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**Will the dengue outbreak get worse in coming months?****Bangladesh face England tomorrow in 2nd World Cup warm-up****Treasury heads of 10 banks fined Tk1 lakh each for selling US dollars at higher rates****Dhaka Elevated Expressway: Plan versus current reality**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

**T**he are facing many challenges.

As a result of the shortage of foreign exchange reserves, electricity, gas, etc., the life of common people has become miserable, a deadlock-like situation has been created in trade and commerce. The unemployment rate is gradually increasing and the overall economic condition is deteriorating. Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal presented a budget of Tk 7.61 trillion for the fiscal year 2023-24, setting a target of achieving 7.5 per cent GDP growth while keeping the average inflation at 6.0 per cent.



The GDP growth is expected to rebound to 6.7 percent in 2021-22, Fitch Ratings said. Segregation of the Budget FY21-22. Source: Ministry of Finance, GoB The Photo: Reuters

The proposed 2023-2024 fiscal year budget in terms of inflation, GDP, etc. is not very similar to the reality. The goals are quite ambitious which may not be achieved due to weaknesses in assumptions.

International credit rating agency Moody's downgrading the credit rating of Bangladesh sparked the fear that foreign investment in the private sector would decrease. This will not only reduce private investment, but also will have a major negative impact on import-export trade. Analysts fear that the supply of foreign currency will further decrease as per Moody's rating.

As the country's credit quality has decreased in Moody's rating, the rating of the country's banks would

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**Donald Trump's business empire in peril as civil fraud trial opens in New York**

Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida unveiled on Monday the pillars of a new economic stimulus package to be compiled next month to help households ease the pain of price hikes and boost wages.

Kishida will instruct his cabinet on Tuesday to put together the package and infrastructure investment.



With the new economic measures, the premier pledged to shift Japan's economy, which has tended to focus on cost cutting, away from such practices.

Kishida also warned investors trying to sell off the yen, which will boost import bills for food and energy, saying he was closely watching currency moves with a high sense of urgency.

"It's important for currencies to move stably reflecting fundamentals," Kishida said in his rare remarks on the foreign exchange market. "Excessive volatility is undesirable."

The size and substance of the extra budget remains unclear.

**Light to moderate rain likely many parts of country**

The groundbreaking work of the Bay terminal of Chattogram seaport is likely in October subject to the approval of the proposed construction master plan this month.

The master plan has been framed by two consultants - Kun Hwa Engineering and Consulting Company Ltd and Daeyoung Engineering Company Ltd of South Korea.

Therefore, the groundbreaking work of the terminal is expected in the next month (October).

Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) chairman Rear Admiral Mohammad Sohail said, "The master plan is now in its final stages. It'll be done within this month."

He said, "After completing the final master plan, Ground Breaking Work for 'Bay Terminal' is likely to be started in October in the current year."

The development project proposal (DPP) for the terminal construction would also be approved next month, he hoped.

Bay terminal is being set up on 900 acres of land along Patenga coastline with all modern port facilities to mobilise port activities and reduce transport costs.

The two Korean companies were appointed as consultants for the terminal project in April 2022.

Bay terminal, which will allow big ships for berthing, is likely to be operated in

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