

## DSEX 5,189.62 CSCX 8,780.45

-0.25% **V** Oil (Barrel)

-0.05% **~** Gold (Ounce)



\$2,944.40 **\$74.16** 

# Daily News Flash

12<sup>th</sup> February 2025







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## **Daily News Flash**

#### **MACRO ECONOMY**

#### FITCH SCEPTICAL OF GOVT PROJECTIONS

- Global rating-agency Fitch paints a downbeat outlook for Bangladesh economy on several grounds that include political unrest surrounding polls.
- Fitch Solutions in its latest appraisal report forecasts headline inflation to average 8.5 per cent and intends to revise down its earlier-projected 5.5-percent GDP growth in the country for the current fiscal year.
- The ratings agency, dual-headquartered in New York and London, warns that inflation in Bangladesh
  will remain persistently high despite the central bank keeping its policy rate unchanged at 10 percent
  in the latest tightfisted monetary policy leveraged by government priority on inflation control. "We
  maintain our view that inflation will stay above its (Bangladesh Bank) new target of 7.0-8.0 per cent
  (previously 6.5 percent), and the Bangladesh Bank (BB) will hold its rate until the end of June next year,"
  says Fitch Solutions.

Source: <u>https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/fitch-sceptical-of-govt-projections</u>

#### GOVT CUTS TARGET OF BORROWING FROM BANKS

- The government has slashed its bank borrowing target by 28 per cent, or Tk 385 billion, for this fiscal year, due to lower expenditures and slower implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP).
- Under the revised target, the government will borrow Tk 990 billion instead of Tk 1375 billion by the end of June 2025 from the country's banking system, officials said.
- Meanwhile, the central bank estimated that the government's bank borrowing may reach maximum Tk 900 billion by the end of the current fiscal year (FY), 2024-25. "We've estimated the government's borrowing from the banking system for the ongoing FY'25 considering previous trends of such borrowing," a senior official of the Bangladesh Bank (BB) told the FE on Wednesday.

Source: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/govt-cuts-target-of-borrowing-from-banks

#### NBR URGES FINANCE NOT TO SET UNREALISTIC REVENUE TARGET

NEWS

- The National Board of Revenue has requested the Ministry of Finance to set more realistic revenue targets for the next three fiscal years.
- In a letter to the Finance Division secretary, NBR Chairman Md Abdur Rahman Khan cautioned that revenue targets should be aligned with the country's economic growth and business activity.
   "Otherwise, as seen in previous years, the targets will remain unmet, leaving the NBR to take the blame for failing to achieve them," he said.
- Rahman further noted that continually setting inflated targets and failing to meet them damages the NBR's credibility. He suggested a 15% revenue growth target above actual collections as a more realistic approach.

Source: https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/nbr-urges-finance-not-set-unrealistic-revenue-target-1067791

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#### **BANKS & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

#### MONEY FLOWING BACK INTO BANKS, TK1,085CR IN DEC ALONE

- After increasing for ten consecutive months, money outside banks often referred to as "mattress money" – has started flowing back into the banking system over the past four months, albeit at a slow pace, with Tk1,085 crore deposited in December alone.
- According to the central bank, money outside banks decreased from Tk2.77 lakh crore in November to Tk2.76 lakh crore in December, but it still represents an 8.44% increase compared to December 2023, when it was Tk2.55 lakh crore, marking an increase of about Tk21,000 crore over the year.
- Economists say an increase in money outside banks harms the economy, as it reduces money circulation and ultimately hinders money creation. When a significant amount of money returns to the banking system, it improves bank liquidity and, by increasing loanable funds, fosters greater investment in the country.

Source: https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/money-flowing-back-banks-tk1085cr-dec-alone-1067736

#### IT

#### ADN TELECOM DIVERSIFIES INTO HEALTHCARE AMID GROWTH PROSPECTS

- Eyeing promising prospects in the healthcare sector, ADN Telecom an IT and telecommunication services provider – is set to diversify its portfolio by acquiring a 37% stake in Senior Citizen Healthcare Limited, which operates specialised hospitals for the elderly in the country.
- As part of the investment, the publicly listed company will inject around Tk10 crore, with a mandate to leverage its telecom expertise to enhance Senior Citizen Healthcare's existing services and expand its reach into rural areas.
- "Senior Citizen Healthcare is currently operating in Dhaka, but it has plans to expand its business. Seeing
  strong future prospects, we decided to invest in the company," Md Monir Hossain, company secretary
  of ADN Telecom, told The Business Standard. "As the industry continues to grow, we expect the market
  to expand further in the future. Our partnership aims to generate better returns."

Source: https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/adn-telecom-diversifies-healthcare-amid-growth-prospects-1065076

#### MISCELLANEOUS

#### LAID-OFF BEXIMCO WORKERS TO GET DUE WAGES BY FEB

NEWS

- The government will pay all the due wages of over 27,000 laid-off workers of Beximco Group by this month (February), said Labour and Employment Adviser Brigadier General (retd) M Sakhawat Hussain on Wednesday.
- "We want to clear the dues before Ramadan begins," he told newsmen after a meeting of the advisers' committee formed to deal with the Bexmico Group's factory-related chaos.
- He, however, could not confirm where the fund would come from. But he hinted that the government itself may provide the money or it could come from selling the shares of the Beximco Group's entities. Hussain said he has no information on the exact amount of money needed to pay the workers' dues.

Source: https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/laid-off-beximco-workers-to-get-due-wages-by-feb-1739384856

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#### **CAPITAL MARKET**

#### JUNK STOCKS LEAD DSE GAINERS, SPARK MARKET MANIPULATION CONCERNS

- Junk stocks unexpectedly topped the gainers' list on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) yesterday, raising
  concerns that market manipulators are still active despite increased regulatory efforts to curb such
  activities.
- Meanwhile, the benchmark index DSEX of the DSE edged down by 0.04%, closing at 5,189 points, while the blue-chip index DS30 slipped by 0.03% to end at 1,913 points.
- EBL Securities, in its daily market review, noted that the benchmark index of the capital bourse ended in red yesterday as investors opted for short-term profit booking and preferred to observe the market momentum following the capital market taskforce's proposal for amendments to margin loan regulations.

Source: https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/junk-stocks-lead-dse-gainers-spark-market-manipulation-concerns-1067726

EBL Securities Ltd.

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NEWS

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