


Fortnightly Summary


Important Trade and Economic News Published on Various Newspapers during 22 Aug. – 11 Sept. 2022

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
01	<p>Workplace safety <u>Govt moves to raise capacity of DIFE</u> The labour ministry has also given nod to set up eight new inspectorate offices</p> <p>The government has moved to strengthen the capacity of the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments, in a bid to ensure workplace safety in line with the national action plan on the labour sector. The move has come as part of the government's commitment to the development partners, including European Union and International Labour Organization (ILO), which repeatedly pressed for recruiting new labour inspectors and ensuring full functionality of labour inspectorate, said officials.</p> <p>In this connection, the labour ministry on August 04 approved some 162 new posts for the department, while a total of 30 additional posts of labour inspectors were created on Sunday, they added.</p> <p>The ministry has also given nod to set up eight new inspectorate offices in Gopalganj, Manikganj, Feni, Brahmanbaria, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, Jamalpur and Naogaon, a ministry official said.</p>	22 August 2022	<p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-moves-to-raise-capacity-of-dife-1661106760?date=22-08-2022</p>	
02	<p>Waste not, want not <u>Austerity may save Tk 350b</u> MoF monitors how effectively belt-tightening works</p>  <p>Global crisis-driven austerity measures taken during last couple of months may save Bangladesh an estimated Tk 350 billion, thus cushioning the exchequer against the sort of severe financial crises facing many countries. The government had resorted to the cost-cutting action amid global financial instability triggered by the Russia-Ukraine war in the world's supply hub no sooner had the world pandemic given a respite from pervasive socioeconomic disruptions.</p> <p>After slapping the thrift measures like stopping fund release for less- important development projects, suspending foreign tours of government employees, procurement of cars for its employees, spending on fuels and power, and training, the ministry of finance is monitoring how the measures are working, say officials. "We get spending reports fortnightly and check how effective the measures are," a senior official at the ministry of finance told the FE Monday.</p>	23 August 2022	<p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/austerity-may-save-tk-350b-1661190019?date=23-08-2022</p>	

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03	<p><u>Canada-China firm to invest \$91m in Ishwardi EPZ</u> Big Dipper Textile Mills, which is owned by a Canada-China enterprise, will invest \$91.15 million in the Ishwardi Export Processing Zone (IEPZ) to set up a textile factory. The factory will annually produce 15,422 tonnes of yarn and employ around 1,209 Bangladeshi nationals, said the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza) in a statement yesterday.</p>	23 August 2022	The Daily Star https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/canada-china-firm-invest-91m-ishwardi-epz-3100891											
04	<p><u>Only 110 biggies pay half of Tk 1.08t VAT in FY '22</u> Most of 0.3 million registered firms evade VAT payments</p> <p>VAT UNDER LARGE TAXPAYERS UNIT (FY 2021-22)</p> <p>LTU collects 50% of total VAT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>INDUSTRY</th> <th>VAT (in billion Taka)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Tobacco</td> <td>278.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Telco</td> <td>85.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pharma</td> <td>34.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hotel</td> <td>0.94</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Limited corporates turn cash cow for VAT as 110 large companies paid around half the aggregate value-added tax (VAT) collected by the revenue board last fiscal, out of over 0.3 million registered firms. The business biggies deposited the consumption tax worth Tk 524.33 billion out of Tk 1.08-trillion total VAT receipt by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) in the fiscal year (FY), according to Large Taxpayers Unit (LTU) VAT data. Economists say the potential of VAT revenue has to be explored "immediately to cover the growing budget shortfall of the government".</p>	INDUSTRY	VAT (in billion Taka)	Tobacco	278.30	Telco	85.16	Pharma	34.83	Hotel	0.94	24 August 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/only-110-biggies-pay-half-of-tk-108t-vat-in-fy-22-1661279553?date=24-08-2022	
INDUSTRY	VAT (in billion Taka)													
Tobacco	278.30													
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05	<p><u>Trouble brewing for RMG exporters as orders fall</u> Apparel exporters in Bangladesh are feeling the pinch of a looming global recession, persisting higher inflation and dragging severe fallout of the Russia-Ukraine war as orders from international buyers have fallen. The decline in the booking of orders came after inventory piled up for retailers and brands forcing them to cut or cancel orders or put them on hold amid belt-tightening by western consumers, particularly in Europe. The fall in demand could deal a major blow to Bangladesh's biggest foreign currency earning sector, which accounted for about 85 per cent of export receipts of more than \$52 billion in the last fiscal year.</p>	24 August 2022	The Daily Star https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/trouble-brewing-rmg-exporters-orders-fall-3101776											

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06	<p><u>নিট শিল্প স্থাপনে ৩৭০ কোটি টাকা বিনিয়োগ</u> নিট কম্পোজিট টেক্সটাইল শিল্প স্থাপনে ঢাকা রপ্তানি প্রক্রিয়াকরণ এলাকায় (ইপিজেড) ৩ কোটি ৮৯ লাখ ৯০ হাজার (৩৮.৯৯ মিলিয়ন) মার্কিন ডলার বা ৩৭০ কোটি ৪০ লাখ ৫০ হাজার টাকা (প্রতি ডলার ৯৫ টাকা ধরে) বিনিয়োগ করবে দেশি মালিকানাধীন প্রতিষ্ঠান ট্রেন্ডি টেক্সটাইলস লিমিটেড। কোম্পানিটি বছরে ১ কোটি ৫০ লাখ পিস জামা, টি-শার্ট, জ্যাকেট, ট্রাউজারস, হুডিসহ ক্রীড়ার পোশাক বানাবে। এতে কর্মসংস্থান হবে ২ হাজার ৯৯৩ জন বাংলাদেশি। গতকাল মঙ্গলবার রাজধানীর গ্রীনরোডে বাংলাদেশ রপ্তানি প্রক্রিয়াকরণ এলাকা কর্তৃপক্ষের (বেপজা) নির্বাহী দপ্তরে এ বিষয়ে চুক্তি স্বাক্ষরিত হয়।</p>	24 August 2022	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/srb74efd9d)	
07	<p><u>Dutch look to boost trade with Bangladesh</u> As the economy of Bangladesh is growing rapidly, the Netherlands is looking to enhance bilateral trade and utilise investment opportunities here with a strong focus on digitalisation and sustainability. "As longstanding partners in the multilateral sphere, we also seek collaboration with Bangladesh in promoting a rules-based international order and human rights," said the Netherlands embassy in Dhaka ahead of a visit by a delegation. The 10-member delegation led by Birgitta Tazelaar, deputy director general for international cooperation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will visit Bangladesh from August 28 to August 31. The delegation would focus all aspects of Dutch policies for Bangladesh, such as social and economic development, water and climate adaptation, business development and issues of justice and human rights.</p>	25 August 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/dutch-look-boost-trade-bangladesh-3102661)	
08	<p><u>Govt borrowing from BB rises in July</u> The government's borrowing from the Bangladesh Bank increased to Tk 56,397 crore in July 2022 compared with that of Tk 22,160 crore in the same month of the past year due to liquidity pressure in the banking sector. In July 15 to July 31, the government borrowing from the central bank increased by Tk 4,720 crore. Bankers said that the country's banking sector was facing liquidity shortage due to a slow deposit growth against high lending growth and a huge dollar purchase from the central bank to meet the foreign currency crisis. So, the government might choose the central bank for financing its expenditures to increase liquidity in the banking sector, they said.</p>	25 August 2022	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/179274/govt-borrowing-from-bb-rises-in-july)	
09	<p><u>Cut in taxes on rice, diesel likely</u> Quirky price rises prompt government decision The government has moved to slash import taxes of two key essentials -- diesel and rice -- as high food and fuel prices amid boiling inflation hits hard ordinary people. The major step comes following instructions from government high-ups as the commoners are struggling to manage surging household and living expenditures, official sources say. Both the commodities, widely consumed by the multitudes, would see significant cuts in import taxes, they hinted. The total import taxes or total tax incidence (TTI) on diesel might be trimmed down to 10.25 per cent from the existing 34 per cent. Also, the government has decided to bring down the import duty on rice to 15.25 per cent from 25.75 per cent, the sources said. Officials said the customs authority under the National Board of Revenue (NBR) is working on preparing a summary on reduced customs-duty structures for the two key food and fuel items.</p>	26 August 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/cut-in-taxes-on-rice-diesel-likely-1661452859)	

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10	<p><u>Raising local output of wheat, maize BB launches Tk 10b refinancing scheme</u></p> <p>The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has launched a refinancing scheme worth Tk 10 billion -- aiming to reduce import dependency of wheat and maize through facilitating local production of the food grains. Under the scheme, the farmers can avail low-cost fund by paying maximum 4.0 per cent interest, while the lenders can receive funds at 0.50 per cent from the central bank, according to a notification - issued by the BB on Thursday.</p> <p>Landless farmers, who own less than 0.494 acres of land, small and marginal farmers, who own 0.494 to 2.47 acres of land, and share-croppers will be eligible to receive loans up to Tk 0.20 million without any collateral. The farmers, however, will not be allowed to adjust their previous loans with the fresh loans under the scheme, the BB noted.</p> <p>The money will come from the central bank's own fund and its tenure will end on June 30, 2025. Interested scheduled banks have been asked to sign participatory agreements with the BB Agricultural Credit Department within 10 days from issuing the notification.</p>	26 August 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-launches-tk-10b-refinancing-scheme-1661453085)	
11	<p><u>24 int'l banks to accept LCs in dollars</u></p> <p>Twenty-four international banks have agreed to accept letters of credit (LCs) from Bangladesh for the import of grains from Russia and Ukraine in US dollars, apparently ushering relief from the spiraling of local food prices, said Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi yesterday. If necessary, the government will import food items from international markets to tackle the rise in prices, he said.</p>	26 August 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/24-intl-banks-accept-lcs-dollars-3103506)	
12	<p><u>BB to implement Tk 25,000cr loan package to enhance capacity of small sectors</u></p> <p>Small entrepreneurs in the cluster-based manufacturing industries will get five-year term loans with flexible conditions from the Tk 25000 crore special refinance scheme of Bangladesh Bank. The central bank signed a loan deal with 46 banks on Wednesday to implement the scheme to help the cottage and small industries recover from the Covid pandemic shock.</p> <p>The entrepreneurs will borrow from the scheme at 7 per cent interest rate for a five-year term, while the banks will get funds from the BB at 2 per cent interest for a three-year term.</p> <p>The BB has specified that that a minimum of 70 per cent of the total disbursed loans should be distributed to the manufacturing and service sector and a maximum of 30 per cent in the business sector. Out of this, a minimum of 75 per cent has been asked to be distributed among cottage, micro, and small entrepreneurs and a maximum of 25 per cent among medium entrepreneurs.</p>	26 August 2022	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/179367/bb-to-implement-tk-25000cr-loan-package-to-enhance-capacity-of-small-sectors)	
13	<p><u>জুলাইয়ে রাজস্ব ঘাটতি ২ হাজার ৮২৬ কোটি টাকা</u></p> <p>চলতি অর্থবছরের জুলাই মাসে রাজস্ব আদায়ের লক্ষ্যমাত্রা ছিল ২০ হাজার ৫৮৬ কোটি টাকা। আয়কর, ভ্যাট ও শুল্ক খাতে সব মিলিয়ে এ মাসে আদায় হয়েছে ১৭ হাজার ৭৬০ কোটি টাকা। সে হিসাবে রাজস্ব আহরণে ঘাটতি রয়েছে ২ হাজার ৮২৬ কোটি টাকা। ২০২২-২৩ অর্থবছরের জুলাই মাসে লক্ষ্যমাত্রার চেয়ে প্রায় ৩ হাজার কোটি টাকা কম আদায় হয়েছে। তবে ঘাটতি থাকলেও জুলাইয়ে সার্বিকভাবে রাজস্ব আদায় বেড়েছে বা প্রবৃদ্ধি হয়েছে ১৫ শতাংশ।</p> <p>এনবিআরের কর্মকর্তারা জানান, অর্থবছরের প্রথম প্রান্তিকে রাজস্ব আদায়ের গতি বরাবরই স্লথ থাকে। তার পর থেকে ধীরে ধীরে তা বাড়তে থাকে। সবচেয়ে বেশি বাড়তে শেষ দুই মাসে। দীর্ঘদিন ধরেই রাজস্ব আদায়ে এই প্রবণতা চলে আসছে।</p>	26 August 2022	Sangbad (https://sangbad.net.bd/news/business/74096/)	

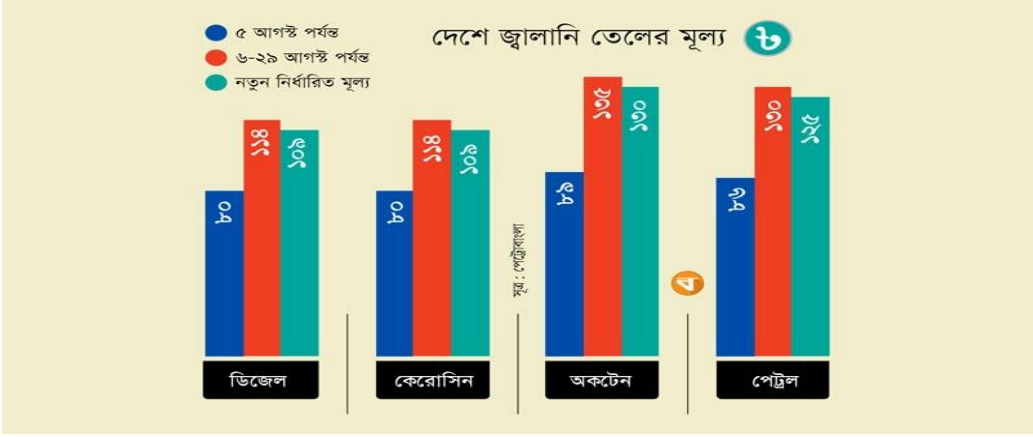
Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
14	<p>আমদানিতে বিকল্প মুদ্রার সন্ধানে সরকার রাশিয়া-ইউক্রেন থেকে বিকল্প উপায়ে আমদানির ভাবনা</p> <p>পণ্য আমদানিতে ডলারের বিকল্প মুদ্রা ব্যবহারের উপায় খুঁজছে সরকার। রাশিয়ার রুবল, ভারতের রুপি, চীনা ইউয়ান বিকল্প মুদ্রা হিসেবে ব্যবহার করা যায় কিনা আর করলে কী ধরনের সুবিধা-অসুবিধা হতে পারে, তা নিয়ে আলাপ-আলোচনা চলছে। তবে আপাতত রাশিয়া ও ইউক্রেনের সঙ্গে লেনদেন করতে পারছে এমন ব্যাংকের মাধ্যমে ডলারেই অর্থ পরিশোধ করে প্রয়োজনীয় পণ্য আমদানির পরিকল্পনা করছে সরকার। বিশ্বে এমন ব্যাংক ২৪টি আছে জানিয়ে বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী টিপু মুনশী বলেছেন, ‘এসব ব্যাংকের মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশ ডলার দিয়ে এই দুটি দেশ থেকে খাদ্য আমদানি করতে পারবে।’</p> <p>বিকল্প উপায়ে রাশিয়া থেকে কীভাবে আমদানি করা যায় তা নিয়ে গতকাল দুপুরে মন্ত্রিপরিষদ বিভাগে আন্তঃমন্ত্রণালয় বৈঠক অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। এতে বাণিজ্য ও খাদ্যমন্ত্রী ছাড়াও ব্যবসায়ীরা যোগ দেন। বৈঠকে দেশের খাদ্য আমদানি ও মজুদ এবং ইউক্রেন-রাশিয়া থেকে আমদানির প্রক্রিয়া নিয়ে আলোচনা হয়।</p>	26 August 2022	<p>Sangbad https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2022-08-26/news/frontpage/121036</p>	
15	<p>ক্রমান্বয়ে ভারতের বৃহৎ রেল নেটওয়ার্কে যুক্ত হচ্ছে বাংলাদেশ</p>  <p>১৯৬৫ সালে ভারত পাকিস্তান যুদ্ধের সময় বাংলাদেশ-ভারতের মধ্যে যে আটটি ইন্টারসেকশন বন্ধ হয়েছিল, এরই মধ্যে তার পাঁচটি চালু হয়েছে। বাকিগুলো পর্যায়ক্রমে চালু হবে</p>	26 August 2022	<p>Bonik Barta https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/31184/%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AD%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%83%E0%A6%B9%E0%A7%8E-%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B2-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%93%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B6</p>	

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16	<p><u>Cross-border ecommerce Billions missed in untapped trade</u> <u>BB suggests policy formulation</u></p> <p>The central bank has suggested preparing a state policy on cross-border ecommerce as stakeholders say Bangladesh misses billions in such untapped online trade in goods and services. In its report to commerce ministry on modalities of the trade, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) has recommended fixing annual purchasing limit in individual level under the cross-border ecommerce trade. Also recommended is making lists of digital contents including which will be purchasable and which not.</p> <p>A committee headed by the director at foreign currency department of the BB submitted the suggestions after reviewing different aspects of such online offshore trade. Earlier, the central digital cell under the commerce ministry had asked for preparing the report.</p>	27 August 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/billions-missed-in-untapped-trade-1661536309	
17	<p><u>Asst USTR Christopher Wilson in exclusive interview with FE Bangladesh's labour rights situation delays GSP revival</u> <u>US traders want to see transparent regulatory environment in Bangladesh, says Christopher Wilson</u></p> <p>Less-than-expected reform measures for ensuring labour rights hold back restoration of the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) facility for Bangladesh by the United States, a top US trade official has said. "Bangladesh has taken some initial steps to amend its labour laws, but workers here continue to be subjected to unfair labour practices. They face retaliation too often when they complain or attempt to organise collectively for change," said Assistant US Trade Representative (USTR) Christopher Wilson.</p> <p>Mr Wilson arrived in Bangladesh Wednesday and had meetings with government officials of the ministries of ICT, agriculture, commerce, and foreign affairs as well as some business leaders. Data governance, technology, trade issues, and trade relationship, among others, came up for discussion during the meetings.</p> <p>The main purpose of his visit was stated to be helping bolster bilateral trade relations between the US and Bangladesh. Dhaka has requested for long restoration of the suspended GSP facility on the country's single-largest apparel market in particular.</p>	27 August 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladeshs-labour-rights-situation-delays-gsp-revival-1661536226	
18	<p><u>PM sets tea workers' wage at Tk 170</u></p> <p>The daily wage of tea workers has been fixed at Tk 170. Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikus briefed the media after a meeting of tea garden owners with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The meeting began at 4:00pm at Gono Bhaban. After the meeting, Ahmad Kaikus said, "The prime minister has given this decision. She said that everyone should join work from tomorrow."</p>	27 August 2022	The Daily Star https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/pm-sets-tea-workers-wage-tk-170-3104441	
19	<p><u>Govt cuts diesel import tariff</u></p> <p>The National Board of Revenue (NBR) today reduced import tariff on diesel by 11.25 percentage points in order to cut import cost of the key fuel. With the cut, total tax on import of diesel the major import items among petroleum, would be 22.75 per cent from 34 per cent, according to the notification by the NBR.</p>	28 August 2022	The Daily Star https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/import-tariff-diesel-cut-1125-percentage-points-3105176	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
20	<p><u>Costs of 14 key essentials, services hit record highs</u></p> <p>Above 14 key essentials and services have become costlier by 15-40 per cent just in last three months, biting a good portion on real income of millions of people, said market insiders. Costly diesel, rocketing import costs followed by appreciation of US dollar and a war in the Europe are key reasons while market syndication here was fuelling up twinge further, according to experts.</p> <p>Expenditure for staple rice and flour, both liquid and powdered milk, egg, transport and toiletries' reached a record high this August while sugar, fish, chicken meat, many vegetables (seven vegetables and green chilli), some spices (clove, cumin seed, onion, red chilli), pulses (anchor, lentil) also witnessed a notable hike during this period, according to Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB), Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM) and city groceries.</p>	28 August 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/costs-of-14-key-essentials-services-hit-record-highs-1661621539	
21	<p><u>Govt tightens stance on project time, cost overrun</u> <u>PC won't endorse any revision plea unless conditions met</u></p> <p>Project revision and extension faces hard times as the Planning Commission is applying a new method of scrutinising every step during implementation of ongoing projects to prevent time and cost escalations, officials say. "We have prepared an information form. When any project office seeks time extension or revision of the projects, we call them to provide all the information regarding the implementation status. If they fail, we do not endorse their demand," a senior PC official said Sunday. In the form, all the information from the "date of approval" to "latest implementation status" of the development project will have to be reflected, he said. In most of the cases, projects' authorities fail to execute the development projects under the Annual Development Programme (ADP) in time and seek time extension or revision by enlarging the cost.</p> <p>An FE analysis has found that more than 80 per cent of projects in the ADP over the last few years got extension or revision for their failure in timely execution.</p>	29 August 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-tightens-stance-on-project-time-cost-overrun-1661710613	
22	<p><u>Govt hunt for revenues to make two ends meet</u> <u>Fresh fees imposed on 46 export-import services</u> <u>Existing trade-related fees also jacked up</u></p> <p>The government has imposed fresh fees on 46 types of export-import services to increase its non-tax earnings to make two ends meet, in a measure seen as ill-timed. By a twin-stroke it has also increased fees of export-registration certificate (ERC), import- registration certificate (IRC) and indenting- certificate renewal.</p> <p>Currently, the Office of Chief Controller of Imports and Exports (CCI&E) under commerce ministry provides 52 types of services. It provides the services to traders under Online Licensing Module (OLM). Of them, it only collects fees against six services fixed by the government. The six services are: commercial and industrial IRC and renewal, ERC and renewal and formalin production, import, and storage and sale licensing.</p> <p>The new fee rates will be made effective from next month, September. The commerce ministry on Thursday last issued a circular to this effect. The imposed and increased fees will increase cost of trade and business and also create suffering for the businesses concerned, stakeholders say.</p>	29 August 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fresh-fees-imposed-on-46-export-import-services-1661710674	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
23	<p><u>FC settlement thru' RTGS from Sept 04</u> <u>BB issues notice to facilitate businesses</u></p> <p>The central bank has decided to introduce foreign currency (FC) clearing and settlement through the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system for the first time - from September 04 - to facilitate business activities, officials said. Under the new payment system, five currencies - including US dollar, Great Britain Pound, Euro, Canadian dollar and Japanese Yen - would be used to settle payments within the country through inter-bank transactions. The clearing and settlement of Chinese Yuan would be incorporated in the RTGS system soon, according to a notification - issued by the Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Sunday.</p> <p>"The banks may clear as well as settle their FC transactions using the payment system from their own offices without coming to the BB," a top central banker told the FE, while explaining the main advantage of the new system. "It will also help easing doing business in Bangladesh."</p> <p>More than 100 million foreign currencies, mostly the US dollar, are expected to be dealt in each working day through the RTGS system without losing any time, according to the central banker.</p>	29 August 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fc-settlement-thru-rtgs-from-sept-04-1661710724	
24	<p><u>Skills gap in 10 industrial sectors nearly 30pc: study</u></p> <p>The average skills gap in 10 industrial sectors is about 30 per cent with the gap increasing with the level of technological sophistication of the sectors, according to a study conducted by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies. The BIDS on Sunday unveiled the findings of the study titled labour market studies for skills for employment investment programme at a dissemination workshop held at the Lakeshore Hotel in the capital Dhaka. According to the study report, training programmes are needed to gradually move towards technologically sophisticated industries as the skills gap is higher for the professionals and technical persons. SEIP project of the finance ministry commissioned the BIDS to conduct the study on the labour market on skills demand, supply and mismatch. Kazi Iqbal, senior research fellow of the BIDS, presented the findings on the 10 sectors, including agro processing, health care, hospitality and tourism, RMG and textile, constructions, leather, light engineering, shipbuilding and electronics.</p>	29 August 2022	New Age https://www.newagebd.net/article/179607/skills-gap-in-10-industrial-sectors-nearly-30pc-study	
25	<p><u>‘বাংলাদেশে বিনিয়োগে আগ্রহী ভারতীয় ব্যবসায়ীরা, ৯টি ইওআই স্বাক্ষর’</u></p> <p>বাংলাদেশে যৌথভাবে বিপুল পরিমাণে বিনিয়োগে আগ্রহী ভারতীয় ব্যবসায়ীরা। বাংলাদেশ বিনিয়োগ উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষের (বিডা) নির্বাহী চেয়ারম্যান মো. সিরাজুল ইসলাম এই তথ্য জানিয়েছেন। গতকাল বিডার কনফারেন্স রুমে আয়োজিত এক মিডিয়া ব্রিফিংয়ে তিনি একথা বলেন।</p> <p>সভাপতির বক্তব্যে তিনি বলেন, ‘গত ২৩ আগস্ট ভারতের রাজস্থানের রাজধানী জয়পুরে কনফেডারেশন অব ইন্ডিয়ান ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (সিআইআই) ও ইন্ডিয়া-বাংলাদেশ চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রির (আইবিসিসিআই) আয়োজনে ভারত ও বাংলাদেশের মধ্যে বাণিজ্য ও বিনিয়োগ সম্ভাবনা শীর্ষক কনফারেন্স অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। কনফারেন্সে ভারতীয় বিনিয়োগকারীরা বাংলাদেশের বিভিন্ন সেক্টরে বিপুল পরিমাণে বিনিয়োগের আগ্রহ প্রকাশ করেন এবং বাংলাদেশের বিভিন্ন কোম্পানির সঙ্গে যৌথভাবে বিনিয়োগের জন্য ভারতীয় কোম্পানিগুলো ৯টি ইওআই স্বাক্ষর করে। এতে প্রাথমিক অবস্থায় ভারতীয় বিনিয়োগ থাকবে ৮০০ কোটি টাকারও বেশি।’</p>	29 August 2022	Sangbad https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2022-08-29/news/business/121159	

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26	<p><u>Transparency in budget making</u> <u>Bangladesh scores lowest in the region</u></p> <p>Transparency in Bangladesh's budget-making process continues to deteriorate, slipping to the lowest stand in the subcontinent as per a latest revelation on global rankings. In the 8th edition of Open Budget Survey (OBS), 2021, sponsored by the Washington-based International Budget Partnership (IBP), Bangladesh scored only 30 out of 100, far below the global average of 45.</p> <p>With the latest score, the country is now placed in the 95th position among 120 countries, although Bangladesh was the top performer in South Asia a decade ago with the score of 58.</p> <p>In the previous edition in 2019, Bangladesh's position was 79th among 117 countries, according to the survey report unveiled Monday at a function attended by the planning minister as chief guest.</p>	30 August 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladesh-scores-lowest-in-the-region-1661796690)	
27	<p><u>Fund flow into pvt sector increases</u> <u>Credit expansion stokes fear of inflation fuelling</u> <u>Higher disbursement of low-cost loans from refinancing schemes ups fund flow</u></p> <p>Credit flow into Bangladesh's private sector has been on the up and up pushed by rising demand, particularly for trade financing, sources say on a cautious note about a possible side-effect. The upturn is evident in July findings that also show loan disbursement from the low-cost refinancing schemes, offered by the central bank, have also pushed up credit growth particularly in private sector, officials said Monday.</p> <p>The credit flow rose to 13.95 per cent in July 2022, year on year, from 13.66 per cent a month before, according to the central bank's latest statistics. It was 12.94 per cent in May this calendar year. It was 0.35-percentage-point higher than the Bangladesh Bank (BB) target of 13.60 per cent for the first half (H1) of the current fiscal year (FY) 2022-23. Experts, however, fear that the ongoing upward trend in inflationary pressure on the economy may be fueled further if the existing trend in the private-sector credit growth continues.</p>	30 August 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/credit-expansion-stokes-fear-of-inflation-fuelling-1661796822)	
28	<p><u>Foreign aid disbursements rise in July</u></p> <p>Foreign aid disbursements increased by 48.5% in the first month of the fiscal year, but the government could not manage any commitments for fresh loans from development partners. Bangladesh, however, received a commitment for a donation of \$1.53 million from the United Nations, according to data from the Economic Relations Division (ERD). In the first month of fiscal 2022-23, development partners disbursed \$488 million. It was \$328.66 million in the same period of the last fiscal year.</p>	30 August 2022	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/foreign-aid-disbursements-rise-july-487042)	
29	<p><u>অনিয়ম থাকলে পরিচালক হওয়া যাবে না</u></p> <p>বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানের পরিচালক হওয়ার যোগ্যতা নির্ধারণ করে দিয়ে বলেছে, অনুমোদন ছাড়া কেউ কোনো আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানের পরিচালক হতে পারবেন না। সেই সঙ্গে কেন্দ্রীয় ব্যাংকের অনুমোদন ছাড়া কাউকে অব্যাহতি, বরখাস্ত বা অপসারণ করা যাবে না এবং আগে প্রতিষ্ঠানের বেতনভুক্ত ছিলেন, এমন কেউ পরিচালক হতে পারবেন না।</p> <p>বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান ও বাজার বিভাগ গতকাল সোমবার এসব নিয়ে এক প্রজ্ঞাপন জারি করেছে। এর আগে আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানগুলোতে যে কেউ পরিচালক হতে পারতেন, আবার যখন তখন বাদও পড়তেন। এভাবে দেশের কয়েকটি আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে ব্যাপক অনিয়ম হয়। ফলে ওই সব প্রতিষ্ঠানের গ্রাহকেরা এখন জমা টাকা ফেরত পারছেন না।</p>	30 August 2022	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/bank/gzkwqn6229)	


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30	<p>শুষ্ক কমিয়ে সমন্বয় করা হলো জ্বালানি তেলের দাম</p>  <p>দেশে জ্বালানি তেলের মূল্য</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Commodity</th> <th>৫ আগস্ট পর্যন্ত</th> <th>৬-২৯ আগস্ট পর্যন্ত</th> <th>নতুন নির্ধারিত মূল্য</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ডিজেল</td> <td>৮০</td> <td>৮১</td> <td>৮০</td> </tr> <tr> <td>কেরোসিন</td> <td>৮০</td> <td>৮১</td> <td>৮০</td> </tr> <tr> <td>অকটেন</td> <td>৯১</td> <td>৯০</td> <td>৯০</td> </tr> <tr> <td>পেট্রল</td> <td>৮৩</td> <td>৮০</td> <td>৮৪</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>মূল্য: পেট্রল/লিটার</p> <p>৪</p> <p>ডিজেল আমদানিতে শুষ্ক কমিয়ে দাম সমন্বয়ের সিদ্ধান্ত নিয়েছে সরকার। জ্বালানি তেলের দাম সমন্বয়ের কথা জানিয়ে গতকাল প্রজ্ঞাপন জারি করেছে বিদ্যুৎ, জ্বালানি ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়। এতে দেশের বাজারে জ্বালানি তেলে লিটারপ্রতি দাম ৫ টাকা কমানো হয়েছে। গতকাল রাত ১২টার পর থেকে ডিপোর ৪০ কিলোমিটারের মধ্যে ভোক্তা পর্যায়ে এ দাম কার্যকর হবে।</p> <p>জ্বালানি তেলের দাম বাড়ানোর আগে ভোক্তা পর্যায়ে পণ্যটির দাম স্থিতিশীল রাখতে শুষ্কছাড়ের পরামর্শ দিয়েছিলেন অর্থনীতিবিদ ও জ্বালানি বিশেষজ্ঞরা। নিত্যপণ্যের বাজার নিয়ন্ত্রণে রাখতে জ্বালানি তেলের দাম না বাড়ানোরও আহ্বান জানিয়ে আসছিলেন তারা। এর পরও চলতি বছর দেশে দুই দফায় ডিজেল-কেরোসিন এবং অকটেন ও পেট্রলের দাম এক দফা বাড়ানো হয়। সর্বশেষ মূল্যবৃদ্ধির সিদ্ধান্ত অনুযায়ী ডিজেল, কেরোসিন, অকটেন ও পেট্রলের বর্ধিত মূল্য কার্যকর ছিল ২৩ দিন।</p>	Commodity	৫ আগস্ট পর্যন্ত	৬-২৯ আগস্ট পর্যন্ত	নতুন নির্ধারিত মূল্য	ডিজেল	৮০	৮১	৮০	কেরোসিন	৮০	৮১	৮০	অকটেন	৯১	৯০	৯০	পেট্রল	৮৩	৮০	৮৪	30 August 2022	<p>Bonik Barta https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/311724/%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%9F-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE-%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%8B-%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE-%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE</p>	
Commodity	৫ আগস্ট পর্যন্ত	৬-২৯ আগস্ট পর্যন্ত	নতুন নির্ধারিত মূল্য																					
ডিজেল	৮০	৮১	৮০																					
কেরোসিন	৮০	৮১	৮০																					
অকটেন	৯১	৯০	৯০																					
পেট্রল	৮৩	৮০	৮৪																					
31	<p>Nine commodities Govt to fix prices within 15 days</p> <p>The government will fix the retail sale prices of nine essential commodities, including rice, wheat, flour, edible oil, sugar, lentil and onion, within the next 15 days. It also warns of taking legal action against price manipulators to ensure the sale of the essential items at fixed rates set by the government.</p> <p>On Tuesday, commerce minister Tipu Munshi told reporters at his secretariat office after a meeting on the review of prices, stock and supply of commodities. He says, "We've discussed overall situation of essential items. The meeting has decided that the Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission (BTTC) will fix the prices of nine essentials." The consumer goods are rice, wheat, flour, edible oil, sugar, lentil, onion, MS products and cement, he adds. Mr Tipu says the BTTC will fix the prices within the next 15 days in consultation with stakeholders, including traders concerned and trade bodies. The items must be sold at fixed prices. Otherwise, consumer rights protection department and competition commission will fine and sue price-fixers directly.</p>	31 August 2022	<p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-to-fix-prices-within-15-days-1661881405</p>																					

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
32	<p><u>Inland container depots revise down charges</u> Owners of private inland container depots (ICDs) in Chattogram yesterday revised the charges for all five types of container handling services, a day after the latest government move to trim fuel prices. Following a diesel price hike by 42.5 per cent on August 6, ICD owners gradually raised the import container handling charge by around 34 per cent, empty container handling charge by 24 per cent and export goods and container handling charges by 25 per cent over the past three weeks. As the government on Monday announced a cut in diesel prices by Tk 5 per litre, members of the Bangladesh Inland Container Depots Association (Bicda) in a virtual meeting yesterday decreased their charges by 3.5 per cent to 5 per cent from the recently increased rates.</p>	31 August 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/inland-container-depots-revise-down-charges-3107146)	
33	<p><u>Individuals can't hold foreign currencies over \$10,000: BB</u> Bangladesh Bank on Wednesday said that no one can keep foreign currency notes over \$10,000 for more than one month. The central bank issued a notification on Wednesday and sent it to all respected banks for displaying the notification to raise awareness. According to it, a resident Bangladeshi can't keep a cash of not more than \$10,000, or foreign currency of equivalent, or in an authorized dealer bank as a resident foreign currency deposit. The circular also states that it is mandatory for resident Bangladeshi citizens to sell the excess amount of \$10,000 to an authorized dealer bank/licensed money changer or deposit it as resident foreign currency deposit within one month of arrival in the country from abroad. The BB notification said that possession of foreign currency outside the limit will be an offense, punishable under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947. Resident Bangladeshis are requested to sell unauthorized foreign currency to authorized dealer banks/licensed money changers by September 30.</p>	01 September 2022	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/179833/individuals-cant-hold-foreign-currencies-over-10000-bb)	
34	<p><u>August import LC payments dip 25%</u> Payments against import letters of credit (LCs) in August dropped 25% compared to the previous month, owing to steps such as elevating LC margin to 100% to stabilize the country's forex market. LC payments stood at \$5.93 billion in August, down from \$7.42 billion in the previous month, according to the latest report of the Bangladesh Bank.</p>	01 September 2022	Dhaka Tribune (https://www.dhakatribune.com/economy/2022/09/01/august-import-lc-payments-dip-25)	
35	<p><u>Pricing of essentials amid market disarray</u> <u>Tariff Commission compiling data to recommend MRP</u> <u>Writing to producers, importers for submitting info</u> A move gets going to compile data about the nine essentials listed by the government to set their consumer-level prices, in a latest bid for cooling the overheated market. Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission (BTTC) is collating the market data ahead of recommending reasonable prices of the mass-consumed items that became rather unaffordable for the commoners. As per recent directives by the Ministry of Commerce to get to grips with the wayward market, the BTTC will have to determine the reasonable prices of nine essential products within 15 days. The products are: rice, onion, wheat, flour, refined sugar, lentils, edible oils, and building materials Ms Rod and Cement. The commission Wednesday sent letters to Mild Steel Rod (MS Rod) and Cement producers seeking 11 types of data in next three working days. A senior official of the BTTC says the commission would write to the importers and relevant stakeholders seeking details of lentils, wheat and flour next Sunday. "BTTC has available information on import and local production of onions, edible oils and sugar," he adds, indicating the homework being done before determining tariffs of the products.</p>	02 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tariff-commission-compiling-data-to-recommend-mrp-1662053803)	

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36	<p><u>Over \$4.0b remitted home in July-Aug</u> The inflow of remittances crossed US\$4.0 billion in the first two months of the current fiscal year (FY), 2022-23, following higher manpower export particularly to the Middle East countries. The flow of inward remittances rose by more than 12 per cent to \$4.13 billion during the July-August period of FY '23 from \$3.68 billion in the same period of the previous fiscal.</p> <p>The money sent home by Bangladeshis working abroad amounted to \$2.04 billion in August 2022, down by \$ 58.52 million from the previous month's level, according to the central bank's latest statistics, released on Thursday. In July last, the remittances stood at nearly \$ 2.10 billion. It was \$1.81 billion in August 2021. Actually, the remittance receipt registered a 12.57 per cent year-on-year growth in August, but the figure-\$2.03 billion-was 3.0 per cent lower than earnings of July 2022.</p> <p>Most of the banks received the inward remittances offering maximum at Tk 113 on Thursday through the overseas exchange houses while cash dollar was traded at Tk 112 on the open market, generally known as kerb market, according to market operators.</p>	02 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/over-40b-remitted-home-in-july-aug-1662053844)	
37	<p><u>FBCCI seeks Jica's assistance to set up labs at ports</u> The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) has sought cooperation from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) to establish lab facilities at land, sea and international airports. FBCCI Senior Vice President Mostofa Azad Chowdhury made the call during a meeting with the representatives of the Jica and the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA) at the chamber's office in Dhaka yesterday. There is a huge demand for Bangladeshi food and agro products in the northeastern states of India, and accredited lab facilities at the land ports will facilitate the export of the products to the states, he said in a press release.</p>	02 September 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/fbcci-seeks-jicas-assistance-set-labs-ports-3109106)	
38	<p><u>Dutch, Bangladeshi firms to invest 6m euros in aquaculture</u> The Dutch government has teamed up with some Bangladeshi companies to invest 6 million euros to ensure sustainable growth of Bangladesh's aquaculture sector. The parties will establish three centres of excellence in Sylhet, Khulna, and Cox's Bazar to introduce and demonstrate different types of improved and more sustainable techniques for fish breeding and cultivation.</p>	02 September 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/dutch-bangladeshi-firms-invest-6m-euros-aquaculture-3109071)	
39	<p><u>World food prices keep falling: FAO</u> PARIS, Sept 2 (AFP): World food prices have fallen for a fifth consecutive month, partly thanks to the resumption of exports from Ukraine's Black Sea ports, a UN agency said on Friday.</p> <p>The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) food price index, which tracks the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities, has been falling steadily since hitting an all-time high in March following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. There was a moderate decline of 1.9 percent in August. Vegetable oils have fallen below their level a year ago, after a 3.3 percent drop. The FAO cereals index fell by 1.4 percent, driven by a 5.1 percent drop in international wheat prices.</p>	03 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/world-food-prices-keep-falling-fao-1662136477?date=03-09-2022)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
40	<p><u>Wise after the event</u> <u>New refinery planned to navigate oil crisis</u></p> <p>Bangladesh now goes for building a new refinery after Eastern Refinery Ltd's lone outmoded unit proved incapable of refining crude to be imported for navigating the current oil crisis, officials have said. However, sources said Friday, the government is going to endorse refinery-construction project for ERL while installing an oil-unloading pipeline from the Bay of Bengal has been stalled for seven years.</p> <p>To make up for the country's poor oil-refining capacity, the state-owned ERL under Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) has taken up the 3.0-million-tonne-capacity refinery project. The cost is as much as Tk 197.69 billion, proposed to be spent entirely from government's internal resources, the sources said.</p> <p>The BPC recently sent a development project proposal (DPP) to the Planning Commission (PC) for its seal of approval.</p>	03 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/new-refinery-planned-to-navigate-oil-crisis-1662136289?date=03-09-2022)	
41	<p><u>Contract today on 55MW wind power plant at Mongla</u></p> <p>A Chinese-Bangladeshi consortium will sign an agreement today (Sunday) with Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) to set up a 55MW wind power plant on a build-own-operate basis at Mongla in Bagerhat, reports UNB. As per the proposed deal, state-owned BPDB will purchase electricity from the independent power producer (IPP) plant for over the period of 20 years. Earlier, in December 2020, the Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase approved the proposal of a Chinese-Bangladeshi consortium to set up the power plant on build-own-operate basis.</p> <p>As per the proposal of the Consortium of Envision Energy, (Jiangsu) Co. Ltd., China, SQ Trading and Engineering, Bangladesh and Envision Renewable Energy Limited, Hong Kong will develop the plant under a new special project vehicle (SPV) company Mongla Green Power Ltd. The project cost is expected to be around \$96.597m. State-owned BPDB will purchase electricity from the plant at a levelized tariff of 13.20 Cents, equivalent to Tk13 per kilowatt hour (each unit).</p> <p>According to BPDB officials, the government will pay a total of more than Tk2035.12 crore for the entire contract period against its purchase of electricity from the maiden private wind power project.</p>	04 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/contract-today-on-55mw-wind-power-plant-at-mongla-1662219738?date=04-09-2022)	
42	<p><u>1,000 RMG factories run on sub-contract</u> <u>They are not associated with BGMEA, BKMEA posing safety risks</u></p> <p>More than a thousand readymade garment (RMG) factories across the country, which mostly operate on sub-contract, are not associated with any of the two apparel apex bodies - BGMEA and BKMEA. As a result, these factories pose safety risks to workers as the majority of them remain outside the inspection purview that took place after the Rana Plaza building collapse, industry insiders said.</p> <p>After the Rana Plaza tragedy, some 3,500 export-oriented RMG factories, having membership of either Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) or Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), were inspected by the western retailers, erstwhile Accord and Alliance, and under an ILO-government joint initiative.</p>	04 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/1000-rmg-factories-run-on-sub-contract-1662219727?date=04-09-2022)	

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43	<p><u>Bangladesh's exports rise by 36pc in Aug</u> Bangladesh's export earnings in August 2022 grew by 36.18 per cent to \$4.60 billion compared with that of \$3.38 billion in the same month of 2021 due to increased shipments of readymade garment products. The country's export earnings in July and August, the first two months of the current financial year 2022-23, increased by 25.31 per cent to \$8.59 billion from \$6.85 billion in the same period of FY22, according to the Export Promotion Bureau data released on Sunday.</p>	04 September 2022	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/180196/bangladeshs-exports-rise-by-36pc-in-aug)	
44	<p><u>Loan rescheduling</u> <u>BB eases terms for NBFIs' clients</u> The Bangladesh Bank (BB) issued a circular for the non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) on Sunday, relaxing loan- repayment facility for their borrowers, especially the Covid-affected businesses. The new loan-rescheduling policy will allow the defaulters to repay their term loans for a period of six years for the first time, five years for the second time, and another five years for the third time. Even the defaulters might get the rescheduling facility for the fourth time following special consideration. For the first time rescheduling, the minimum down payment will be 4.0 per cent of the total arrears or 7.0 per cent of the default instalments, whichever amount will be the lowest. For the second time, the minimum down payment will be 5.0 per cent of the total arrears or 8.0 per cent of the default instalments. For the third time, the down payment will be 6.0 per cent of the total arrears or 9.0 per cent of the default instalments. Earlier, the defaulters were able to regularise their loans by paying 10 per cent to 30 per cent of the unpaid amount as down payment. The BB in its latest circular also included some conditions to avail of the facility, which stated that the loan rescheduling or restructuring would be given six months grace period.</p>	05 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-eases-terms-for-nbfis-clients-1662313519)	
45	<p><u>NBR moves to draft ICD policy</u> <u>Stakeholders divided over two existing policies</u> Businesses involved in the clearance of export-import goods are divided over the existing two policies for setting up and operations of off-docks. Shipping agents prefer the policy framed by the Ministry of Shipping in 2016, while private off-dock operators find the one framed by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) in 2021, favourable. However, apparel exporters say the customs-related procedures should be determined by the NBR, while the shipping ministry should issue guidelines related to port operations. Following the disagreements between stakeholders, the NBR recently moved to frame a new policy for setting up and operation of private off-docks. The customs wing has formed a body, comprising customs and Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) representatives, to frame a draft of fresh ICD policy. The MoS ICD Policy-2016 stipulated a provision under which the policy would be scrapped in case of issuance of a new ICD policy. However, When the NBR issued ICD policy in 2021 it stipulated a provision to keep the MoS policy valid too. The newly formed committee will scrutinise the two policies and prepare a draft of new ICD policy. The five-member committee, formed on August 31, 2022, will have to submit a report by next one month on the basis of specific directives of the NBR.</p>	05 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/nbr-moves-to-draft-icd-policy-1662313594)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
46	<p><u>Officials and staff of BIDA greeted newly appointed Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah</u></p>  <p>Officials and staff of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) greeted their newly appointed Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah (senior secretary) with flowers and exchanged opinion with him at BIDA head office in the capital on Sunday</p>	05 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/officials-and-staff-of-bida-greeted-newly-appointed-executive-chairman-lokman-hossain-miah-1662309378)	
47	<p><u>Trade deficit rises in July amid high imports</u></p> <p>The country's trade deficit widened by \$628 million to about \$2 billion in July, the first month of the current fiscal year 2022-2023 compared with that in July of the past financial year. Bangladesh Bank data showed that the trade deficit surged to \$1.98 billion in July from that of \$1.35 billion in July 2021. A surge in merchandise imports against a growth in exports widened the trade deficit.</p> <p>The country's trade deficit reached a record high of 33.25 billion in FY22 from \$23.78 billion in the previous fiscal year. In July, the country's current account balance turned \$321 million negative from a positive balance of \$293 million in the same month in the previous year.</p> <p>The country has a deficit financial account of \$520 million in July against a surplus of \$24 million in the same month in 2021. The deficit in trade in services also increased in the past financial year to \$283 million from that of \$75 million in the same month of the past year.</p>	05 September 2022	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/180225/trade-deficit-rises-in-july-amid-high-imports)	
48	<p><u>India's \$7.862b line of credit</u> <u>Only \$1.5b from LoC unlocked so far</u> <u>Dhaka sees fund stuck in strings</u></p> <p>India has yet to relax terms and conditions binding use of its US\$7.862 billion line of credit (LoC) which affected execution of over 30 projects ongoing, insiders have said. New Delhi has disbursed only \$1.32 billion worth of funds in 12 years to last fiscal (FY2022) due to tougher procurement conditions, they said Monday. The disbursed loan accounts for only 17 per cent of the total amount pledged in the development-credit line.</p> <p>Meanwhile, government officials said there is no agenda about the LoC during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to New Delhi.</p>	06 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/only-15b-from-loc-unlocked-so-far-1662398446?date=06-09-2022)	
49	<p><u>Forex below \$39b</u></p> <p>Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves recently dipped below \$39 billion due to high import payments. The reserves stood at \$38.98 billion on Sunday, down from \$39.08 billion on September 1, according to data from Bangladesh Bank. According to an official of Bangladesh Bank, the reserves will slip even further, to below \$38 billion, after the central bank clears import payments to the tune of \$1.73 billion to the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) within a day or two.</p>	06 September 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/forex-below-39b-3112016)	

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50	<p><u>PM approves metro rail fare policy</u> Metro-rail fare has been set at Tk 5.0 per kilometre per ride, more than double the bus fare and less than half the fare declared for auto-rickshaws. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina approved the fare policy for Mass Rapid Transit Line-06 (MRT-06) on August 29 after its summary was placed for her review, according to official sources. They said the PM did not make any change in the fares mooted by the MRT fare-fixing committee following the guideline of the affordability of commuters on the Uttara-Motijheel corridor. However, some commuters reacted to the 'high' rates, but MRT project insiders said the rate is much lower than the costs estimated for operation over Tk 50-million running costs per day. They argue that the fare will have to increase the government's rate of subsidy. As per the approved fares, the MRT-06 ride from Uttara to Agargaon which is expected for inauguration by December will be Tk 60. The entire 20.1 kilometre one way ride from Uttara to Motijheel will be Tk 100. The minimum fare for riding the first-ever metro in the city is fixed at Tk 20 which is also exactly double than the minimum bus fare. The BRTA recently fixed the bus fare at Tk 2.15 kilometre per person with minimum Tk 10. The auto-rickshaw fare is Tk 12 per kilometre with minimum fare Tk 20 for first two kilometres.</p>	06 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/pm-approves-metro-rail-fare-policy-1662397574?date=06-09-2022)	
51	<p><u>NBR Time Release Study 2022</u> <u>Sea cargo release time averages 11 hours</u> <u>It is 7 days for air cargoes, 10 days for land cargoes</u> The average time from arrival to release of sea cargoes is more than 11 hours in Bangladesh, while it is seven days for air freight and over 10 days for land cargoes, according to a recent study. A group of World Customs Organisation (WCO)-trained customs officials of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) conducted the Time Release Study (TRS) 2022 in Chattogram seaport, Benapole landport and Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA), and found the average release time for imported products. The TRS report was unveiled in a programme at a city hotel on Monday. Abu Hena Md Rahmatul Muneem, Senior Secretary of the Internal Resources Division (IRD) and Chairman of the NBR, chaired the event.</p>	06 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/sea-cargo-release-time-averages-11-hours-1662398732?date=06-09-2022)	
52	<p><u>Import clearing hops over 25-32 stops</u> <u>Study finds such hurdles at major ports</u> Import clearing needs to hop over 25-32 stops at major ports in Bangladesh for lack of coordination among authorities, says a study report, thus slowing delivery of goods. Importers have to complete import-clearing process passing through 32 steps at Chattogram seaport -- the largest export-import hub of the country -- according to findings in the study by the customs wing supported by the World Customs Organisation (WCO). It takes 28 steps at Benapole, the largest land port, and 25 at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka. Completion of the customs procedures, from declaration to release of goods, requires eight days for seaborne cargo, two days and 11 hours for airfreight cargo, and five days and four hours for land cargo. The Time Release Study (TRS) 2022 report, prepared by a group of customs officials of the National Board of Revenue (NBR), published the findings Monday.</p>	07 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/import-clearing-hops-over-25-32-stops-1662486373)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
53	<p><u>Dhaka, Delhi sign seven deals and unveil projects</u> NEW DELHI, Sept 6: Bangladesh and India on Tuesday signed seven accords demonstrating cooperation in a number of areas, including water sharing of the Kushiya River. One of the memorandums of understanding (MoUs) was signed between the Ministry of Water Resources, Bangladesh, and the Ministry of Jal Shakti, India, on withdrawal of water by Bangladesh and India from the common border river Kushiya, reports UNB.</p> <p>The MoU between the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board), India, and the Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh, was signed for training of Bangladesh Railway personnel in India. On the other hand, an MoU between the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board), India, and the Ministry of Railways, Bangladesh, was signed on collaboration in IT systems such as FOIS and other IT applications for Bangladesh Railway.</p> <p>The National Judicial Academy, India, and the Supreme Court of Bangladesh signed an MoU on training and capacity-building programme for Bangladesh judicial officers in India.</p> <p>The MoU on scientific and technological cooperation was signed between Bangladesh Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (BCSIR) and Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), India.</p> <p>The two sides signed an MoU on cooperation in the area of space technology.</p> <p>The MoU between the Prasar Bharti and Bangladesh Television (BTV) was signed on cooperation in broadcasting.</p> <p>Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi witnessed signing of the bilateral instruments after holding bilateral talks at Hyderabad House in India's capital city as the two countries seek enhanced cooperation. Issues related to security cooperation, investment, enhanced trade relations, power and energy sector cooperation, water sharing of common rivers, water resources management, border management, combating drug smuggling and human trafficking will get priority during the talks between PM Hasina and her Indian counterpart Modi, officials said.</p>	07 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/dhaka-delhi-sign-seven-deals-and-unveil-projects-1662486076)	
54	<p><u>BB eases rules on export proceeds</u> ADs can retain value-added portion for 30 days Authorized dealer (AD) banks can retain value-added portion of export proceeds for 30 days instead of 15 days under a further relaxation of rules, for propping up Bangladesh's forex reserves. The central bank relaxed its regulations again on the encashment of the value-added portion of repatriated export proceeds to help boost export earnings of the country, officials have said. The latest softening of the regulations on utilization of the funds to settle import liabilities of relevant exporters is aimed at improving the forex situation, according to a notification issued Tuesday by the Bangladesh Bank (BB).</p> <p>Besides, the funds may be transferable to other ADs, within this prescribed time of 30 days, for settlement of import payments and/or export development fund (EDF) liabilities against admissible bulk imports of relevant exporters, it says.</p>	07 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-eases-rules-on-export-proceeds-1662486417)	
55	<p><u>Banks asked to suspend evening banking</u> Bangladesh Bank yesterday asked bank to suspend their evening banking operation in order to reduce electricity consumption as part of the government's austerity measures. The evening banking was rolled out in 2012, afterwards a good number of banks embraced the operation. The lenders will have to keep their operations suspended until further instruction is given by the central bank in this regard, according a notice issued by the banking watchdog.</p>	07 September 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/banks-asked-suspend-evening-banking-3112736)	

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56	<p><u>Labour rules amended</u> Trade unions, sexual harassment prevention get more focus The government has amended Labour Rules 2015, empowering trade unions in factories and making more provisions to prevent sexual harassment in workplaces. The government issued a gazette the of amended labour rules on September 1, bringing changes in 99 rules and repealing two others. According to the amended rules, a participation committee is not required in any establishment if there is a trade union. It also stipulates that if any participation committee is formed in the absence of a trade union, activities of the committee would be discontinued as soon as a trade union is formed. It was a longstanding demand from local labour rights groups and the International Labour Organisation that the participation committee could not be the alternative to trade union in a factory. The government promised to its international stakeholders, including the ILO and the European Union, to amend the labour rules in line with the ILO conventions by September 2022.</p>	07 September 2022	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/180397/labour-rules-amended)	
57	<p><u>Bangladesh consumer market to surpass UK, Germany by 2030: HSBC</u> Bangladesh is set to overtake the UK and Germany and become the world's ninth-largest consumer market by 2030, according to HSBC Holdings. HSBC also said Indonesia will pass Brazil to take fourth place, reports Bloomberg. Bangladesh will in the years to 2030 be Asia's fastest-growing consumer market, followed by India, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Indonesia, said analysts led by Herald van der Linde, head of equity strategy for the Asia Pacific, in a Sept 7 note.</p>	07 September 2022	The Business Standard (TBS) (https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-consumer-market-surpass-uk-germany-2030-hsbc-492054)	
58	<p><u>Expediting service delivery</u> <u>NBR opens digital system to verify tax return slips</u> The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has launched a digital system to verify the authenticity of tax-return submission and expedite service delivery by the authorities concerned. Its income-tax wing officially opened up the 'tax return verification module' on August 21 last, officials said. Anyone from across the country can verify authenticity of the return submission by inserting Taxpayers Identification Number (TIN) in the module, available on the NBR's website. In the current fiscal year budget, the government has made mandatory the submission of proof of tax return for getting around 40 types of services in both government and private entities. The entities will have to verify the tax return slip before providing services, as per Income Tax Ordinance-1984. In case of detection of a fake tax return slip by taxmen, the service providing entities may have to face a penalty of Tk 1.0 million. However, many of the service providers found it difficult, after the provision was passed through the Finance Act-2022, to verify the tax return slip as they had no access to the NBR's taxpayers' database, which is confidential as per the income tax law. Addressing the difficulties, a NBR team developed the return verification module in a customized manner where an authentication slip would be generated, verifying return submission rather than disclosing other information, officials said. The privacy of taxpayers' information would not be affected in the verification process, they added.</p>	08 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/nbr-opens-digital-system-to-verify-tax-return-slips-1662573603)	

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59	<p><u>PM urges Indian firms to invest in Bangladesh</u> Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged Indian investors to consider investing in the infrastructure, manufacturing, energy and transport sectors of Bangladesh and suggested they set up industries under buy-back arrangements to cut time and costs. She said Bangladesh-India cooperation should go beyond trade and include investment, finance, services, and technology transfer and be placed in the context of regional cooperation in order to achieve larger gains. She lamented the lack of adequate investment from India. In FY2021-22, foreign direct investment to Bangladesh totalled \$1.37 billion, with India accounting for only \$15.7 million, or 1.15%.</p>	08 September 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/pm-urges-indian-firms-invest-bangladesh-3113961)	
60	<p><u>এক বছরে ভ্যাটের আওতায় এল ৮০ হাজার প্রতিষ্ঠান</u> এক বছরে আরও প্রায় ৮০ হাজার প্রতিষ্ঠান মূল্য সংযোজন করের (মুসক বা ভ্যাট) আওতায় এসেছে। সর্বশেষ ২০২১-২২ অর্থবছরে দেশে ভ্যাট নিবন্ধিত প্রতিষ্ঠানের সংখ্যা দাঁড়িয়েছে ৩ লাখ ৭১ হাজার। এর আগের ২০২০-২১ অর্থবছরে এই সংখ্যা ছিল ২ লাখ ৯১ হাজার। এক বছরের ব্যবধানে ভ্যাটদাতা প্রতিষ্ঠানের সংখ্যা প্রায় ২৭ শতাংশ বেড়েছে। বারো মাসে এত ভ্যাট নিবন্ধন আগে কখনো হয়নি। এটি ইলেকট্রনিক বিজনেস আইডেন্টিফিকেশন নম্বর (ইবিআইএন) হিসেবে পরিচিত। জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডের (এনবিআর) ভ্যাট বিভাগের সর্বশেষ হালনাগাদ তথ্যে এমনটাই উঠে এসেছে।</p>	08 September 2022	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/nrruz73d2h)	
61	<p><u>Rate caps coming on dollar to manage forex market</u> <u>Banks may fix varied uniform rates for importers, exporters, overseas exchanges</u> Bangladesh's commercial banks are going to fix varied uniform rates for importers, exporters and overseas exchange houses to help manage the ongoing foreign-exchange volatility. Under the proposed rates, all the authorized dealer (AD) banks will offer maximum Tk 108 per dollar to the overseas exchange houses for receiving inward remittance instead of maximum Tk 113. The banks will also quote maximum Tk 99 for procuring export proceeds from the exporters instead of maximum Tk 101 while the rate for importers will be fixed in keeping with the weighted average rates of the exchange houses and the exporters. Such rate caps were discussed at a joint meeting of the Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB) and the Bangladesh Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association (BAFEDA) at the central bank headquarters in Dhaka on Thursday with Bangladesh Bank (BB) deputy governor Ahmed Jamal in the chair. The proposed rates are expected to be finalized at a meeting of top leaders of ABB and BAFEDA, scheduled to be held Sunday at the Sonali Bank Limited headquarters in Dhaka.</p>	09 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/rate-caps-coming-on-dollar-to-manage-forex-market-1662658448)	
62	<p><u>সুরক্ষাসামগ্রী তৈরিতে ১৬৬ কোটি টাকা বিনিয়োগ</u> ব্যক্তিগত সুরক্ষা (হাইজিন) ও বাসাবাড়ি পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখার পণ্য তৈরির কারখানা স্থাপনে বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিব শিল্পনগরে বিনিয়োগ করবে ভারতীয় কোম্পানি আরএসপিএল হেলথ বিডি লিমিটেড। কোম্পানিটি ১৭ কোটি ৫৬ লাখ ডলার বা ১৬৬ কোটি ৮২ লাখ টাকা (প্রতি ডলার ৯৫ টাকা ধরে) বিনিয়োগ করবে। এতে কর্মসংস্থান হবে প্রায় ৯০০ বাংলাদেশি। কারখানাটি স্থাপনের বিষয়ে সম্প্রতি বাংলাদেশ অর্থনৈতিক অঞ্চল কর্তৃপক্ষের (বেজা) সঙ্গে জমি বরাদ্দের চুক্তি করেছে আরএসপিএল হেলথ বিডি। গত বুধবার রাজধানীর আগারগাঁওয়ে বেজা কার্যালয়ে চুক্তিটি সই হয়। বেজার নির্বাহী চেয়ারম্যান ইউসুফ হারুন ও আরএসপিএল হেলথ বিডির এদেশীয় প্রধান রকিবুল মতিন চুক্তিতে সই করেন।</p>	09 September 2022	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/vv5jl82w82)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
63	<p>Righting flawed return submission Corporates lagging behind extended deadline DVS compliance must to check doctoring financials</p> <p>Tax authorities go lenient to facilitate corporate taxpayers in submitting genuine tax returns scanned through document verification system (DVS), billed as a failsafe device against the doctoring of company financials. Companies are allowed to file their tax returns for fiscal year 2021-22 by October 15 with approval from the relevant tax authority, tax officials have said. Many of the corporate taxpayers had submitted "false financial statements" previously with the tax returns to show less profit and pay less tax as there was no such mandatory verification system. Tax offices used to receive around 30,000 corporate tax returns every year with only 10,000-12,000 audited by chartered accountants.</p> <p>Taxmen say they have observed slow pace of corporate tax-return submission as many of the companies faced difficulties providing requisite documents and supporting papers to the chartered accountants for preparing DVS-verified financial statements. Corporate tax-return submissions until September reached 29,463 despite extension of deadline. Currently, a total of 93,000 companies have Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), NBR data show.</p>	09 September 2022	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/corporates-lagging-behind-extended-deadline-1662658674	
64	<p>হুল্লির কারণে এক বছরে ৭৮০ কোটি ডলার রেমিট্যান্স গায়েব</p> <p>হুল্লির কারণে বাংলাদেশ বিলিয়ন বিলিয়ন ডলারের রেমিট্যান্স থেকে বঞ্চিত হচ্ছে। পুলিশের অপরাধ তদন্ত বিভাগ সিআইডি হুল্লি চক্রের ৩টি গ্রুপকে গ্রেপ্তারের পর জানতে পেরেছে গত এক বছরে বাংলাদেশ কমপক্ষে ৭. ৮ বিলিয়ন (৭৮০ কোটি ডলার) রেমিট্যান্স থেকে বঞ্চিত হয়েছে। যা বাংলাদেশি টাকায় ৭৫ হাজার কোটি টাকা। সিআইডির তদন্তে এসেছে, মোবাইল ব্যাংকি বিকাশ, নগদ, রকেট, উপায়, ইউক্যাসহ বিভিন্ন মাধ্যমের ৫ হাজার এজেন্ট এ হুল্লির সঙ্গে জড়িত। গতকাল সিআইডির সদর দপ্তরে এক সংবাদ সম্মেলনে এসব তথ্য উঠে আসে।</p> <p>পুলিশের অপরাধ তদন্ত বিভাগ (সিআইডি) অভিযান চালিয়ে ৩টি মোবাইল ব্যাংকিং এজেন্ট গ্রুপের ১৬ জনকে গ্রেপ্তারের পর দাবি করেছে অবৈধ চ্যানেলে বিদেশ থেকে হুল্লির মাধ্যমে অর্থ আসায় শুধু গত চার মাসে ২৫ হাজার কোটি টাকার রেমিট্যান্স থেকে বঞ্চিত হয়েছে সরকার। হিসাব অনুযায়ী এক বছরে রেমিট্যান্স বঞ্চিতের পরিমাণ ৭৫ হাজার কোটি টাকা। গতকাল অভিযানের বিস্তারিত তুলে ধরতে সংবাদ সম্মেলনের আয়োজন করে সিআইডি।</p>	09 September 2022	Sangbad https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2022-09-09/news/frontpage/121725https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2022-09-09/news/frontpage/121725	
65	<p>মানব উন্নয়ন সূচকে চার ধাপ এগোল বাংলাদেশ</p> <p>জাতিসংঘ উন্নয়ন কর্মসূচি (ইউএনডিপি) মানব উন্নয়ন সূচকে চার ধাপ এগিয়েছে বাংলাদেশ। গতকাল ইউএনডিপির প্রকাশ করা 'মানব উন্নয়ন প্রতিবেদন ২০২১-২২'-এ এই চিত্র উঠে এসেছে। এর আগে ২০২০ সালের মানব উন্নয়ন প্রতিবেদনে বিশ্বের ১৮৯টি দেশের মধ্যে বাংলাদেশের অবস্থান ছিল ১৩৩। এ বছর ১৯১টি দেশের মধ্যে বাংলাদেশ উঠে এসেছে ১২৯তম অবস্থানে। মানব উন্নয়ন সূচকে দক্ষিণ এশিয়ার দেশগুলোর মধ্যে শ্রীলংকার অবস্থান সবচেয়ে ভালো। দেশটি বর্তমানে ৭৩তম। আর দক্ষিণ এশিয়ার অন্য দুই প্রধান দেশ ভারতের অবস্থান ১৩২ ও পাকিস্তানের অবস্থান ১৬১তম। এ অঞ্চলের অন্য দেশগুলোর মধ্যে নেপাল ১৪৩, ভুটান ১২৭, মালদ্বীপ ৯০ ও আফগানিস্তান ১৮০তম অবস্থানে আছে।</p> <p>ইউএনডিপির প্রতিবেদনে মানব উন্নয়ন সূচকে বাংলাদেশের ধারাবাহিক অগ্রগতির চিত্র দেখা গিয়েছে। ২০১৯ সালে বিশ্বের ১৮৫টি দেশের মধ্যে বাংলাদেশের অবস্থান ছিল ১৩৫তম। ২০১৮ সালে বৈশ্বিক মানব উন্নয়ন সূচকে আগের বছরের চেয়ে তিন ধাপ এগিয়ে তালিকায় ১৩৬তম স্থান পায় বাংলাদেশ।</p>	09 September 2022	Bonik Barta https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/312928%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%AC-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A8-%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%82%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AA-%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B2-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
66	<p><u>ভারতে কাঁচা পাট রপ্তানির মেয়াদ বাড়াল বাংলাদেশ</u> বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয় গত সোমবার রপ্তানি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরোর (ইপিবি) ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান এ এইচ এম আহসানকে চিঠি দিয়ে জানিয়েছে, কাঁচা পাট রপ্তানি করা যাবে আগামী ৩১ অক্টোবর পর্যন্ত। চিঠিতে অবশ্য দেশের নাম উল্লেখ করা হয়নি। রপ্তানি নীতি ২০২১-২৪ অনুযায়ী, কাঁচা পাট হচ্ছে শর্ত সাপেক্ষে রপ্তানি পণ্য। আগে ৩০ জুন পর্যন্ত রপ্তানির অনুমতি দিয়েছিল বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয়। পরে ৩১ আগস্ট পর্যন্ত মেয়াদ বাড়ানো হয়। সেই মেয়াদ শেষ হওয়ার পাঁচ দিন পর নতুন করে আবার প্রায় দুই মাসের জন্য বাড়ানো হয় কাঁচা পাট রপ্তানির মেয়াদ।</p>	09 September 2022	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/industry/j2ix091d6v)	
67	<p><u>Dhaka cautiously weighs export, revenue losses</u> <u>Look before you leap into vast bloc RCEP: Experts</u> Experts have cautioned that Bangladesh's exports might shrink and industries suffer setbacks if the country joins a new free-trading bloc called RCEP, unless its privileged market access is secured. A recent high-profile meeting was told that the exports to many of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) countries could fall in the range between 9.0 per cent and 31 per cent unless preferential market-access facilities are available during post-graduation era. These countries and probable export losses are: Japan 30.53 per cent, South Korea 27.53, New Zealand 11 per cent, Australia 11 per cent, Thailand 8.93 per cent and China 8.29 per cent, according to sources. Keeping this prospect in view, the meeting suggested assessment of all possible aspects and challenges before joining in the vast economic bloc.</p>	10 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/dhaka-cautiously-weighs-export-revenue-losses-1662746004)	
68	<p><u>Regional trade cooperation</u> <u>Do sufficient homework to make policies suitable</u> <u>Economists suggest at a book launching ceremony</u> Economists at a function on Saturday stressed the need for doing sufficient homework to make the country's trade policies and strategies suitable for regional cooperation agreements. Regional trade among the South Asian countries is only 5.0 per cent as compared to 25 per cent in (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) ASEAN countries and 50-60 per cent in European Union countries, they said. The trade cost between Bangladesh and Nepal is higher than that of Bangladesh-Brazil, Professor Mustafizur Rahman, distinguished fellow of the Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD), pointed out at a book launching ceremony in the capital. "ASEAN countries are bypassing us as we are not doing our homework to identify the barriers," he added. Dr Selim Raihan, Executive Director of South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), termed South Asia a less-integrated region and said, "Our internal policies and strategies are not favourable yet for regional cooperation agreements." He also said that the exporters of Bangladesh were raising allegations of non-tariff barriers in India.</p>	11 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/do-sufficient-homework-to-make-policies-suitable-1662828228)	
69	<p><u>US Fiscal Transparency Report 2022</u> <u>BD makes significant progress, still short of standards</u> Bangladesh for the first time has made significant progress towards meeting international requirements on the financial front but still falls short of the requisite standards, says a US official assessment report. The US Fiscal Transparency Report 2022, prepared by the US Department of State on countries that receive assistance from the United States, comes up with such evaluation about Bangladesh. The American foreign office has published the report since 2008 in consultation with other relevant U.S. agencies. About the performance of Bangladesh, the report says government's supreme audit institution reviewed the government's accounts but its reports did not contain substantive findings and were not made publicly available within a reasonable period. "The supreme audit institution did not meet international standards of independence," it says.</p>	11 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-makes-significant-progress-still-short-of-standards-1662828089)	

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70	<p><u>Padma Bridge O&M company in the offing</u></p> <p>The government is forming a separate company to be dedicated exclusively for looking after the operation and maintenance (O&M) work of the Padma Bridge. The Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA) has already registered the name, Padma Bridge Operation and Maintenance Company, with the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies and Firms (RJSC), and drafted the memorandum of articles (MoA) and articles of association (AoA). "We will now send the drafts for approval in the next BBA board meeting," said an official involved in the drafting process, adding that the BBA's target is to make the company operational in December next, well before ending the Padma Multipurpose Bridge (PMB) project scheduled in June next.</p> <p>After the board's approval, the drafts of both MoA and AoA will be sent to the law ministry for vetting, followed by the RJSC for registration. The last board meeting of the BBA on May 11 approved the proposal for forming the company - the first of its kind in the government's mechanism.</p>	11 September 2022	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/padma-bridge-om-company-in-the-offing-1662828177)	
71	<p><u>BB makes Tk 29,247cr profits in FY22 on dollar price surge</u></p> <p>The Bangladesh Bank made profits of Tk 29,247 crore in the financial year 2021-22, of which a whopping Tk 26,299 crore came from foreign currency revaluation. According to the BB's annual report for 2021-22, profits of the central bank shot up by more than five times to Tk 29,247 crore from Tk 5,777 crore in the previous financial year.</p> <p>The BB made a gain of Tk 26,299 crore on foreign currency revaluation in FY22 compared with Tk 2,605 crore in FY21 as the local currency heavily depreciated against the US dollar. Of the total amount, the central bank has already realised Tk 2,417.53 crore from currency sales in FY22 against Tk 1,512.89 crore in FY21. The central bank sold \$7.62 billion directly to the banks in FY22 amid a shortage of the greenback on the market. It bought \$7.7 billion in FY21 when the currency rate of dollar was mostly at Tk 84.8 in the whole year.</p>	11 September 2022	New Age (https://www.newagebd.net/article/180736/bb-makes-tk-29247cr-profits-in-fy22-on-dollar-price-surge)	
72	<p><u>Public debt law becomes effective</u></p> <p>A saver will face a maximum of six months of imprisonment, Tk 100,000 in fine, or both, if he or she provide false information while buying savings certificates under the new Public Debt Act 2022, which replaced the British-era law. The government issued a gazette to this effect on Wednesday. It came into effect immediately. The bill was passed by a voice vote after Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal tabled it in parliament last week. The legislation replaced the Public Debt Act 1944, which was extended on several occasions.</p>	11 September 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/public-debt-law-becomes-effective-3116236)	
73	<p><u>BGMEA targets 10pc global market share by 2025</u></p> <p>Local garment manufacturers have set a target to raise Bangladesh's share in the global apparel market to 10 per cent by 2025 from below 7 per cent now by adding new products and entering new markets. By 2022, they want to lift the market share to 8 per cent from 6.8 per cent presently.</p>	11 September 2022	The Daily Star (https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bgmea-targets-10pc-global-market-share-2025-3116246)	