

October 28, 2019 research@bracepl.com

Following is a summary of important business news published in the leading daily newspapers of Bangladesh. For the complete news, please follow the online link given below each news. Please note that the news summary doesn't reflect the opinion of BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited.

Regulator to consider Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) analysis on Initial Public Offerings (IPOs)

• The stock market regulator has decided to take into account the Dhaka bourse' financial assessment of companies seeking to raise funds through initial public offering (IPO) while giving its nod to a firm's plan on going public. The bourse will have to carry out the assessment by professional auditors.

• Last week, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) ordered the DSE to form an IPO experts' panel which will scrutinize the financial reports of the IPO-seeking companies. The commission has approved about 60 IPO proposals, out of a total of 90, in the last eight and a half years' of the current commission's tenure, ignoring reservations of the largest bourse.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/regulator-consider-dse-analysis-ipos-1819669

Climate-smart investment potential stands at USD 172 billion: International Finance Corporation (IFC)

• Climate-smart investment potential of Bangladesh will be about USD 172 billion between 2018 and 2030, according to an estimate of the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The investment will be mainly in green buildings, transportation infrastructure, urban water, agriculture, waste management, and renewable energy, to meet the nationally determined contribution (NDC) targets, the member of the World Bank Group said in a statement yesterday.

• The IFC, in partnership with the Bangladesh Bank, has identified steps to promote the domestic green bond market in Bangladesh as a way to mobilize capital for climate-related initiatives. In 2018, the bond market totaled USD 16 billion, or about 6% of the gross domestic product (GDP), according to the IFC.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/climate-smart-investment-potential-stands-172b-ifc-1819666 http://www.newagebd.net/article/89008/steps-to-promote-local-green-bond-market-identified https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ifc-supports-bb-to-promote-domestic-green-bond-mkt-1572195548

E-commerce transactions through banking channel soar by 54% in FY19

• E-commerce transactions through the banking channel increased by 54.26% or BDT 5.08 billion in last fiscal year 2018-2019 compared with that in the previous fiscal year as customers became used to shopping through e-commerce sites. As per the Bangladesh Bank data released on Sunday, e-commerce in terms of value through the banking channel increased to BDT 14.41 billion in FY19 from BDT 9.36 billion in FY18.

• In terms of volume, the number of e-commerce transactions increased by 58.61% or 1.51 million year-on-year in FY19. Through the banking channel, 4.09 million transactions were executed in FY19 against 2.6 million transactions in FY18.

• E-Commerce Association of Bangladesh General Secretary said that payment through the banking channel was highest 15% to 20% of the total transactions through e-commerce businesses and the rest payments were accepted in cash.

• The BB data showed 0.6 million transactions worth BDT 5.98 billion were placed from abroad in FY18 and the figure increased to 1 million transactions worth BDT 7.72 billion in FY19.

http://www.newagebd.net/article/89003/e-commerce-transactions-soar-by-54pc-in-fy19



Important News Snippets

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World Stock and Commodities*

| Index Name | Close Value | Value Change | % Change |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| Crude Oil (WTI)* | \$56.54 | -0.12 | -0.21% |
| Crude Oil (Brent)* | \$61.96 | -0.06 | -0.10% |
| Gold Spot* | \$1,504.69 | +0.06 | +0.01% |
| DSEX | 4,752.65 | -19.35 | -0.41% |
| Dow Jones Industrial Average | 26,958.06 | +152.53 | +0.57% |
| FTSE 100 | 7,324.47 | -3.78 | -0.05% |
| Nikkei 225 | 22,861.59 | +61.78 | +0.27% |
| BSE SENSEX | 39,250.20 | +192.14 | +0.49% |

Exchange Rates

USD 1 = BDT 84.90* GBP 1 = BDT 108.81* EUR 1 = BDT 94.08* INR 1 = BDT 1.20*

*Currencies are taken from XE Currency Converter and Commodities are taken from Bloomberg.



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