

# Fortnightly Summary

## Important Trade and Economic News Published on Various Newspapers during 8 - 21 November 2021

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	<p><b><a href="#">Women-led business's access to formal finance</a></b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Lack of docs, database remains hurdles</a></b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Field researches neglected in policymaking'</a></b></p> <p>Women-led enterprises in the country have long been facing difficulty in accessing finance of formal channels -- mainly for lack of information, improper documentation, complexity in availing trade licence, and absence of a comprehensive database. Besides, financial institutions are also reluctant to provide loans to women entrepreneurs under the stimulus packages, announced by the government for pandemic recovery, because of lower profitability at higher risks, speakers said at a programme on Sunday. They opined that evidence-based field researches, carried out in the country during the pandemic, were also neglected in policymaking process, which made low impact on pandemic recovery.</p>	08 November 2021	<p>The Financial Express</p> <p>(<a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/lack-of-docs-database-remains-hurdles-1636310382">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/lack-of-docs-database-remains-hurdles-1636310382</a>)</p>	
02	<p><b><a href="#">Bepza gets new executive chairman</a></b></p> <p>Major General Abul Kalam Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, ndc, psc has taken over the charge of the executive chairman of Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza) on Monday replacing Major General Md Nazrul Islam, SPP, ndu, afwc, psc, G. Before joining Bepza, Major General Ziaur Rahman was general officer commanding (GOC) of 7 Infantry Division. Prior to that, he served as the defense adviser of Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, India.</p>	08 November 2021	<p>The Business Standard (TBS)</p> <p>(<a href="https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/maj-gen-abul-kalam-mohammad-ziaur-rahman-made-new-executive-chairman-bepza-326902">https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/maj-gen-abul-kalam-mohammad-ziaur-rahman-made-new-executive-chairman-bepza-326902</a>)</p>	
03	<p><b><a href="#">পিছিয়ে গেছে ৯৭৮০ কনটেইনার পণ্য রপ্তানি</a></b></p> <p>পরিবহন ধর্মঘটে রপ্তানি পণ্য পরিবহনের চক্র পুরোপুরি ভেঙে পড়েছে। ততীয় দিন গতকাল রোববার ১ হাজার ৯০০ কনটেইনার পণ্য রপ্তানি হওয়ার কথা থাকলেও তা হয়নি। এ নিয়ে বেসরকারি কনটেইনার ডিপোতে অপেক্ষায় থাকা ৯ হাজার ৭৮০ কনটেইনার পণ্যের রপ্তানি পিছিয়ে গেছে।</p> <p>জুলানি তেলের মূল্য বাড়ানোর প্রতিবাদে গত শুক্রবার পরিবহন ধর্মঘট শুরু করেন মালিকেরা। গতকাল এক বৈঠকে ভাড়া বাড়ানোর সিদ্ধান্ত হওয়ার পর বাস ধর্মঘট প্রত্যাহার করা হয়। তবে পণ্য পরিবহনে ধর্মঘট চালিয়ে যাওয়ার ঘোষণা দেন ট্রাক-কার্ভার্ড ভ্যানের মালিকেরা।</p>	08 November 2021	<p>Prothom Alo</p> <p>(<a )<="" href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A7%9F%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9B%EF%AF%87-%E0%A6%AF%EF%AF%A7%AD%EF%AF%A7%AE%EF%AF%A6-%E0%A6%95%EF%A6%A8%EF%A6%9F%EF%AF%87%EF%A6%97%EF%A6%AB%EF%A6%BE%EF%A6%BB-%E0%A6%AA%EF%A6%A3%EF%A7%8D%EF%AF%AF%EF%A6%BF%EF%A6%AA%EF%A7%8D%EF%A6%A4%EF%A6%BE%EF%A6%2A8%EF%A6%BF" p=""> </a></p>	

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04	<p><b>চামড়জাত পণ্য রপ্তানিতেও সুখবর</b></p> <p>চার মাসে ৩৬ কোটি ৫০ লাখ ডলার রপ্তানি</p> <p>দীর্ঘদিন ধরে সংকটে থাকা চামড়া ও চামড়জাত পণ্যের রপ্তানি কমছিল। রপ্তানি বৃদ্ধির জন্য সরকার বিভিন্ন উদ্যোগ নিলেও তেমন সুবিধা হচ্ছিল না। শুধু সরকারি পর্যায় নয়, বেসরকারিভাবে রপ্তানি বৃদ্ধির জন্য নানা উদ্যোগ হাতে নিয়েছিল। সেই উদ্যোগগুলোর সুফল আসতে শুরু করেছে। দীর্ঘদিন পতনে থাকা চামড়া খাত ফের জেগে উঠেছে। রপ্তানি আয়ও বাড়তে শুরু করেছে।</p> <p>রপ্তানি উন্নয়ন ব্যরোর (ইপিবি) তথ্যে দেখা যায়, চলতি ২০২১-২২ অর্থবছরের প্রথম চার মাসে (জুলাই-অক্টোবর) চামড়া ও চামড়জাত পণ্য রপ্তানি হয়েছে ৩৬ কোটি ৫০ লাখ ডলার। টাকার অঙ্কে এই অর্থের পরিমাণ ৩ হাজার ১২৮ কোটি টাকা। এই পরিমাণ গত ২০২০-২১ অর্থবছরের একই সময়ের চেয়ে ২৯ শতাংশ বেশি। আর নির্ধারিত লক্ষ্যমাত্রার চেয়ে প্রায় ১১ শতাংশ বেশি। আর এই আয়ের ৬২ শতাংশ অর্থাৎ প্রায় ২ হাজার কোটি টাকাই এসেছে জুতা রপ্তানি থেকে। গত বছরের জুলাই-অক্টোবর সময়ে এই খাত থেকে ২৮ কোটি ৩২ লাখ ডলার আয় করেছিল বাংলাদেশ।</p> <p>রপ্তানিকারকরা বলছেন, চামড়া খাতে প্রচুর ক্রয়দেশ আসছে। সামনে আরও রপ্তানি বাড়বে। বাংলাদেশের চামড়া ও চামড়জাত পণ্যের প্রধান বাজার হচ্ছে ইউরোপের দেশগুলো। এছাড়া যুক্তরাষ্ট্র ও জাপানসহ আরও কয়েকটি দেশে রপ্তানি হয় এই পণ্য।</p>	08 November 2021	The Sangbad ( <a href="http://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-11-08/news/business/106399">http://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-11-08/news/business/106399</a> )	
05	<p><b>বিআইডিএসের জনবক্তৃতায় ওয়াইদিউন্দিন মাহমুদ</b></p> <p><b>সুশাসনে বড় বাধা নিয়ন্ত্রক ও ব্যবসায়ীদের অবৈধ যোগসাজশ</b></p> <p>সুশাসন ও জনসেবা নিষ্ঠিতে সর্বস্তরে কার্যকর জবাবদিহিতা ও কর্তব্যপরায়ণতা থাকতে হবে বলে মনে করেন অর্থনীতিবিদ ও সাবেক তত্ত্বাবধায়ক সরকারের উপদেষ্টা অধ্যাপক ওয়াইদিউন্দিন মাহমুদ। তিনি বলেন, শাসন ব্যবস্থার মধ্যে একটা জিনিস সব জায়গাতেই দেখেছি সেটা হলো সর্বস্তরের শাসন ব্যবস্থার মধ্যে একটা কার্যকর জবাবদিহি কাঠামো। তবে নিয়ন্ত্রক সংস্থা ও ব্যবসায়ীদের অবৈধ যোগসাজশ সুশাসনে বড় বাধা তৈরি করেছে। বাংলাদেশ উন্নয়ন গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠান (বিআইডিএস) আয়োজিত বিআইডিএস পাবলিক লেকচার ২০২১: মার্কেটস, মোরালস অ্যান্ড ডেভেলপমেন্ট শীর্ষক জনবক্তৃতায় গতকাল এসব কথা বলেন তিনি। রাজধানীর একটি হোটেলে এ অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করা হয়।</p> <p>অনুষ্ঠানে বিআইডিএসের মহাপরিচালক ড. বিনায়ক সেনের সঞ্চালনায় সশরীরে ও ভার্চুয়ালি যুক্ত ছিলেন দেশের প্রথিতযশা অর্থনীতিবিদ, অধ্যাপক ও গবেষকরা। জনবক্তৃতায় অধ্যাপক ওয়াইদিউন্দিন মাহমুদের 'মার্কেটস, মোরালস অ্যান্ড ডেভেলপমেন্ট: রিথিংকিং ইকোনোমিকস ফ্রম আ ডেভেলপিং কান্ট্রি পারাস্পেক্টিভ' প্রন্থের ওপর আলোচনা করা হয়।</p> <p>অনুষ্ঠানে অধ্যাপক ওয়াইদিউন্দিন মাহমুদ বলেন, নীতি প্রণয়নের সময় দেশের সুনির্দিষ্ট বাস্তবতা মাথায় রাখা উচিত। অর্থনীতিবিদ ও নীতিপ্রণেতাদের বুবাতে হবে, নীতি সংস্কারের সফলতা নির্ভর করে সংশ্লিষ্ট দেশের পরিপ্রেক্ষিতের ওপর। সেখানকার অনানুষ্ঠানিক নেটওয়ার্ক, সামাজিক রীতি-নীতি, আইন-কানুন, প্রতিষ্ঠান এ সবকিছুই নীতি সফলতার ভিত্তি তৈরি করে। ফলে উন্নত দেশের ভালো নীতি উন্নয়নশীল দেশের ক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য না-ও হতে পারে। বিভিন্ন বৈশিষ্ট্য প্রতিষ্ঠান সুশাসনের যে সূচক তৈরি করে, তা দিয়ে উন্নয়নের চরিত্র বোঝা কঠিন।</p> <p>সুশাসনের সূচকে বাংলাদেশ অনেক পিছিয়ে থাকলেও গত এক দশকে প্রবৃদ্ধিতে অনেকটাই এগিয়েছে উল্লেখ করে তিনি বলেন, সবাই নিজস্ব গল্প থাকে। কেউ কাউকে অনুসরণ বা অনুকরণ করে সফল হতে পারে না। এটা অনেকটা এ রকম—কাউকে ভালো খেলার পরামর্শ দিতে শীচীন টেন্ডুলকারকে অনুকরণ করতে বল।</p> <p>বিদ্যমান সম্পদের দক্ষ ব্যবহার করেই দারিদ্র্য দূর করা সম্ভব বলে মনে করেন অধ্যাপক ওয়াইদিউন্দিন মাহমুদ। তবে সেজন্য প্রয়োজন সঠিক লক্ষ নির্ধারণ আর তার বাস্তবায়ন। এ বিষয়ে তিনি বলেন, বেশি প্রয়োজন রাজনৈতিক সদিচ্ছা ও জনসেবায় সুশাসন। শাসন ব্যবস্থার মধ্যে একটা জিনিস সব জায়গাতেই দেখেছি সেটা হলো সর্বস্তরের শাসন ব্যবস্থার মধ্যে একটা কার্যকর জবাবদিহি কাঠামো। সেটা গণতান্ত্রিক হোক, কর্তৃত্ববাদীই হোক বা দুইয়ের সংমিশ্রণের শাসন ব্যবস্থায় হোক। প্রবৃদ্ধির উপকরণ যেমন—দক্ষতা, আইনের শাসন, ব্যক্তিস্বর্থের তুলনায় জনসেবাকে অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া। এ সবকিছুর পেছনে যেটা কাজ করে সেটা হলো জবাবদিহিতা।</p>	08 November 2021	Bonik Barta ( <a href="https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/27942%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B6%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%887-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%9C-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%BE%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%95-%E0%A6%93-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%8D-%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D-%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%88-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%88%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%88-%E0%A6%A7-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%A7%87%87-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%9B%9">https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/27942%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B6%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%887-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%9C-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%BE%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D-%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%8D-%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%88-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%88-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%88-%E0%A6%A7-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%A7%87%87-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%A7%87%87-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%9B%9</a> )	

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06	<p><b><u>Trade deficit widens over threefold</u></b></p> <p><b>Q1 trade imbalance increases by \$4.46b to \$6.50b</b></p> <p>Bangladesh's trade deficit widened over threefold in the first quarter (Q1) of the current fiscal year for higher import-payment pressure, officials said, casting its cascading impacts on the economy. The country's trade imbalance with the rest of the world increased by US\$4.46 billion to \$6.50 billion during the July-September period of the FY 2021-22, from \$2.04 billion in the same period of FY'2, according to the central bank's latest statistics. The Bangladesh Bank (BB) data show that import expenses jumped 47.59 per cent while export earnings recorded an 11.57-per cent growth in Q1 of FY '22. The overall import costs stood at \$17.32 billion in the July-September period of FY '22 against \$11.74 billion in the same period a year before. On the other hand, export earnings stood at \$10.82 billion in Q1 of FY '22 against \$9.70 billion in the same period of the previous fiscal. The country's foreign trade covering import and export increased significantly during the period under review amid gradually-reopening economic activities, both domestic and global, after more than a year of pandemic Covid-19 shocks.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the country's current-account deficit deteriorated further in Q1 of FY'22 following higher import-payment obligations and lower inflow of remittances. The current-account deficit stood at \$2.31 billion during the period under review from \$1.27 billion a month before. It was \$3.48 billion surplus in Q1 of FY'21. The flow of inward remittances had dropped by 19.44 per cent to \$5.41 billion in the first three months of the current fiscal year from \$6.71 billion in the same period of FY'21 as money transfers through informal channels such as hundi resurfaced after a lull caused by the coronavirus disruptions.</p> <p>However, the financial account's surplus improved further following higher inflows medium-and long-term loans as well as aid flows, according to the officials. The financial account's surplus stood at \$1.92 billion in Q1 of FY'22 from \$1.81 billion a month ago. It was \$510 million deficit in Q1 of FY'21. "Higher inflow of net foreign direct investment (FDI) has also helped achieve higher growth of the financial-account surplus," another BB official noted. The amount of net FDI rose by 49.34 per cent to \$339 million during the period under review from \$227 million in the same period of the previous fiscal year.</p> <p>Actually, the yawning gap in trade as well as the current account reflects the growing imbalance of the country's external account, thus creating mounting pressure on the country's overall balance-of-payments (BoP) status. The central bank data showed the BoP having posted a negative balance of \$810 million in the first three months of the current fiscal year against a positive balance of \$3.10 billion in the same period of the last fiscal.</p>	09 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/trade-deficit-widens-over-threefold-1636395805">(<a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/trade-deficit-widens-over-threefold-1636395805">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/trade-deficit-widens-over-threefold-1636395805</a>)</a>	
07	<p><b><u>Panel formed to review commodity pricing formula</u></b></p> <p>The commerce ministry yesterday formed a six-member committee to review the existing formula, which the government has been following since 2011 to fix the prices of basic commodities. The committee will submit the review report on the formula in a month, AHM Shafiquzzaman, head of the panel and additional secretary to the commerce ministry, told The Daily Star.</p>	09 November 2021	<b>The Daily Star</b> <a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/panel-formed-review-commodity-pricing-formula-2225341">(<a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/panel-formed-review-commodity-pricing-formula-2225341">https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/panel-formed-review-commodity-pricing-formula-2225341</a>)</a>	



Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
12	<p><b><u>Two cos to market anti-Covid pill</u></b></p> <p>The Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) has authorised two local pharmaceutical companies for marketing Molnupiravir, the first oral Covid-19 antiviral drug, reports UNB. Major General Md Mahbubur Rahman, Director General of the DGDA, came up with the information at a press briefing on Tuesday.</p> <p>"DGDA has approved Molnupiravir for emergency use but it's not an alternative to vaccine. People must take Covid jabs. This oral medicine has to be taken as per the advice of physicians," he said. "So far, 10 pharmaceutical companies have sought permission for marketing and we have authorised Beximco Pharmaceuticals and Eskayef Pharmaceuticals for marketing. The eight other companies awaiting approval are Square, General, Beacon, Reneta, Incepta, Acme, Health Care and Popular pharmaceuticals," he added. The DGDA Director General said it is a five-dose course and people have to take eight pills each day in five days.</p> <p>Meanwhile, report by bdnews24.com adds: Pharmaceutical companies of the country have begun marketing Molnupiravir, the first of its kind, upon the approval from regulators. Beximco began the sales on Tuesday after getting the emergency production and marketing authorisation, said DG of the DGDA. Eskayef and Square Pharmaceuticals are likely to begin marketing the pill within the next week.</p> <p>Beximco Pharma is supplying the drug with the brand name Emorivir at Tk 70 per capsule. Eskayef has priced its pills, Monuvir, at Tk 50 each. A patient needs to take eight 200 mg capsules daily -- four at a time, two times a day -- for five days following a doctor's prescription to treat mild to moderate infections. Trial research has suggested that the pill is likely to be most effective when taken during the early stages of infection.</p>	10 November 2021	<p><b>The Financial Express</b>  <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/two-cos-to-market-anti-covid-pill-1636480095">(<a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/two-cos-to-market-anti-covid-pill-1636480095">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/two-cos-to-market-anti-covid-pill-1636480095</a>)</a></p>	
13	<p><b><u>Hopes bright for rebound</u></b></p> <p><b>Around 60pc businesses hopeful of moderate to strong economic recovery from Covid impact, finds SANEM survey</b></p> <p>The depleting coronavirus incidence in Bangladesh makes majority businesses hopeful about a moderate-to-strong economic recovery during the concluding quarter of 2021, according to a survey. As per the Business Confidence Index (BCI), designed in the survey, the ratio of confident businesses jumped to 60.67 per cent for the final quarter (October-December) of the calendar year from 52.31 per cent in the previous quarter (July-September). However, the surveyors somewhat expressed scepticism regarding overall increased business confidence as the survey was conducted prior to the off-the-cuff fuel-price hike.</p> <p>The findings of the survey, conducted this past October, were disseminated Wednesday at a webinar titled 'Covid-19 and Business Confidence in Bangladesh: Findings from the 6th Round of a Nationwide Firm-Level Survey'. The sixth edition of survey was carried out by South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (SANEM), which has done it every three months since July 2020, covering about 500 business entities from micro to large in size.</p> <p>Presenting the study findings at the virtual event, SANEM executive director Dr Selim Raihan mentioned an array of triggers for a strong rebound. Faster recovery is observed in restaurant, RMG, textile, and light engineering, leather, pharmaceuticals, transport, ICT financial services, and other services sectors when a year-on-year comparison is made, he said. At the same time, sectors like food, real estate, and manufacturing, other than the aforementioned ones, are a bit less optimistic about recovery during the ongoing quarter. However, he said: "The survey was conducted before the recent fuel-price hike which might have negative impact on overall business confidence as it will increase the cost of doing business in almost all sectors." The clear picture would be visible in the next round of survey scheduled to take place in January next, he told the audience virtually.</p>	11 November 2021	<p><b>The Financial Express</b>  <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/hopes-bright-for-rebound-1636567185">(<a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/hopes-bright-for-rebound-1636567185">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/hopes-bright-for-rebound-1636567185</a>)</a></p>	

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14	<p><b><u>UK offers £120m for BD's climate action expansion</u></b></p> <p>COP26 President Alok Sharma has announced £120 million to support climate action in Bangladesh, reports UNB. The £120 million new programme for Bangladesh, from 2021 to 2027, will scale up locally-led adaptation, expand renewable energy, tackle pollution and waste, and develop and empower the next generation of climate leaders. The funding for the Bangladesh Climate and Environment Programme will help build resilience, prevent pollution, protect biodiversity, strengthen renewable energy and better manage waste, while also supporting women's access to finance, education and skills in Bangladesh. He also announced how £165 million of UK funding will tackle climate change.</p>	11 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/uk-offers-120m-for-bds-climate-action-expansion-1636566382">(<a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/uk-offers-120m-for-bds-climate-action-expansion-1636566382">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/uk-offers-120m-for-bds-climate-action-expansion-1636566382</a>)</a>	
15	<p><b><u>Japan's SoftBank to acquire 20pc shares of bKash</u></b></p> <p>SoftBank, a Tokyo based company, has decided to acquire 20 per cent shares of bKash, a subsidiary of BRAC Bank Limited. The board of directors of BRAC Bank Limited, the majority shareholder of bKash Limited in its 307th meeting on Wednesday has approved the execution of a share purchase and subscription agreement amongst bKash and its existing shareholders, according to a BRAC Bank statement. The existing shareholders included BRAC Bank, Money in Motion LLC, International Finance Corporation, Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation, Alipay Singapore E-Commerce Private Limited and Board of Trustees of bKash Employee Share Option Plan Trust, and the proposed investor, SVF II BEAM (DE) LLC (SoftBank), it said.</p> <p>In accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement, both primary and secondary investments will be made by SoftBank in bKash, whereby SoftBank will acquire 20 per cent share (on a fully diluted basis) of bKash, it said. There will be no changes to the number of shares held by BRAC Bank in bKash and, on completion of the transaction, BRAC Bank will continue to remain the majority voting shareholder of bKash, it further said. The agreement is subject to the relevant regulatory formalities in compliance with the applicable laws of Bangladesh, it added. SoftBank also runs the 'vision fund' the world's largest technology-focused venture capital fund, with over \$100 billion in capital.</p>	11 November 2021	<b>New Age</b> <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154326/japans-softbank-to-acquire-20pc-shares-of-bkash">(<a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154326/japans-softbank-to-acquire-20pc-shares-of-bkash">https://www.newagebd.net/article/154326/japans-softbank-to-acquire-20pc-shares-of-bkash</a>)</a>	
16	<p><b><u>BB announces 4pc export subsidy on bicycle, cement sheet, MS steel and tea</u></b></p> <p>The Bangladesh Bank has announced 4 per cent cash subsidy on export of cement sheet, bicycle and its parts, MS steel and tea to encourage exporters. The exporters of specialised zones (BEZA, BEPZA and Hi-tech Park) will enjoy the facility under this programme, said a central bank notice issued on Wednesday. The exporters will get 4 per cent subsidy for exporting products of which a local minimum value addition margin is not less than 30 per cent. The subsidy would be provided on the basis of product shipment during 2021-22. The exporters would get the money from the authorised dealers banks after submitting the due documents. They have to apply separately for separate chalan and shipment.</p> <p>All products will be eligible to get export subsidy when 30 per cent of them is made at the company's own factory, the circular stated. The exporting firm or any individual can claim the cash benefit by submitting applications within 180 days of receiving the export proceeds in the nostro accounts.</p> <p>At present, some 38 locally-produced items have got the cash incentives against export at different rates ranging between 1 per cent and the highest 20 per cent. The current incentives for these items will continue.</p>	11 November 2021	<b>New Age</b> <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154293/bb-announces-4pc-export-subsidy-on-bicycle-cement-sheet-ms-steel">(<a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154293/bb-announces-4pc-export-subsidy-on-bicycle-cement-sheet-ms-steel">https://www.newagebd.net/article/154293/bb-announces-4pc-export-subsidy-on-bicycle-cement-sheet-ms-steel</a>)</a>	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
17	<p><b>NBR to remove VAT exemption certificate requirement for port services</b></p> <p>The export-oriented industries will not be required to have the VAT exemption certificates for receiving services from the ports, freight-forwarders, clearing and forwarding agents, inland container depots, and shipping lines as per a recent decision of the National Board of Revenue (NBR). The NBR on Thursday decided to issue a circular in this regard, according to its officials.</p>	11 November 2021	<p><b>The Business Standard (TBS)</b>  <a href="https://www.tbsnews.net/dropped/nbr/nbr-remove-vat-exemption-certificate-requirement-port-services-328504">https://www.tbsnews.net/dropped/nbr/nbr-remove-vat-exemption-certificate-requirement-port-services-328504</a></p>	
18	<p><b>সময়মতো কাঁচামাল না পেয়ে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত উৎপাদনমুখী শিল্প</b></p> <p>বিশ্বের ৫০টি দেশে তৈরি পোশাক রফতানি করছে প্যাসিফিক জিল্স গ্রুপ। দেশের শীর্ষস্থানীয় রফতানিকারক প্রতিষ্ঠানটির বছরে টার্নওভার ৪ হাজার কোটি টাকারও বেশি। পণ্য পরিবহন বন্ধ থাকায় টানা চারদিন চট্টগ্রাম বন্দরে আটকে ছিল প্যাসিফিক জিল্সের ৮০ কনটেইনার পোশাকের কাঁচামাল। এখন পণ্য পরিবহন চালু হলেও সময়মতো কাঁচামাল হাতে না পাওয়ায় এর প্রভাব পড়েছে প্রতিষ্ঠানটির সামগ্রিক উৎপাদন ব্যবস্থায়। প্যাসিফিক জিল্স গ্রুপের ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক সৈয়দ মোহাম্মদ তানভির এ প্রসঙ্গে বণিক বার্তাকে বলেন, উৎপাদন ব্যবস্থা ঠিক রাখতে আমাদের সময়মতো শিল্পের কাঁচামাল পাওয়াটা খুবই জরুরি। কারণ পণ্য প্রস্তুত করে নির্দিষ্ট সময়ের মধ্যে রফতানির জন্য জাহাজে তুলে দিতে হয়। বড় সময় ধরে পণ্য পরিবহন বন্ধ থাকায় উৎপাদন থেকে রফতানি পুরো প্রক্রিয়াটিই ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত হয়েছে। কাঁচামাল বন্দরে এসে পৌঁছলেও দ্রুত খালাসের পদক্ষেপ নিয়ে উৎপাদনে যুক্ত করা সম্ভব হয়নি। পুরো সাপ্লাই চেইন ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত হওয়ায় নির্ধারিত সময়ে পণ্য প্রস্তুত চ্যালেঞ্জের মধ্যে পড়েছে। আমরা মনে করি, দেশের আমদানি-রফতানি কার্যক্রম বাধাগ্রস্ত হয় এমন কোনো পদক্ষেপ যাতে ঝট করে কেউ বা কোনো সংস্থা নিতে না পারে সেজন্য সংসদে উপযুক্ত আইন প্রণয়ন করা জরুরি হয়ে পড়েছে।</p> <p>শিল্প-কারখানার বেশির ভাগ কাঁচামাল আমদানি করা হয় সমুদ্রপথে আসা কনটেইনারের মাধ্যমে। খালাসের অপেক্ষায় থাকা আমদানি পণ্যবাহী কনটেইনার দিনের পর দিন বন্দরের অভ্যন্তরে আটকে থাকা কিংবা রফতানিত্ব পণ্য সময়মতো জাহাজীকরণ না হওয়ায় এভাবেই উৎপাদন প্রক্রিয়ায় ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত হয়েছেন দেশের শিল্পোদ্যোগ্ত্বারা। আবার একই কারণে চাপ তৈরি হয়েছে চট্টগ্রাম বন্দরের ওপরও। যদিও সম্পত্তি জাহাজ জটোর বদনাম ঘুচিয়ে স্বত্ত্ব এসেছিল বন্দরের পরিচালন কার্যক্রমে।</p> <p>চট্টগ্রাম বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষের তথ্যমতে, বন্দরের জলসীমায় জাহাজ আসার পর থেকে জেটিতে ভেড়ানো পর্যন্ত সময়কে অপেক্ষমাণ সময় হিসেবে ধরা হয়। টানা চারদিন আমদানি-রফতানিতে যুক্ত পণ্য পরিবহন বাধাগ্রস্ত হওয়ার কারণে যে চাপ তৈরি হয়েছে তা থেকে আগের অবস্থায় ফিরে আসতে কমপক্ষে আরো ১০ দিন সময় লাগবে। এ বন্দর দিয়ে দেশের আমদানি-রফতানি পণ্যবাহী কনটেইনারের ৯৮ শতাংশ আনা-নেয়া হয়। আবার সময়মতো পণ্য রফতানি কিংবা আমদানি হওয়া পণ্য সময়মতো হাতে না পেলে বাণিজ্য সক্ষমতায় পিছিয়ে পড়েন উদ্যোগ্ত্বারা।</p>	11 November 2021	<p><b>Bonik Barta</b>  <a href="https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/279914/%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8B-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%81%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE-%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%81%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%89%E0%A7%8E%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%88%E0%A6%89%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AE%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%BF%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AE%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%BF%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AE%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AA">https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/279914/%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8B-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%81%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE-%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%81%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%89%E0%A7%8E%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%88%E0%A6%89%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AE%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%BF%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AE%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%BF%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AE%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%8D%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%8E%E0%A6%8A%AA</a></p>	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
19	<p><b><u>BB opens new financing window for 'no-frills'</u></b></p> <p>The central bank decides to introduce a new and unique component under an existing credit-guarantee scheme (CGS) for banks to lend to the minnows, nicknamed 'no-frills' accountholders, as per government policy for financial inclusion. A proposal to this effect was approved at a board-of-directors meeting of the Bangladesh Bank Thursday, against the backdrop of a flurry of discussions about the poorer segments of people needing finances got left out for not having the ability to provide collateral. Bangladesh Bank (BB) Governor Fazle Kabir was in the chair.</p> <p>No-frills accounts can be opened with an initial deposit of Tk 10, Tk 50 and Tk 100 by the underprivileged people, schoolchildren under 18 years and working children who are allowed to maintain the accounts with zero balance and levied zero or nominal charges. Under the new segment, banks are allowed to avail the credit-guarantee scheme against loans amounting to Tk 0.30 million or above under such accounts, according to officials. In that case, the banks will have to pay the guarantee fee from their own sources, they added.</p> <p>Earlier on July 23 last calendar year -- in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic -- the board of directors of BB approved a policy on Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS) for the first time, aiming to expedite financing in the country's cottage, micro and small enterprises (CMSEs). Existing cottage, micro, and small businesses in the manufacturing, services, and trading businesses can avail the guarantee facilities if they have no collateral or insufficient collateral for their required bank finances, according to the scheme. The initial fund size under the CGS has been fixed at Tk 20 billion.</p>	12 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-opens-new-financing-window-for-no-frills-1636651675">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-opens-new-financing-window-for-no-frills-1636651675</a>	
20	<p><b>জিডিপি যুক্ত আরও ৯ খাত</b></p> <p>১০ বছর পর মোট দেশজ উৎপাদন তথা জিডিপির হিসাব গণনায় ২০১৫-১৬ সালকে নতুন ভিত্তিবহুর হিসেবে ঘোষণা করেছে বিবিএস। এছাড়াও, ৯ টি নতুন খাত জিডিপির নতুন ২০১৫-১৬ ভিত্তিবহুরে যুক্ত করেছে বাংলাদেশ পরিসংখ্যান বুরো (বিবিএস)।</p> <p>নতুন খাতসমূহ: মোবাইল ব্যাংকিং; এজেন্ট ব্যাংকিং; গক্র ও হাঁস-মুরগি; নার্সারি; লটকন, ড্রাগন, স্ট্রিবেরি, ক্যাপসিকাম, মাশকুম; আবাসন; কেব্ল টেলিভিশন; ইন্টারনেট; হেলিকপ্টার।</p>	12 November 2021	<b>Prothom Alo</b> <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%75%87-%E0%A6%A6%F%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%80%E0%A6%93-%E0%A7%AF-%E0%A6%96%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A4">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%75%87-%E0%A6%A6%F%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%80%E0%A6%93-%E0%A7%AF-%E0%A6%96%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A4</a>	
21	<p><b>মোটরসাইকেল উৎপাদন করবে এটলাস</b></p> <p>লোকসানি প্রতিষ্ঠানকে লাভজনক করে তুলতে নতুন ব্র্যান্ড করতে চায় এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড। সে জন্য নিজেদের নামে মোটরসাইকেল উৎপাদন করবে এটলাস বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড (এবিএল)। শুধু তা-ই নয়, একক পণ্যের ওপর নির্ভরশীল না থেকে মোটরসাইকেলের পাশাপাশি বাইসাইকেল, সিলিং ফ্যান, অক্সিজেন প্ল্যান্টও করবে প্রতিষ্ঠানটি। গত বৃত্তিকালে এবিএলের পরিচালনা পর্ষদের এক সভায় এই সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়া হয়েছে।</p> <p>এটলাস এখন যৌথভাবে চীনের জংসেন মোটরসাইকেল কোম্পানির সঙ্গে ব্যবসা করছে। ১৯৯৩ সাল থেকে জাপানের হোন্দার সঙ্গে ব্যবসা করেছে এটলাস। পরে ভারতের হিনো কোম্পানির সঙ্গেও যৌথ ব্যবসা করেছিল প্রতিষ্ঠানটি।</p>	12 November 2021	<b>Prothom Alo</b> <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%75%8B%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%80%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%A6%BE%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%82-%E0%A6%89%E0%A7%8E%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%8B">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%75%8B%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%80%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%A6%BE%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%82-%E0%A6%89%E0%A7%8E%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%8B</a>	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
22	<p><b>দুই বছরের মধ্যে 'ডুয়িং বিজনেস'রিপোর্টের বিকল্প আনবে বিশ্বব্যাংক</b></p> <p>দুই বছরের মধ্যে বাদ হয়ে যাওয়া 'ডুয়িং বিজনেস'রিপোর্টের বিকল্প আনার পরিকল্পনা করছে বিশ্বব্যাংক। সম্প্রতি বার্তা সংস্থা রয়টার্সকে দেওয়া এক সাক্ষাৎ কারে এ কথা বলেন বিশ্বব্যাংকের প্রধান অর্থনৈতিবিদ কারমান রেইনহার্ট।</p> <p>গত ১৬ সেপ্টেম্বর বহুল আলোচিত ডুয়িং বিজনেস রিপোর্ট বা ব্যবসা করার সূচকবিষয়ক প্রতিবেদন আর না তৈরি করার কথা জানায় বিশ্বব্যাংক। বেশ কিছু অনিয়মের প্রমাণ পাওয়ায় যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের রাজধানী ওয়াশিংটন ডিসিতে অবস্থিত বিশ্বব্যাংকের সদর দপ্তর থেকে ওই সময় এ ঘোষণা দেওয়া হয়।</p>	12 November 2021	Prothom Alo ( <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/world-business/reports-may-end-16-september-2021">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/world-business/reports-may-end-16-september-2021</a> )	
23	<p><b><u>Slow progress in project execution irks ADB</u></b></p> <p><b>May warn of fund withdrawals for some lame-duck ones</b></p> <p>The Asian Development Bank is going to be tougher on funding Bangladesh's development recipe as the financier reviews a slew of slow-moving projects this month, officials said Friday. Just one-and-a-half-month ago, the Manila-based lender also scrutinised those projects and took a critical view of their weak implementation trajectory, they added. The ADB will sit with government's project-executing agencies for a review of the implementation progress of the already-approved projects, some of which are moving slow even after confirmation of the funds, they said.</p> <p>The Economic Relations Division (ERD), the ADB and the directors of the ADB-funded projects are expected to sit for a two-day tripartite review meeting (TPRM) on November 24-25 in Dhaka. "We will sit with the ADB and the project directors to review the projects," an additional secretary at the ERD told the FE.</p>	13 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/slow-progress-in-project-execution-irks-adb-1636739094">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/slow-progress-in-project-execution-irks-adb-1636739094</a> )	
24	<p><b><u>Saudi co seeks to invest in Patenga terminal</u></b></p> <p><b>Red Sea Gateway meets shipping officials, visit bay terminal area</b></p> <p>Saudi Arabian port developer Red Sea Gateway Terminal (RSGT) has intensified efforts to mark its footprint in Bangladesh's port sector by investing in under-construction Patenga Container Terminal (PCT) in Chattogram. A delegation, led by RSGT global investment director Gagan Seksaria, sat with shipping ministry officials in Dhaka on Thursday where they enquired about the investment procedure in Bangladesh. According to the officials concerned, the delegates expressed their eagerness to invest in PCT operation alongside other ports and terminals that require funds. A shipping official, who attended the meeting, said the RSGT delegation had also visited the planned Bay Terminal area in Chittagong to check the possibility of making investment there too. However, the delegation did not place any investment proposal for the terminal, he told the FE on Friday.</p> <p>The RSGT team was accompanied by officials of the local company SHR Group, a multi-modal transportation conglomerate in Bangladesh. However, no SHR official could be reached for comment on the outcome of the meeting.</p>	13 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/saudi-co-seeks-to-invest-in-patenga-terminal-1636739291">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/saudi-co-seeks-to-invest-in-patenga-terminal-1636739291</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
25	<p><b>Forex reserve down \$3 billion in two months</b></p> <p>The country's foreign exchange reserve has dropped by almost \$3 billion in the last two months after reaching a record high of \$48 million thanks to the recent surge in import payments and sharp decline in remittance earnings. The latest Bangladesh Bank documents showed that the country's foreign exchange reserve dropped to \$ 45.07 billion on November 10 2021, down by \$2.96 billion from \$48 billion on August 25, 2021. Before the decline in the last two months, the country's reserve had grown by \$16 billion since the Covid outbreak hit the country in March 2020. The reserve stood at \$32 billion on November 5 and increased to \$48 billion in a span of 17 months.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the government issued a \$200-million loan to Sri Lanka as part of a currency swap agreement with the country which was struggling hard to manage its import payments even after imposition of sanctions on imports. BB officials said that the country's reserve had dropped as restoration of business and economic activities, including that in Europe and Western countries, had prompted Bangladeshi factory owners to reload warehouses with industrial inputs.</p>	13 November 2021	New Age ( <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154461/forex-reserve-down-3-billion-in-two-months">https://www.newagebd.net/article/154461/forex-reserve-down-3-billion-in-two-months</a> )	
26	<p><b>তৃতীয় প্রান্তিকে ১৩৮ কোটি টাকা মুনাফা করলো ব্র্যাক ব্যাংক</b></p> <p>২০২১ সালের তৃতীয় প্রান্তিকে এককভাবে (স্ট্যান্ডঅ্যালন) ১৩৮ কোটি টাকা কর পরবর্তী নিট মুনাফা করেছে ব্র্যাক ব্যাংক। এই মুনাফা পূর্ববর্তী বছরের একই সময়ের তুলনায় ৮ শতাংশ বেশি। সাবসিডিয়ারি সহ সামষ্টিকভাবে (কম্পোলিডেটেড ভিত্তিতে) কর পরবর্তী নিট মুনাফা ১২৩ কোটি টাকা, পূর্ববর্তী বছরের একই সময়ের তুলনায় ১৪ শতাংশ কম।</p> <p>সোমবার ভার্চুয়াল প্ল্যাটফর্মের মাধ্যমে তৃতীয় প্রান্তিকের আর্থিক ফলাফল ঘোষণা করা হয়। স্থানীয় ও বিদেশী বিনিয়োগ বিশ্লেষক, পোর্টফোলিও ম্যানেজার ও প্রজিক্টবোর্ড অনুষ্ঠানে অংশ নেন যা ব্যাংকের সামাজিক যোগাযোগ মাধ্যমে সরাসরি সম্পর্কার করা হয়।</p>	13 November 2021	The Sangbad ( <a href="http://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-11-13/news/business/106808">http://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-11-13/news/business/106808</a> )	
27	<p><b>Quick rentals for quick bucks too!</b></p> <p><b>Capacity costs surge to Tk 250b</b></p> <p>Annual capacity payments to power-plant owners, sans use of electricity, keeps ballooning as the amount increased by around one-fourth to Tk 250 billion in the last fiscal year, according to the latest official count. Officials say the payment obligation against unused capacities of the plants, including the much-talked-about expensive rental and quick-rental ones once hired to meet exigencies of outages, is mounting fiscal burden on the state-run Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) -- and, hence, on the public exchequer.</p> <p>As the fat bill for the FY 2020-21 came to their notice, some officials and energy experts drew the conclusion that it's time the government terminated deals with entrepreneurs of the excess power plants, preferably the hired oil-fired ones, because the actual power demand in Bangladesh is well below the installed aggregate capacity. Country's operational power plant owners got around 25-per cent higher funds compared to previous FY's Tk 200 billion as incentives from the government against the unused capacity of their plants, a senior BPDB official told the FE Saturday. The power board made the payments to power-plant owners under contractual obligation for keeping their plants idle. Of the total capacity payments, the Payra 1320-megawatt coal-fired- plant owner alone charged around Tk 10 billion only for around seven months since its initiation of commercial operation until June 2021.</p>	14 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/capacity-costs-surge-to-tk-250b-1636824148">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/capacity-costs-surge-to-tk-250b-1636824148</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
28	<p><b><u>RMG exports under new EU GSP+ rules</u></b></p> <p><b>BD needs good grounds for access</b></p> <p>Bangladesh should put forward a set of strong grounds urgently to retain its duty-free benefit for apparel exports under new GSP+ rules of the European Union (EU), suggests a study. The time for making comment on the safeguard provisions of the new rules for 2024-2034 is set to expire by 19 November 2021, it says. Apparel items may lose duty-free access after adoption of the new rules by EU parliament and the council likely in the last quarter of 2022. The garment sector may see a duty hike from current zero to 12 per cent on average in EU market from 2024 under the new rule.</p> <p>The study styled 'The proposed EU GSP scheme for 2024-2034: What Bangladesh must do now' was submitted to commerce ministry last month to proceed on this. Policy Research Institute (PRI), Bangladesh research director Dr Mohammad Abdur Razzaque conducted it.</p> <p>A senior official of the ministry said they would remind the EU of its pledge to continue GSP facility for LDC graduates like Bangladesh and its mention in the preamble to the new rules. Bangladesh would request not to "hurt" these advantages by any safeguard measures, he added. The ministry will write to the EU by Monday after the commerce minister's consent, according to the official.</p>	14 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-needs-good-grounds-for-access-1636824485">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-needs-good-grounds-for-access-1636824485</a>	
29	<p><b><u>PMO secretary calls private sector as engine of growth</u></b></p> <p>Terming the private sector as the engine of growth, Prime Minister's Office secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah on Saturday said that the logistics sector needs more investment while the existing policy needs reforms so that more investment could be made. The PMO secretary said this while addressing virtually the Logistics Infrastructure Development Working Committee meeting. Business Initiative Leading Development and Prime Minister's Office jointly organised the meeting, said a press release.</p> <p>Tofazzel said that Bangladesh cannot move forward without supporting the private sector during this worldwide economic transition period. He recommended that the sector should be based on technology and skill. Mentioning that the private sector should also be assisted with value-backed data, he emphasized on advocacy for logistics. The PMO secretary suggested for having a structured policy framework that may steer regulatory reforms as well as policy interventions, paving the way for a 'logistics environment'.</p>	14 November 2021	<b>New Age</b> <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154529/pmo-secretary-calls-private-sector-as-engine-of-growth">https://www.newagebd.net/article/154529/pmo-secretary-calls-private-sector-as-engine-of-growth</a>	



Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
31	<p><b>VAT-exemption process relaxed</b></p> <p><b>Exporters can speedily pass thru ports sans certificate</b></p> <p>Exporters now can enjoy speedy cargo delivery from the customs ports as the time-consuming VAT-exemption process has been relaxed to give them a quick pass. The value-added tax (VAT) wing of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) deleted the mandatory provision of obtaining VAT-exemption certificate, on a case-to-case basis, to get export-import products released from ports.</p> <p>The policy wing on VAT issued an order on November 11, 2021 relaxing the provision following proposal of the exporters and operators of the private inland container depots or ICDs. The order, signed by First Secretary (VAT policy) Kazi Farid Uddin, has been given retrospective effect since September 26, 2019.</p> <p>The issue came into the limelight after Chattogram VAT authority demanded around Tk 330 million from the off-docks or private ICD operators against their release of cargos without VAT-exemption certificate. As per VAT law, exporters are exempted from payment of VAT on their port services. However, the new VAT and Supplementary Duty Act 2012, passed in June 2019, imposed a provision making VAT-exemption certificate mandatory for each of the export-oriented companies.</p>	15 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/vat-exemption-process-relaxed-1636912056">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/vat-exemption-process-relaxed-1636912056</a> )	
32	<p><b>Oct LC settlements fall 5.26pc to \$5.27b</b></p> <p><b>Contingency textiles stockpiling cuts imports</b></p> <p>Bangladesh's import volume fell in October as apparel exporters had earlier made contingency stockpile of textiles in line with buyers' orders to avert global price volatility and cut down purchase. Settlement of letters of credit (LC), generally known as actual import, in terms of value, fell by 5.26 per cent to \$5.27 billion in October 2021 from \$5.56 billion in the previous month, according to the central bank's latest statistics. The LC valuations were worth \$5.17 billion in August.</p> <p>On the other hand, the opening of LCs, generally known as import orders, dropped by more than 15 per cent to \$5.63 billion in the past month from \$6.63 billion a month ago. It was \$6.29 billion in August 2021.</p> <p>Bangladesh Bank (BB) officials as well as the market operators predicted that the downturn in imports may continue in the coming months while upward trend in export earnings is expected to carry on until December this calendar year.</p>	15 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/oct-lc-settlements-fall-526pc-to-527b-1636912242">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/oct-lc-settlements-fall-526pc-to-527b-1636912242</a> )	
33	<p><b>জেপি মরগানের স্বীকৃতি পেল ব্র্যাক ব্যাংক</b></p> <p>ব্র্যাক ব্যাংককে চারটি ক্যাটাগরিতে '২০২১ এসটিপি কোয়ালিটি রিকগনিশন অ্যাওয়ার্ড' দিয়েছে যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের জেপি মরগান চেজ। তহবিল স্থানান্তরের জন্য স্ট্রেইট থ্রু প্রসেসিং (এসটিপি) রেটে উৎকর্ষতা অর্জন করার স্বীকৃতি হিসেবে এ অ্যাওয়ার্ড দেয়া হলো।</p> <p>গতকাল ব্র্যাক ব্যাংকের পক্ষ থেকে এসব তথ্য জানানো হয়েছে। ব্যাংকটি জানিয়েছে, দেশে শুধু ব্র্যাক ব্যাংক এ বছর চারটি ক্যাটাগরিতে পুরস্কার অর্জন করেছে। গত চার বছর ধরে দুটি ক্যাটাগরিতে ব্র্যাক ব্যাংক পুরস্কার পেয়ে আসছে।</p>	15 November 2021	The Sangbad ( <a href="http://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-11-15/news/business/106966">http://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-11-15/news/business/106966</a> )	

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34	<p><b><u>Getting EU trade facility won't be like 'a picnic'</u></b></p> <p><b>EU envoy also says int'l community will closely follow next BD polls</b></p> <p>The Head of Delegation of the European Union in Bangladesh, Charles Whiteley, dropped a broad hint Monday that for Bangladesh achieving the GSP-plus trade facility on the EU market would be a challenging task. "This will not be picnic," he said while explaining the challenges Bangladesh may face in negotiating with the EU under the new trading system after graduating from the LDC status.</p> <p>The top diplomat of the bloc noted that Bangladesh's aspiration for the GSP-plus would require to be matched with a series of tough do's, including compliance with regulations on human rights, environmental rights and labour rights.</p> <p>He made the observations while interacting with members of the Diplomatic Correspondents' Association of Bangladesh (DCAB) in Dhaka on an array of current issues of common concern.</p>	16 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/firt-page/getting-eu-trade-facility-wont-be-like-a-picnic-1637001742">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/firt-page/getting-eu-trade-facility-wont-be-like-a-picnic-1637001742</a> )	
35	<p><b><u>Lower NPLs, ramp up stimulus delivery</u></b></p> <p><b>Govt finance authority prods SoBs, FIs</b></p> <p>Government's finance authority asks the state-owned banks (SoBs) and financial institutions (FIs) to expedite implementation of stimulus packages by ramping up fund disbursement and recovery, and lowering the loads of non-performing loans (NPLs). The prod comes from the Financial Institutions Division (FID) of the Ministry of Finance in meetings with the top brass of SoBs and FIs that discussed the modalities of enhancing their lending operations in order to give a much-needed shot in the arm of the economy now on a turnaround from pandemic shocks.</p> <p>FID Secretary Sheikh Mohammad Salim Ullah in two separate meetings with the chief executive officers (CEOs) of the banks and financial institutions last week gave the directives, officials said.</p> <p>After discussing the overall conditions of the state-run banks and the FIs, the meetings asked the managing directors to let the ministry know their action plan for lowering the NPLs. Presently, the rate of NPLs in the state-owned banks is over 20 per cent, the meetings noted, and stressed the need to cut it down drastically to make the banks vibrant.</p>	16 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/firt-page/lower-npls-ramp-up-stimulus-delivery-1637002092">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/firt-page/lower-npls-ramp-up-stimulus-delivery-1637002092</a> )	
36	<p><b><u>Beximco Pharma wins int'l award</u></b></p> <p>Beximco Pharma has won Global Generics &amp; Biosimilars Awards 2021 in the category of Company of the Year, Asia Pacific. The winners were announced at a live ceremony recently at the Stella Polare, Fiera Milano, Milan, Italy. The Company has won this category after competing with the other finalists namely Korea's leading biosimilar company Samsung Bioepis, Spain-based Exeltis Healthcare APAC and Taiwan's largest pharma company Lotus pharmaceuticals. Beximco Pharma also won this award in 2019, held in Frankfurt, Germany.</p> <p>The Global Generics &amp; Biosimilars Awards are amongst the most coveted recognitions in the pharmaceutical industry, that recognize the efforts made by global generics and biosimilars sectors, to make affordable medicines available to more patients across the globe, said a statement.</p>	16 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/sto ck-corporate/beximco-pharma-wins-intl-award-1636991246">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/sto ck-corporate/beximco-pharma-wins-intl-award-1636991246</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
37	<p><b>Salman Rahman tells WICT-2021 BD now a major ICT export hub</b></p> <p><b>Digital boom</b></p> <p>The concept of 'Digital Bangladesh' has made the country a major hub of ICT-led export industries and digital services, said PM's private industry and investment adviser Salman F Rahman on Sunday. Despite the pandemic, he said, state organisations and private companies performed respective roles and duties even virtually that helped the country to continue its economic activity. Mr Rahman said this as the chief guest at the closing ceremony of 'World Congress on Information Technology (WICT-2021)' co-hosted by Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) and Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS) together with the ICT Division.</p> <p>The four-day 'WCIT-2021 and Silver Jubilee of WCIT' event with the theme 'ICT-The Great Equalizer' was held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre with state minister of ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak in the chair.</p> <p>On behalf of the premier, Mr Rahman received the 'WITSA Eminent Persons Award-2021' at the event for her extraordinary contribution to formulate and implement the 'Digital Bangladesh' vision. "Despite the current Covid-19 pandemic situation," he says, "we have been able to host the WICT-2021 successfully on our soil which exhibits our capacity to organise such a prestigious ICT event in the country."</p> <p>Bangladesh has achieved remarkable progress in four key ICT areas-rapid digital connectivity and infrastructure, comprehensive implementation of e-governance concept, facilitating industry promotion and developing skilled and quality human resources. The adviser hopes WCIT-2021 will also shed light on the fourth phase of the digital revolution, which is evolving at an exponential rather than a linear pace, disrupting almost every industry in every country. Besides, he says ICT holds enormous potential for Bangladesh to achieve a competitive position in the global market as the government has recognised ICT as one of the key drivers of development.</p>	16 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/bd-now-a-major-ict-export-hub-1636999353">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/bd-now-a-major-ict-export-hub-1636999353</a>	
38	<p><b>Italy keen to invest in Bangladesh's leather industry</b></p> <p>Italy has expressed interest to invest in Bangladesh's leather industry, reports BSS. Italian Ambassador to Bangladesh Enrico Nunziata expressed the interest on Sunday during a meeting with Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSIC) Chairman Mushtaq Hasan at BSIC building in the capital, said a press release.</p> <p>After the meeting, the BSIC chairman said that the Italian ambassador has expressed interest in producing biofertiliser and electricity from solid waste from Bangladesh's leather industry. Bangladesh and Italy will work together to manage solid waste in the leather industry, he added.</p> <p>The Italian ambassador said, "Bangladesh offers a conducive environment for investment. We want to invest here." "Italy will work to transfer green technology in between the two countries, increase Italian investment in Bangladesh and develop bilateral relations in the future," he added.</p>	16 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/italy-keen-to-invest-in-bangladesh-leather-industry-1636999790">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/italy-keen-to-invest-in-bangladesh-leather-industry-1636999790</a>	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
39	<p><b><a href="#">EBL awarded JP Morgan 'U.S. Dollar Clearing MT202 Elite Quality Recognition Award'</a></b></p>  <p>Eastern Bank Limited (EBL) has been awarded JP Morgan 'U.S. Dollar Clearing MT202 Elite Quality Recognition Award' for exceeding JP Morgan's stringent STP performance benchmark. Ali Reza Iftekhar, Managing Director and CEO of EBL, received the award in a ceremony held at EBL Head Office from Sazzad Anam, Executive Director and Head of JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A Bangladesh Representative Office, recently.</p>	16 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ebl-awarded-jp-morgan-us-dollar-clearing-mt202-elite-quality-recognition-award-1636991792">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ebl-awarded-jp-morgan-us-dollar-clearing-mt202-elite-quality-recognition-award-1636991792</a>	
40	<p><b><a href="#">Bangladesh Bank launches digital platform EDSMoney for loans, deposits</a></b></p> <p>The Bangladesh Bank has introduced an electronic dealing system for banks and non-bank financial institutions (NBFI) such that they will lend and deposit on short-term basis with each other through a digital platform. The central bank today issued guidelines saying that the new digital platform named EDSMoney will go live on December 1 this year. EDSMoney will provide a web-based electronic dealing platform with features where lenders will transact short-term amounts.</p>	16 November 2021	<b>The Daily Star</b> <a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-bank-launches-digital-platform-edsmoney-loans-deposits-2231501">https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-bank-launches-digital-platform-edsmoney-loans-deposits-2231501</a>	

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41	<p><b>Govt sets profit margins for agricultural products</b>  <u><a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154772/govt-sets-profit-margins-for-agricultural-products">Introduces Agricultural Marketing Rules, 2021</a></u></p> <p>The government has introduced the Agricultural Marketing Rules, 2021, setting the maximum profit margins for the agricultural products at production, wholesale and retail stages. According to the rules, the agricultural products would be traded at prices determined by the Department of Agricultural Marketing considering the set profit margins. The agriculture ministry through a gazette notification on November 3 published the rules formulated under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 2018.</p> <p>The rules stipulate that the maximum reasonable profits for cereals, including paddy, rice, wheat and potato, would be 30 per cent at the production level, 15 per cent at the wholesale level and 25 per cent at the retail level. The rules have set the same profit margins for cash crops, including jute, tea, tobacco and cotton, for pulses with husk and without husk and for fresh, dried, salted and frozen fish.</p> <p>The profit margins for oil seeds, including mustard, sesames, linseed, ground nuts, coconut, castor seed and sunflower, and for all kinds of edible oil have been at the rate of 30 per cent, 15 per cent and 30 per cent at production, wholesale and retail levels respectively.</p> <p>The maximum reasonable profit margins for sugarcane and molasses would be 35 per cent at the production level, 15 per cent at the wholesale level and 30 per cent at the retail level.</p> <p>The profit margins for all kinds of fresh and dried fruits have been set at the rate of 30 per cent, 20 per cent and 30 per cent at production, wholesale and retail levels respectively.</p> <p>According to the agricultural marketing rules, the maximum profit margins for all kinds of vegetables and flowers would be 40 per cent at the production level, 25 per cent at the wholesale level and 30 per cent at the retail level. Profit margins for spices, including onion, garlic, ginger, turmeric and green chilli, would be 40 per cent, 20 per cent and 30 per cent at production, wholesale and retail levels respectively, the rules said.</p> <p>The rules have also set the profit margins for processed agricultural products and dairy products at the rate of 30 per cent at the production level, 15 per cent at the wholesale level and 25 per cent at the retail level.</p> <p>The rules said that the reasonable selling prices of agricultural products at the production level would be determined after adding the profit margins to costs of production and marketing.</p>	16 November 2021	New Age ( <a href="https://www.newagebd.net/article/154772/govt-sets-profit-margins-for-agricultural-products">https://www.newagebd.net/article/154772/govt-sets-profit-margins-for-agricultural-products</a> )	
42	<p><b>Bangladesh to sign MoU with UK's Food Standards Agency</b></p> <p>Bangladesh is going to ink an agreement with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) of the United Kingdom to increase exports of agricultural products in the European countries. Agriculture Minister Md Abdur Razzaque, who is now in the UK, discussed the matter at the meeting with a delegation of the Food Standards Agency, according to a press statement of the ministry on Tuesday. Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UK-based organisation, the ministry will take initiative to boost the volume of agricultural products in European countries. Once the agreement is signed, Bangladesh will take initiatives to set up a state-of-the-art testing laboratory, Phytosanitary certification to meet phytosanitary export requirements for agro-products and improvement of those, the ministry added.</p>	16 November 2021	The Business Standard (TBS) ( <a href="https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-sign-mou-uks-food-standard-agency-330595">https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-sign-mou-uks-food-standard-agency-330595</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
43	<p><b>Power subsidy to hit Tk 200b</b></p> <p><b>High fuel prices to cost BPDB hugely for paying power producers in FY '22</b></p> <p>State subsidy on power poses to nearly double to Tk 200 billion in the current fiscal year with a push from fuel-price spiral, BPDB fears. Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), country's lone buyer of electricity from power producers, assumes that increased consumption of oils in power plants to generate electricity might jack up the subsidy requirement in the FY 2021-22. Subsidy requirement will, however, be lower than estimation if local gas production increases, BPDB chairman Md Belayet Hossain told the FE Tuesday. The power board got subsidy worth around Tk 117 billion in FY 21, which was 34.96 per cent higher than previous FY's Tk 86.09 billion.</p> <p>The average electricity-generation cost currently hovers around Tk 6.61 per unit (1kilowatt-hour) but the BPDB sells electricity at Tk5.12 per unit, Mr Hossain said about the gap. Thus, he added, the BPDB requires Tk 1.49 per unit as subsidy. The board pays fuel cost which changes with the price movement of international market as well as the fixed rate of state-run Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).</p> <p>For privately owned furnace oil-fired power plants, the BPDB pays private sector the fuel price in line with the international market as the owners import furnace oil from the international market. The BPDB, however, pays fuel price as per the BPC-fixed rates for state-owned furnace oil-fired power plants. The board, however, pays diesel price as fixed by the BPC for both the private-and public-sector plants as the state-run oil corporation is the lone importer of diesel. As the furnace oil and diesel prices increased both in local and international markets, BPDB's spending more in electricity purchases from power plants, said sources. The BPC increased diesel price by around 23 per cent to Tk 80 per litre, from the previous Tk 65 per litre, on November 4. It also raised furnace-oil price by 16.98 per cent to Tk 62 per litre with effect from Nov 5.</p>	17 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/power-subsidy-to-hit-tk-200b-1637087221?date=17-11-2021">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/power-subsidy-to-hit-tk-200b-1637087221?date=17-11-2021</a> )	
44	<p><b>Lighter vessel fare raised by 15pc</b></p> <p>Owners of lighter vessels recently announced a 15 per cent increase in the fare for transporting imported goods on inland water routes due to the recent hike in fuel prices. The new rates became effective from November 15, according to a circular from the Water Transport Cell (WTC), a private organisation that coordinates the allocation and schedules of lighter vessels. Leaders of the Bangladesh Cargo Vessel Owners Association, Coastal Ship Owners Association of Bangladesh, Container Ship Owners Association of Bangladesh, Inland Vessel Owners Association of Chattogram, WTC Goods Agent Association, and WTC Local Agents Association took this decision during a meeting at a hotel in Dhaka on Monday, sources said.</p>	17 November 2021	The Daily Star ( <a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/lighter-vessel-fare-raised-15pc-2231921">https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/lighter-vessel-fare-raised-15pc-2231921</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
45	<p><b>NBR lists top taxpayvers</b></p> <p>The National Board of Revenue (NBR) will honour a total of 252 corporate and individual taxpayers for their highest payment of income tax and Value Added Tax (VAT) to the public exchequer. It issued three separate Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs), dated November 16, 2021, with the names of the top taxpayers in different categories. As per the National Tax Card Policy - 2010 (amended) and the Highest VAT Payers' Award Giving Policy - 2005 (amended), the NBR has selected the top taxpayers. However, the highest taxpayers having legal dispute has been dropped from the list of award winners as per the policies.</p> <p>On the basis of income tax payment in fiscal year 2020-21, a total of 141 taxpayers - 75 individuals, 54 companies and 12 in other categories - won the tax card. The revenue board will honour nine corporate taxpayers for their highest payment of VAT at national level for FY2019-20. Some 102 district-level businesses would receive the top VAT payers' award too.</p> <p>Category-wise award winners are:</p> <p><b>Banking</b> Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd., Standard Chartered Bank, The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, BRAC Bank Ltd. and Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd.</p> <p><b>Non-banking financial institutions</b> Infrastructure Development Company Limited, Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Limited, Investment Corporation of Bangladesh, Delta BRAC Housing Finance Corporation Limited.</p> <p><b>Leather industry</b> Apex Footwear Ltd., Bata Shoe Company (Bangladesh) Ltd. and Lalmai Footwear Ltd.</p> <p><b>Food and beverage</b> Nestle Bangladesh Ltd., Olympic Industries Ltd. and Pran Dairy Ltd.</p> <p><b>Journalist</b> Faridur Reza, Abdul Mukit Majumder, Mahfuz Anam, Mohammad Abdul Malek and Matiur Rahman.</p> <p><b>Senior citizens</b> Golam Dastogir Gazi, Khawaza Tazmahal, Engr Khandaker Badrul Hassan, Dr Mostafizur Rahman of Popular Diagnostic, and Latifur Rahman of Transcom Limited.</p> <p><b>Gazetted injured freedom fighters</b> Md Nasir Uddin Mridha, Md Joynal Abedin, Md Kohinoor Islam Khan and SM Abdul Wahab.</p> <p><b>Physically challenged</b> Akram Mahmud, Dr Md Mamanur Rashid and Lubna Nigar.</p> <p><b>Women</b> Anwara Hossain, Shahnaz Rahman, Selina Mahbub, Farhana Monem, Morsheda Nasmin.</p> <p><b>Young (below 40 years)</b> Ahmed Imtiaz Hassan, SM Monjurul Alam Ovi, Md Faisal Hossain, Md Lutfor Rahman and Anika Tarannum Anam,</p> <p><b>Business</b> Hazi Kaus Mia, Md Nazrul Islam Majumder, Nafis Shikder, Md Sawkat Ali Chowdhuiry and Anwar Hossain.</p> <p><b>Salaried persons</b> Mohammad Yousuf, Hosne Ara Hossain, Rubayat Farzana Hossain, Laila Hossain and MA Haider Hossain.</p> <p><b>Telecommunication</b></p> <p><b>Grameenphone Limited</b></p> <p><b>Engineering</b></p>	18 November 2021	<p><b>The Financial Express</b>  <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/nbr-lists-top-taxpayers-1637173925?date=18-11-2021">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/nbr-lists-top-taxpayers-1637173925?date=18-11-2021</a></p>	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
	<p>Uttara Motors Limited, Bangladesh Machine Tools Factory Ltd. and Uttara Automobiles Ltd.</p> <p><b>Energy</b> Titas Gas (T&amp;D) Company Ltd., Gas Transmission Co Ltd. and Petromax Refinery Ltd.</p> <p><b>Jute industry</b> Akij Jute Mills Ltd., Aiyana Jute Mills Ltd. and I R Khan Jute Mills Ltd.</p> <p><b>Spinning and Textile</b> Coats Bangladesh Ltd., Badsha Textile Mills Ltd., Noman Terry Towel Mills Ltd., Nahid Composite Textile Mills Ltd., Ismail Anjuman Ara Fabric Ltd., Premiere 1888 Ltd and Nahid Cotton Ltd.</p> <p><b>Readymade garment companies</b> Universal Jeans Limited, Youngone Hi-Tech Sportswear Inds Ltd., Zaber and Zubair Fabrics Ltd., Rifat Garments Ltd., Square Fashion Ltd., GMS Composite Knitting Ind Ltd. and Ha-meem Denim Ltd.</p> <p><b>Other category:</b> British American Tobacco Bangladesh Ltd., American Life Insurance Co Ltd., Sadharan Bima Corporation and Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd.</p> <p><b>Farm</b> Messrs SN Corporation, Messrs Md Jamil Iqbal, Messrs SSBS and Messrs Saleh Ahmmad.</p> <p><b>Local Authority</b> Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board and Bangladesh Bridge Authority</p> <p><b>Association of person</b> ASA and Sena Kalyan Sangstha Head Office</p> <p><b>Other Category:</b> Bureau Bangladesh, Rafiq Construction Co (Pvt) Ltd., RAK Power Private Ltd. and Centre for Development Innovation and Practices.</p> <p><b>Actor/actress</b> Suborna Mustafa, Bidya Sinha Saha and Babul Ahmed.</p> <p><b>Singer</b> Tahsan Rahman Khan, SD Rubel and Kumar Bishwajit.</p> <p><b>Doctor</b> Dr Jahangir Kabir, Professor Dr AKM Fazlul Haque, Professor Dr Pran Gopal Dutta, Dr NAM Momenuzzaman and Dr Nargis Fatema.</p> <p><b>Lawyer</b> Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, Kazi Mohammad Tanjib-ul Alam, Ahsanul Karim, Nihad Kabir and Tawfika Aftab.</p> <p><b>Engineers</b> Mohammad Abdullah, Mohammad Mokhlesur Rahman and Mohammad Jahirul Islam.</p> <p><b>Architect</b> Mohammad Fayez Ullah, Mohammad Rafique Azam and Enamul Karim Nirjhor.</p> <p><b>Accountant</b> Mohammad Faruk, Mashuk Ahmed and Mohammad Mustak Ahmed.</p> <p><b>New taxpayer</b> Mst Shahin Akter, Mizanul Karim, Rokshana Parveen, Mohammad Salah Uddin, Rasheda Akter Chowdhury, Badhan Banik and Mohammad Riad Ur Rahman.</p>			

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	<p><b>Player</b>  Mahmudullah, Tamim Iqbal Khan and Soumya Sarkar.</p> <p><b>Other</b>  Mahmudul Haque, Khandakar Monir Uddin and Saiful Islam.</p> <p><b>Top VAT payers</b>  Under national level, three VAT-paying companies each from manufacturing, business and service categories have been nominated for the award.  Aristopharma Limited, Square Toiletries Limited and Messrs Maya Bidi Factory have been selected for the award under production category.  Under business category, SM Motors, AMCO Bajaj International and Mabs Union Motors Ltd will get the award.  IDCOL Bangladesh Company Limited, Grey Advertising (Bangladesh) Limited (Trikaya Grey Advertising Bangladesh Ltd) and Robert Bosch (Bangladesh) Limited has been selected for the award under services category.  Under district-level, Dhaka Thai Ltd and Northend (pvt) Ltd. of Dhaka, PHP Ispat Ltd (Narshingdi), Akij Steel Mills Ltd (Narshingdi), Alam Marine Ship Builders Ltd (Narayanganj), Padma LPG Ltd (Chattogram), M/S Venus Auto (Jessore) Parjoton Hotel (Netong) at Cox's Bazar, National Motors of Faridpur, Ad-din Mother Care of Rangpur, Pran Agro Ltd of Rajshahi, LP Gas Ltd, Khulna Dockyard, Bajaj village at Shariatpur, among others, will receive the award.</p>			
46	<p><b>Vital trade issues on MC12 agenda</b>  <b><u>BD to seek GSP up to nine yrs after LDC graduation</u></b>  <b>To move for graduating, not graduated countries</b>  Bangladesh prepares to propose at the upcoming WTO meet continuity of preferential trade treatment for six to nine years after graduating from the LDC status so that the country is not suddenly exposed to open competition. As per recent consensus of the LDC ministers, Bangladesh has decided to cut its expectations through shortening the post-graduation trade-preference tenure from previously-planned 12 years. The fisheries and its fuel subsidy, agricultural issues, moratorium for e-commerce, domestic regulation on trade in services would also be kept on the agenda for discussion at the upcoming conference.  A four-member delegation of the Ministry of Commerce (MoC) would place the issues on the table at the 12th ministerial conference (MC12) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), scheduled to be held on November 30-December 3 in Geneva, Switzerland. Bangladesh is going to attend as a graduating LDC the WTO ministerial conference for the first time this year. Director-General of the WTO cell of the MoC Md Hafizur Rahman shared government's priority points of discussion at a virtual dialogue on the upcoming MC12: Bangladesh's expectations and possible stance. The orientation programme was organized by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and Friedrich-Ebert -Stiftung (FES) on Thursday.  Now, the country would place its proposals as LDC-graduating country, not for LDC-graduated ones, he said. Addressing the programme as moderator, Syed Manzur Elahi, treasurer, CPD board of trustees, and Chairman of Apex group, said in the post-COVID period businesses have been facing queries relating to technological advancement, environment issues like reductions in carbon footprint and sustainability issues rather than price negotiation. "Such issues were not in focus two years ago and more challenges may appear after graduating from LDC status after 2026," he forecast. Mr Elahi, however, said whether graduation is preferred or not, the country needs this despite several upcoming challenges to improve sovereign guarantee or credit rating. "Exporters face image problem of LDC due to natural disaster and political instability, even though offering big discount. Buyers remained hesitant on delivery of the products and sustainability of production," he added.</p>	19 November 2021	<b>The Financial Express</b> ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-to-seek-gsp-up-to-nine-yrs-after-ldc-graduation-1637257333?date=19-11-2021">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-to-seek-gsp-up-to-nine-yrs-after-ldc-graduation-1637257333?date=19-11-2021</a> )	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
47	<p><b><u>Registration a must for tour operators</u></b></p> <p>The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed a bill to make it mandatory for tour operators and guides to get registered. The bill titled "Bangladesh Tour Operators and Tour Guides (Registration and Operation) Bill, 2021" was prepared aiming to bring the tour operators under a legal framework for ensuring the best services and thus give a boost to the tourism sector.</p>	19 November 2021	The Daily Star ( <a href="https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/tourism/news/registration-must-tour-operators-2233581">https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/tourism/news/registration-must-tour-operators-2233581</a> )	
48	<p><b><u>Investment summit to woo domestic investors too</u></b></p> <p><b>PM to open Nov 28-29 meet, with 11 sectors in spotlight</b></p> <p>An upcoming investment summit will have special focus on domestic investment besides luring foreign direct investment through projecting potential of prospective sectors, organizers say. The high-profile 'Investment Summit 2021' is being organised by Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) in the city on November 28-29. "Domestic investment is the key. Foreign direct investment always follows the trend of domestic investment. If a country cannot enhance the level of the domestic investment, it cannot expect to attract foreign investment," Sirazul Islam, Executive Chairman of the BIDA, told the FE. According to Mr Islam, the Investment Summit will highlight ways and means to encourage the young population of the country to undertake business.</p> <p>It is essential to attract the youngsters, who traditionally have a preference to be an employee either in public sector or in private sector, the BIDA chief noted. And keeping this in mind the summit meet will exhibit the investment opportunities and tactics to the young entrepreneurs, he added.</p> <p>Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to inaugurate the summit, and on the concluding day, the finance minister will be the chief guest.</p> <p>There will be a string of sessions on both days where potential of 11 prospective sectors will be thoroughly analyzed by the policymakers and experts.</p>	20 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/firstr-page/investment-summit-to-woo-domestic-investors-too-1637344764">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/firstr-page/investment-summit-to-woo-domestic-investors-too-1637344764</a> )	
49	<p><b><u>প্রবাসী আয়ে ৭ম স্থানে থাকবে বাংলাদেশ</u></b></p> <p>২০২১ সালে দেশে প্রবাসী আয়ের প্রবৃদ্ধি হবে। তবে প্রবৃদ্ধির হার অনেকটাই কমে আসবে। এক প্রতিবেদনের পূর্বাভাস, এ বছর দেশে প্রবাসী আয় আসবে ২৩ বিলিয়ন বা ২ হাজার ৩০০ কোটি ডলার। তাতে রেমিট্যান্সের প্রবৃদ্ধির হার দাঁড়াবে ৬ শতাংশের মতো। তাতে প্রবাসী আয় প্রাপ্তিতে বাংলাদেশের স্থান হবে সপ্তম। ২০২০ সালে একই প্রতিবেদনে বাংলাদেশ ৭ম স্থানে ছিল। এ বছর সবচেয়ে বেশি প্রবাসী আয় পাবে ভারত৷৮৭ বিলিয়ন ডলার। এরপর ৫৩ বিলিয়ন ডলার নিয়ে দ্বিতীয় স্থানে থাকবে চীন। একই পরিমাণ প্রবাসী আয় পাবে মেক্সিকো। এ বছর পাকিস্তানে প্রবাসী আয় আসবে ৩৩ বিলিয়ন ডলার। বিশ্বব্যাংক ও নোয়াডের ঘোষণা প্রতিবেদন 'কোভিড-১৯ পুনরুদ্ধার: আয়নায় অভিবাসন'-এ অভ্যন্তরীণ ও বৈদেশিক উভয় অভিবাসনের সম্ভাব্য অবস্থা পর্যালোচনা করা হয়েছে। সেই প্রতিবেদনে এসব তথ্য উঠে এসেছে।</p>	20 November 2021	Prothom Alo ( <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%8B%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%86%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87-%E0%A7%AD%E0%A6%AE-%E0%A6%BB%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A5%E0%A6%BB%E0%A6%8A%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AS%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%8B">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%8B%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%86%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87-%E0%A7%AD%E0%A6%AE-%E0%A6%BB%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A5%E0%A6%BB%E0%A6%8A%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AS%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%8B</a> )	



Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
51	<p><b><u>RMG production cost up 5pc on diesel price hike</u></b></p> <p>The latest diesel-price hike would raise the readymade garment items' production cost by 5.0 per cent, thereby posing a headwind against the turnaround Bangladesh's main export industry is making with western markets rebounding. Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) made the observations Saturday and urged the government to reconsider the raise in the fuel price that casts multiple impacts on the industry and transportation. "Recently, the price of diesel has been enhanced by 23 per cent. In line with that transportation and cost of electricity production through generator will also go up while related raw materials and other services' cost have increased. All these factors will push up our production cost by 4.0 to 5.0 per cent," BGMEA president Faruque Hassan said.</p>	21 November 2021	The Financial Express ( <a href="https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/rmg-production-cost-up-5pc-on-diesel-price-hike-1637427139">https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/rmg-production-cost-up-5pc-on-diesel-price-hike-1637427139</a> )	
52	<p><b>অর্থনীতির গেম চেঞ্জার-১১</b>  <b>জীবনকে সহজ করে দিয়েছে ঘারা</b></p> <p>বাংলাদেশের সবচেয়ে বড় সাফল্য এখন অর্থনীতিতে। ৫০ বছরে বাংলাদেশ নামের কথিত 'তলাবিহীন ঝুড়ি' হয়ে উঠেছে চমকেভরা জাদুর বাক্স। সাহায্যনির্ভর বাংলাদেশ এখন বাণিজ্যনির্ভর দেশে পরিণত। তবে যাত্রাপথটা সহজ ছিল না। বড় বড় ঝুঁকি নিয়ে অভিনব পথে এগিয়ে নিয়ে গেছেন আমাদের সাহসী উদ্যোগ্তারা। এই সাফল্যের পেছনে আরও ঘাঁরা ছিলেন, তাঁদের মধ্যে অর্থনীতিবিদ যেমন ছিলেন, আছেন নীতিনির্ধারকেরাও। মূলত অর্থনীতির এসব অগ্রন্থক, পথরচয়িতা ও স্বপ্নদষ্টারাই ৫০ বছরে বিশ্বে বাংলাদেশকে বিসিয়েছেন মর্যাদার আসনে। আমরা বেছে নিয়েছি সেই নায়কদের মধ্যে ৫০ জনকে। আমাদের কাছে তাঁরাই অর্থনীতির 'গেম চেঞ্জার'।</p> <p>ভারী শিল্প নয়, দামি পণ্যও নয়। ছোট ছোট পণ্য, মূলত গৃহস্থানি পণ্য। প্রয়োজন বেশি রান্নাঘরে, কিংবা ঘরেরই অন্য কোনো কাজে। বেশির ভাগই প্লাস্টিক সামগ্রী। আগে এসব পণ্যের একচেটিয়া দখল ছিল চীনাদের। প্রতিবছর চীন থেকেই আসত এসব পণ্য। সেই বাজারটি এখন দখল করে নিয়েছে বাংলাদেশেরই একটি শিল্প গুরুপ। প্রাণ-আরএফএল গুরুপের পণ্য নেই, দেশে এমন একটি ঘর খুঁজে পাওয়া মুশকিল। প্রাণ-আরএফএল গুরুপ দেশের মানুষের দৈনন্দিন জীবনকে সহজ করে দিয়েছে। একই সঙ্গে বাংলাদেশে কৃষিপণ্য প্রক্রিয়াজাত শিল্পের পথিকৃৎ প্রাণ-আরএফএল গুরুপ।</p> <p><b>আমজাদ খান চৌধুরীর হাত ধরে</b></p> <p>প্রাণ-আরএফএল গুরুপের প্রতিষ্ঠাতা মেজর জেনারেল (অব.) আমজাদ খান চৌধুরী। ৭৬ বছর বয়সে ২০১৫ সালের ৮ জুলাই তিনি মারা যান। ১৯৩৯ সালের ১০ নভেম্বর নাটোরে বাংলাদেশে কৃষিপণ্য প্রক্রিয়াজাত শিল্পের পথিকৃৎ হিসেবে পরিচিত আমজাদ খান চৌধুরীর জন্ম। ঢাকার নবকুমার ইনসিটিউটে আমজাদ খান চৌধুরীর শিক্ষাজীবন শুরু হয়। ১৯৫৬ সালে তিনি পাকিস্তান সেনাবাহিনীতে যোগ দেন। পরবর্তীকালে অস্ট্রেলিয়ান স্টাফ কলেজ থেকে গ্র্যাজুয়েশন সম্পন্ন করেন। আমজাদ খান চৌধুরী ১৯৮১ সালে মেজর জেনারেল হিসেবে বাংলাদেশ সেনাবাহিনী থেকে অবসর গ্রহণ করেন।</p> <p>আমজাদ খান চৌধুরী <b>মেট্রোপলিটন চেম্বার অব কর্মস অ্যাসুন্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি</b> (এমসিসিআই), ঢাকা স্টক এক্সচেঞ্জ (ডিএসসি), ইনফ্রাস্ট্রাকচার ডেভেলপমেন্ট কোম্পানি লিমিটেড, বাংলাদেশ ডেইস্র অ্যাসোসিয়েশনসহ বিভিন্ন সংগঠনের সভাপতি, পরিচালকসহ বিভিন্ন পদে দায়িত্ব পালন করেছেন। আমজাদ খান চৌধুরী ১৯৮১ সালে ৪২ বছর বয়সে অবসর নিয়ে ওই বছরই শুরু করেছিলেন ফাউন্ডেশন বাটিউবওয়েল তৈরি ও আবাসন ব্যবসা। সম্বল পেনশনের টাকা। তবে আবাসন ব্যবসা তিনি বেশি দিন করেননি। আবাসন ব্যবসা বাদ দিয়ে ফাউন্ডেশন ব্যবসায় নজর বেশি দিন আমজাদ খান চৌধুরী। রংপুরে ফাউন্ডেশন প্রতিষ্ঠা করেন, নাম দেন রংপুর ফাউন্ডেশন লিমিটেড (আরএফএল)। যার আওতায় এখন বহু ধরনের পণ্য রয়েছে। তবে আমজাদ খান চৌধুরীর লক্ষ্য ছিল কৃষির ব্যবসায় নামা। ১৯৮৫ সালে প্রতিষ্ঠিত হলো অ্যাগ্রিকালচারাল মার্কেটিং কোম্পানি লিমিটেড, প্রাণ।</p>	21 November 2021	Prothom Alo ( <a href="https://www.prothomalo.com/business/%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%BD%E0%A6%A6%AF%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%AB%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%87-%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%9C-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AB%E0%A6%AA%87-%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%90%EB%80%E0%A6%6">https://www.prothomalo.com/business/%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%BD%E0%A6%A6%AF%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%AB%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%87-%E0%A6%8B%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%9C-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AB%E0%A6%AA%87-%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%90%EB%80%E0%A6%6</a> )	