


Fortnightly Summary

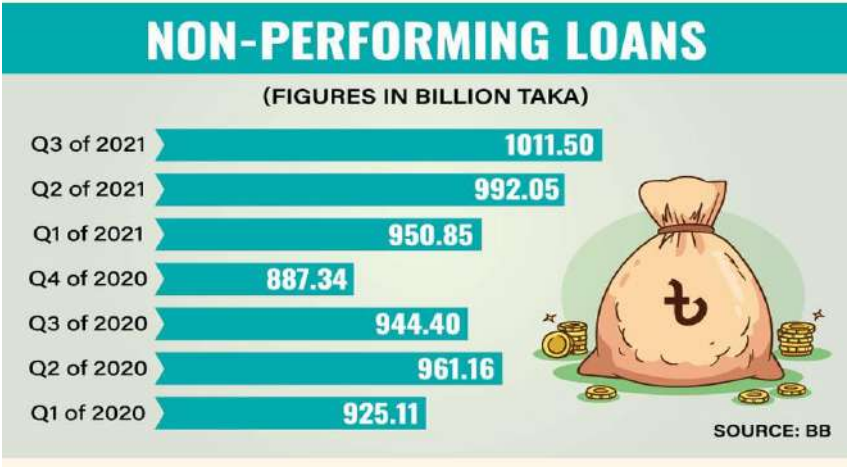
Important Trade and Economic News Published on Various Newspapers during 22 Nov. – 14 Dec. 2021

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 01 | <p><u>Woo FDI in three sectors</u> <u>Foreign investors suggest at research report launch</u></p> <p>Foreign investors in Bangladesh find agribusiness, digital economy and green business as three potential sectors which they think would propel the country onto the next trajectory of development. While appreciating the country's remarkable socioeconomic progress achieved over the last 50 years, they suggested ensuring pro-business policies to attract FDI (foreign direct investment) in these growth-driving sectors. They also recommended prioritising high-potential sectors and marketing those globally through proper branding of the country's manufacturing skills. The businesspeople came up with the suggestions at an event of the Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in Dhaka on Sunday.</p> <p>A research report on the three future growth drivers of Bangladesh in accelerating investment opportunities was also released at the event. The report stresses the importance of policy interventions to benefit more from the sectors where the future of global economy lies. Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB) prepared the report for the FICCI, marking the 50th year of independence of Bangladesh and the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.</p> <p>Sharing the research findings, PEB founder and chairman Dr. M. Masrur Reaz said the research will help undertake strategic approach by coming out of traditional and general approach that had worked well in past few decades. Managing Director of Apex Footwear Limited Syed Nasim Manzur said Bangladesh has many fantastic products but these are not sold properly. Talking about soft power, he said the country needed to learn proper use of the soft power like K-pop of South Korea for branding the country globally. He also put emphasis on utilising the country's "B power" that he meant for "Baul, Build and Biryani." "I think Bangladesh is the factory of the world. We are manufacturing world-class garments, ships, shoes, pharmaceuticals and biriyani. So, this is our time," he said. MCCI President Barrister Nihad Kabir said the country needed to fix policies about whether it wants FDI or not, whether it wants protection or not. "The policy needs to be fixed. Once our policies are fixed, we need to act accordingly," she said. She also highlighted the importance of training the civil servants in the context of private-sector demands in taking the economy further ahead.</p> <p>"I believe this roadmap presentation and the three growth drivers will be a good reference in the development planning and will bring in FDI to aid our economy flourish in all sectors," said planning minister M.A Mannan. He said that these driving sectors will be the key agents of success. "We listen to all and learn from them, but we would like to do things in our way that is our branding." Prime Minister's private-sector industry and investment affairs adviser Salman F Rahman said each of these sectors has a high potential for meeting the country's economic goals.</p> | 22 November 2021 | <p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/woo-fdi-in-three-sectors-1637519291?date=22-11-2021)</p> | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 02 | <p><u>Loss and gain from taka devaluation</u> <u>Exports get more competitive, imports costlier</u></p> <p>Bangladesh's export-competitiveness improved to some extent as Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) of the local currency decreased nearly 1.8 per cent in June on a quarter-on-quarter basis, though it spurs inflation. The country's REER - a measure of the value of a currency against a weighted average of several foreign currencies - depreciated to 110.41 in June 2021 from 112.41 in March, according to the central bank.</p> <p>The monetary benchmark, REER, helps in analyzing the country's competitiveness for its trade in goods and services with its trading partners and competitor countries. A decrease in it implies that exports have become cheaper and imports more expensive. Therefore, a decrease indicates a gain in trade competitiveness -- and this is the fundamental rule as per the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Analysts say REER below 100 means the country's exports remain competitive and imports expensive. This arithmetic reverses when REER rises above 100. The nominal exchange rate (NER) depreciated 1.2 per cent to Tk 85.8 (intern-bank Tk-USD exchange rate) in November. But the 'kerb-market' rate remained much higher.</p> | 22 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/exports-get-more-competitive-imports-costlier-1637519575?date=22-11-2021) | |
| 03 | <p><u>Korea to provide \$100 million loan to help economic recovery of Bangladesh</u></p> <p>The South Korean government has recently approved the provision of \$100 million to the government of Bangladesh to help the recovery of the country's economy hit by the coronavirus pandemic. The fund will be provided from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF), which is a Korean development financing program for assisting the socio-economic development of developing countries. Korea has already provided \$50 million of EDCF loan as budgetary support in December 2020 to help Bangladesh's efforts for fighting against the Covid-19 pandemic. It is the second provision of this type of concessional loan.</p> | 22 November 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/korea-provide-100-million-loan-help-economic-recovery-bangladesh-332929) | |
| 04 | <p><u>Customs set timeline for service delivery</u> <u>Exporters with bond licences to get benefit</u></p> <p>The customs authority has set a timeline for service delivery to the exporters having bonded-warehouse licences in a bid to ease time and cost of doing business through speedy release of goods. The customs officials will have to provide 25 types of services within the maximum time limit, set in an order issued on November 17. From now on, the exporters will be able to get bond-related services within maximum 10 ten days as per the new order. In another order, the customs wing of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) also determined requirement of documents for the exporters enjoying 100 per cent bonded-warehouse facility.</p> <p>The services include placing application for new bonded warehouse licence, temporary bond registration, EPZ bond licence application, 100 per cent export-orientated industries' application for audit and entitlement, renewal of bond licence, continuous or extended bond application, general bond, change in ownership, temporary relocation of factory, lien bank addition, and change in address of bonded industries etc. Application of certification for release of raw materials from ports would need maximum seven days.</p> <p>The timeline would be valid from the day of acceptance of the application by the bond officer or section concerned. The officials concerned would not be able to keep an application pending. If needed, they can apply for extension.</p> | 23 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/customs-set-timeline-for-service-delivery-1637606388) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 05 | <p data-bbox="255 245 748 304"><u>Improving RMG working environment</u> <u>UN wants to work with FBCCI</u></p>  <p data-bbox="255 679 1615 778">Country Director of ILO Bangladesh Tuomo Poutiainen meets President of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Md Jashim Uddin at FBCCI office in Dhaka on Monday</p> <p data-bbox="255 783 1615 919">Bangladesh's ready-made garment (RMG) sector has become one of the safest industries in the world through reforms. Tuomo Poutiainen, country director of ILO Bangladesh, said this during a courtesy call with the President of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Md Jashim Uddin at FBCCI on Monday afternoon.</p> <p data-bbox="255 924 1615 1129">The United Nations (UN) wants to bring about positive changes in the industry. That goal requires the involvement of the private sector. That's why the UN is keen to work with the country's top business body-the FBCCI, he mentioned. He also lauded the major reforms in the garment sector after Rana Plaza collapse and the recent initiative by FBCCI and BIDA to inspect factories producing products for the domestic market. The ILO country director thanked the FBCCI president for setting up the FBCCI Safety Council on the initiative of the present committee.</p> <p data-bbox="255 1134 1615 1305">Tuomo Poutiainen thinks that it would be easier to improve the condition of the labourers if the FBCCI, along with the Bangladesh Employers' Federation (BEF)-- the organisation representing the private sector in ILO Bangladesh, work together. At that time, the president of BEF Ardashir Kabir proposed to form two working groups in the two respective trade bodies. The groups will jointly review and finalise the draft work plan prepared by the ILO.</p> <p data-bbox="255 1310 1615 1439">FBCCI President Md Jashim Uddin welcomed the initiative taken by the United Nations through the ILO. He said the 108 committees, already formed under the initiative of FBCCI and BIDA, will initially inspect 500 factories. The FBCCI president said that the FBCCI experts would give their views on the matter after reviewing the draft work plan prepared by the ILO.</p> | 23 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/un-wants-to-work-with-fbcci-1637603340) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 06 | <p><u>Remove bureaucratic tangles to tackle post-LDC challenges</u> <u>Experts suggest at a roundtable</u></p> <p>Businesspeople and experts on Monday called for simplifying the ease of doing business and removing the existing bureaucratic bottlenecks to cope with the challenges Bangladesh might face in its post-LDC graduation era. They also stressed the need for signing bilateral, regional and free-trade agreements to attract more investment and enhance trade with the countries where preferential market access would come to an end with the country's graduation.</p> <p>These were the observations made at a roundtable, titled 'Opportunities and Challenges for Commerce and Trade', organised by the Centre for Governance Studies (CGS) at a city hotel on Monday. The event was the last of three such roundtable discussions that took place on the day as part of a national dialogue on Bangladesh's LDC graduation. UNDP Bangladesh country economist Dr Nazneen Ahmed moderated the session.</p> | 23 November 2021 | <p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/remove-bureaucratic-tangles-to-tackle-post-ldc-challenges-1637606339</p> | |
| 07 | <p><u>Bangladesh could capture \$1.2b of recycled textile industry</u></p> <p>Bangladesh has the potential to produce \$1.2 billion worth of recycled textile and garment items as the country has a big production base for cotton fibre clothing items, according to a recent study by the Global Fashion Agenda (GFA) and McKinsey & Company. In total, six major manufacturing countries -- Vietnam, Turkey, India, Malaysia, Indonesia and Bangladesh -- could tap into a \$4.5 billion market in the form of this post-industrial recycling opportunity, as per the analysis. These are all markets with high viability for such a model, given the economic significance of the textile industry and commitment of local policymakers to supporting the sector.</p> | 23 November 2021 | <p>The Daily Star https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/news/bangladesh-could-capture-12b-recycled-textile-industry-2900571</p> | |
| 08 | <p><u>Tax receipts fall Tk 8,753cr short of target in July-Oct</u></p> <p>Revenue collection by the National Board of Revenue fell short of target by Tk 8,753 crore in the July-October period of the current fiscal year 2021-2022, according to NBR provisional data. The NBR managed to collect Tk 79,353 crore against the target set at Tk 88,106 crore. However, the revenue collection in the period of the ongoing fiscal year grew by 16.47 per cent compared with that in the same period of the previous fiscal year, according to the data.</p> <p>Customs duty, value-added tax and income tax collection grew by 21.31 per cent, 14.26 per cent and 14.12 per cent respectively in the period compared with those in the previous fiscal year. VAT collection was the highest, Tk 29,279 crore, in the period followed by customs duty Tk 26,404 crore and income tax Tk 23,669 crore in the period. The customs wing suffered a collection shortfall of Tk 3,805 crore, followed by VAT Tk 2,720 crore and income wing tax Tk 2,226 crore compared with their respective targets for the period.</p> | 23 November 2021 | <p>New Age https://www.newagebd.net/article/155441/tax-receipts-fall-tk-8753cr-short-of-target-in-july-oct</p> | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|--|------------------------|--|------------|---------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------------------|--|--|
| 09 | <p><u>12th WTO ministerial confce</u> <u>Covid fallout, LDC challenges to top agenda</u></p> <p>The economic fallout of Covid-19 along with challenges that come with LDC graduation will get preference in the upcoming 12th ministerial conference of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), said Commerce Secretary Tapan Kanti Ghosh on Tuesday. The conference, scheduled to be held in Geneva, Switzerland next week, is important for Bangladesh as it is going to graduate from the least developed country (LDC) to a developing one in near future. "Building domestic capacity is needed to sustain in the international competitive market after LDC graduation, apart from global cooperation," Mr Ghosh said. He underscored the need for bringing necessary reforms so that Bangladesh gets better prepared to face the upcoming challenges. Mr Ghosh made these statements at a workshop arranged by the Economic Reporters Forum (ERF) at its conference room in the city, ahead of the WTO conference, to be held from November 30 to December 3. Details of the points of negotiation from the Bangladesh side have been discussed at the workshop. The commerce secretary expressed optimism over getting preferential treatment after its graduation in 2026. He said the LDCs had come into a consensus to seek preferential trade benefits for six to nine years even after graduation. "We expect a positive declaration in this regard," he said.</p> | 24 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/covid-fallout-ldc-challenges-to-top-agenda-1637692786) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | <p><u>NPLs swell to over Tk 1.0t despite policy backup</u> Figure will rise further, if written-off Tk 435.44b added</p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="255 810 1099 1278"> <caption>NON-PERFORMING LOANS (FIGURES IN BILLION TAKA)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Quarter</th> <th>Value (Billion Taka)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q3 of 2021</td> <td>1011.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2 of 2021</td> <td>992.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q1 of 2021</td> <td>950.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q4 of 2020</td> <td>887.34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3 of 2020</td> <td>944.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2 of 2020</td> <td>961.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q1 of 2020</td> <td>925.11</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>SOURCE: BB</p> <p>Classified loans in Bangladesh's banking system swelled to more than Tk 1.0-trillion mark again, as of September, despite receiving state policy support. The volume of non-performing loans (NPLs) grew by nearly 14 per cent or Tk 124.16 billion to Tk 1011.50 billion as on September 30, from Tk 887.34 billion as on December 31, 2020, according to the central bank's latest statistics. The amount of classified loans was Tk 944.40 billion a year before.</p> | Quarter | Value (Billion Taka) | Q3 of 2021 | 1011.50 | Q2 of 2021 | 992.05 | Q1 of 2021 | 950.85 | Q4 of 2020 | 887.34 | Q3 of 2020 | 944.40 | Q2 of 2020 | 961.16 | Q1 of 2020 | 925.11 | 24 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/npls-swell-to-over-tk-10t-despite-policy-backup-1637692847) | |
| Quarter | Value (Billion Taka) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q3 of 2021 | 1011.50 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q2 of 2021 | 992.05 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q1 of 2021 | 950.85 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q4 of 2020 | 887.34 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q3 of 2020 | 944.40 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q2 of 2020 | 961.16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q1 of 2020 | 925.11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 11 | <p><u>Per-capita income makes another leap on low GDP</u> <u>Official count shows latest PCI rise by \$327 to \$2554</u> Bangladesh's per-capita income makes another leap by US\$327 to \$2554 from \$2,227, by official count, despite lower-than-estimated economic growth in the last fiscal year. Based on the new base year (2015-16), the country's total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew to \$410.80 billion from \$355.03 billion in the last fiscal year (FY 2020-21), Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) provisional data showed Tuesday. The previous base year in the BBS estimation of economic and income growth was 2005-2006. However, after inclusion of the new base year (2015-16) in the growth arithmetic, the GDP growth in the last fiscal stood far lower at 5.43 per cent from the preliminary estimation of 5.47 per cent.</p> | 24 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/per-capita-income-makes-another-leap-on-low-gdp-1637693139) | |
| 12 | <p><u>Bangavax gets BMRC nod for human trial</u> The Globe Biotech Limited (GBL) finally received ethical clearance from the Bangladesh Medical Research Council (BMRC) to start human trial of its homegrown Covid-19 vaccine, Bangavax. The country's lone coronavirus vaccine candidate got the much needed authorisation on Tuesday, the company sources confirmed it. "We've got ethical clearance from the BMRC. Now we need to submit the authorisation letter to the Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) before starting clinical trial," senior manager of Globe Biotech said. He also said they would submit the letter to the DGDA very shortly to begin the human trials here from December. When asked about the company's plan to go for commercial production of the Bangladeshi Covid-19 antidote, he said it might take three months to complete first two phases of the trials.</p> | 24 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangavax-gets-bmrc-nod-for-human-trial-1637692908) | |
| 13 | <p><u>Int'l Investment Summit 2021</u> <u>BIDA selects 11 sectors to woo FDI mainly from 15 countries</u> <u>Its executive chairman tells media</u> The government has set a primary target to woo investment from 15 countries and regions during the upcoming International Investment Summit 2021. "The target was set through analysing the track record of FDI (foreign direct investment) inflow in the past," said Md. Sirazul Islam, executive chairman of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA). The countries and regions include the United States of America (USA), United Kingdom, Singapore, China, Netherlands, India, Japan and Korea, he said. "It does not mean that we don't want investment from other countries. Of course, we will welcome investment from other countries too. We made the target just by seeing the FDI history." The chief of the country's investment promoting agency was talking about the objectives of the conference with a select group of reporters at his office on Monday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to virtually inaugurate the two-day global investors' meet in Dhaka on November 28, organised by the BIDA under the Prime Minister's Office. Mr. Islam said that BIDA has already identified 11 highly potential sectors for presenting before the investors who are expected to participate in the summit. The sectors include readymade garment, health services, leather, energy, agro-processing, infrastructure, blue economy and capital market. A total of 1,855 participants have registered themselves online (until 5:00 pm on Monday) and 1,224 of them expressed their interest to be present physically, he said.</p> | 24 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bida-selects-11-sectors-to-woo-fdi-mainly-from-15-countries-1637692216) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 14 | <p><u>High-priority health sector lies lowest ADP still in slow lane, economy rebounds</u> <u>July-October execution rate 13pc only</u></p> <p>Belying a kick-start of the economy after massive Covid-19 disruptions in Bangladesh and the world over, government agencies seem still navigating a slow lane in implementing the country's development projects. Insiders said Wednesday the overall progress got aggravated further with "the worst performance" of the highest-priority health ministry and of shipping ministry during the first four months (July-Oct) of the current fiscal year (FY) 2021-22.</p> <p>The Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) showed the rate of implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) at little over 13 per cent during the period-over 1.0-percentage-point lower than recorded before the pandemic in FY2020. In the July-October period this FY2020, the government agencies implemented 13.25 per cent of the ADP.</p> <p>The IMED official said the health ministry's continued worst performance held back the potential ADP implementation. The Health Services Division (HSD) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare again positioned lowest in development-budget spending during July-Oct period this FY2022 as it spent only 3.99 per cent of its total allocations.</p> | 25 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/adp-still-in-slow-lane-economy-rebounds-163779211) | |
| 15 | <p><u>SCB launches country's first digital trade counter</u></p> <p>Standard Chartered Bangladesh has launched the country's first Digital Trade Counter. This is an online "drop-off" counter, where clients can submit trade transaction applications and related documents. This innovative, secure and self-reliant platform is low on documentation and high on data security. Through this solution, corporate clients can access a paperless, simpler, smarter application and management flow, said a statement.</p> <p>Naser Ezaz Bijoy, Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered Bangladesh said, "Digitising trade is a critical lever to accelerate economic development and improve productivity. In our mission to pioneer a frictionless banking experience, we have introduced yet another digital tool, the Digital Trade Counter. I am sure our clients will benefit from the seamless application process that this Digital Trade Counter will enable."</p> | 25 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/scb-launches-countrys-first-digital-trade-counter-163775672) | |
| 16 | <p><u>NBR launches real-time A-Challan system</u></p> <p>The National Board of Revenue on Wednesday launched a real-time A-Challan system that is integrated with the value-added tax automation system and the Asycuda World system to ensure hasslefree service for business identification number holders and traders. The automated challan system, designed by the Finance Division, will enable BIN holders to obtain their VAT return challans instantly using the digital payment gateway system. NBR chairman Abu Hena M Rahmatul Munim inaugurated the system.</p> <p>Abu Hena M Rahmatul Munim said that online value-added tax return submission would be made mandatory within the upcoming budget to ensure a taxpayer-friendly service. He also hoped that online VAT return submission using the VAT Online System will bring two lakh business identification holders under the coverage of the VAT net within December, which is now 1.83 lakh of the total 3.15 lakh BIN holders.</p> | 25 November 2021 | New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/155588/nbr-launches-real-time-a-challan-system) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 17 | <p>তরুণ আইটি উদ্যোক্তাদের জন্য হাব হচ্ছে গাজীপুরে</p> <p>গাজীপুরের কালিয়াকৈরে বঙ্গবন্ধু হাইটেক পার্কে হচ্ছে তথ্যপ্রযুক্তি খাতের তরুণ উদ্যোক্তাদের জন্য নতুন ইনোভেশন হাব। যেখানে আইটি খাতের তরুণ উদ্যোক্তারা ভাগাভাগির কার্যালয় বা অফিসের জায়গা পাবেন। একই সঙ্গে এসব তরুণকে ভেঞ্চার ক্যাপিটাল প্রতিষ্ঠানের সঙ্গে সংযোগ ঘটিয়ে দেওয়া হবে। ইথিক্স অ্যাডভান্স টেকনোলজি লিমিটেড (ইএটিএল) কালিয়াকৈর হাইটেক সিটিতে ১ দশমিক ৭ একর জমির ওপর ইএটিএল ইনোভেশন হাবটি (ইআইএইচএল) গড়ে তুলছে। পররাষ্ট্রমন্ত্রী এ কে আব্দুল মোমেন গতকাল বুধবার সকালে এ ইনোভেশন হাবের ভিত্তিপ্রস্তর স্থাপন করেন। অনুষ্ঠানে ইআইএইচএলের ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক এম এ মুবিন খান বলেন, 'এই হাবে আমরা আর্টিফিশিয়াল ইন্টেলিজেন্স (কৃত্রিম বুদ্ধিমত্তা), বিগ ডেটা, কোয়ালিটি অ্যাশিওরেন্স এবং অগমেন্টেড ও ভার্চুয়াল রিয়েলিটি-এই চারটি ল্যাব প্রতিষ্ঠা করব।</p> | 25 November 2021 | <p>Prothom Alo</p> <p>(https://www.prothomalo.com/business/%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%A7%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8F%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A3%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%87%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%91%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87)</p> | |
| 18 | <p>জাতিসংঘের সাধারণ পরিষদ</p> <p>বাংলাদেশের এলডিসি থেকে উত্তরণের সুপারিশ অনুমোদন</p> <p>স্বল্পোন্নত দেশ (এলডিসি) হতে বাংলাদেশের উত্তরণের সুপারিশ অনুমোদন দিয়েছে জাতিসংঘের সাধারণ পরিষদ। গতকাল সাধারণ পরিষদের ৭৬তম বৈঠকের ৪০তম প্লেনারি সভায় সুপারিশটি অনুমোদন হয়। অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয় থেকে গতকাল পাঠানো সংবাদ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে এ তথ্য জানানো হয়েছে। অর্থমন্ত্রী আ হ ম মুস্তফা কামাল এক বিবৃতিতে এ অনুমোদনকে ঐতিহাসিক অর্জন বলে উল্লেখ করেন। বাংলাদেশের উন্নয়ন যাত্রায় এটিকে মাইলফলক হিসেবে উল্লেখ করে তিনি বলেন, সর্বকালের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ বাঙালি, বাংলাদেশের জাতির পিতা, মহান স্বাধীনতার স্থপতি বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমানের স্বপ্ন পূরণে তার সুযোগ্য কন্যা প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার দৃঢ় নেতৃত্বের মাধ্যমে এ অভূতপূর্ব সাফল্য অর্জন হয়েছে। অর্থমন্ত্রী তার বিবৃতিতে আরো বলেন, প্রধানমন্ত্রীর দিকনির্দেশনায় এক দশকের বেশি সময় ধরে বাংলাদেশের যে অপ্রতিরোধ্য উন্নয়ন যাত্রা, এটি তারই একটি আন্তর্জাতিক স্বীকৃতি। এ সাফল্যের অংশীদার দেশের সব শ্রেণী-পেশার মানুষ। এদিকে এলডিসি উত্তরণের সুপারিশ অনুমোদনের বিষয়টি এক টুইট বার্তায় জানান জাতিসংঘে বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী প্রতিনিধি রাবাব ফাতিমা। জাতিসংঘ সাধারণ পরিষদে বাংলাদেশের এলডিসি থেকে উত্তরণের প্রস্তাব অনুমোদনের বিষয়টি উল্লেখ করে তিনি লেখেন, এটি বঙ্গবন্ধুর স্বপ্ন, প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার রূপকল্প ২০২১-এর বাস্তবায়ন। আমাদের স্বাধীনতার সুবর্ণজয়ন্তী ও বঙ্গবন্ধুর জন্মশতবার্ষিকী উদযাপনের চেয়ে আর ভালোভাবে কীভাবে হতে পারত! এর আগে গত ২৬ ফেব্রুয়ারি অনুষ্ঠিত জাতিসংঘের কমিটি ফর ডেভেলপমেন্ট পলিসির ত্রিবার্ষিক পর্যালোচনা সভায় দ্বিতীয়বারের মতো স্বল্পোন্নত দেশ হতে উত্তরণ বা গ্র্যাডুয়েশনের মানদণ্ড পূরণের মাধ্যমে উত্তরণের সুপারিশ লাভ করে বাংলাদেশ। বাংলাদেশের পাশাপাশি নেপাল ও লাওসও সে সময় এলডিসি থেকে বের হওয়ার সুপারিশ পায়। সিডিপির পরপর দুবারের ত্রিবার্ষিক মূল্যায়নে নির্দিষ্ট মান অর্জন করলে এ ধরনের সুপারিশ করা হয়। সিডিপি সে সময় একই সঙ্গে বাংলাদেশকে ২০২১ থেকে ২০২৬ সাল পর্যন্ত পাঁচ বছরব্যাপী প্রস্তুতিকালীন সময় দেয়ার সুপারিশ করে। জাতিসংঘের অর্থনৈতিক ও সামাজিক পরিষদ এরই মধ্যে সিডিপির সুপারিশ অনুমোদন করেছে। পাঁচ বছর প্রস্তুতিকাল শেষে বাংলাদেশের উত্তরণ ২০২৬ সালে কার্যকর হবে বলে আশা করছেন সংশ্লিষ্টরা। প্রস্তুতিকালীন এ সময়ে স্বল্পোন্নত দেশ হিসেবে প্রাপ্ত বাংলাদেশের সব সুযোগ-সুবিধা অব্যাহত থাকবে। তাছাড়া বর্তমান নিয়মে ইউরোপীয় ইউনিয়নের বাজারে বাংলাদেশ ২০২৬ সালের পর আরো তিন বছর অর্থাৎ ২০২৯ সাল পর্যন্ত শুল্কমুক্ত কোটামুক্ত সুবিধা ভোগ করতে পারবে।</p> | 25 November 2021 | <p>Bonik Barta</p> <p>(https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/281337/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE-%E0%A6%A5%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A3%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%91%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87)</p> | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 19 | <p><u>LDC graduation comes well ahead of time</u> <u>UN in resolution endorses country's status change</u></p> <p>In an epoch change in the nation's history, Bangladesh graduates from the world club of least-developed countries (LDCs) ahead of time as the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing completion of all the requisite procedures. The landmark resolution was adopted on Wednesday night, senior ministers of the government said Thursday on a high note of appreciation of the development, and that at a time when the world is reeling from a rare upset forced by the coronavirus pandemic. Terming the event 'a historic milestone in the development journey of Bangladesh,' Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said this outstanding achievement came through the visionary and determined leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. "This is a reflection of the progress for more than decade. People of all walks of life are part of this success," he added.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in his reaction over the country's status upgrade among the comity of nations, Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen said this is a landmark moment and that it became possible due to "prudent and bold leadership" of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. However, the foreign minister outlined some challenges the change entails in the post-graduation regime in respect of trade and finances in particular. "We will be deprived of many facilities we were enjoying as an LDC," he said, adding that the country is negotiating with the nations concerned so that tenures of some facilities can be stretched beyond the timeline. For example, the duty-free market-access facilities given under the EBA scheme need to be extended and the European Union has in principle agreed to extend it.</p> | 26 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/ldc-graduation-comes-well-ahead-of-time-1637864345) | |
| 20 | <p><u>New income tax law</u> <u>Stakeholders seek more time to give feedback on draft</u></p> <p>Identify caveats in the provisions, govt to give more time for discussions before enacting the law, NBR chief says</p> <p>The stakeholders concerned have identified a number of loopholes in the draft income tax law that they think might hinder the operations of both foreign and local investors if the new law is enacted as per the draft. They sought more time to further scrutinize the provisions of the draft to avert possible future complexities and help make it a time befitting one amid fast changing business environments at home and abroad. The NBR published the draft last month, aimed at mobilising public opinion as part of a process to replace the Income Tax Ordinance-1984. Although the NBR had planned to finalise the draft by December next, relevant stakeholders at a NBR seminar on Thursday sought time to discuss its pros and cons before enacting the law.</p> <p>Presiding over the seminar, NBR chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem said the government would give enough time to hold discussions on the draft before enacting the law. Former tax officials, academics, accounting professionals, and representatives from the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), the FICCI and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) were present at the seminar in a city hotel.</p> <p>Addressing the programme, tariff and taxation sub-committee chairman of the MCCI Adeeb H Khan suggested addressing some 'conceptually wrong' issues in the proposed provisions regarding the withholding tax. Mr Adeeb H Khan, the MCCI tax expert, laid emphasis on addressing the merger and acquisition issues in the proposed law as per the recent global business trend.</p> | 26 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/stakeholders-seek-more-time-to-give-feedback-on-draft-1637863821) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 21 | <p><u>CPA moves to raise port charges, users concerned</u> A move is on to readjust upward the tariffs on services at Bangladesh's biggest port in Chattogram, which port-users say will impact the entire economy at a crunch time. Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) has issued a letter in favour of a few stakeholders, including shipping firms, few days back seeking their opinions on the matter. They have been given 10 days to comment on the hot issue of country's external trade with its knock-on impact on domestic trade and economy.</p> <p>A copy of the letter obtained by the Financial Express (FE) reads: the CPA had last reviewed the charges more than 35 years back in 1986 during the autocratic Ershad regime. In 2007-08, it had some upward adjustments to five key tariffs. The CPA, which handles more than 90 per cent of the country's around \$100 billion worth of external trade, has some 51 types of tariffs, but storage charge is the biggest head in terms of revenue generation. The port is a self-dependent organisation and one of the largest contributors to government's non-tax revenues. This is one of the busiest ports in the world. On the international ranking-organisation Lloyd list of 2020 it was marked as the 67th-busiest port in the globe.</p> | 27 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/cpa-moves-to-raise-port-charges-users-concerned-1637948149?date=27-11-2021) | |
| 22 | <p><u>Stan Chart arranges Bangladesh's first ever green bond for Pran Agro</u> Standard Chartered Bangladesh has arranged the country's first-ever green bond for Pran Agro Ltd, a concern of Pran-RFL Group. The total face value of the bond is Tk 150 crore, the bank said in a statement today. Pran Agro will use the proceeds the bond for initiatives such as recycling waste water, climate action through waste decomposing, building sustainable communities by providing employment among rural and poverty-stricken communities, preserving life on land through contract-based organic farming. Standard Chartered was the mandated lead arranger for this transaction.</p> | 27 November 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/stanchart-arranges-bangladeshs-first-ever-green-bond-pran-agro-2904036) | |
| 23 | <p><u>DITF 2022 to begin at Purbachal on Jan 1</u> The 26th edition of the month-long Dhaka International Trade Fair is scheduled to be held at the newly inaugurated Bangladesh China Friendship Exhibition Centre at Purbachal in the capital on January 1, 2022. The Export Promotion Bureau and the commerce ministry have been arranging the annual event to showcase domestic and international products at Sher-E-Bangla Nagar in the capital with the aim to promote the country's domestic products on the international market since 1995.</p> <p>The DITF 2021 was cancelled due to the Covid crisis but now, the commerce ministry and the other authorities concerned have approved the arrangements for the DITF 2022 at the BCFEC. Prime minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to inaugurate the fair. Traders from more than 20 countries will participate in the fair and a total of 225 stalls, including 23 pavilions, will be installed at the new venue.</p> | 27 November 2021 | New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/155777/ditf-2022-to-begin-at-purbachal-on-jan-1) | |
| 24 | <p><u>LankaBangla gets \$21m foreign loan for SME funding</u> LankaBangla Finance Limited has recently received two foreign currency loans worth \$21 million to strengthen its financing to the small and medium enterprises (SME). Dublin-based special purpose vehicle (SPV) Financing for Healthier Lives DAC financed \$5m while the remaining \$16 million was funded by five funds under management of Zurich-based impact investment manager responsAbility Investments AG, LankaBangla said in a statement. The country's leading non-bank financial institution (NBFI) further said that the latest funding will mainly be utilised to lend to small and medium enterprises and finance projects that have a positive social impact.</p> | 27 November 2021 | The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/lanka-bangla-gets-21m-foreign-loan-sme-funding-335554) | |


| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 25 | <p><u>EU's GSP plus benefit</u> <u>BD against safeguard clause on clothing</u> <u>Experts find provision 'unfair'</u></p> <p>Bangladesh has requested the European Commission (EC) to remove one particular provision from its GSP plus system to help the country's textile and RMG products address the safeguard measures that are likely to be imposed by the European Union (EU). The Ministry of Commerce (MoC) sent a letter to the EC in the middle of this month, arguing that the proposed safeguard measures would severely affect the exports of the products like knitwear, woven and home textile under HS Sections 61, 62, and 63. If the combined share of these products (EU defines these items as "product group S-11b") from a country exceeds 6.0 per cent of the total EU imports of the same products, safeguard measures would be triggered to remove duty-free market access for these items, according to the provision of this new rule. "Bangladesh would be most affected by this provision," Md Hafizur Rahman, additional secretary of commerce, told the FE. "We have recently requested the EC to withdraw this 6.0 per cent threshold."</p> <p>Bangladesh's share in total EU imports of these items is more than 13 per cent, according to an official estimate, and these products are now enjoying duty-free access to the EU market under their EBA (everything but arms) initiative. The EC in September last proposed the new Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) for a period from 2024 to 2034. Officials and experts have expressed the fear that Bangladesh will lose the benefit after its graduation from the least developed country (LDC) status. The 'safeguard clauses' would be applicable then under the GSP plus regime, they added. The average tariff rate on export of the S-11b products from Bangladesh would be an average of 12 per cent from the existing zero tariff, they said.</p> | 28 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-against-safeguard-clause-on-clothing-1638033493?date=28-11-2021) | |
| 26 | <p><u>New base year changes growth arithmetic</u></p> <p>A new base year in economic calculations gives the government some solace about Bangladesh's struggling investment-GDP ratio as it yields a rise by 0.84 percentage points with a private-sector leap, analysts said Saturday. The private-sector investment-to- GDP (gross domestic product) ratio rose by 2.55 percentage points in the new estimation from that of the previous one, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data showed recently. On the other hand, public investment- to -GDP ratio has fallen by 1.71 percentage points in the new estimation compared to the previous one, the government data showed. Meanwhile, economists and analysts raised questions over the new estimation and wanted to know details from the BBS about the big leap in the private investment-GDP ratio as well as the reasons for the fall in public-sector investment share.</p> <p>The statistical bureau recently unveiled the GDP statistics after changing the base year to 2015-16 from the earlier consideration of 2005-06.</p> | 28 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/new-base-year-changes-growth-arithmetic-1638034166?date=28-11-2021) | |
| 27 | <p><u>Investment summit begins today</u></p> <p>The International Investment Summit, which begins today, will see a new Bangladesh, said Salman F Rahman, private industry and investment affairs adviser to the prime minister. The government has not set any investment target like an exposition, but the summit will help in highlighting the changes Bangladesh will gain during the tenure of the present government, he said yesterday.</p> <p>The Bida is organising the two-day investment summit at the Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden with the sponsorship of the International Finance Corporation.</p> | 28 November 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/investments/news/investment-summit-begins-today-2904511) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 28 | <p><u>PM pledges policy support for investors</u> <u>Two-day int'l investment summit begins</u></p> <p>Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Sunday invited investors across the world to come up with investment in Bangladesh, saying her country is ready to provide all policy supports for creating investment-friendly environment, report agencies. "...We are committed to providing all policy supports, including infrastructure, to create an investment-friendly environment in Bangladesh," she said. "I believe investors will be able to learn more about the potential of different investment sectors in Bangladesh through this conference. New markets will particularly be created for Bangladeshi products, and Bangladesh will be able to attract the desired investment," she said.</p> <p>The Prime Minister said this while addressing the inaugural session of the two- day International Investment Summit 2021 organised by Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) at Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel to brand new Bangladesh among investors from around the world. She joined the programme virtually from her official residence Ganobhaban.</p> <p>Hasina said the government has identified 11 potential investment sectors, including infrastructure, capital markets, financial services, information technology, electronics manufacturing, leather, automotive and light engineering, agro-products and food processing, healthcare and medicine, jute textiles, and blue economy. She said the importance of Bangladesh in terms of political stability, creation of a skilled workforce, liberal investment policy through attractive incentives, and geographical position between the huge markets of South and Southeast Asia is increasing day by day. "As a result of confidence in Bangladesh, more than 60 per cent of foreign direct investment is coming through reinvestment," she said. Hasina said the government has formulated sector-wise industrial development policies along with National Industrial Policy, passed the Labour (Amendment) Act, 2018, considering environmental protection in taking up every project, automating bond management for the growth of the export-oriented industry. The Prime Minister also said the government has built 39 high-tech parks and are building 100 economic zones in phases. "We've received investment proposals of US\$27.07 billion in the economic zones." Currently, about US\$30 billion investment proposal is awaiting implementation in 79 PPP projects, she said, adding that the government has enacted the 'Bangladesh Investment Development Authority Act, 2016' and established the Investment Development Authority. Hasina said the government has been working since 2019 to provide 154 investment services of 35 companies online through One-Stop Service.</p> <p>Prime Minister's adviser Salman Fazlur Rahman MP, Saudi Arabia's minister for transport and logistics Engineer Saleh Nasser A Al-Jasser and FBCCI president Md Jashim Uddin and BIDA Executive Chairman Md Sirazul Islam also spoke at the programme. Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh ITO Naoki read out the written message of Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs HONDA Taro.</p> <p>A Thematic video titled 'Bangladesh: Discover limitless Opportunities' was screened at the programme. The Prime Minister also unveiled the publication of the Summit.</p> | 29 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/pm-pledges-policy-support-for-investors-1638123276) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 29 | <p><u>Invest in 'New Bangladesh'</u> Global investors should seize endless opportunities in various potential business arenas in a 'New Bangladesh', now emerging through its status change, speakers at an international investors' meet said Sunday. Terming Bangladesh a rising tiger in Asia and a lucrative investment spot, they said the country has proven its economic strengths in many socioeconomic areas, like manufacture, agriculture and information technology. As a result, the resilient economy of around 170-million-strong population keeps growing remarkably over the years, even defying all odds caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, economic recessions in Europe and elsewhere. The strengths, leveraged on prudent policies, high investment on infrastructure development, rising new MAC (Middle and Affluent Class) communities, political and socioeconomic stability, would help the foreign investors grow their business here.</p> <p>The clarion call came in a plenary session titled 'Investment Competitiveness and Business Environment in Bangladesh, Reaching New Heights in New Normal' held at a city hotel on the first day of the two-day International Investment Summit 2021 hosted by Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA).</p> | 29 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/invest-in-new-bangladesh-1638123399) | |
| 30 | <p><u>Safeguards for tapping blue economy in bay</u> Parliament passed Sunday an updated law with tough provisions of penalties for sea pollution, robberies and foreign trespasses as safeguards to ensure ocean governance and exploiting Bangladesh's potential blue economy. The Territorial Waters and Maritime Zones (amendment) Act 2021 is also meant for securing the nation's sovereignty over its maritime territory, inclusive of its contiguous zones, and assets. Also, the act raised penalties and imprisonment period for ocean polluting.</p> <p>The updated law proposes maximum three years' imprisonment or monetary fines of minimum Tk 20 million and maximum Tk 50 million for marine pollution. It was one-year imprisonment and Tk 5,000 fines in the old law. There are many thieveries taking place on the vessels at a time when they stay at outer anchorage or in Chittagong port areas. The law illustrates elaborately definitions relating to theft, piracy, armed robbery and maritime terrorism along with adequate rules and regulations to combat the offences. A maritime tribunal has been proposed in the act, allowing video, photo and electronic records as evidences in trial.</p> | 29 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/safeguards-for-tapping-blue-economy-in-bay-1638123479) | |
| 31 | <p><u>BGMEA teams up with CNN on 'Made in Bangladesh'</u> The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has entered a partnership with US-based CNN International Commercial (CNNIC) to promote "Made in Bangladesh" by showcasing the country's success and potential in the international arena, reports UNB. Through this partnership, the apex trade body of Bangladesh's garments manufacturers will team up with CNN to sketch the stories of how the garment industry has been driving Bangladesh forward and contributing to building a more prosperous future it.</p> <p>CNNIC will showcase the compelling stories of Bangladesh's apparel sector - namely, the strides the country has made in ensuring workplace safety, environmental sustainability and workers' wellbeing - said the BGMEA.</p> | 29 November 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bgmea-teams-up-with-cnn-on-made-in-bangladesh-1638123502) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|---|---------|
| 32 | <p><u>Summit meet focuses investment facilities</u> <u>Easier regulatory frameworks underway for investors</u></p> <p>More liberal regulatory and legal frameworks are underway to improve investment climate in Bangladesh, a summit meet was told Monday in a call for global entrepreneurs to seize the opportunities. The up-and-coming major initiatives include Secured Transaction Rule, modernized Bankruptcy Act, dedicated court for commercial dispute settlement, and the fast-tracking of company-to-company land transfer.</p> <p>Law Minister Anisul Huq unveiled and illustrated the measures in a plenary session, styled 'Legal Infrastructure', of the two-day international investment summit that began in Dhaka on Sunday. "The government has been working relentlessly to integrate all regulatory services on a digital platform," he said about the latest steps for quicker support to entrepreneurs from home and abroad.</p> <p>Barrister Nihad Kabir, President of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), presented a keynote paper while Dr M Masrur Reaz, Chairman, Policy Exchange Bangladesh, moderated talk in this session of the International Investment Summit 2021 hosted by Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA).</p> <p>The law minister said the government has also initiated an online bank account- opening system and integration of it to One-Stop-Service (OSS).</p> <p>While presenting the keynote, Barrister Nihad Kabir said the government is trying to simplify taxation-related issues to attract foreign investors. She also underlined the need for easier taxation to facilitate local and foreign direct investment. Ms. Kabir lauded government commitment and initiatives to amend and enact new laws and policies to make an investment-friendly climate in the country.</p> | 30 November 2021 | <p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/easier-regulatory-frameworks-underway-for-investors-1638208947?date=30-11-2021</p> | |
| 33 | <p><u>Give leather sector RMG-like facilities</u> <u>Leather sector leaders urge govt at the investment summit</u></p> <p>Bangladesh has huge prospect of attracting investors to the leather sector, especially to footwear, leather and leather goods production as the government offers a wide range of incentives to these businesses, Managing Director of Apex Footwear Ltd Syed Nasim Manzur said. In his keynote address, Syed Nasim Manzur also said that the government provides 17 types of incentives to the leather sector which indicates the government's interest in the sector. He also emphasised on the need for simplification of existing customs laws, providing leather sector with income tax rates similar to the apparel sector and declaring a credible action plan to implement CETP in Savar.</p> <p>He presented the keynote titled 'Step up: Leather, Footwear & Leather Goods from Bangladesh' at a session of the two-day international investment summit organised by the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) at a city hotel. Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Industries Amir Hossain Amu presided over the session on leather and leather goods. President of Leather Goods and Footwear Manufacturers & Exporters Association of Bangladesh (LFMEAB) Md. Saiful Islam moderated the discussion.</p> <p>Noting that Bangladesh itself is a huge market of leather goods and footwear with further export potentials, Mr Nasim Manzur said to ensure desired growth of the leather sector, the government should provide this sector with facilities similar to those offered to the readymade garment sector.</p> <p>According to data available with the BIDA, Bangladesh's leather and leather goods market size is estimated at around \$3.0 billion and growing at a CAGR of 5.0 per cent. Besides, footwear market in Bangladesh is growing at the rate of 10 to 15 per cent annually.</p> | 30 November 2021 | <p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/give-leather-sector-rmg-like-facilities-1638204366?date=30-11-2021</p> | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 34 | <p><u>IDCOL to generate 300mw solar power by 2024</u> The Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL) will finance rooftop solar projects that will generate about 300 megawatts of peak electricity by 2024. Abdul Baki, chief executive officer (in-charge) of IDCOL, revealed the information at an event in Dhaka today.</p> | 30 November 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/investments/news/idcol-generate-300mw-solar-power-2024-2906431) | |
| 35 | <p><u>Last-day rush</u> <u>Time for tax return filing extended</u> Government's revenue authority extended the time for submission of individuals' tax returns by a month to December 31, as the last day saw rush of taxpayers. "The deadline has been extended for the convenience of taxpayers," the National Board of Revenue (NBR) said, while witnesses saw huge crowds at tax-receipt centres on November 30 (Tuesday), the designated Tax Day terminating the normal timeline for tax-return submission. Until 4.30 pm on Tuesday, some 1,750,000 taxpayers had submitted their returns with payments worth Tk 22.60 billion in taxes on their incomes, according to NBR data. Last year, which fell into jaws of corona invasion, some 2.4 million taxpayers submitted their tax returns. Currently, there are 7.0 million TIN (tax identification number) holders in Bangladesh and submission of tax returns is mandatory for all of them, save few exceptions.</p> | 01 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/time-for-tax-return-filing-extended-1638298153) | |
| 36 | <p><u>Abolish AIT, levy income tax only on incomes</u> <u>FBCCI-ICAB joint plea, law minister seeks tax justice</u> Bangladesh's apex-chamber chief says businesses feel caught in a 'minimum-tax trap' that makes them pay 47-50-per cent corporate tax on their incomes though making that much profit is impossible in the current situation. Md Jashim Uddin, president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), says tax is also deducted at 5.0 to 7.0 per cent on different supplies of products and services. As such, he adds, businesses get into difficulties as contracts for such services are usually signed for a longer period calculating all expenses. "We want withdrawal of Advance Income Tax (AIT). What is the justification for collecting such tax that is refundable after payment?" he said at a seminar arranged by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) on the occasion of the National Income Tax Day 2021. The Law Minister Anisul Huq attended the seminar as chief guest while NBR chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem moderated discussions on a wide spectrum of taxation matters and the spending of taxpayers' money.</p> | 01 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/abolish-ait-levy-income-tax-only-on-incomes-1638297919) | |
| 37 | <p><u>HSBC voted 'Market Leader' in Bangladesh for 12th time</u> Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC) has been voted 'Market Leader' in Bangladesh for the 12th time and the 'Best Service' in Bangladesh for four years in a row, in the Euromoney Cash Management Survey 2021, said a statement. Globally, this is the 10th year in a row that HSBC has taken the top spot for corporates. HSBC Bangladesh has a wide range of liquidity management products across payables, receivables, clearing and foreign currency, liquidity, liability and investments. This year the bank launched Cash Flow Forecasting tool to help clients build a more accurate picture of their future finances and manage liquidity. In addition, to support the digital banking requirements of the clients, HSBC Bangladesh has already launched smart digital propositions like: Enhanced Virtual Account, Direct Debit, eVAT, eDuty etc.The bank is invested in continuing the momentum by providing clients with more digital solutions in coming time span.</p> | 01 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/hsbc-voted-market-leader-in-bangladesh-for-12th-time-1638286353) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 38 | <p data-bbox="250 242 1579 274"><u>Standard Chartered Bank recognized for "Excellence in Mastercard Credit Business (Domestic) 2020-21"</u></p>  <p data-bbox="250 821 1612 1021">Standard Chartered Bank has been recognized for "Excellence in Mastercard Credit Business (Domestic) 2020-21", "Excellence in Mastercard Credit Business (International) 2020-21" and "Excellence in Mastercard Contactless 2020-21" at the "Mastercard Excellence Award 2021" event held recently. M. A. Mannan, MP, Minister, Ministry of Planning, as the chief guest; Md. Khurshid Alam, Executive Director, Bangladesh Bank, as the special guest; Helen LaFave, Charge d' affaires, U.S. Embassy Dhaka as the Guest of Honour attended the programme.</p> | 01 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/standard-chartered-bank-recognized-for-excellence-in-mastercard-credit-business-domestic-2020-21-1638286504) | |
| 39 | <p data-bbox="250 1035 884 1067"><u>DP World reiterates commitment to invest \$1b</u></p> <p data-bbox="250 1069 1612 1268">Dubai-based multinational logistics company DP World will invest \$1 billion in Bangladesh's supply chain infrastructure, including ports, rail network and inland container terminals. The investment will be made under a government-to-government agreement signed in 2019 for public-private participation on infrastructure projects. The assurance came when a high-level Bangladesh government delegation led by State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury visited DP World Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai during November 21-23, the company said in a statement.</p> | 01 December 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/investments/news/dp-world-reiterates-commitment-invest-1b-2906976) | |
| 40 | <p data-bbox="250 1283 952 1315"><u>Business revival lifts credit growth to 13-month high</u></p> <p data-bbox="250 1316 1612 1409">Private sector credit growth in Bangladesh accelerated to 9.44 per cent in October, the highest in 13 months as the economy is running in full swing, shaking off coronavirus fallout. The containment of the second wave of virus infections has largely encouraged businesses to go for expansion, bankers say.</p> | 01 December 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/business-revival-lifts-credit-growth-13-month-high-2907041) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 41 | <p><u>Shadow banking booms amid lax monitoring</u> BIBM recommends greater supervision to avoid any chaos</p> <p>Shadow banking is fast growing in Bangladesh partly because of new normal created by the pandemic but its monitoring needs to be tightened to avert any chaos on the financial market, BIBM rings the alarm bells. Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management or BIBM makes the observations based on a study the findings of which were unveiled Wednesday at a seminar on shadow banking in Bangladesh with special reference to new-normal scenarios.</p> <p>Its research paper says these types of banking in the economy are less or not regulated. However, these are not illegal and unethical. The growth of such banking has been expanding across the globe due to the coronavirus pandemic and the fastest growth of the financial technology called fintech. Some instruments of mobile financial services like bKash, Nagad, Upay are shadow products as they are controlled or operated by separate managements outside of banks. bKash is a separate company. Similarly, agent banking is another example of shadow banking in Bangladesh as one part of the transaction is operated by people who are not banking people. Some vendors or local people operate it. The postal department of the government and the cooperatives of the country have long been engaged in some forms of financing activities also recognised as shadow banking.</p> <p>Capital market-related activities like services by the brokerage houses, merchant banks, and alternative investment funds are shadow- banking activities throughout the globe, the banking academics at the BIBM say in the research report-evidently in the wake of mind-boggling financial scams in the country and also across the globe that prompted some major countries to press the brake on upstart fintech operators. However, the operations of banks, non-bank financial institutions, microcredit-finance institutions and insurance companies are regulated and supervised.</p> | 02 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/shadow-banking-booms-amid-lax-monitoring-1638383165) | |
| 42 | <p><u>Remittance inflow falls further in Nov</u> Byways for transfers active as curbs ease</p> <p>Remittance inflow to Bangladesh dived further in November as money transfers through byways like hundi might have gathered speeds with the easing of pandemic restrictions worldwide. The money sent home by Bangladeshis working abroad amounted to \$1.55 billion in November 2021, down by 5.66 per cent or \$93.17 million from the previous month's level, according to the central bank's latest statistics. In October, the remittances amounted to \$ 1.65 billion. It was \$2.08 billion in November 2020. The official figures also show that the inward flow of remittance dropped by nearly 21 per cent to \$8.61 billion during the July-November period of the current fiscal year (FY), 2021-22, from \$ 10.89 billion in the same period of the previous fiscal.</p> <p>Talking to the FE, a BB senior official said the flow of inward remittance dropped significantly during the period under review compared to the same period of last fiscal year. "But the inflow of remittance remained almost stable considering pre-Covid-19 period," the central banker said while explaining the latest trend in inward remittance. Bangladesh received \$1.55 billion as remittance in November 2019, the BB data showed.</p> | 02 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/remittance-inflow-falls-further-in-nov-1638383593) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 43 | <p><u>Economists say reducing inequality key challenge for Bangladesh</u> Economists at a programme on Wednesday said that policies should be formulated to reduce the economic inequality in society. They also stressed the need for development in the rural areas. At the inaugural ceremony of the annual conference of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, the economists said that though the country reduced the poverty rate in its 50 years of journey, but maintaining the balance of equality was a challenge for it.</p> <p>The three-day conference will feature a total of 27 papers and 13 keynote speeches by the local and international participants. The BIDS is holding the international conference, marking the 50 years of independence of Bangladesh.</p> | 02 December 2021 | New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/156225/economists-say-reducing-inequality-key-challenge-for-bangladesh) | |
| 44 | <p><u>বিআইডিএস এর বার্ষিক উন্নয়ন সম্মেলন : বাংলাদেশের ৫০ বছর উদযাপন নানা সূচকে এগিয়েছে বাংলাদেশ, পেছনে ফেলছে ভারত-পাকিস্তানকে</u> স্বাধীনতার পর যে দেশটিকে তলাবিহীন বুড়ি বলা হতো, সেই দেশটি আজ দ্রুত প্রবৃদ্ধি অর্জনকারী দেশে পরিণত হয়েছে। গত ৫০ বছরে এতোটাই এগিয়েছে যে পার্শ্ববর্তী ভারত ও পাকিস্তানকে ছাড়িয়ে গেছে। উৎপাদন খাতের অগ্রগতি, নারী ক্ষমতায়ন ও নগরায়নসহ নানা খাতে প্রতিবেশীদের পেছনে ফেলেছে বাংলাদেশ। ভারতের তামিলনাড়ু, কর্ণাটক, কেরালা যেভাবে এগিয়ে গেছে, উত্তর প্রদেশ ও বিহার সেভাবে এগিয়ে যায়নি। এটা যেন ভারতের মধ্যে অন্য ভারত। একইভাবে পাকিস্তানের ইসলামাবাদে যে উন্নয়ন হয়েছে সেভাবে পিছিয়েছে বেলুচিস্তান। কিন্তু বাংলাদেশে আঞ্চলিক বৈষম্যের আকার তাদের মতো নয়। গতকাল নগরীর লেকশোর হোটেলে বাংলাদেশ উন্নয়ন গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠানের (বিআইডিএস) বার্ষিক উন্নয়ন সম্মেলন ২০২১-এ এসব তথ্য জানানো হয়। বাংলাদেশ ইন কমপারিটিভ পার্সপেক্টিভ প্রতিবেদনে এসব তথ্য তুলে ধরেন বিআইডিএস এর মহাপরিচালক ড. বিনায়েক সেন।</p> | 02 December 2021 | The Sangbad (https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-12-02/news/business/108193) | |
| 45 | <p><u>Dhaka-centric dev, population overload cause 6.0pc GDP loss</u> <u>Dhaka city congestions cost 2.0 to 3.0pc of GDP, BIDS meet told</u> Highly Dhaka city-concentrated development and population share cast adverse impact on Bangladesh's gross domestic product (GDP), reducing its growth by 6.0 per cent or more, according to findings revealed Thursday at a BIDS conference. Such Dhaka-centric growth also lowers growth of other cities and impacts per-capita-income inequality, says a paper presented by Ahmad Ahsan of Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh during the annual BIDS conference on 'Development: Dhaka's Overgrowth is Harming Overall Growth'. It's also impacting the overall urban development and causing congestion and pollution. Mr Ahsan stated the cost of congestion to be 2.0 to 3.0 per cent of GDP as direct effects. The city's growth creates overgrowth of primates, concentrating population and development within a centre of the city. Overgrowth of primates (the largest city) can undermine the other cities' growth and the cities can overgrow because of market failures arising from lumpy investment-fixed costs and externalities, network effects and circular cumulative causation.</p> | 03 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/dhaka-centric-dev-population-overload-cause-60pc-gdp-loss-1638468711?date=03-12-2021) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 46 | <p><u>July-Nov merchandise exports grow 24.29pc</u> Earnings from the country's merchandise exports posted a 24.29 per cent growth to reach US\$19.79 billion during the first five months of fiscal year 2021-22 (FY22) on the back of ready-made garment (RMG). The July-November export earnings in the 2020-21 fiscal year were US\$15.92 billion. In Bangladesh, the fiscal year starts on July 1 until June 30 next year. The overall export earnings also surpassed the set target by 13.27 per cent, according to the provisional data of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB).</p> <p>In the meantime, the single month export earnings in November'21 registered a 31.25 per cent growth to US\$4.04 billion year-on-year. Bangladesh fetched \$3.07 billion from merchandise shipments in November last year, according to EPB data. The November earnings also surpassed the target set for the month by 13 per cent. Bangladesh booked the highest-ever single-month US\$4.72 billion export income in last October with rebound of apparel shipments from pandemic recession.</p> <p>Out of the total \$19.79 billion worth of export income during the July-November period, the RMG sector fetched \$15.85 billion, recording a 22.97 per cent growth compared to the corresponding period of last fiscal.</p> | 03 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/july-nov-merchandise-exports-grow-2429pc-1638468855?date=03-12-2021) | |
| 47 | <p><u>Bangladesh sixth-largest migrant-sending country</u> Bangladesh has become the 6th- largest migrant-sending country globally and the 8th largest remittance receiving country, according to the World Migration Report 2022. The report focuses on developments in migration over the past two-year period, with an emphasis on providing analysis that takes into account historical and contemporary factors. According to the report, there were around 281 million international migrants in the globe in 2020.</p> <p>The UN agency for International Organization for Migration (IOM) on Wednesday launched its flagship World Migration Report 2022 which reveals a dramatic increase in internal displacement due to disaster, conflict, and violence at a time when global mobility ground to a halt due to Covid-19 travel restrictions. The report highlights that in 2020, 7.40 million Bangladeshi migrants lived abroad.</p> | 03 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladesh-sixth-largest-migrant-sending-country-1638468360?date=03-12-2021) | |
| 48 | <p><u>BD looks to skirt labour issues</u> <u>Some rich nations propose inclusion of the issues in trade deals</u> Bangladesh does not want inclusion of labour issues in any trade deal, contrary to the richer nations' view on the same, officials said. In a recent preparatory meeting on the just-postponed ministerial conference of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), officials of the Ministry of Commerce (MoC) expressed their reservation on proposals for inclusion of labour issues in the WTO system. The officials also sent a note to Bangladesh's Permanent Mission in Geneva, so that the issue is taken seriously and raised with the proper forum. They said some of the wealthier members of the WTO proposed to add labour issues to the WTO objectives. Later, the WTO Secretariat forwarded the proposal to the member countries, seeking their opinions in this regard.</p> <p>Meantime, the Bangladesh Tariff Commission (BTC) recently studied the requirements of reviewing the existing rules and regulations for signing free trade agreements (FTAs) and preferential trade agreements (PTAs). The BTC found that there is no mention of labour issues in the country's existing FTAs and PTAs. On the other hand, various richer nations are keen to include labour issues in the FTA and PTA deals. In this case, the BTC officials said strict pursuance of the labour law, especially the provisions of freedom of association, child labour, and labour inspection are very important. They further said Bangladesh is yet to ratify the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Minimum Age Convention 1973. They also emphasised the need for consulting the issue with the stakeholders concerned.</p> | 04 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-looks-to-skirt-labour-issues-1638555286?date=04-12-2021) | |



| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 52 | <p><u>Employers find wide skill gap</u></p> <p>An estimated 46-per cent employers face difficulty recruiting new employees as they get a limited number of applicants with skills required for jobs, a latest study has revealed. There is also a mismatch between graduates' performance and employers' preference in terms of soft skills like communication and English language. The study styled 'Skills Gap and Youth Employment in Bangladesh: an Exploratory Analysis' shows gaps between jobseekers' time management and problem-solving skills.</p> <p>The findings were presented at a dialogue at Brac Centre Inn on Saturday, hosted by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) in collaboration with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Bangladesh office. Planning minister MA Mannan attended the event as the chief guest while member of parliamentary standing committee on primary and mass education ministry Shirin Akhter as the special guest. Apex Footwear Limited managing director Syed Nasim Manzur, Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) president barrister Nihad Kabir and Bdjobs.com Limited CEO AKM Fahim Mashroor, among others, joined the discussion as panellists.</p> <p>The CPD surveyed 100 non-government employers, from various sectors of the economy, to understand what kind of skills they were looking for in job applicants. Based on the feedback received from the employers, the CPD developed a skills assessment test to evaluate the skills of 500 university students and recent graduates.</p> <p>The Bangladesh Labour Force Survey 2016-17 found that around 30 per cent of the youth were not in education, employment or training (NEET), it cites. Besides, unemployment rate is higher among the youth who are more educated, thus it appears that education is not empowering youth with right skills.</p> <p>Employers expect to find in graduates soft skills like communication, time management, troubleshooting and critical thinking. "The findings of the survey of employers show that most employers tend to prefer soft skills over hard skills," according to the report. The study suggests a comprehensive reform of the education system, aligning curriculum with market demands, promoting relevance of education and further public-private sector collaboration.</p> <p>As a panel discussant, Mr Nasim Manzur says intervention is required at the entry level of education so that students can get prepared for their suitable tertiary level of education.</p> | 05 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/employers-find-wide-skill-gap-1638638160?date=05-12-2021) | |
| 53 | <p><u>Over 58pc marginal, ultra poor see notable decline in income Reveals World Vision study</u></p> <p>More than 58 per cent marginal and ultra poor in the country witnessed a notable decline in their income due to the Covid-19 pandemic that forced many of them to eat even one meal a day instead of three, a World Vision study revealed. The study, which was disclosed recently, said the number of households eating three meals a day fell from 98 per cent to 70 per cent with the advent of Covid-19. "Some families were even forced to survive on one meal a day," according to the study, titled 'Market and Sub-Sector Assessment'.</p> <p>World Vision Bangladesh conducted the research work among 443 households belonging to marginal and ultra poor families in 39 places under 19 districts, including the plain, Barind, coastal and haor regions, between February and March 2021.</p> | 05 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/over-58pc-marginal-ultra-poor-see-notable-decline-in-income-1638638657?date=05-12-2021) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 54 | <p><u>Development of trade, economy</u> <u>FBCCI preparing 10-year master plan</u></p> <p>The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) is preparing a 10-year master plan for developing the country's trade and economy and also to determine necessary strategies for logistics in the coming days. FBCCI President Md Jashim Uddin said this at a press conference held at the FBCCI on Saturday afternoon, reports BSS. He said after becoming a developing country from the LDC category, innumerable possibilities will be created for Bangladesh and demand for new products in the trade and export sectors will be created. Jashim said the size of the economy would also be bigger. "Once the implementation of various infrastructure projects taken up by the government is completed, foreign investment will also increase. Then the capacity of transporting goods and also the capacity of ports will also have to be increased," he added. He said with all this in mind, the FBCCI, the apex trade body of the country, is developing a master plan.</p> <p>The FBCCI president said that the biggest challenge in the post-LDC period is to increase sector-based capacity to meet the changing global demand. To address this challenge, he said, the FBCCI is going to set up an innovation centre to enhance the capacity of domestic industries. A concept paper in this regard will be submitted to the government next month, he added.</p> | 05 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/fbcci-preparing-10-year-master-plan-1638638803?date=05-12-2021) | |
| 55 | <p><u>BBIN motor vehicle pact to go ahead without Bhutan</u></p> <p>Bangladesh, India and Nepal have decided to go ahead with a regional motor vehicles agreement without Bhutan as the country pulled out of the deal. A tripartite meeting of the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicles Agreement in Delhi came up with the decision on 27 November, Md Nazrul Islam, secretary of Road Transport and Highways Division, told The Business Standard.</p> | 05 December 2021 | The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/transport/bbin-motor-vehicle-pact-go-ahead-without-bhutan-339274) | |
| 56 | <p><u>Tk 100b govt Sukuk bonds forthcoming</u> <u>Twin goals: to fund two projects, suck excess liquidity</u></p> <p>The government is going to issue shortly a couple of Shariah-compliant bonds, generally known as Sukuk, worth some Tk 50 billion each to finance public-sector development projects. Officials say these bonds are designed primarily as part of its effort to implement two development projects smoothly and also to help mop up excess liquidity from the country's banking system. The bond will help draw excess money particularly from Shariah-based banks, non-banking financial institutions (NBFIs) and insurance companies for investment in an alternative way away from conventional interest-yielding tools.</p> <p>The central bank, as a special-purpose vehicle (SPV) for the issuance of the upcoming government securities, has already collected various sorts of information on the Sukuk from the ministry of finance (MoF). The MoF has already decided to implement demand-based government primary school-development project and rural infrastructure development project through issuing Sukuk bonds in two phases, according to the officials. In the first phase, the government is set to raise Tk 50 billion through issuing the Sukuk bonds for implementation of the demand-based government primary school-development project. Currently, the MoF and the Bangladesh Bank (BB) are working to issue the first Sukuk bond by the end of this month, they added. A senior BB official said the government has planned to raise another Tk 50 billion for implementation of rural infrastructure-development project under the second Shariah-based bond within the current fiscal year (FY), 2021-22.</p> | 06 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tk-100b-govt-sukuk-bonds-forthcoming-1638729136) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 57 | <p><u>Inclusive VAT system for retailers soon</u> Says NBR chief The National Board of Revenue (NBR) will gradually bring all the retail businesses under an inclusive VAT-collection system, in order to resolve confusions of consumers, said its chief on Sunday. Under the inclusive VAT collection system, businesses will have to mention prices of products including VAT, in contrast to the existing system where VAT is shown as an additional amount at the time of payment. This is a good sign that some businesses have already implemented the inclusive VAT system, said NBR Chairman Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem. The NBR chief made the comments while speaking at a programme, marking the draw of lottery based on the printed invoices being issued from EFDMS (Electronic Fiscal Device Management System), on the NBR premises on Sunday. In some cases, Mr Muneem said, consumers feel pressured or burdened with taxes when VAT in product prices is shown as an additional amount. The NBR chairman, however, expressed his frustration seeing poor response in the EFDMS lottery. Until November 30, 2021, some 3,478 EFDs have been installed in four VAT zones under Dhaka division. According to the new VAT law-2019, the VAT collection will be inclusive with the price of product which was allowed in both inclusive and exclusive form in the old VAT law-1991.</p> | 06 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/inclusive-vat-system-for-retailers-soon-1638729289) | |
| 58 | <p><u>BTRC amends licensing clauses to bag more FDI</u> It issues draft guideline The country's telecom regulator has amended clauses for its 21 types of licences to open the sector for more foreign direct investment (FDI). According to the draft circular - issued on Sunday, from now on, licences will be issued to all, irrespective of Bangladeshi (resident citizens, non-resident Bangladeshis or NRBs, proprietorships, partnerships under the Partnership Act 1932, and companies registered under joint stock companies and firms under the Companies Act 1994) or foreign entities (citizens, companies or subsidiaries or holding companies). Foreign partnership or joint venture will also be permitted, the amendment noted. The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) will accept opinions on the draft guideline for 10 days. Previously, there were clauses for limited FDI for only eight types of licences, including cellular mobile services, NTTN, submarine cable system and services.</p> | 06 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/btrc-amends-licensing-clauses-to-bag-more-fdi-1638726600) | |
| 59 | <p><u>Dhaka Declaration</u> <u>Democracy, good governance, rule of law critical for peace, stability</u> The two-day World Peace Conference ended in Dhaka on Sunday, emphasising the importance of democracy, good governance and the rule of law as critical factors for global peace and stability, reports UNB. It underlined the need for social justice and inclusive development as central pillars of a stable, peaceful and equitable society. The conference valued the role played by national parliaments and local government institutions in giving voice to people's legitimate demands and aspirations. The representatives of governments, legislatures, academia, civil society and media, gathered at the World Peace Conference from December 4-5 condemned colonialism, illegal occupation and unauthorized takeover of power under any pretexts. "We recognise the role of peace making, peace building and mediation to prevent and end conflicts," they said in "Dhaka Peace Declaration."</p> | 06 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/democracy-good-governance-rule-of-law-critical-for-peace-stability-1638729044) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 60 | <p><u>Govt moves to ease collateral requirements</u></p> <p>The government is set to introduce an innovative financing model under a new law to enable small businesses and startups to show their moveable assets as collateral with a view to nurturing entrepreneurs and helping them secure loans. A draft law for the collateral protection for movable assets has already been formulated, according to a finance ministry official. The ministry will submit it to the cabinet by June 30 next year for approval.</p> | 06 December 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-moves-ease-collateral-requirements-2910716) | |
| 61 | <p><u>Govt's bank borrowing surges</u></p> <p>Government bank borrowing sees a sudden surge amid bid for turning its accounts position positive from the negative as fund deficit doubled in a day, officials said. Deficit amount in the government accounts stood at around Tk 45 billion as on December 05 from Tk 22.50 billion two days before, according to official reckonings. Huge payouts on account of salaries of government employees alongside maturity of Bangladesh Government Treasury Bonds (BGTBs) pushed up pressure on government's accounts in last few days, they said to explain the spurt in government bank borrowing. The government paid Tk 45 billion on December 05 against maturity of the BGTBs. The government borrowed more than double on Sunday through issuing two types of treasury bills (T-bills)--91-day and 364-day ones- to meet its budget deficit partly. A total of Tk 66.81 billion was borrowed on the day instead of pre-auction target at Tk 25 billion through issuing the T-bills, according to the officials. Earlier on December 02, the government borrowed Tk 38.88 billion through issuing T-bills against pre-auction target at Tk 25 billion on the same ground.</p> | 07 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govts-bank-borrowing-surges-1638815905) | |
| 62 | <p><u>Entrepreneurs drive progress beyond hopes</u> <u>Says Prof Rehman Sobhan</u></p> <p>Bangladesh's progress may have exceeded Bangabandhu's expectations in the course of these 50 years thanks to the emergence of a dynamic entrepreneurial class, noted economist Professor Rehman Sobhan said on Monday. He said the progress is not merely measurable in statistical terms but is manifested in the major structural changes in the economy and social transformation which have taken place as a result of our liberation. Mr. Rehman, chairman of the Centre of Policy Dialogue (CPD), made the observation while presenting a keynote paper at the inaugural session of a four-day international conference.</p> <p>Marking the 50 years of Bangladesh's independence, the CPD along with South Asia Programme of Cornell University is hosting the virtual event titled "Fifty Years of Bangladesh: Retrospect and Prospect."</p> <p>Mr. Rehman said the country has transformed itself from a largely agrarian society, exclusively dependent on growing paddy for subsistence and jute as a cash crop, while agriculture was the principal source of both GDP and household income. "We were once industrially backward, dependent on a single industry, jute and a single source of exports, jute products. Today the GDP contribution of industry exceeds that of agriculture and even in the rural areas more than 50 per cent of household income derives from non-farm sources," he said.</p> | 07 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/entrepreneurs-drive-progress-beyond-hopes-1638816072) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 63 | <p><u>Digital mapping of export-based RMG units</u> <u>2.7m workers on database</u></p> <p>Country's export-oriented readymade garment (RMG) units employ around 2.7 million workers, as per a new survey conducted for digital mapping of the industry, which is far short of around 4.0 million the entrepreneurs often claim. The survey found 3,485 such units: 1,351 in Dhaka, 1,057 in Gazipur, 615 in Narayanganj, 386 in Chattogram and the rest in other parts of the country.</p> <p>Mapped in Bangladesh (MiB), a project of Brac University supported by development partners and backed by the trade bodies in the sector, has conducted the survey since December 2017. MiB communicated the initial findings in the survey with the FE on Monday. The first phase of the project to track factories digitally will come to an end next March.</p> <p>Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) differed with the number of workers identified under the survey, but endorsed the number of factories. "We have a database of about 4.3 million workers," BGMEA president Faruque Hassan told the FE. He, however, recognises that the database has not been updated with workers who left their respective units. The existing data available with the government or BGMEA are either 'outdated' or 'confusing and conflicting' while those are not publicly accessible, according to an economist.</p> <p>Under the survey, the MiB put in its digital tracking system the basic information of factories, such as name, address, number of workers and affiliation with brands. It also included product-wise descriptions of factories like knit, woven and sweater. The ratio of male and female workers now stands at 42:58 in the multibillion-dollar industry that earned US\$31.45 billion in the last fiscal year. Out of the total factories, 1951 are affiliated with BGMEA, 520 with Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) and 257 are registered with both the trade bodies in the apparel sector. Besides, MiB identified some 757 factories that are producing and exporting garment items but not registered with either.</p> | 07 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/27m-workers-on-database-1638815978) | |
| 64 | <p><u>Reforms must to prevent scams, advance economy</u> <u>Economists say, also suggest exploring trade prospects nearby</u></p> <p>Economists at an international meet Tuesday underscored conducting deep reforms to improve Bangladesh's institutional capacity to clear the decks for economic advances and exploring regional trade opportunities to reach expected levels of export. They think without reforms Bangladesh cannot advance further in the near future. They noted that due to the weak institutions there were many financial scams. "There are some unholy axes who oppose reform initiatives," the meeting noted.</p> <p>The economists were speaking in a session of the virtual international conference organised by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). The session, styled 'Bangladesh's Economic Transformation', was presided over by CPD Chairman Prof Dr Rehman Sobhan. Professor Dr. Wahiduddin Mahmud moderated the discussions. Former World Bank economist Dr Akhter Mahmood, CPD's distinguished fellow Dr Mustafizur Rahman and executive director of SANEM Dr Selim Raihan presented separate papers on the topic.</p> | 08 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/reforms-must-to-prevent-scams-advance-economy-1638906497) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 65 | <p><u>Paper industry holds huge export potential</u> <u>Hopes to spread wings wider as labour cost, environ concerns impact biggies like China</u></p> <p>Bangladesh paper industry, which now markets its products in some developed countries even, holds huge potential for boosting export if over half of its dormant production capacity is used to exploit unfolding global trade. Industry people express such view as the paper-manufacturing segment of the paper sector in the country, which was once mostly dependant on import, now looks to widen its footprint on the international market amid some fortune change. Paper-sector entrepreneurs, as such, regret that some government offices still nurture a penchant for foreign papers imported by spending hard-earned foreign currencies. They noted that the local manufacturing gradually increased and shifted to the private sector from the state-owned mills as they aggressively adopt modern technologies to make high-quality papers.</p> <p>Currently, there are around 70 private paper mills operating in the country, out of 105 registered with government. Some of those in operation are, however, enhancing their capacity with new variety of paper products to cater modern-day needs at home and abroad.</p> <p>Paper and paper-goods sector includes writing and printing paper, offset paper, newsprint, tissue and packaging paper. According to data available with the Bangladesh Paper Mills Association (BPMA) the country's paper-market size is around Tk 50 billion, registering an annualised growth of over 5.0 per cent in the recent times. Local known demand for paper products is around 0.6 million (six lakh) tonnes despite there being a capacity of producing 1.5 million tonnes annually. However, nearly 0.3 million tonnes of paper is also imported in addition to local manufacture.</p> <p>Currently only one state-owned company, Karnaphuli Paper Mills, is operating, on a limited scale, though. Two other mills-in Khulna and Pabna-owned by Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) have suspended their operations, a BCIC source said.</p> <p>Bangladesh's leading paper manufacturers include Bashundhara, Meghna, Amber, Papertech, Sonali and Magura. Around Tk 700 billion (70,000crore) has been invested in the sector so far.</p> | 08 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/paper-industry-holds-huge-export-potential-1638906601) | |
| 66 | <p><u>BAPLC elects Anis Ud Dowla president, Nasim Manzur vice president</u></p> <div data-bbox="255 1129 728 1321" style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>M. Anis Ud Dowla, Chairman, Advanced Chemical Industries (ACI) Ltd, has recently been elected as the President of Publicly Listed Companies (BAPLC) for the term 2022 and 2023, said a statement.</p> <p>The Association elected Syed Nasim Manzur, Managing Director, Apex Footwear Ltd as its Vice President.</p> | 08 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/baplc-elects-anis-ud-dowla-president-nasim-manzur-vice-president-1638903103) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 67 | <p><u>Tax exemptions cost 2.28pc of GDP: NBR</u> Bangladesh counts 2.28 per cent or Tk 578.78 billion in lost Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on offering tax exemptions to various sectors, an analysis finds and suggests periodical updating of the fiscal measure. It also says some 36 per cent of total domestic product or a sum of Tk 9.15 trillion is excluded from the taxation of a financial year's tax base. The amount is equivalent to more than three consecutive fiscal years' tax revenue-collection targets of the government, the FE analysis shows. In the current FY, the government has set a Tk 3.30-trillion tax revenue-collection target, just as the original target of last FY.</p> <p>Following widespread allegations of the country's poor tax-GDP ratio in South Asia, below 10 per cent, the country's tax authority conducted the study to assess the volume of tax exemptions that have been eating up revenue. The internal study of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) has compiled the data of tax exemptions taking FY 2018-19 a base year in its report.</p> <p>A seven-member 'tax expenditure review committee' prepared the report titled 'Tax Expenditure Analysis: An overview of Tax Expenditure through Personal and Corporate Income Tax Policy of Bangladesh'. It was placed with the NBR chairman on November 28, 2021.</p> | 09 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tax-exemptions-cost-228pc-of-gdp-nbr-1638987015) | |
| 68 | <p><u>Trade deficit widens threefold as import far outstrips export</u> July-Oct imbalance rises by \$5.60b to \$9.10b Country's trade deficit widened nearly three times in the first four months of the current fiscal year (FY), prompting some economists to prescribe thrift on luxury buys. Officials attribute the yawning trade gap mainly to higher import-payment pressure on the economy during the steady rebound from the pandemic recession worldwide. The trade deficit with the rest of the world increased by 160.27 per cent or US\$5.60 billion to \$9.10 billion during the July-October period of FY 2021-22, from \$3.50 billion in the same period of FY'21, according to central bank's latest statistics.</p> <p>During the period under review, import expenses jumped by 51.42 per cent while export earnings recorded a 20.45-per cent growth. Bangladesh's foreign trade, covering import and export, increased significantly during the period under review thanks to a gradual pickup in economic activities, both domestic and global, amid reopening after more than one year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Besides, higher prices of essential commodities on the global market had also pushed up the country's import payments in the first four months of FY'22, the officials explained.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the country's current-account deficit deteriorated further during the period under review following higher import-payment obligations along with lower inflow of remittances. The current-account deficit rose to \$4.77 billion during the July-October period of FY'22 from \$2.54 billion a month before. It was \$3.64 billion surplus in same period of FY'21.</p> <p>However, the financial account's surplus improved further following higher inflows of medium-and long-term loans as well as aid flows, according to the BB officials. The financial account's surplus stood at \$3.78 billion during the July-October period of FY'22 from \$1.99 billion a month ago. It was \$652 million surplus in the same period of FY'21.</p> <p>The BB data shows that the BoP had posted a negative balance of \$1.34 billion in the first four months of FY'22 against a positive balance of \$4.14 billion in the same period of the last fiscal.</p> | 09 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/trade-deficit-widens-threefold-as-import-far-outstrips-export-1638987234) | |


| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 69 | <p><u>PM for strong worker-owner relations</u> Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday stressed the need for having cordial and strong relations between the industry owners and workers in their own interest in this competitive world, reports UNB. "I always request our owners and workers that there should be a good and cordial relation between the owners and workers," she said while addressing a programme virtually from her official residence Ganobhaban.</p> <p>The Green Factory Award 2020 was distributed among the winners while eight newly constructed structures, including a women's hostel, inaugurated at the function held at the Osmani Smriti Auditorium. A total of 30 factories from six sectors were conferred with the award, marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The 30 factories include 15 ones from garment sector, four from tea sector, three each from food processing sector, plastic sector and pharmaceutical sector, and two from leather sector.</p> <p>The 15 garment factories are Remi Holdings Ltd, Tarasima Apparels Ltd, Plummy Fashions Ltd, Mithela Textile Industries Ltd, Vintage Denim Studio Ltd, AR Jeans Producer Ltd, Karooni Knit Composite Ltd, Designer Fashion Ltd, Kenpark Bangladesh Apparel Private Ltd (Kenpark Unit 2), Green Textile Ltd (Unit-3), Four H Dyeing and Printing Ltd, Wisdom Attires Ltd, Mahmuda Attires Ltd, Snowtex Outerwear Ltd and Auko-Tex Ltd.</p> <p>The factories from the food processing sector are Habiganj Agro Ltd, Akij Food and Beverage Ltd and Ifad Multi Products Ltd. Four enterprises from the tea industry sector are Gazipur Cha Bagan (Gazipur tea garden), Laskarpur Cha Bagan (Laskarpur tea garden), Jagchara Tea Factory and Neptune Cha Bagan (Neptune tea garden).</p> <p>The two factories from the leather industry sector are Apex Footwear Ltd and Edison Footwear Ltd, while the three factories from the plastic sector are Banga Building Materials Ltd, Allplast Bangladesh Ltd and Durable Plastic Ltd. The three factories from the pharmaceutical industry are Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd. In the function, the medals and certificates and awards money were given to the awardees. The Labour and Employment Ministry introduced the 'Green Factory Award' on the occasion of the birth centenary of Bangabandhu. The award will be given after every two years.</p> | 09 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/pm-for-strong-worker-owner-relations-1638987325) | |
| 70 | <p><u>BB feeds \$2.0b to ease forex-market crunch</u> <u>Thursday's \$30m sale to three banks adds to four-month tally</u></p> <p>The central bank continues to pump the US dollar into Bangladesh's overheating foreign-exchange market, releasing over \$2.0 billion in nearly four months now, as the greenback enjoys great demand amid economic rebound. As part of the money-market-managing move, the Bangladesh Bank sold US\$30 million direct to three commercial banks on Thursday, adding up to the four-month tally. A total of \$143 million has been sold to different commercial banks during the first nine days of the current month, BB data showed, so that the rising price of the dollar couldn't buck up steeply in its exchange with the local currency. A total of \$2.17 billion has been sold from the country's foreign- exchange reserves since August 18 of the current fiscal year (FY), 2021-22, to the commercial banks as part of the central bank's ongoing support, according to latest official figures.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the Bangladesh taka (BDT) had depreciated by Tk 1.0 against the US dollar during the period under review despite the selling of the greenback by the central bank to the banks for keeping the market stable. The US dollar was quoted at BDT 85.80 on the inter-bank foreign- exchange market on the day--unchanged from the previous level. It was Tk 84.80 on August 17 last.</p> | 10 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-feeds-20b-to-ease-forex-market-crunch-1639074287) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 71 | <p><u>Skill dev needed in retail industry</u> <u>Speakers tell BRAC roundtable</u></p> <p>Need-based and sector-specific skill development can increase enrolment of the youth, especially women, in the country's retail industry, speakers told a programme on Thursday. They observed that with proper training, orientation, and removal of social stigma, more youths can find jobs in the country's retail sector mostly concentrated in private sector-led super shops, shopping malls, clothing stores, fast-food outlets etc. They made the observations at a roundtable discussion on "Enhancing employment: Opportunities for youth in Bangladesh's retail sector" organised by BRAC's Skills Development Programme (SDP) at the BRAC Centre Inn in the city's Mohakhali.</p> <p>Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) president Nihad Kabir addressed the programme as the chief guest while Aarong managing director Tamara Abed, Apex Footwear Ltd managing director Syed Nasim Manzur, Unimart chief executive officer Murtoza Zaman, Shwapno business director Tanvir Sohel Khan, Gemcon Food and Agricultural Products Ltd chief executive officer Shaheen Khan, Bangladesh Business and Disability Network head of operations Aziza Ahmed, Amanah Group managing director Masudul Haq and BRAC director Maria Huq spoke at the programme.</p> <p>Emphasising skill development training for youth in the retail sector, Ms Kabir said, "Sector-specific training for the youth in retail industry is a definite requirement to enhance customer satisfaction." Referring to over 12 per cent unemployment rate among youths having tertiary education, she said students completing higher education in the country do not want to start their career in retail sector due to social mindset about such jobs.</p> <p>Mr Manzur said the country's economic situation has changed which made many workers unwilling to work at factories and the retail sector can be their next destination if proper skills are developed. "It's not only sufficient to organise training and employment in the retail sector, but quality improvement of the sector is also imperative," he said, adding the government needs to play a decisive role in formulating necessary laws and giving recognition to the sector.</p> | 10 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/skill-dev-needed-in-retail-industry-1639074058) | |
| 72 | <p><u>মালয়েশিয়ার সঙ্গে এফটিএ স্বাক্ষরে ব্যবসায়ীদের সহযোগিতা প্রয়োজন</u></p> <p>বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী টিপু মুনশি বলেছেন, 'মালয়েশিয়ার সঙ্গে এফটিএ স্বাক্ষরের জন্য ব্যবসায়ীদের আন্তরিক সহযোগিতা প্রয়োজন। মালয়েশিয়ার সঙ্গে এফটিএ স্বাক্ষরের বিষয়ে আলোচনা অনেক দূর এগিয়ে আছে। বাংলাদেশ ইতোমধ্যে এলডিসি গ্রাজুয়েশন করেছে। এখন উন্নত বিশেষের সঙ্গে প্রতিযোগিতা করে ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্যে এগিয়ে যেতে হবে। এ গ্রাজুয়েশনের চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবিলা করার জন্য আমাদের প্রস্তুতি গ্রহণ করতে হবে। আমাদের হাতে বেশি সময় নেই। আমরা এ জন্য অগ্রাধিকার তালিকা করে কাজ শুরু করে দিয়েছি।'</p> <p>বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী গতকাল ঢাকায় গুলশান ক্লাবে বাংলাদেশ মালয়েশিয়া চেম্বার অফ কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (বিএমসিসিআই) এর ২০ বছরপূর্তি উপলক্ষে 'অপরচুনিটিজ অ্যান্ড চ্যালেঞ্জস অফ এফটিএ ফর বাংলাদেশ' শীর্ষক সেমিনারে প্রধান অতিথির বক্তৃতায় এসব কথা বলেন।</p> <p>তিনি আরও বলেন, 'এরই মধ্যে ভুটানের সঙ্গে আমরা এফটিএ স্বাক্ষর করেছি। মালয়েশিয়া, ইন্দোনেশিয়া, অস্ট্রেলিয়াসহ বেশ কিছু দেশের সঙ্গে এফটিএ বা পিটিএ স্বাক্ষরের জন্য আমরা অনেক কাজ করেছি, তা চলমান আছে। এফটিএ বা পিটিএ স্বাক্ষরের ফলে আমাদের অর্থনীতির উপর চাপ পড়বে। তবে দীর্ঘমেয়াদি চিন্তা করলে এ কাজ আমাদের করতে হবে। বিভিন্ন দেশের সঙ্গে বাণিজ্য সুবিধা আদায় করতে এর বিকল্প নেই। এ জন্য আমাদের দক্ষতা অর্জন করতে হবে। বিষয়টিকে অগ্রাধিকার এবং গুরুত্ব দিয়ে আমরা কাজ করে যাচ্ছি।'</p> | 10 December 2021 | The Sangbad (https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-12-10/news/business/108668) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 73 | <p><u>KL decides to reopen labour mkt to BD</u> <u>Malaysia cabinet okays MoU signing on recruitment</u></p> <p>Malaysia finally agrees to reopen its market to Bangladeshi workers after more than three years' moratorium slapped following alleged syndication under the previous recruitment deal, sources say. The major development on the manpower-export front comes as the Malaysian government's cabinet gave its nod to a much-sought-after agreement to be signed with Bangladesh on resumption of hiring workers. The cabinet meeting on Friday agreed on signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for recruitment of Bangladeshi workers, according to a media statement by the Minister of Human Resources, Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Workers in Malaysia. The statement says the cabinet meeting also has agreed that the recruitment is open for all sectors, apart from the plantation sector, previously agreed. "The recruitment of these foreign workers will be open to sectors allowed for the employment of foreign workers, namely plantations, agriculture, manufacturing, services, mining and quarrying, construction and domestic servants," it says. Besides, the meeting also agreed on the implementation of multi-tier levy deferred from January 01, 2022 to July 01, 2022 so as not to burden employers. The Malaysian government had ceased recruitment from Bangladesh since 2018 following allegation of syndication through the then recruitment system under G-to-G (G2G)-plus deal. Since then, Bangladesh has tried to get resumed the market through continued diplomatic efforts.</p> | 11 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/kl-decides-to-reopen-labour-mkt-to-bd-1639159148) | |
| 74 | <p><u>সিএনএন নেটওয়ার্কে 'মেইড ইন বাংলাদেশ' ক্যাম্পেইন</u></p> <p>স্বাধীনতা অর্জনের ৫০ বছরের মধ্যেই বাংলাদেশ বিশ্বব্যাপী একটি সম্ভাবনাময় দেশ হিসেবে পরিচিতি পেয়েছে। 'তলাবিহীন ঝুড়ির' অপবাদ থেকে ঘুরে দাঁড়িয়ে বাংলাদেশ বিশ্বে 'উন্নয়নের রোল মডেল' হিসেবে অবস্থান করে নিয়েছে। দেশের সম্ভাবনাময় সেক্টরসমূহ ও তাদের পণ্যসমূহ বিশ্ব দরবারে তুলে ধরার এখনই সঠিক সময়। আন্তর্জাতিক অঙ্গনে বাংলাদেশের পণ্য প্রচারের উদ্দেশ্যে গত বৃহস্পতিবার ঢাকার একটি হোটেলে 'মেইড ইন বাংলাদেশ' ক্যাম্পেইনের লোগো উদ্বোধন করা হয়।</p> <p>প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার নেতৃত্বে দেশের অভাবনীয় উন্নয়ন তুলে ধরা ও দেশের অগ্রগামী বেসরকারি খাতের সফলতা বিশ্ববাজারে তুলে ধরতে বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয় এই ক্যাম্পেইনের উদ্যোগ গ্রহণ করছে যার বাস্তবায়ন ও সমন্বয় করছে বাংলাদেশ ফরেন ট্রেড ইনস্টিটিউট (বিএফটিআই)।</p> <p>'মেইড ইন বাংলাদেশ' ক্যাম্পেইনের উদ্দেশ্য হচ্ছে সিএনএন এর বৈশ্বিক দর্শকদের কাছে ব্যবসা বাণিজ্যখাতে বাংলাদেশের অভূতপূর্ব সফলতা তুলে ধরা। এই ক্যাম্পেইনের বিশেষত্ব হচ্ছে, সিএনএন এর প্রমোনীত গল্প বলার ক্ষমতা, তাদের পুরস্কারপ্রাপ্ত ব্র্যান্ড স্টুডিও ক্রিয়েটের দ্বারা তৈরি ব্র্যান্ডেড কন্টেন্ট এবং সিএনএন এর বিশ্বব্যাপী ছড়ানো দর্শকসংখ্যা।</p> | 11 December 2021 | The Sangbad (https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-12-11/news/business/108768) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 75 | <p><u>BTC tips on dealmaking for post-LDC trade</u> <u>Deeper policy reforms can produce good FTAs, PTAs</u></p> <p>Bangladesh ought to conduct comprehensive policy reforms for striking effective trade deals on preferential market access in the post-LDC era, a government body suggests as the country is poised for status change. The suggestion comes as Bangladesh has opted to ink deals like free-trade agreement (FTA), preferential trade agreement (PTA), and comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) to offset the impacts of potential challenges to stem from the country's graduation to an upper level of socioeconomic status.</p> <p>The ministry of commerce recently asked the Bangladesh Tariff Commission (BTC) to submit proposals on what kind of reforms or amendment on trade-related rules/regulations and policies are needed in initiating or signing FTA, PTA, and CEPA. The tariff commission recently replied to the ministry, said a senior BTC official, saying that the periphery and clauses of FTA, PTA, and CEPA need to be identified first before preparing any specific recommendation. Referring to a previously prepared report, the BTC said the commission reviewed 26 regional trade agreements which include five signed between developed nations, 11 between developed and developing nations, and 10 between the developing nations. It says the peripheries of the RTAs are not limited only to commodity trade--issues like trade in services, movement of natural persons, investment, intellectual property rights, trade facilitation, labour, government procurement, e-commerce, competition policy, and environment are also included.</p> | 12 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/btc-tips-on-dealmaking-for-post-ldc-trade-1639244114) | |
| 76 | <p><u>Bangladesh rolls out 5G</u></p> <p>Bangladesh joins more than 60 other countries as it rolls out the fifth-generation (5G) of mobile internet connectivity today. State-run mobile phone operator Teletalk will be the first to launch the super-speed technology, while the private operators are expected to jump on the bandwagon next year after the auction for spectrum in March. Teletalk will introduce the updated service on an experimental basis in six areas: the Prime Minister's Office, Parliament, Secretariat, Bangabandhu Museum on Dhanmondi 32, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's birth place Tungipara in Gopalganj, and the National Martyrs' Memorial in Savar, said its Managing Director Md Shahab Uddin yesterday.</p> | 12 December 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/teletalk/news/bangladesh-rolls-out-5g-2915406) | |
| 77 | <p><u>বাংলাদেশের প্রশংসায় পঞ্চমুখ বিশ্বব্যাংক</u></p> <p>দক্ষতার সঙ্গে করোনা সংকট কাটিয়ে ওঠায় বাংলাদেশের প্রশংসায় পঞ্চমুখ হয়েছে বিশ্বব্যাংক। ‘বাংলাদেশ একটি অনুপ্রেরণামূলক উন্নয়ন সাফল্যের গল্প’ বলে মন্তব্য করেছেন বিশ্বব্যাংকের ভাইস প্রেসিডেন্ট হার্টউইগ শ্যাফার। এক সপ্তাহের ঢাকা সফর শেষে ওয়াশিংটন ফিরে যাওয়ার আগে বাংলাদেশকে নিয়ে এই মন্তব্য করেন তিনি।</p> <p>শ্যাফার বলেন, ‘বাংলাদেশের মানুষ এবং দেশটির অর্থনীতির স্থিতিস্থাপকতা অবাক করার মতো। বেশ কয়েক বছর ধরে ভালো জিডিপি প্রবৃদ্ধি অর্জন করে চলেছে দেশটি। কোভিড-১৯ মহামারীর মধ্যেও প্রবৃদ্ধির ইতিবাচক ধারা অব্যাহত ছিল। বেশ ভালোভাবেই করোনা মোকাবিলা করেছে বাংলাদেশ। অর্থনীতি ঘুরে দাঁড়িয়েছে। সে কারণেই বলছি, বাংলাদেশ একটি অনুপ্রেরণামূলক উন্নয়ন সাফল্যের গল্প। দেশটি ২০৩০ সালের মধ্যে উচ্চ-মধ্যম আয়ের দেশে পরিণত হওয়ার জন্য কাজ করছে। এই লক্ষ্য অর্জনের পথে বিশ্বব্যাংক বাংলাদেশের প্রতিটি পদক্ষেপে পাশে থাকবে, দেশটির জনগণের পাশে থাকবে। বাংলাদেশের মানুষের জন্য আরও সবুজ, আরও স্থিতিস্থাপক এবং আরও অন্তর্ভুক্তিমূলক প্রবৃদ্ধির জন্য সহায়তা অব্যাহত রাখবে।’</p> | 12 December 2021 | The Sangbad (https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-12-12/news/business/108820) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------|---|---------|
| 78 | <p><u>Lower wages, higher underemployment Economy further 'informalised'</u></p> <p>Bangladesh economy faced further 'informalisation' with consequent lower wages and higher underemployment under a stumbling upset done by the pandemic, it was revealed Sunday at a conference on post-corona policy choices. And the country's marginal enterprises and underprivileged people were disproportionately affected by the covid-19 fallout. But they are the ones, again, who were "mostly deprived of various recovery schemes" launched by the government. Unavailability of adequate data on the impact of the covid-19 is one of the major causes behind this, said speakers in the opening session of the two-day conference on 'Bangladesh Emerging from the Pandemic: Coping Experiences and Policy Choices'.</p> <p>Planning Minister M A Mannan joined the inaugural session as the chief guest while Resident Representative of the UNDP in Bangladesh Sudipto Mukerjee was the special guest. Member of the Centre for Policy Dialogue Board of Trustees Advocate Sultana Kamal presided over the opening session of the conference, organised by Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh, in partnership with the CPD at the Brac Centre in Mohakhali area.</p> | 13 December 2021 | <p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/economy-further-informalised-1639334701</p> | |
| 79 | <p><u>Imports further rise on economic pickup Int'l inflation stokes payment pressure</u></p> <p>Bangladesh's imports increased further by volume and value both amid gradual economic pickup as well as higher import-payment obligation due to international inflation. Official count on November imports shows the rise is particularly caused by higher purchase of fuel oils to meet a growing domestic demand amid expanding activity after the pandemic slowdown.</p> <p>The settlement of letters of credit (LCs), generally known as actual import, in terms of value, rose by 5.16 per cent to US\$5.54 billion in November 2021 from \$5.27 billion in the previous month, according to the central bank's latest statistics. On the other hand, the opening of LCs, generally known as import orders, increased 7.62 per cent to \$6.06 billion in November from \$5.63 billion a month before.</p> | 13 December 2021 | <p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/imports-further-rise-on-economic-pickup-1639334890</p> | |
| 80 | <p><u>Metro rail test trip successful</u></p> <p>The long-desired metro rail will go for commercial operation on December 16, 2022, as its performance test on the viaduct from Uttara to Agargaon in the capital began Sunday, report agencies. "We hope that the much-awaited metro train service will be opened from Uttara to Agargaon by December 16 next year," Managing Director (MD) of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited (DMTCL) M A N Siddique told journalists after the performance test at Agargaon station in the city. He said the metro rail would start commercial operation through the entire route in December 2023.</p> <p>On Sunday, the train, brought from Japan, reached Agargaon at 11:00 am, noted Mr Siddique. "The second metro train from Japan, has six coaches, reached Agargaon at 11:00 am. It travelled at a speed of 100 km per hour from Diabari to Mirpur-10, and then reduced the speed to 15 to 25 km per hour while running from Mirpur-10 to Agargaon," he told. "The metro rail trains will run on time and according to schedule. They'll reach each station at the exact time mentioned in the schedule. We're conducting performance tests to ensure they run on time."</p> | 13 December 2021 | <p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/metro-rail-test-trip-successful-1639334744</p> | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------|--|---------|
| 81 | <p><u>Square Hospitals honours 20 physicians</u></p>  <p>On the occasion of its 15th anniversary celebration, the Square Hospitals Limited on Friday last honoured 20 living legend physicians of the country for their contribution to medical services. The Managing Director of the Hospital Tapan Chowdhury handed over SAMSON H CHOWDHURY award to them on its premises. The award recipients are: Prof Sheikh Ali Ashraf, Prof. (Rtd) Maj. Gen. A.R. Khan, Prof. Brig. (Rtd) Dr. Abdul Malik (National Professor and winner of independence award), Prof. AHM Touhidul Anwar Chowdhury (winner of independence award), Prof. M Nurul Amin, Prof. Md Abdul Hai, Prof. A.K Azad Khan(National Professor and winner of independence award), Prof. S. R Khan, Prof. Md Nazrul Islam, Prof. M,Q.K Talukder, Prof. M, A Bashar, Prof Shamsuddin Ahmed, Prof Shahla Khatun (National Professor), Prof. Mohammad Saleh Uddin, Prof. Harun Ur Rashid, Prof. Mahmud Hasan (National Professor and winner of independence award), Prof Md Khalilur Rahman, Prof. M.A Salam, Prof. Quazi Deen Mohammad and Prof. A.Z.M Maidul Islam.</p> | 13 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/square-hospitals-honours-20-physicians-1639333854) | |
| 82 | <p><u>DSE's special event on Dec 21 to lure big firms for listing</u></p> <p>The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), for the first time in its history, is going to arrange a conference to invite big and renowned companies of Bangladesh to be listed with the premier bourse. The daylong event will be held at the DSE office in Dhaka on December 21 where top officials and owners of around 100 companies will be invited.</p> | 13 December 2021 | The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/dses-special-event-dec-21-lure-big-companies-listing-2916711) | |
| 83 | <p><u>Grameenphone wins National 'Digital Bangladesh Award 2021'</u></p> <p>Grameenphone has received the prestigious national 'Digital Bangladesh Award 2021' in the 'institutional category' for its contribution to the country's information and communication technology sector, said a press release. The award was handed over to the Tech Service Leader and Connectivity Partner to Digital Bangladesh on Sunday through an award ceremony held to mark the 'Digital Bangladesh Day 2021' at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre by prime minister Sheikh Hasina. Hasina graced the event and handed over the award virtually along with state minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak to Yasir Azman, CEO, Grameenphone.</p> | 13 December 2021 | New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/157185/grameenphone-wins-national-digital-bangladesh-award-2021) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|---------|
| 84 | <p>ঢাকায় কানাডার খাদ্য নিরাপত্তা ইনস্টিটিউটের অফিস উদ্বোধন</p> <p>ঢাকার ফার্মগেটে অবস্থিত বাংলাদেশ কৃষি গবেষণা কাউন্সিল (বিএআরসি) চত্বরে কানাডার সাস্কাচুয়ান বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের গ্লোবাল ইনস্টিটিউট ফর ফুড সিকিউরিটি (জিআইএফএস)-এর আঞ্চলিক অফিস চালু হয়েছে। এ অফিস স্থাপনের মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ এবং কানাডার কৃষি গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠানগুলোর মধ্যে গবেষণা সহযোগিতা সম্পর্ক প্রতিষ্ঠিত হবে এবং সেন্টারটি দেশের কৃষি গবেষকদের জলবায়ু পরিবর্তনসহ কৃষিতে উদ্ভূত চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবিলায় উন্নত জ্ঞান ও দক্ষতা অর্জনে সহায়তা প্রদান করবে। গতকাল ঢাকায় বিএআরসিতে এ অফিসের উদ্বোধন করেন কৃষিমন্ত্রী ড. মো. আবদুর রাজ্জাক।</p> | 13 December 2021 | The Sangbad (https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-12-13/news/business/108891) | |
| 85 | <p>বিডার ওএসএস পোর্টালে যুক্ত হলো নতুন পাঁচটি সেবা</p> <p>বিনিয়োগকারীদের সুবিধার্থে বাংলাদেশ বিনিয়োগ উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষের (বিডা) অনলাইন ওয়ান স্টপ সার্ভিস (ওএসএস) পোর্টালে যুক্ত হলো আরো পাঁচটি সেবা। এ নিয়ে প্রতিদিন সার্বক্ষণিক ভিত্তিতে ১৮টি প্রতিষ্ঠানের ৫৬টি সেবা অনলাইনে পাওয়া যাচ্ছে। গতকাল রাজধানীর আগারগাঁওয়ে বিডা সম্মেলন কক্ষে এসব সেবার উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে সভাপতিত্ব করেন প্রতিষ্ঠানটির নির্বাহী চেয়ারম্যান মো. সিরাজুল ইসলাম।</p> <p>নতুন উদ্বোধন করা সেবাগুলো হচ্ছে বিডার তৃতীয় অ্যাডহক আইআরসির সুপারিশ, জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডের বিদেশী নাগরিকদের আয়কর, আমদানি ও রফতানি প্রধান নিয়ন্ত্রক দপ্তরের রফতানি নিবন্ধন, চট্টগ্রাম সিটি করপোরেশনের ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ঢাকা চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজের কান্ট্রি অব অরিজিন। বিডা সূত্র জানায়, ২০১৯ সালে ওএসএস পোর্টালে মাত্র দুটি সেবার ব্যবস্থা থাকলেও পর্যায়ক্রমে বাড়ানো হচ্ছে। প্রতিদিন একশর বেশি বিনিয়োগকারী অনলাইন সেবা গ্রহণ করছে।</p> | 13 December 2021 | Bonik Barta (https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/283221/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%BD%E0%A6%93%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%8A%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%81%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE) | |
| 86 | <p>Laid off for over a month amid corona onslaught 86pc reemployed now unable to make two ends meet</p> <p>About 85 per cent of the employed people in pre-Covid period remained unemployed for over a month for the pandemic and those reemployed now cannot make two ends meet, according to a study. The CPD study report says though almost all of the laid-off people were able to find a job by January- February 2021, some 86 per cent of them reported that their incomes were not enough to afford daily necessities. And more than 40 per cent of the employed population reported their employment situation worse than that in the pre-Covid period. As a result, many families fell into distress and a large section of the unemployed had to switch status to agriculture worker even though the farm jobs have lower income, according to the survey.</p> <p>"Most of the incremental employment was generated in the agriculture sector," CPD distinguished fellow and core group member of the Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh, Prof Mustafizur Rahman, said while presenting the survey findings on Monday. At the same time, a significant number of people left the services sector. "Given the nature of economic recovery, it is likely that structural transformation went backwards."</p> <p>Mr Rahman unveiled the findings on the concluding day of a two-day conference on 'Bangladesh Emerging from the Pandemic: Coping Experiences and Policy Choices', jointly organised by the Citizen's Platform for SDGs and CPD at the Brac Centre Inn, Dhaka.</p> | 14 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/86pc-reemployed-now-unable-to-make-two-ends-meet-1639420370) | |

| Sl. No. | News / Events | Date | Source | Remarks |
|---------|--|------------------------|--|---------|
| 87 | <p>Post-graduation external economic shocks Commercial agriculture with high-value export crops vital Researchers recommend as Bangladesh is on transition</p> <p>Boosting agricultural production and productivity and farming high-value crops of export quality are seen urgent to cushion possible external shocks to Bangladesh's export trade in post-LDC-graduation era. To this end, researchers recommend for the government to take steps to make diversified crop-production plan and intensify the commercialization of agriculture, including its sub-sectors. The recommendation comes from Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC) in a report submitted to the government, at a time when Bangladesh has fulfilled all set criteria for graduation from world's poor-country club-the group of least-developed countries or LDCs, and preparations are set in motion on how to go around on the global market in post-graduation era. It puts special focus on adopting know-how to produce export-oriented safe and quality food items through commercialized agriculture with latest means. The government agency prepared the report through research headed by an additional secretary (policy), industries ministry, under the intellectual property rights (IPR) subcommittee on graduation of Bangladesh from LDC to DC (developing country). The BARC report has recommended preparing time-bound (short, medium and long-term) planning to overcome possible challenges after graduation from LDC status.</p> | 14 December 2021 | The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/commercial-agriculture-with-high-value-export-crops-vital-1639419458) | |
| 88 | <p>বাংলাদেশে প্রথম গ্রিন জিরো-কুপন বন্ড চালু করলো স্ট্যান্ডার্ড চার্টার্ড ব্যাংক</p> <p>সাজিদা ফাউন্ডেশন-এর জন্য বাংলাদেশে প্রথম গ্রিন জিরো-কুপন বন্ড চালু করেছে স্ট্যান্ডার্ড চার্টার্ড ব্যাংক। এই বন্ড থেকে যা আয় হবে তা সাজিদা ফাউন্ডেশনের ক্ষুদ্রঋণ এবং এসএমই গ্রাহকদের বিভিন্ন পরিবেশবান্ধব ও এনার্জি-এফিসিয়েন্সি-ইনিশিয়েটিভে ঋণ প্রদানের জন্য ব্যবহৃত হবে। বন্ডের মোট মূল্য ১ হাজার মিলিয়ন টাকা। বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ এবং এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশনের প্রধান কার্যালয়ে আয়োজিত এক অনুষ্ঠানে এই ঘোষণা দেয়া হয়। এতে প্রধান অতিথি হিসেবে উপস্থিত ছিলেন বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ এবং এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশনের চেয়ারম্যান অধ্যাপক শিবলী রুবায়াত-উল-ইসলাম। অনুষ্ঠানে আরও উপস্থিত ছিলেন সাজিদা ফাউন্ডেশনের প্রধান নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা জাহিদা ফিজ্জা কবির, স্ট্যান্ডার্ড চার্টার্ড ব্যাংক বাংলাদেশের সিইও নাসের এজাজ বিজয় প্রমুখ।</p> | 14 December 2021 | The Sangbad (https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2021-12-14/news/business/108976) | |