

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.

Mixed trend marks H1 profit earning by private commercial banks (PCBs)

- The unaudited operating profit of the country's private commercial banks (PCBs) showed a mixed trend in the first half (H1) of the current calendar year (2018). Of the 40 PCBs, the operating profit of 14 recorded an upward trend, while that of six banks witnessed a downturn, according to the provisional data for the six-month period from January to June. In the final count, the amount of profit may be a little higher or lower, said officials of different commercial banks. The unaudited operating profit, however, does not indicate the actual financial position of a bank. The banks have to leave aside funds for provisioning their bad debts and taxes payable to the government.
- The rising trend in credit, practically in the private sector, helped the banks to pick up their operating profit in the first half of the year compared to that of the same period last year, according to the bankers. The private sector credit growth was higher than the target, set by the central bank for the January-June period of the just-concluded fiscal year (FY), 2017-18. However, the last couple of months of the year saw a falling trend in the private sector credit growth. The credit growth rate came down to 17.65% in April 2018 on a year-on-year basis from 17.98% in March, according to the Bangladesh Bank's (BB) latest statistics.
- The central bank earlier projected that the private sector credit would grow at the rate of 16.80% in June 2018. The country's overall imports grew by over 15% in the first 10 months of FY 2018, mainly due to higher import of food grains and fuel oils. The settlement of letters of credit (LCs), in terms of value, rose to nearly USD 43 billion during the July-April period of FY 18 from USD 37.37 billion in the same period of FY 17. Besides, the upward trend in interest rate spread also pushed up the overall operational profit of the banks, according to another private banker.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/mixed-trend-marks-h1-profit-earning-by-pcb-1530467302>
<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/banks-operating-profits-soar-despite-challenges-1598356>
<http://www.newagebd.net/article/44965/operating-profits-of-most-banks-inch-up-in-h1>

IPO subscription of two companies to begin this month

- The public subscription of ML Dyeing Ltd and Silva Pharmaceuticals Ltd will open on July 8 and July 29 respectively. ML Dyeing will raise BDT 200 million and Silva Pharmaceuticals will raise BDT 300 million from the capital market using the fixed price method. The initial public offering (IPO) subscription of ML Dyeing will be continued till July 19. The securities regulator, Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), approved the company's IPO proposal on May 14. Using the fixed price method, ML Dyeing will float 20 million ordinary shares at an offer price of BDT 10 each. The market lot is 500 shares and an investor needs BDT 5,000 to apply for one lot.
- The IPO subscription of Silva Pharmaceuticals will open on July 29 which will be continued till August 5. The securities regulator approved the company's IPO proposal on June 11 to raise a capital worth BDT 300 million under the fixed price method. As per the approval, the company will offload 30 million ordinary shares at an offer price of BDT 10 each. The pharmaceutical company will purchase machineries, construct building, repay bank loans and bear the IPO expenses with the IPO fund.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ipo-subscription-of-two-cos-to-begin-this-month-1530457381>

Bashundhara Paper Mills share trading debut today

- Bashundhara Paper Mills Ltd will make its share trading debut today (Monday) on the Dhaka and Chittagong Stock Exchanges under "N" category. DSE trading code for the company is "BPML" and company code is 19512 while CSE scrip Id is 19011 and scrip code is "BPML". The company's (un-audited) net profit after tax stood at BDT 321.76 million in the nine months for the period from July, 2017 to March, 2018. The post-IPO EPS stood at BDT 1.85 for the period from July, 2017 to March, 2018. The net asset value (NAV) per share was BDT 34.07 as of March 31, 2018. AAA Finance & Investment is working as issue manager for Bashundhara Paper's IPO. The Bashundhara Paper Mills produces different types of papers and paper products.

<http://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bashundhara-paper-mills-share-trading-debut-today-1530469155>
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/2018/07/01/bashundhara-paper-mills-to-debut-on-the-bourses-on-monday>

World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change	% Change
Crude Oil (WTI)*	\$73.16	-0.99	-1.34%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	\$78.12	-1.11	-1.40%
Gold Spot*	\$1,251.47	-1.13	-0.09%
DSEX	5405.46	-23.58	-0.43%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	24,271.41	+55.36	+0.23%
FTSE 100	7,636.93	+21.30	+0.28%
Nikkei 225	22,270.76	-33.75	-0.15%

Exchange Rates

USD 1 = BDT 83.78*
GBP 1 = BDT 110.41*
EUR 1 = BDT 97.65*
INR 1 = BDT 1.22*

**Currencies and Commodities are taken from Bloomberg.*

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