

Important News Snippets

Sunday, August 28, 2022 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.

Macro:

Exports to India see robust rise

■ Bank The country's overall exports to India reached USD 1.99 Bn in the last fiscal year (FY '22) marking a robust 55% year-on-year growth. Bangladesh shipped goods worth USD 1.27 Bn to the neighbouring country in the fiscal year 2020-21 or FY '21, according to an Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) data.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/exports-to-india-see-robust-rise-1661622044

Exchange rate volatility, inflation to ease in 2/3 months

Bangladesh Bank Governor Abdur Rouf Talukder on Saturday expressed his optimism that forex-market volatility and inflationary pressure on the economy would ease in the next two to three months.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/exchange-rate-volatility-inflation-to-ease-in-23-months-1661621434

Energy supply to be biggest concern if global prices don't drop: Salman

• The energy supply is going to be the biggest challenge if its global prices do not fall in the next six months, says Prime Minister's Adviser for Private Industry and Investment Salman F Rahman. To mitigate the energy and gas crisis, the government is negotiating with Qatar and India. Besides, talks are going on with different organizations for exploring gas locally.

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/energy-become-bangladeshs-biggest-problem-if-global-prices-dont-drop-6-months

Deal to be signed with Indian cos to purchase electricity from Nepal

• Bangladesh is going to sign a power purchase agreement with Indian companies GMR Karnali Hydropower Company Limited and NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam to buy 500 MW of electricity. The signing is expected to take place within the month of September that features the visit of the Bangladesh prime minister to Delhi.

https://www.newagebd.net/article/179552/deal-to-be-signed-with-indian-cos-to-purchase-electricity-from-nepal

Wheat flour, sugar prices on the rise, rice market still volatile

■ Consumers continue to feel the heat as the prices of wheat flour and sugar have gone up in the kitchen markets, making the list of dearer commodities, including rice, even longer. In the span of a week, the price of sugar increased by BDT5-7 to BDT90-95 per kg and the price of loose wheat flour increased by BDT3-5 to BDT50-55 per kg. The price of rice went up by BDT200-350 per 50kg sack.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/wheat-flour-sugar-prices-rise-rice-market-still-volatile-484486

Bangladesh's external debt to export ratio highest among 5 Asian countries

- Bank The external debt to export ratio of Bangladesh is the highest among five countries in South and Southeast Asia, found researchers in a recent study. According to the study, the external debt to export ratio of Bangladesh is 125, while in Vietnam it is 25, Maldives 90, Bhutan 18, and Nepal 30.
- That means Bangladesh might face the biggest pressure among these five countries to repay its foreign debts, said researchers. The external debt to export ratio prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is 240.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladeshs-external-debt-export-ratio-highest-among-5-asian-countries-485082



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Stocks:

United Power to amalgamate three subsidiaries to save costs

- United Power Generation and Distributions Ltd (UPGDCL), a publicly traded power generation conglomerate, is going to amalgamate three of its four subsidiaries to improve efficiency, according to its filings with the DSE. The listed firm owns 99% stake in each of the subsidiaries, United Anwara Power Ltd, United Energy Ltd, United Jamalpur Power Ltd, which it acquired in recent years to boost revenue and profits.
- The company would acquire the remaining 1% stake of the three subsidiaries from the minority shareholders at net asset value before bringing all their assets and liabilities under its direct control through dissolving the entities, said its officials.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/united-power-amalgamate-three-subsidiaries-save-costs-483974

Metro Spinning share price jumps 57% in a month

■ The price per share of Metro Spinning Limited – a cotton yarn manufacturer – soared by 57% to BDT38.8 on 25 August this year from BDT24.7 on 27 July. The Dhaka Stock Exchange had asked the company to explain its unusual increase in stock price, to which it replied that there was no undisclosed price sensitive information behind the share price jump.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/metro-spinning-share-price-jumps-57-month-485066

Walton sponsor director to offload 100,000 shares

• Walton Hi-Tech Industries Ltd's Sponsor Director SM Ashraful Alam has declared that he would sell 100,000 shares he holds in the secondary market of the DSE within the next 30 days, following the securities regulators' direction to increase free float shares to 10% in the stock market. Currently, Walton's free float shares are only 0.97% of its total shares on the DSE.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/walton-sponsor-director-offload-1-lakh-shares-483942

CAPM Unit Fund sees 47% drop in stock market income

■ Income from the capital market of the CAPM Unit Fund – an open-ended mutual fund – fell 47% year-on-year in fiscal 2021-22. According to the financials, the fund's income declined to BDT17.1 Mn in FY22, from BDT32.3 Mn in FY21. Also, its comprehensive income for FY22 declined to BDT26.7 Mn, a 55% drop from BDT60 Mn in FY21.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/capm-unit-fund-sees-47-drop-stock-market-income-485006





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World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 93.06	USD 17.85	23.73%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 100.99	USD 23.21	29.84%
Gold Spot*	USD 1,749.80	(USD 79.40)	-4.34%
DSEX	6,355.07	-401.59	-5.94%
S&P 500	4,057.66	-708.52	-14.87%
FTSE 100	7,427.31	42.77	0.58%
BSE SENSEX	58,833.87	580.05	1.00%
KSE-100	42,591.51	-2,004.56	-4.49%
CSEALL	8,793.39	-3,432.62	-28.08%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 95.12 BDT

1 GBP = 111.61 BDT

1 Euro = 94.79 BDT

1 INR = 1.19 BDT

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