

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.

TIFA to boost trade with Australia and fuel private sector investment: Tipu Munshi

- The signing of the TIFA would boost investment and trade between the two countries. Apart from readymade garments in Bangladesh, there are several potential sectors including ICT, light engineering, plastics and education for Australia to invest in.
- Australia has been providing duty-free and quota-free trade facilities to Bangladesh since 2003, for which Bangladesh is grateful. We hope that Australia will continue to provide trade facilities to Bangladesh even after LDC graduation in 2026 and will support the LDC Group's proposal in the WTO," added Tipu Munshi.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/tifa-boost-trade-australia-and-fuel-private-sector-investment-tipu-munshi-302932>

Canadian buyers urged to source more BD garments

- BGMEA President Faruque Hassan has called on Canadian buyers to choose Bangladesh as a safe, sustainable and ethical apparel-sourcing destination and source more garments from the country, reports UNB.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/canadian-buyers-urged-to-source-more-bd-garments-1631727097>

NBFIs can reschedule loans just 3 times: BB

- In a bid to bring about discipline in the rescheduling of loans by non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs), Bangladesh Bank has announced that these institutions cannot reschedule one loan more than three times. The move came after the central bank found the financial institutions repeatedly rescheduling various types of loans -- term, housing, short-term and small loans -- without taking into consideration borrowers' repayment capacity.
- The BB said in case term loans, lease or investment by the NBFIs become substandard, the NBFIs would be able to reschedule the outstanding amount for up to 48 months for the first time. The NBFIs can regularize substandard loans for a maximum of 36 months in the second phase and for a maximum of 24 months the third time.
- For loans turning doubtful, rescheduling can be done for 36 months for the first time. The period of rescheduling declines in the second and third phase. If the term loans turn bad, the NBFIs can reschedule it for a highest 36 months for the first time. The tenure of regularization reduces in the second and third phase too.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/nbfis-can-reschedule-loans-just-3-times-bb-2177071>

Bangladesh's per capita foreign debt now stands at BDT 24,890

- The finance minister said the current foreign debt now stands at USD 49,458 million. According to the Bureau of Statistics, the total population of the country is 169.31 million. And, in that context, the per capita foreign debt is now 292.11 USD. If one USD is equivalent to BDT 85.21, it stands at BDT 24,890, the minister said.
- Replying to another query from Didarul Alam, he said the amount of loan agreements with various development partner countries and institutions as of June 30 is USD 95,908.34 million. Of the total amount, USD 59,458 million have been disbursed while USD 46,450.34 million are under the process of disbursement, he said, reports UNB.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladeshs-per-capita-foreign-debt-now-tk-24890-1631695388>

Walton to offload more shares

- Walton Hi-Tech Industries Limited will offload another 4.03% of its shares for public sale over three years. They would release 5% shares over the next three years. One year has passed. So they will have to offload 4.03% share within the next three years and another 5% afterwards.
- It will decide about offloading another 5% of its shares upon discussions with the BSEC after three years.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/walton-to-offload-more-shares-1631719710>

A general investor can apply for IPO shares worth BDT 10,000: BSEC

- From now on, each general investor can apply for IPO shares worth BDT 10,000 only. However, the minimum investment of BDT 20,000 in the stock market will remain mandatory for each investor to be eligible for participating in any IPO.
- According to the new rules, general investors and non-resident Bangladeshis will enjoy 70% and 5% quota respectively from IPO under the fixed and book building methods of IPO. Previously, they got 50% shares of any IPO in the fixed price method and 40% in the book building method.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/149199/a-general-investor-can-apply-for-ipo-shares-worth-tk-10000-bsec>

Sukuk Gets Vat Waiver

- A senior VAT official said the rate of VAT ranging from 7.5% to 15% has been waived for popularizing the bond. It has waived gain tax at a rate of 4.0% on transfer of asset to the SPV.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/sukuk-gets-vat-waiver-1631727908>

World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 72.62	USD 24.10	49.67%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 75.45	USD 23.65	45.66%
Gold Spot*	USD 1,793.76	(USD 101.34)	-5.35%
DSEX	7,196.55	1,794.48	33.22%
S&P 500	4,482.20	726.13	19.33%
FTSE 100	7,016.49	555.97	8.61%
BSE SENSEX	58,723.20	10,971.87	22.98%
KSE-100	46,716.72	2,961.34	6.77%
CSEALL	8,931.21	2,156.99	31.84%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 85.12 BDT****1 GBP = 117.84 BDT****1 Euro = 100.56 BDT****1 INR = 1.16 BDT**

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

Analyst Certification: Each research analyst and research associate who authored this document and whose name appears herein certifies that the recommendations and opinions expressed in the research report accurately reflect their personal views about any and all of the securities or issuers discussed therein that are within the coverage universe.

Disclaimer: Estimates and projections herein are our own and are based on assumptions that we believe to be reasonable. Information presented herein, while obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, is not guaranteed either as to accuracy or completeness. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes a solicitation of the purchase or sale of any security. As it acts for public companies from time to time, BRAC-EPL may have a relationship with the above-mentioned company(s). This report is intended for distribution in only those jurisdictions in which BRAC-EPL is registered and any distribution outside those jurisdictions is strictly prohibited.

Compensation of Analysts: The compensation of research analysts is intended to reflect the value of the services they provide to the clients of BRAC-EPL. As with most other employees, the compensation of research analysts is impacted by the overall profitability of the firm, which may include revenues from corporate finance activities of the firm's Corporate Finance department. However, Research analysts' compensation is not directly related to specific corporate finance transaction.

General Risk Factors: BRAC-EPL will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for each company under coverage at the time of initiating research coverage and revisit this assessment when subsequent update reports are published, or material company events occur. Following are some general risks that can impact future operational and financial performance: (1) Industry fundamentals with respect to customer demand or product / service pricing could change expected revenues and earnings; (2) Issues relating to major competitors or market shares or new product expectations could change investor attitudes; (3) Unforeseen developments with respect to the management, financial condition or accounting policies alter the prospective valuation; or (4) Interest rates, currency or major segments of the economy could alter investor confidence and investment prospects.

BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

Research

Salim Afzal Shaown, CFA	Head of Research	salim@bracepl.com	01708 805 221
Nazmus Saadat, CFA	Research Analyst	nazmus.saadat@bracepl.com	01708 805 229
Anika Mafiz	Research Analyst	anika.mafiz@bracepl.com	01708 805 206
Sadman Sakib	Research Analyst	sadman.sakib@bracepl.com	01730 727 939

International Trade and Sales

Ahsanur Rahman Bappi	CEO	bappi@bracepl.com	01730 357 991
----------------------	-----	--	---------------

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: + (880)-2-9852446-50

Fax: + (880)-2-9852451-52

E-Mail: research@bracepl.com