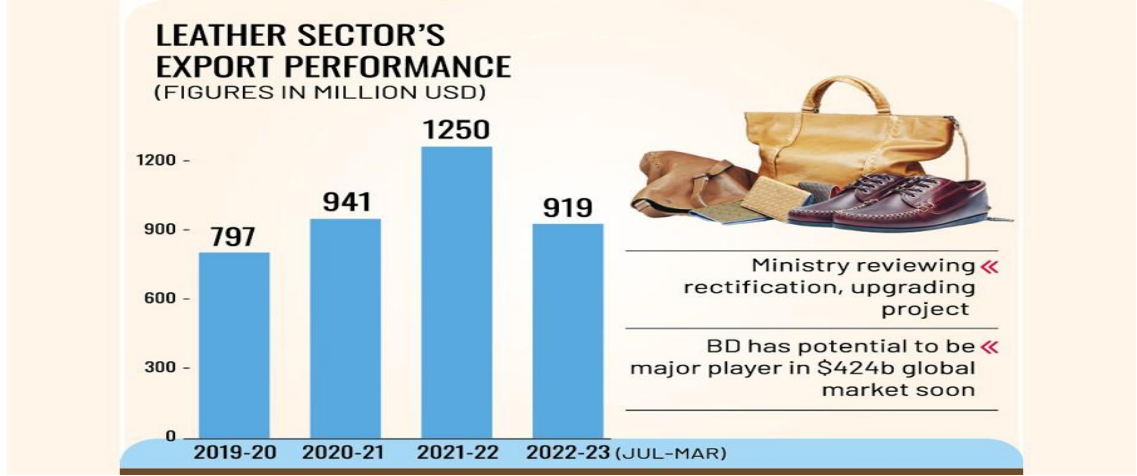


Fortnightly Summary

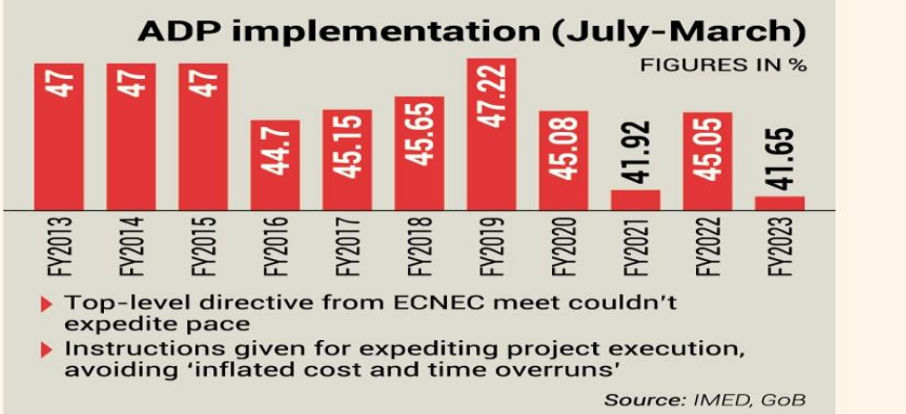
Important Trade and Economic News Published on Various Newspapers during 10 April – 07 May 2023

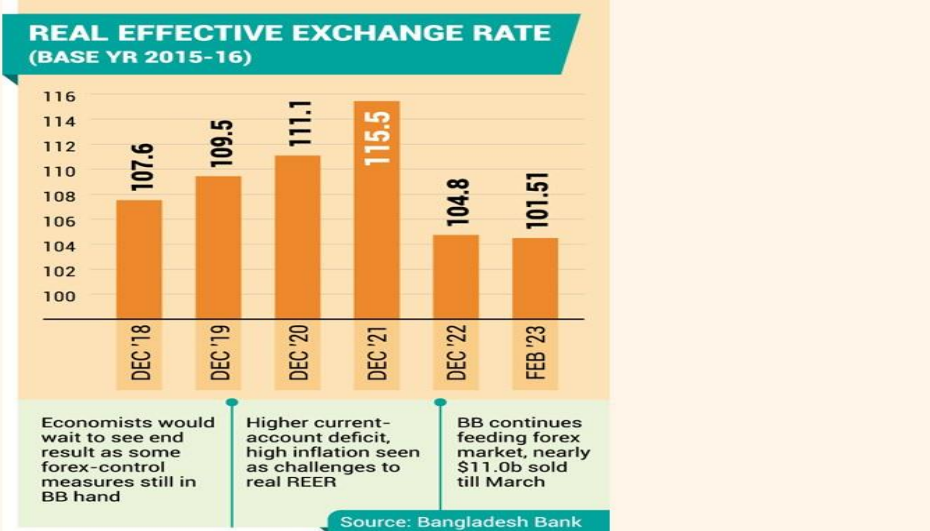
Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks										
01	<p>BD eyes \$10b in leather-product export <u>CETP trouble in leather hub overshadows huge potential</u> Australian remedy to heal Achilles' heel in wait</p>  <p>LEATHER SECTOR'S EXPORT PERFORMANCE (FIGURES IN MILLION USD)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Export Performance (Million USD)</th> </tr> <tr> <td>2019-20</td> <td>797</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020-21</td> <td>941</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021-22</td> <td>1250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022-23 (JUL-MAR)</td> <td>919</td> </tr> </table> <p>Ministry reviewing rectification, upgrading project</p> <p>BD has potential to be major player in \$424b global market soon</p>	Year	Export Performance (Million USD)	2019-20	797	2020-21	941	2021-22	1250	2022-23 (JUL-MAR)	919	10 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/cetp-trouble-in-leather-hub-overshadows-huge-potential-1681061571?date=10-04-2023	
Year	Export Performance (Million USD)													
2019-20	797													
2020-21	941													
2021-22	1250													
2022-23 (JUL-MAR)	919													
02	<p><u>Tanners seek financial aid</u> Tanners have sought financial assistance from the government aiming to set up different machinery in leather industrial estate. The Bangladesh Tanners Association (BTA) recently has requested the commerce ministry to take necessary measures regarding the issue. The proposal has been made for setting up mechanized desalting machine, chrome recovery plant and hair filtering machine under the Leather Sector Business Promotion Council (LSBPC) gradually.</p>	10 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tanners-seek-financial-aid-1681061648?date=10-04-2023											

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
03	<p><u>Export financing from EDF squeezes</u> BB action suits IMF arithmetic on forex reserves Bangladesh Bank Sunday trimmed EDF lending to exporters, which is seen by many as a latest belt-tightening measure suiting IMF loan prescription related to arithmetic of the country's foreign-exchange reserves. There are broadly three categories of imports eligible for the financing facility introduced in 1989 for import of raw materials for manufacturing exportable goods. They are general imports brought under the back-to-back letter of credit, members of the BGMEA, BKMEA, and leather exporters as well as the bulk imports by textile millers and dyeing- yarn makers. The ceiling has now been reduced on average by US\$5.0 million from each category. The central bank has brought down the volume of the EDF to slightly over \$5.2 billion from about \$7.0 billion seen before Bangladesh's foreign-currency reserves started coming under pressure owing to a surge in import bills in the middle of 2022 in the wake of global price spikes.</p>	10 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/export-financing-from-edf-squeezes-1681061613?date=10-04-2023)	
04	<p><u>Rules eased for banks to facilitate import payments</u> The Bangladesh Bank today eased rules for banks for settlement of import payments for capital machinery, industrial raw materials and payments for the government imports through funds taken from their offshore banking units (OBS). To meet import payment obligations, banks would be able to transfer funds from their OBUs to their domestic business or onshore units for up to 40 per cent of their total regulatory capital, the central bank said. Earlier, the Bangladesh Bank allowed banks to place up to 25 per cent of their regulatory capital to domestic business units from their OBUs so that the lenders could settle import payments. The benefit was allowed for period until June 30 this year.</p>	10 April 2023	The Daily Star https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rules-eased-banks-facilitate-import-payments-3292856)	
05	<p><u>BBS Survey on Street Children</u> 37.8pc leave home for poverty, hunger 72pc street children don't want to go to rehab centres Bangladesh's 37.8-percent street children leave home due to poverty and hunger in their family, findings of a survey of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) showed. The interesting part of the survey is that 72 per cent street children do not want to go to rehabilitation centres due to absence of freedom. Besides, the reunification chance with their family is also thin, as at least 36.3 per cent children do not have peace in their family, the survey found. The national statistical body unveiled findings of the 'Survey on Street Children 2022' at its office in Dhaka on Monday.</p>	11 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/378pc-leave-home-for-poverty-hunger-1681146778?date=11-04-2023)	
06	<p><u>IMF forecasts BD growth to beat WB, ADB projections</u> The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has forecasted Bangladesh's economic growth to 5.5 per cent in the current fiscal, a better picture than the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank's projections. Early this month, the World Bank (WB) projected the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for the current fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 at 5.2 per cent and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) at 5.3 per cent.</p>	12 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/imf-forecasts-bd-growth-to-beat-wb-adb-projections-1681233697?date=12-04-2023)	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
07	<p>Official survey shows disparate dev in Bangladesh <u>Poverty falls faster to 18.7pc, income inequality gaps</u> Household spending doubles in 6 years</p> <p>Poverty in Bangladesh has fallen faster recently to 18.7 per cent, but in a disparate socioeconomic development, as a national survey shows gaping income inequality between upper and lower strata of people. Overall poverty rate dropped to 18.7 per cent in 2022 from a high at 24.3 per cent in 2016, while the extreme poverty also fell significantly to 5.6 per cent from 12.9 per cent during the period, according to findings in the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2022, unveiled Wednesday in Dhaka.</p> <p>Disparity or uneven distribution of national resources, opportunities or benefits among different individuals and groups has widened simultaneously as manifest in the Income Gini coefficient that reads higher at 0.499 in 2022 from 0.482 in 2016.</p>	13 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/poverty-falls-faster-to-187pc-income-inequality-gaps-1681323478?date=13-04-2023	
08	<p>Forecast on BD-India comprehensive trade deal <u>CEPA may pose risks for domestic industry, jobs</u></p> <p>Signing the proposed Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with India may pose risks for Bangladesh's domestic industry, revenue and jobs, forecasts a state-sponsored research and training institute. Bangladesh annually imports goods worth nearly \$15 billion from its big next-door neighbour wherefrom the country receives a significant amount of revenue. Signing CEPA will lead to providing zero-tariff facility to India, resulting in a significant fall in the import-tariff revenue. The largest fall in tariff revenue may originate from motor vehicles, cotton, machinery and equipment, man-made fibre, iron and steel, and coffee/tea/spices, says the Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI) based on recently studied 'expectations and risks in Bangladesh-India CEPA'. The BFTI, which carried out the study on instruction from the ministry of commerce, further says: "Port-related access and lack of adequate hard infrastructure, trade facilitation-related soft infrastructure, and shipping lines pose tremendous challenges to (Bangladesh's) trade."</p> <p>In its opinion the research organisation forecasts that a lack of clear understanding of the trade policy between the countries can have uncertain and unfavourable implications for importers and exporters and the general consumers, especially at the border checkpoints. The BFTI fears that with the elimination of tariffs and other trade barriers, Indian goods may become more competitive on the Bangladeshi market.</p>	13 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/cepa-may-pose-risks-for-domestic-industry-jobs-1681323617?date=13-04-2023	
09	<p><u>Interest rate to change for extended period of EDF loans</u></p> <p>Bangladesh Bank (BB) on Thursday issued a circular mentioning that the interest rate on loans made from the Export Development Fund (EDF) will change on expiry of 180-day loan tenure. Many entrepreneurs say that this is another measure to tighten the loan procedure. Currently, the BB allows 180 days to repay loans made from EDF, though many entrepreneurs apply to extend such loans beyond 180 days – up to 270 days. The existing practice is: the interest rate remains unchanged for the extended period.</p> <p>The BB brought down the volume of the EDF to slightly over \$5.2 billion from \$7.0 billion seen before foreign currency reserves started to come under pressure owing to a surge in import bills in the middle of 2022.</p>	14 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/interest-rate-to-change-for-extended-period-of-edf-loans-1681409414?date=14-04-2023	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
10	<p><u>LCs drop 25pc as July-Mar import plummets</u> Tightening done to save forex reserves Opening of letter of credit (LC) for imports plummeted over 25 per cent during the last nine months to March as Bangladesh opted for tightening to ease pressures on its foreign-exchange reserves. The drastic fall in import orders is apparently impacting many local manufacturers as the supply of raw materials, capital machinery and intermediate goods also dropped significantly during the period under review, official data show. During the July-March period of the fiscal year 2022-2023, the total opening of LCs was recorded at US\$51.37 billion, down by 25.38 per cent from the same period a year earlier when the LCs amounting to US\$ 68.84 billion were opened. The opening of LCs against intermediate goods dropped by 30.91 per cent during the nine months, capital machinery by 55.88 per cent, industrial raw materials by 31.16 per cent, consumer goods by 15.99 per cent, machinery for miscellaneous industry by 44.99 per cent and others by 18.74 per cent. Only petroleum imports, whose market remained volatile since the beginning of war in Europe, rose 11.32 per cent, according to official statistics prepared by Bangladesh Bank (BB), the central bank of Bangladesh. People familiar with such developments told The FE that the tight-fisting has been impacting many local manufacturing sectors, especially who depend on the imported raw materials.</p>	14 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/lcs-drop-25pc-as-july-mar-import-plummets-1681409220?date=14-04-2023	
11	<p><u>Export-import thru Ctg port rises on economic pickup</u> Bills of export, import, goods clearance at Ctg port show upturn in March Export-import trade through Chattogram seaport shows an upturn on a month-on-month basis by official count, in what is seen a sign of economic pickup. The main seaport of Bangladesh, which handles over 90 per cent of the country's export-import operations, recorded a substantial rise in both the submission of bills of export and import and the volume of goods clearance in March last, said officials. Some 10,720,137 tonnes of products were imported through Chattogram Customs House (CCH) in the past month, compared to 7,905,483 tonnes in February and 8,522,403 tonnes in January, according to data compiled by CCH. The CCH received 37,428 bills of entry (B/E) in March against 28,478 in February and 36,989 in January.</p>	17 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/export-import-thru-ctg-port-rises-on-economic-pickup-1681668245	
12	<p><u>Dhaka, Delhi close to start trading in taka, rupee</u> Bangladesh and India have agreed to settle a part of bilateral trade transactions in their own currencies to ease pressure on dollar holdings. To facilitate the cross-country transactions, Sonali Bank and Eastern Bank will open accounts in two Indian lenders – State Bank of India and ICICI Bank. The two Indian banks will also open similar accounts in the two Bangladeshi banks.</p>	17 April 2023	The Business Standard (TBS) https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/dhaka-delhi-close-start-trading-taka-rupee-618338	
13	<p><u>Govt releases Tk 1,000cr incentives for knitwear sector ahead of Eid</u> The Ministry of Finance has released cash incentives of Tk 1,000 crore for the export-oriented knitwear sector. The ministry took the decision 11 days after receiving an application of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association for financial support for payment of salary and Eid bonus ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr. The request for cash assistance was made to the government on March 30 in a letter signed by the BKMEA president AKM Salim Osman. The letter stated that if financial assistance is not given, the export sector may be in extreme trouble over the payment of salaries and bonuses to the workers before Eid.</p>	18 April 2023	New Age https://www.newagebd.net/article/199627/govt-releases-tk-1000cr-incentives-for-knitwear-sector-ahead-of-eid	

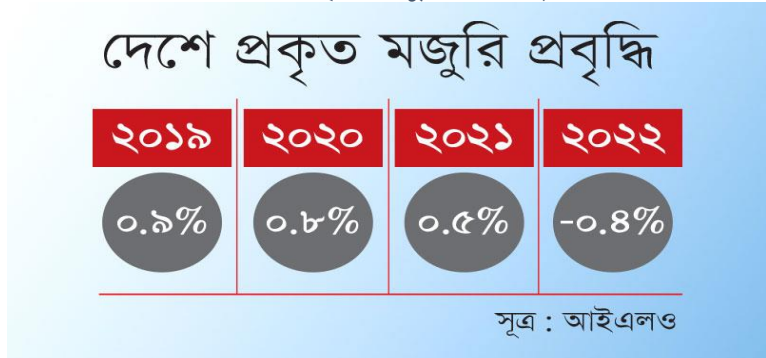
Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks
14	<p>ONE-STOP-SERVICE 23 orgs giving services: BIDA</p> <p>The Bangladesh Investment Development Authority is currently providing 18 services of BIDA and another 63 services of 22 different organisations through its one-stop-service platform. BIDA has so far signed deals with 43 organisations for providing their services through the BIDA's OSS platform, according to a press release. Of the institutions, it has so far integrated full services of 10 institutions and partial services of 13 institutions, including BIDA. BIDA launched the OSS platform on February 24, 2019 to provide services from a single platform to local and foreign investors.</p>	19 April 2023	New Age https://www.newagebd.net/article/199727/23-orgs-giving-services-bida	
15	<p>বঙ্গবাজার ব্যবসায়ীদের ১ কোটি ৪২ লাখ টাকা অনুদান দিল এমসিসিআই</p> <p>বঙ্গবাজার মার্কেটে সাম্প্রতিক অগ্নিকান্ডে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত ব্যবসায়ীদের ১ কোটি ৪২ লাখ টাকা অনুদান দিয়েছে মেট্রোপলিটন চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (এমসিসিআই)। বুধবার (১৯ এপ্রিল) তাদের মতিঝিল অফিসে একটি চেক হস্তান্তর অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করা হয়। অনুষ্ঠানে চেম্বারের সদস্য, বাংলাদেশ দোকান মালিক সমিতির সভাপতি ও ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠান পরিচালনাকরীরা উপস্থিত ছিলেন। অনুষ্ঠানে এমসিসিআই সভাপতি মো. সায়ফুল ইসলাম ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত ব্যবসায়ী ও তাদের পরিবারের প্রতি সহানুভূতি প্রকাশ করেন এবং কঠিন সময়ে ব্যবসায়ী সম্প্রদায়ের সহায়তার গুরুত্বের ওপর জোর দিয়ে বলেন, 'ব্যবসায়ীদের সংগঠন হিসেবে আমরা আপনাদের পাশে আছি। আপনাদের আগের অবস্থায় ফিরিয়ে নিয়ে যাওয়ার জন্য সামর্থ্য অনুযায়ী কাজ করতে আমরা বদ্ধপরিকর।'</p>	19 April 2023	The Sangbad https://sangbad.net.bd/news/business/93003/	
16	<p>ADP execution lowest in 13 years for agencies' 'incapacity' Dev works done 41.65pc in Jul-Mar period</p>  <p>Development works go slow, despite prod from high-ups, as ADP implementation in three quarters of the current fiscal recorded the lowest rate in 13 years at 41.65 per cent, official data showed.</p>	20 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/adp-execution-lowest-in-13-years-for-agencies-incapacity-1681927407?date=20-04-2023	

Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks														
17	<p>Cutting carbon emission by 2030 <u>Electric vehicle reg policy takes effect</u></p> <p>The electric vehicle registration and operational guideline has been made effective to reduce reliance on fuel guzzlers with an eye to meeting the government's low carbon-emission target by 2030.</p> <p>The 'Electric Vehicle Registration and Operation Policy 2023' took effect following a gazette published on Tuesday. It allows registration of all motorised vehicles, including car, bus, truck and motorcycle, to be run by electric motors legally in the country. But rickshaws, rickshaw-vans and bicycles, which are often found running by electric battery, will not be considered EVs, according to the gazette.</p> <p>The policy, approved by the President on February 23 and notified on April 04, has a target to convert at least 30 per cent vehicles into EVs by 2030. The government is committed to cutting carbon emissions in the transport sector by 3.4-million tonnes.</p>	20 April 2023	<p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/electric-vehicle-reg-policy-takes-effect-1681927315?date=20-04-2023)</p>															
18	<p><u>BD trade competitiveness improves with exchange rates stabilising</u> Taka's real effective exchange rate 101.51 in Feb: BB</p>  <p>REAL EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATE (BASE YR 2015-16)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>REER</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DEC '18</td> <td>107.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEC '19</td> <td>109.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEC '20</td> <td>111.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEC '21</td> <td>115.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEC '22</td> <td>104.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FEB '23</td> <td>101.51</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Economists would wait to see end result as some forex-control measures still in BB hand</p> <p>Higher current-account deficit, high inflation seen as challenges to real REER</p> <p>BB continues feeding forex market, nearly \$11.0b sold till March</p> <p>Source: Bangladesh Bank</p> <p>Bangladesh's global trade-competitiveness signals improvement as the local currency now appears to be settling near its fair value in exchange with a basket of peer currencies after recurrent depreciations, official data show. The real effective exchange rate (REER) of the taka against a 15-currency basket of its global trading partners dropped further last February-in the process of stabilizing through recent relaxation measures. The REER index fell from 102.29 in January to 101.51 in February 2023 as the local currency depreciated more compared to currencies of its peer trading-partner economies across the globe, according to Bangladesh Bank data.</p>	Month	REER	DEC '18	107.6	DEC '19	109.5	DEC '20	111.1	DEC '21	115.5	DEC '22	104.8	FEB '23	101.51	21 April 2023	<p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-trade-competitiveness-improves-with-exchange-rates-stabilising-1682012055?date=21-04-2023)</p>	
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DEC '18	107.6																	
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19	<p><u>BD declares 15-point Indo-Pacific agenda</u> <u>IPO seen as lookalike to US-led Indo-Pacific Strategy</u></p> <p>Bangladesh Monday announced a 15-point Indo-Pacific Outlook (IPO) in what is seen by many as a significant geopolitical move akin to the US- led Indo-Pacific Strategy or IPS.</p> <p>However, talking to The Financial Express after the agenda was rolled out, Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen elucidated an independent stance of Dhaka on pursuing the IPO for shared socioeconomic advances of the nations in the region. “We are not following anyone. Our IPO is independent,” he said to make Dhaka’s position clear, as there are views in diplomatic circles that the IPS has a defence connotation like ‘containment’ of the emerging superpower like China.</p> <p>Most of the US allies in the region, including Japan, Australia and India, have already declared their own Indo-Pacific policy agenda, and Bangladesh has long been wooed to join in the conceptual platform.</p>	25 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bd-declares-15-point-indo-pacific-agenda-1682354430	
20	<p><u>রিজার্ভ গণনা ছাড়া আইএমএফের সব শর্ত বাস্তবায়ন জুনে</u></p> <p>ঋণের শর্ত হিসেবে জুড়ে দেওয়া সংস্কারের অগ্রগতি দাতা সংস্থা আন্তর্জাতিক মুদ্রা তহবিল- আইএমএফের প্রতিনিধি দলের কাছে তুলে ধরেছে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক। সংস্থাটির দেওয়া শর্ত বিপিএম৬ এর আওতায় নেট ইন্টারন্যাশনাল রিজার্ভ (এনআইআর) গণনা পদ্ধতি ছাড়া অন্যসব শর্ত আগামী জুনের মধ্যে বাস্তবায়ন করবে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক।</p> <p>মঙ্গলবার (২৫ এপ্রিল) আইএমএফের প্রতিনিধি দলের সঙ্গে বৈঠককালে এই অঙ্গীকার ব্যক্ত করেন বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের গভর্নর আব্দুর রউফ তালুকদার। বৈঠকে সংস্কার সম্পর্কিত বিভিন্ন প্রশ্নের জবাব দেন বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্মকর্তারা।</p> <p>বৈঠক সূত্র জানায়, আইএমএফের সংস্কার প্রস্তাবের মধ্যে রয়েছে- ডলারের একক রেট নির্ধারণ, মূল্যস্ফীতি নিয়ন্ত্রণে মুদ্রানীতির ভূমিকা, অর্থনৈতিক প্রবৃদ্ধি, জ্বালানিতে ভর্তুকি কমানো, ব্যাংক ঋণের সুদহারের সীমা তুলে দেওয়া, ঋণের যথাযথ ব্যবহার, খেলাপি হ্রাস, ব্যাংক ও আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান পরিদর্শনে কার্যকরী পরিবর্তন এবং এসব প্রতিষ্ঠানের পর্ষদের ক্ষমতার অপব্যবহার রোধ।</p>	25 April 2023	The Sangbad https://sangbad.net.bd/news/business/93315/	
21	<p><u>Proposed EU GSP regulation threatens BD economy: EuroCommerce</u></p> <p>The safeguard measures proposed in the European Union’s (EU) new GSP regulation would severely affect Bangladesh’s overall economy, according to EuroCommerce – the principal European organisation representing the retail and wholesale sector. It notes that if the proposed rules remain untouched, Bangladesh could face most-favoured-nation (MFN) tariffs and the suspension of zero-duty benefits for its apparel items in the EU market.</p> <p>EuroCommerce, a platform representing over 5 million companies in the European retail and wholesale sector, has expressed concern to the EU over a specific article of the new post-2023 GSP regulation proposal connected to the automatic safeguards applied to textile and ready-made garment (RMG) products. The platform has already requested negotiations on the new GSP regulation and fears that hundreds of thousands of RMG workers are at risk of losing their jobs. Additionally, the proposed measures could jeopardise the sustainable development of the sector.</p> <p>The principal European organisation has urged the EU to launch triologue discussions on the new regulation without further delay.</p>	26 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/proposed-eu-gsp-regulation-threatens-bd-economy-eurocommerce-1682440115	


Sl. No.	News / Events	Date	Source	Remarks																												
22	<p><u>BB tightens grip on EFPF loans for errant borrowers</u></p> <p>The central bank has tightened provisions for borrowers, looking to get fresh loans under a Tk 100 billion Export Facilitation Pre-finance Fund (EFPF), if they fail to repatriate export proceeds.</p> <p>In a circular on Tuesday, Bangladesh Bank (BB) stated that it was found that companies or the individuals or firms concerned who secured loans under the Export Development Fund (EDF) against shipment orders but failed to bring home the export proceeds were still accessing credit facilities under the EFPF. But if export bills, or export proceeds, remain unrepatriated even after taking loans under the EDF or the EFPF, the companies or related individuals or firms will not be eligible for any fresh loans against the export orders under the EFPF, stated the circular.</p>	26 April 2023	<p>The Financial Express</p> <p>(https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bb-tightens-grip-on-efpf-loans-for-errant-borrowers-1682440783)</p>																													
23	<p>দেশে চীনা বিনিয়োগ করেছে ৭ বিলিয়ন ডলার, ঠিকাদারি কাজ পেয়েছে ২৩ বিলিয়নের</p> <p>খাতভিত্তিক চীনা বিনিয়োগ (কোটি ডলার)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি</td> <td>৩২৭</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ধাতু</td> <td>২১৩</td> </tr> <tr> <td>পরিবহন</td> <td>১১০</td> </tr> <tr> <td>অন্যান্য</td> <td>৪১</td> </tr> <tr> <td>আর্থিক</td> <td>১৬</td> </tr> </table> <p>চীনা ঠিকাদারদের কাজের ব্যাপ্তি (কোটি ডলার)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>২০২২</td> <td>বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি</td> <td>৮১১</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>পরিবহন</td> <td>২৩৬</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>আবাসন</td> <td>১২৮</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>কৃষি</td> <td>১১৩</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>প্রযুক্তি</td> <td>১০৪</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ইউটিলিটিস</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>সূত্র : এইআই</p> <p>দেশে চীনের বিনিয়োগে গৃহীত প্রকল্পগুলোয় ঠিকাদারের কাজ প্রধানত চীনা সংস্থাগুলোই পেয়ে থাকে। আবার অন্যান্য দেশের অর্থায়নে গৃহীত প্রকল্পেও দেখা যায় চীনা ঠিকাদারদের আধিপত্য। দেশে চীনা ঠিকাদারদের কাজের ব্যাপ্তি এখন দেশটির মোট বিনিয়োগের কয়েকগুণে দাঁড়িয়েছে। দেশী-বিদেশী বিভিন্ন উেস পাওয়া তথ্য অনুযায়ী, দেশে এখন পর্যন্ত চীনের মোট বিনিয়োগের স্থিতি প্রায় ৭-৮ বিলিয়ন ডলার। আবার বিভিন্ন প্রকল্পে চীনা প্রতিষ্ঠান ও সংস্থাগুলো এখন পর্যন্ত নির্মাণকাজের ঠিকাদারি পেয়েছে কমপক্ষে ২২ বিলিয়ন ডলারের।</p>	বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি	৩২৭	ধাতু	২১৩	পরিবহন	১১০	অন্যান্য	৪১	আর্থিক	১৬	২০২২	বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি	৮১১		পরিবহন	২৩৬		আবাসন	১২৮		কৃষি	১১৩		প্রযুক্তি	১০৪		ইউটিলিটিস		26 April 2023	<p>Bonik Barta</p> <p>(https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/338634/%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%A8-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%97-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%87-%E0%A7%AD-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A8-%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%A0%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BF-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C-%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%87-%E0%A7%A8%E0%A7%A9-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0)</p>	
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24	<p><u>FIs to have one director each from sponsoring organisations</u></p> <p>Financial institutions (FIs) will not be allowed to have more than one representative director on the board of directors from their sponsoring companies, according to the central bank directive issued on Wednesday.</p> <p>Usually, such sponsoring companies appoint more than one representative on the board, in a bid to keep control over the activities of the FIs. FIs include leasing, housing and similar other companies.</p>	27 April 2023	<p>The Financial Express</p> <p>(https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fis-to-have-one-director-each-from-sponsoring-organisations-1682528574)</p>																													

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25	<p><u>Tighten targeted action against bad loans</u> <u>IMF advises as NPL heightens 'risks' for banks</u></p> <p>Non-performing loans triggers serious risks to the banking system, the International Monetary Fund cautioned and suggested that Bangladesh should further tighten measures against the buildup of bad loans. Making such observations, a visiting team of IMF representatives Wednesday wanted to know from finance and banking authorities the moves of the central bank and banking and financial institutions division under the Ministry of Finance for recovery of the default loans.</p> <p>The burning issue of non-performing loan or NPL was largely discussed in the IMF team's meeting with officials concerned of Bangladesh Bank (BB) and the banking and financial institutions division, the meeting sources said.</p>	27 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/tighten-targeted-action-against-bad-loans-1682528214	
26	<p><u>Dhaka, Tokyo sign 8 instruments to boost ties for mutual benefit</u></p> <p>TOKYO, Apr 26: Dhaka and Tokyo signed eight instruments on the second day of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's four-day state visit to Japan at the invitation of her Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida, reports BSS. Those were signed on agriculture, metro rail, industrial upgrade, ship recycling, customs matters, intellectual properties, defence cooperation, ICT and cyber security cooperation by the concerned persons of the two friendly countries. The instruments were later exchanged between Bangladesh and Japan in presence of the premiers of both the countries at the Prime Minister's Office here.</p>	27 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/dhaka-tokyo-sign-8-instruments-to-boost-ties-for-mutual-benefit-1682528530	
27	<p><u>Bangladesh moves up in World Bank logistics index</u></p> <p>Bangladesh's ranking in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2023 went up by 12 notches, indicating that the country's skills in trade and business have improved. The World Bank's Global Trade and Regional Integration Team in the Trade, Investment, and Competition Group prepared the report, titled "Connecting to Compete 2023: Trade Logistics in an Uncertain Global Economy". According to the report released on April 21, Bangladesh's rank in the index of 139 countries rose to 88 from 100 in 2018.</p>	27 April 2023	Dhaka Tribune https://www.dhakatribune.com/economy/2023/04/27/bangladesh-moves-up-in-world-bank-logistics-index	
28	<p><u>WB approves new CPF for B'desh</u> <u>It focuses on pvt sector growth, socioeconomic inclusion & climate resilience</u></p> <p>The World Bank (WB) has developed a five-year Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for Bangladesh with the aim of assisting the country in achieving its goal of becoming an upper-middle-income country (UMIC) by 2031. According to officials, the CPF will be implemented from 2023 to 2027, during which the global lender will provide financial and technical assistance to support Bangladesh's development and growth objectives. On Friday, the WB's Board of Executive Directors approved the new CPF for Bangladesh at its headquarters in Washington.</p>	29 April 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/wb-approves-new-cpf-for-bdesh-1682700722	
29	<p><u>Traders want EDF back to \$7 billion</u></p> <p>Fearing negative impacts on exports due to the downsizing of the Export Development Fund (EDF) as well as reduction in the amount of loans taken from the fund, traders have called for the EDF to be reverted back to the original state. In a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Trade Support yesterday at the commerce ministry, traders also said that consumption in the international market has decreased and it is also having a negative impact on Bangladesh's exports.</p>	01 May 2023	The Business Standard (TBS) https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/traders-want-edf-back-7b-624614	

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30	<p><u>Taka devalued further</u> Exporters, remitters to get Tk 1.0 more against one dollar In a latest bid to bag more greenbacks, the foreign-exchange dealers and banks now raised the exchange rate by Tk 1.0 per dollar for export proceeds and inward remittances. As per the decision taken in a meeting Sunday, the exporters will be able to encash their export proceeds at Tk 106 instead of the existing Tk 105 while the Bangladeshi expatriates working abroad will get Tk 108 per dollar from the current rate of Tk 107. And the new rates will be effective from tomorrow (May 02), according to the meeting sources. The decision was made after the meeting between Bangladesh Foreign Exchange Dealers Association (BAFEDA) and the Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB).</p>	01 May 2023	<p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/taka-devalued-further-1682877849?date=01-05-2023</p>									
31	<p>২০২২ সালে বাংলাদেশে প্রকৃত মজুরি কমেছে</p>  <p>দেশে প্রকৃত মজুরি প্রবৃদ্ধি</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>২০১৯</th> <th>২০২০</th> <th>২০২১</th> <th>২০২২</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>০.৯%</td> <td>০.৮%</td> <td>০.৫%</td> <td>-০.৮%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>সূত্র : আইএলও</p> <p>মোট মজুরি থেকে মূল্যস্ফীতির হার সমন্বয় করে হিসাব করা হয় প্রকৃত মজুরি। ২০২১ সাল পর্যন্ত টানা চার বছর দেশে প্রকৃত মজুরি বাড়লেও ২০২২ সালে তা কমেছে। আন্তর্জাতিক শ্রম সংস্থার (আইএলও) তথ্য অনুযায়ী, গত বছর বাংলাদেশে প্রকৃত মজুরি প্রবৃদ্ধির হার ছিল ঋণাত্মক শূন্য দশমিক ৪ শতাংশ। আইএলওর ফ্ল্যাগশিপ প্রতিবেদন 'গ্লোবাল ওয়েজ রিপোর্ট ২০২২-২৩: ইমপ্যাক্ট অব ইনফ্লেশন অ্যান্ড কভিড-১৯ অন ওয়েজেস অ্যান্ড পারচেজিং পাওয়ার'-এ বলা হয়, একাধিক বৈশ্বিক সংকটের মুখে বিশ্বব্যাপী প্রকৃত মজুরির নেতিবাচক পরিস্থিতি দেখা গেছে। এ বৈশ্বিক পরিস্থিতির বিশ্লেষণ করা হয় ওই প্রতিবেদনে।</p>	২০১৯	২০২০	২০২১	২০২২	০.৯%	০.৮%	০.৫%	-০.৮%	01 May 2023	<p>Bonik Barta https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/339093/%E0%A7%A8%E0%A7%A6%E0%A7%A8%E0%A7%A8-%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2%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%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%83%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BF-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%87</p>	
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০.৯%	০.৮%	০.৫%	-০.৮%									
32	<p><u>Bangladesh, World Bank ink \$2.25b loan deal for 5 projects</u> The Bangladesh government and the World Bank have penned a \$2.25 billion worth loan agreement, comprising five projects to develop various sectors, including regional trade and connectivity, disaster preparedness and environmental management. Of the five projects, funds for the \$500 million First Bangladesh Green and Climate Resilient Development project, which comes as budget support, will be released by the end of this month, according to sources at the Economic Relations Division (ERD). For the remaining projects, officials expect at least 20% of the funds to be disbursed within the next year.</p>	02 May 2023	<p>The Business Standard (TBS) https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-world-bank-sign-225-billion-loan-agreement-5-projects-624898</p>									

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33	<p><u>Jobless up in 1st quarter</u> BBS unveils quarterly data for first time</p> <p>Unemployment in Bangladesh increased slightly in the first quarter (Q1) of 2023, due mainly to a fall in agricultural employment, the government's Labour Force Survey (LFS) data showed on Tuesday. The number of unemployed people increased by 0.27 million to 2.59 million during January-March period of the current calendar year from that of the previous quarter (Oct-Dec of 2022), as per the first quarterly LFS of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).</p> <p>The country's unemployment rate rose to 3.51 per cent in the Q1 of 2023 from that of 3.2 per cent in the previous quarter, the LFS showed. However, the quarterly unemployment rate in Jan-Mar 2023 was lower than that of the same period last year and from the annual average rate of 2022. According to the BBS, the unemployment rate was 4.0 per cent in Jan-Mar period of 2022, and the 12-month average unemployment rate was 3.6 per cent last year.</p> <p>The BBS unveiled the country's first quarterly LFS (January-March 2023) data - breaking its tradition of giving annual LFS - in a press conference at the NEC conference room in the city on Tuesday.</p>	03 May 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/jobless-up-in-1st-quarter-1683052472	
34	<p><u>Exports dip 16.52pc in April on apparel tumble</u></p> <p>Bangladesh's merchandise shipments took a hit in April 2023, declining by 16.52 per cent year on year, due mainly to underperformance of the readymade garment (RMG) sector. Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) data released on Wednesday showed that April earnings fell short of the target by 21.67 per cent. In April 2022, Bangladesh earned US\$ 4.73 billion, which dropped to US\$ 3.95 billion in April 2023, as per the data. Notably, RMG shipments accounted for US\$ 3.32 billion of the export earnings, down by 15.48 per cent YoY. The April 2022 earnings from RMG exports stood at US\$ 3.93 billion.</p> <p>During the first ten months of the current fiscal year, the overall export earnings growth slowed down to 5.38 per cent, with the earnings amounting to US\$ 45.67 billion, as compared to US\$ 43.34 billion in the same period of the previous year. Out of this amount, readymade garment exports fetched US\$ 38.57 billion, recording a growth of 9.09 per cent in the July-April period. The sector's earnings exceeded the target set for the July-April period of FY23 by 1.05 per cent. In the corresponding period of FY22, the country earned US\$ 35.36 billion from apparel exports. However, major sectors including frozen and live fish, agricultural products, leather and leather goods, home textiles, and jute and jute goods did not perform well during the July-April period, as they witnessed negative growth.</p>	04 May 2023	The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/exports-dip-1652pc-in-april-on-apparel-tumble-1683137242	
35	<p><u>দক্ষিণ কোরিয়া চার বছরে ৩০০ কোটি ডলার ঋণ দেবে বাংলাদেশকে</u></p> <p>আগামী চার বছরে বাংলাদেশকে ৩০০ কোটি ডলার ঋণ দেবে দক্ষিণ কোরিয়া। বর্তমান বিনিময় হার অনুযায়ী বাংলাদেশি মুদ্রায় এই অর্থের পরিমাণ প্রায় সাড়ে ৩১ হাজার কোটি টাকা। মেট্রোরেল, রেলসহ পরিবহন খাতের বেশ কিছু প্রকল্পে এসব অর্থ দেওয়া হবে। আজ বৃহস্পতিবার উভয় দেশের মধ্যে কোরিয়ার ইনচন শহরে এ-সংক্রান্ত ফ্রেমওয়ার্ক চুক্তি স্বাক্ষরিত হয়। এতে অর্থনৈতিক সম্পর্ক বিভাগের (ইআরডি) সচিব শরিফা খান ও কোরিয়ার অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়ের ভাইস মিনিস্টার কি সুন ব্যাংসই করেন। ইআরডির এক সংবাদ বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে এ তথ্য জানানো হয়েছে।</p>	04 May 2023	Prothom Alo https://www.prothomalo.com/business/7t92zkxvhp	

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36	<p><u>এপ্রিলে রেমিট্যান্স প্রবাহ কমেছে ১৬.২৮ শতাংশ</u></p> <p>চলতি (২০২২-২৩) অর্থবছরের প্রথম মাস জুলাই ও দ্বিতীয় মাস আগস্ট টানা দুই বিলিয়ন ডলার করে রেমিট্যান্স এসেছিল দেশে। এরপর টানা ছয় মাস কেটে গেলে দুই বিলিয়ন ডলারের মাইলফলকে পৌঁছাতে পারেনি রেমিট্যান্স। অবশেষে অর্থবছরের নবম মাস মার্চে এসে আবারও ঘুরে দাঁড়ায় রেমিট্যান্স। অতিক্রম করে দুই বিলিয়ন ডলারের মাইলফলক। এপ্রিলের শুরুতে আশা জাগিয়েছিল রেমিট্যান্স। ঈদের আগের দিন সাড়ে ৬ কোটি ডলার করে এসেছিল। আশা করা হচ্ছিল, এপ্রিলেও দুই বিলিয়ন ডলার ছাড়িয়ে যাবে রেমিট্যান্স। তবে ঈদের পর ভাটা পড়ে। মাস শেষে আসে ১৬৮ কোটি ৩৪ লাখ ৭০ হাজার ডলারের রেমিট্যান্স। এই অঙ্ক গত বছরের একই সময়ের তুলনায় রেমিট্যান্স প্রবাহ ১৬.২৮ শতাংশ কমেছে। বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের হালনাগাদ প্রতিবেদন সূত্রে এ তথ্য উঠে এসেছে।</p>	04 May 2023	The Sangbad (https://print.sangbad.net.bd/2023-05-04/news/business/133775)	
37	<p><u>Easing export business</u></p> <p><u>Enrolment tenure for duty benefit extends</u></p> <p>EPB listing must for preferential trade under GSP, bloc treaties</p> <p>Enrolment-certificate tenure for exporters is being extended to five years from existing one year under efforts to enhance the ease of doing business, particularly to facilitate preferential extort trade, sources said. The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) has decided to extend the tenure of its enrolment certificate for exporters, who need it to avail preferential market access under GSP facilities and treaties of different blocs. Presently, the exporters need to get their enrolment certificate renewed every year to avail services from the bureau.</p> <p>The EPB now has decided that the tenure of the certificate will be up to five years but the exporters will have the choice to avail registration as per their will, the sources said. An exporter in his or her application will mention for how many years they need the enrolment. Fees will be charged as per the tenure and the value-added tax will be realised accordingly.</p>	06 May 2023	The Financial Express (https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/latest-page/enrolment-tenure-for-duty-benefit-extends-1683307642)	
38	<p><u>Inflation continues to overshadow monthly wage growth</u></p> <p>Monthly wage growth for workers in Bangladesh remained below the inflation rate for 15 months consecutively, suggesting that many people are having to reduce consumption to cope with increased financial distress. In April, wages of low paid skilled and unskilled workers grew 7.23%, which was 2.01 percentage points below the inflation rate of 9.24% that month, the Wage Rate Index (WRI) of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) revealed.</p>	06 May 2023	Dhaka Tribune (https://www.dhakatribune.com/economy/2023/05/06/inflation-continues-to-overshadow-monthly-wage-growth)	
39	<p><u>এলডিসি উত্তরণে রপ্তানি ক্ষতি হবে ৭০০ কোটি ডলার</u></p> <p>বাংলাদেশ স্বল্পোন্নত দেশের (এলডিসি) তালিকা থেকে বের হওয়ার পরের বছর ২০২৭ সালে ব্যাপক রপ্তানি ক্ষতির মুখে পড়বে, যা পরিমাণে ৭০০ কোটি মার্কিন ডলার। বর্তমান বাজারদরে এই ক্ষতি দেশীয় মুদ্রায় দাঁড়াবে ৭৪ হাজার কোটি টাকা (প্রতি ডলার ১০৬ টাকা ধরে)।</p> <p>এখন বাংলাদেশের ৭৫ শতাংশ পণ্য কোনো না কোনোভাবে অগ্রাধিকারমূলক বাজারসুবিধার আওতায় রপ্তানি হয়। এলডিসি থেকে উত্তরণ হলে এই অগ্রাধিকারমূলক বাজারসুবিধা ক্রমান্বয়ে হারাতে থাকবে বাংলাদেশ। পরিকল্পনা মন্ত্রণালয়ের সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগের (জিইডি) এক প্রতিবেদনে এই চিত্র উঠে এসেছে।</p>	07 May 2023	Prothom Alo (https://www.prothomalo.com/business/economics/nmsv1ofxf)	

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40	<p>Bangladesh likely to outshine two Asian giant economies <i>IMF forecast on BD, China, India for next fiscal year shows such prospect</i></p> <p>Bangladesh may overtake Asia’s two giant economies — India and China — in the next fiscal year in economic growth, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicts in its latest evaluation report. Besides, the country will outgrow the world’s second-largest economy, China, in the current fiscal year with its projected higher Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, the global monetary supervisor says.</p> <p>According to the IMF, Bangladesh’s economy may grow at a 6.5-percent rate in the next fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 while the Chinese economy at 4.5 per cent and India at 6.3 per cent. Although Bangladesh’s GDP- growth rate is forecast lower than India’s in the current fiscal, it will be higher than China’s in the FY2023.</p>  <p>In the current fiscal, Bangladesh might expand at a rate of 5.5 per cent while China at 5.2 per cent. The Indian economy will grow at 5.9 per cent in the current fiscal, the IMF said in its ‘Regional Economic Outlook: Asia and the Pacific’ report, released on May 4 in Washington.</p>	07 May 2023	<p>The Financial Express https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladesh-likely-to-outshine-two-asian-giant-economies-1683391528</p>	