

*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.*

**Macro:****IMF for keeping policy rate at 10% to contain inflation**

- Bangladesh should maintain its policy rate at 10 % until the middle of fiscal year 2025-26, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has said, citing the inflationary pressures of a weaker currency and the heightened sensitivity of inflation expectations to exchange rate depreciation. "Normalising inflation to the target range will become more protracted if the Taka depreciates in response to the impact of US tariffs on the external trade balance," it said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/imf-keeping-policy-rate-10-contain-inflation-3944841>

**IMF chief seeks to discuss future coop with CA**

- After releasing USD 1.3 Bn in late June, the chief of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) now wants to engage herself in identifying areas of future cooperation with Bangladesh, officials said. Kristalina Georgieva, the managing director of the IMF, is also interested in helping set up a framework on future working mechanism for the economic development of Bangladesh.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/imf-chief-seeks-to-discuss-future-coop-with-ca-1753120723>

**Sector & Industries:****BANK | Cenbank to allow full foreign ownership of restructured banks: Governor**

- The Bangladesh Bank is open to allowing full foreign ownership of banks being restructured under its merger plan, if that aligns with investor interest, Governor Ahsan H Mansur has said. Mansur said the long-term goal is to bring in both local and foreign investors.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-allow-full-foreign-ownership-restructured-banks-governor-1193176>

**FOOD & ALLIED | Processed food exports slow further**

- Bangladesh's agricultural product exports increased slightly last fiscal year, although shipments to India fell, apparently due to its recent ban on the entry of goods, including processed foods, garments, fruits, and soft drinks, through all land ports except Bhomra.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/processed-food-exports-slow-further-3944836>

**Stocks:****PADMALIFE | Padma Islami Life declares no dividend for 2024**

- Padma Islami Life Insurance has announced that it will not recommend any dividend for its shareholders for the financial year 2024. As per the latest financials, Padma Islami Life reported a deficit of BDT 92.6 Mn in its life revenue account for the January-March quarter of this year, widening from a BDT 75.7 Mn deficit in the same period of the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/padma-islami-life-declares-no-dividend-2024-1193596>

**RAKCERAMIC | RAK Ceramics to rejoin 'A' category after dividend payout**

- RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited will be reclassified from the 'Z' category to the 'A' category effective 22 July 2025, after the disbursement of a 10% cash dividend for the financial year ending 31 December 2024, according to a Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) notice. Despite the upgrade, the company's share price declined by 0.48% yesterday, closing at BDT 20.90.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/rak-ceramics-rejoin-category-after-dividend-payout-1193581>

**DHAKABANK | Dhaka Bank's former chairman to receive 1.03cr shares as gift from sister**

- ATM Hayatuzzaman Khan, sponsor and former chairman of Dhaka Bank, is set to receive 10.3 Mn shares of the bank as a gift from his sister, according to a disclosure on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). The shares will be transferred by Zaheda Wahed Khan, a general shareholder and sister of Hayatuzzaman, outside the trading system of the DSE within the next 30 working days, effective from 20 July. Currently, Hayatuzzaman holds 3.02 Mn shares in Dhaka Bank. Following the transfer, his total shareholding will increase to 13.3 Mn shares, representing 1.26% of the bank's total shares.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-banks-former-chairman-receive-103cr-shares-gift-sister-1193576>

**Stock and Commodities\***

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 66.70	(USD 4.73)	-6.62%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 68.70	(USD 5.69)	-7.65%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,386.53	USD 778.05	29.83%
DSEX	5,219.62	3.18	0.06%
S&P 500	6,305.60	398.66	6.75%
FTSE 100	9,012.99	891.98	10.98%
BSE SENSEX	82,200.34	4,000.41	5.12%
KSE-100	138,217.58	22,958.58	19.92%
CSEALL	19,044.08	3,099.47	19.44%

**Exchange Rates**

**1 US Dollar = 121.35 BDT**

**1 GBP = 163.64 BDT**

**1 Euro = 141.90 BDT**

**1 INR = 1.41 BDT**

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