-41pc-on-higher-investment-income-1730478987>

DBH | DBH Finance Q3 profit up 40%

- In the same period of the preceding year, the company had reported an 18% increase in profits, said a press release. Its earnings per share (EPS) stood at BDT 1.68 in the third quarter this year, whereas it was BDT 1.20 in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/dbh-finance-q3-profit-40-3742931>

RECKITT BEN | Reckitt Benckiser Bangladesh's Q3 profit drops 9%

- The leading multinational fast-moving consumer goods company reported a profit of BDT 203.7 Mn in Q3, down over 9% year-on-year. This decline resulted in earnings per share of BDT 43.13, compared to BDT 47.53 in the same quarter of 2023, as per the company's unaudited financial statements.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/reckitt-benckiser-bangladeshs-q3-profit-drops-9-3742726>

UNITEDINS, UNITEFIN | Duncan to sell United Insurance, United Finance shares to local entrepreneurs

- The British-based conglomerate Duncan Brothers and its associates have decided to divest their investments in United Insurance and United Finance by selling their stakes in both companies. Several sources at Duncan Brothers (Bangladesh) Limited have confirmed that a group of local entrepreneurs from a "prominent business conglomerate" has signed two share purchase agreements to acquire these shares.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/duncan-sell-united-insurance-united-finance-shares-local-entrepreneurs-982986>

ATCSLGF | BSEC to decide Asian Tiger Sandhani Life Growth Fund's fate

- A complexity arose during a Thursday (31 October) meeting of unit holders concerning a proposed extension of the tenure for the Asian Tiger Sandhani Life Growth Fund. The trustee sought guidance from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-decide-asian-tiger-sandhani-life-growth-funds-fate-982911>

UCB | 40 UCB officials forced to resign

- United Commercial Bank (UCB) has forced 40 officials, including an additional managing director (AMD), a deputy managing director (DMD) and five general managers, to resign.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/40-ucb-officials-forced-resign-3742926>

BATASHOE | Bata Shoe incurs loss in Jul-Sep

- According to the company's statement disclosed on the stock exchange, it suffered a loss of BDT 130 Mn, and while loss per share of BDT 9.34 during the quarter.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bata-shoe-incurs-loss-jul-sep-980786>

BANKASIA | Bank Asia posts BDT 1.03 Bn Q3 loss despite strong cash flow

- The bank reported a BDT 1.03 Bn loss in Q3, a sharp contrast to a BDT 277.4 Mn profit in the same period last year. This shift led to a loss per share of BDT 0.89, compared to earnings per share (EPS) of BDT 0.18 a year earlier.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bank-asia-posts-tk-103-crore-q3-loss-despite-strong-cash-flow-3742716>

EBL | Eastern Bank's Q3 profit down 23%

- As a result, the private commercial lender's earnings per share fell to BDT 1.04 in the third quarter from BDT 1.35 the previous year, according to the bank's recently published unaudited financial statements.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/eastern-banks-q3-profit-down-23-3742661>

IFIC | IFIC Bank's Q3 profit plummets 63% amid subsidiary struggles

- IFIC Bank PLC's profit for the third quarter of 2024 dropped 63% year-on-year to BDT 76.8 Mn. The bank's earnings per share (EPS) fell to BDT 0.04 in this year's third quarter from BDT 0.11 in Q3 of the previous year, according to a disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) website.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/ific-banks-q3-profit-plummets-63-amid-subsiary-struggles-3741431>

UNIONBANK | Union Bank posts BDT 800 Mn loss in July-Sept

- The Shariah-compliant Union Bank has incurred a loss of BDT 800 Mn in the July to September quarter due to "low profitability", according to a price-sensitive statement from the bank.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/union-bank-posts-tk80cr-loss-july-sept-982916>

EXCHANGE | Efforts ongoing to lower capital gains tax: BSEC chief

- "We are in talks with the government and the National Board of Revenue to reduce the tax rate on capital gains," said Khondoker Rashed Maqsood, chairman of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), on Saturday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/efforts-ongoing-to-lower-capital-gains-tax-bsec-chief-1730564995>

EXCHANGE | BSEC ignored own report on RACE playing with investors' assets

- Bangladesh RACE Management PCL listed one of its core missions as "safeguarding our clients' wealth, big or small, through the dedicated use of sophisticated risk management tools." Since its inception in 2008, its leap was unmatched and soon it emerged as the country's largest private-sector mutual fund manager.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/corruption/bsec-ignored-own-report-race-playing-investors-assets-982981>

EXCHANGE | DSE to source funds locally, globally to alleviate investor panic

- Mominul Islam, chairman of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), said that the DSE will work to enhance liquidity management in the capital market in the short term by sourcing funds both locally and globally to alleviate investor panic.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-source-funds-locally-globally-alleviate-investor-panic-982861>

EXCHANGE | BSEC to form committee for next day stock settlement

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has decided to form a committee to investigate ways to enable stocks to be sold in the immediate session following their purchase.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-form-committee-next-day-stock-settlement-982806>

EXCHANGE | MNCs face tough Jul-Sep quarter as revenue, profit declines for most

- Most multinational companies (MNCs) in the country experienced a challenging July-September 2024 quarter, as revenue and profit declined due to widespread political uncertainty and natural disasters affecting much of the country during the period.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/mncs-face-tough-jul-sep-quarter-revenue-profit-declines-most-981576>

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