

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:**Revenue board needs 35% more collection**

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) will have to collect nearly 35% higher revenue in the current fiscal year than FY25 to achieve its target. With actual tax receipts hitting a record low in FY25, the mobilisation targets for FY26 for all three NBR wings have been raised by 29% to 43%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/revenue-board-needs-35pc-more-collection-1754417082>

Govt tightens foreign loan rules amid poor project fund use

- The government has tightened its control over new foreign loans by introducing multiple preconditions for ministries and divisions, following their poor performance in using funds already in the pipeline. The new conditions include land acquisition, submitting a resettlement plan, preparing a detailed component-wise cost estimate, and finalising draft tender documents prior to implementation, according to an official circular issued last week.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-tightens-foreign-loan-rules-amid-poor-project-fund-use-3956471>

Taka devaluation and the path ahead

- The economy of Bangladesh is currently undergoing several reforms and adjustments. However, in recent times, currency devaluation and rising inflation have shaken households, small businesses and industries, forcing painful changes at every level.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/taka-devaluation-and-the-path-ahead-3956441>

Financial sector saved from edge of collapse: Finance adviser

- Steps taken over the past year helped steer the financial sector back towards stability from the edge of collapse, said Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed yesterday. He, however, acknowledged that a full transformation has not yet come about and that more time was needed. He said a new bank company act was being drafted to restructure the financial sector.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/financial-sector-saved-edge-collapse-finance-adviser-3955776>

Exports hit 32-month high in July

- The country's exports rose to USD 4.77 Bn in July, up nearly 25% from USD 3.82 Bn a year earlier, according to the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), marking the highest monthly earnings from merchandise shipment since November 2022. Key contributors to the growth in the first month of the new fiscal year included pharmaceuticals, leather goods, engineering products and an increase in ready-made garment (RMG) shipments.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/exports-hit-32-month-high-july-3955786>

Sector & Industries:**FUEL & POWER | Int'l court asks BAPEX to pay USD 42 Mn to foreign oil company**

- Bangladesh stands to lose around USD 42 Mn to a breakaway foreign oil-and-gas company following an international-court verdict on a dispute over payment for gas-well drilling. If the SIAC keeps its verdict unchanged in its final verdict, BAPEX might have to pay an additional USD 3.16 Mn to the company, which is deemed cost for arbitration, said sources. This will be the first-ever incident in the country's history that Bangladesh lost to an international oil company (IOC) in an international court following a dispute over well drilling.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/intl-court-asks-bapex-to-pay-42m-to-foreign-oil-company-1754416863>

RMG | India still remains a 'preferred' source of cotton for Bangladesh

- Bangladesh's spinners and traders still prefer India as a key destination in importing cotton and yarn due to factors like proximity, lower transportation costs and easy availability of essential raw material, industry insiders have said. Due to the US's latest conditional duty waiver on use of at least 20% American cotton to produce exportable garments for that country might reduce cotton import from other countries as local exporters are expected to enhance their sourcing from America to enjoy such benefit. Initially, imports would decrease sources from Brazil, which will be followed by Australia, India and then African countries, he added.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/india-still-remains-a-preferred-source-of-cotton-for-bangladesh-1754413055>

TRADE | ICDs overwhelmed with export containers

- Privately operated inland container depots (ICDs) are grappling with a mounting backlog of export-laden containers, hampering cargo handling operations and pushing storage capacity to the brink.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/icds-overwhelmed-export-containers-3956466>

BANK | Unified promotion policy for state banks introduced

- In a move aimed at standardising career progression and ensuring transparency across the public banking sector, the Ministry of Finance has introduced a formal promotion policy for employees of state-owned commercial and specialised banks.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/unified-promotion-policy-state-banks-introduced-3956451>

BANK | BB mandates recording of dissenting opinions in board meetings

- The Bangladesh Bank has made it mandatory for all banks to accurately document board members' opinions, including any dissenting views (Notes of Dissent), in the minutes of board and committee meetings.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-mandates-recording-dissenting-opinions-board-meetings-1204361>

Stocks:**CONFIDCEM | Confidence Cement divests Dhaka plant's stake for BDT 1.41 Bn to meet cash needs**

- Confidence Cement PLC, a publicly traded cement manufacturer, has decided to divest its entire holding in Confidence Cement Dhaka Limited, an associate company in which it holds a 50% stake, for BDT 1.41 Bn to meet urgent financial needs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/confidence-cement-divests-dhaka-plants-stake-tk141cr-meet-cash-needs-1205371>

FIRSTSBANK | First Security Islami Bank reports BDT 16.92 Bn loss in H1

- First Security Islami Bank has reported a staggering consolidated loss of BDT 16.92 Bn for the January–June period of 2025, compared to a profit of BDT 902.2 Mn in the same period a year earlier.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/first-security-islami-bank-reports-tk1692cr-loss-h1-1205361>

BEXGSUKUK | BB moves to extend tenure as Beximco's BDT 30 Bn Sukuk nears maturity

- Beximco's much-talked-about BDT 30 Bn Green Sukuk, with just over a year to maturity, is under growing scrutiny as investors worry over principal recovery. In response, the Bangladesh Bank, along with key regulators, are now planning to extend its five-year tenure.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-moves-extend-tenure-beximcos-tk3000cr-sukuk-nears-maturity-1205441>

EXCHANGE | BB boosts Sukuk allocation for Islamic banking windows to 80%

- Bangladesh Bank has raised the Sukuk allocation for Islamic banking branches and windows to 80%, up from the previous 70%, aiming to strengthen the role of Shariah-compliant financial institutions.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bb-boosts-sukuk-allocation-islamic-banking-windows-80-1204591>

EXCHANGE | FY25 net sales recover, but still negative

- The net sales of savings instruments saw a marked recovery in FY25, ending the fiscal year with a balance of BDT 60.63 Bn in the negative - a significant improvement from the negative BDT 211.24 Bn recorded in FY24.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/fy25-net-sales-recover-but-still-negative-1754417147>

EXCHANGE | Listed MNCs see 17% drop in profit as inflation bites

- Most listed multinational companies (MNCs) in Bangladesh reported a sharp drop in earnings for the April-June quarter as persistent inflation weighed on consumer spending and raised operating costs, squeezing profit margins across sectors ranging from tobacco and footwear to electronics.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/listed-mncs-see-17-drop-profit-inflation-bites-3955781>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 65.49	(USD 5.94)	-8.32%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 67.99	(USD 6.40)	-8.60%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,376.56	USD 768.08	29.45%
DSEX	5,485.91	269.47	5.17%
S&P 500	6,299.19	392.25	6.64%
FTSE 100	9,142.73	1,021.72	12.58%
BSE SENSEX	80,710.25	2,510.32	3.21%
KSE-100	143,037.17	27,778.17	24.10%
CSEALL	19,718.00	3,773.39	23.67%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 121.42 BDT****1 GBP = 161.55 BDT****1 Euro = 140.53 BDT****1 INR = 1.38 BDT**

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BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

Research

Salim Afzal Shawon, CFA	Head of Research	salim@bracepl.com	01708 805 221
Fahim Hassan	Research Analyst	fahim.hassan@bracepl.com	01709 636 546
Hossain Zaman Towhidi Khan	Research Analyst	hztowhidi.khan@bracepl.com	01708 805 224
Foyisal Ahmed	Research Associate	foysal.ahmed@bracepl.com	01708 805 201
S M Toufique Imran	Research Associate	smtoufique.imran@bracepl.com	01708 805 228
Rakibul Hasan	Research Associate	rakibul.hasan@bracepl.com	01708 805 229
Tasviha Taher Trishila	Research Associate	tasviha.trishila@bracepl.com	01730 701 733

International Trade and Sales

Ahsanur Rahman Bappi	CEO	bappi@bracepl.com	01730 357 991
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BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

www.bracepl.com

Symphony, Plot No.: S.E.(F) – 9(3rd Floor), Road No.: 142

Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka – 1212

Phone: + (88)-02-222282446-47

Fax: + (88)-02-222282452

E-Mail: research@bracepl.com