

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:**Mega project costs surge in currency shock**

- Higher bills for foreign-funded projects due to taka devaluation strain budget and may force government to borrow again. Government spending on several foreign-funded mega projects, including the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant and metro rail works in Dhaka, has increased as the local currency Taka weakened sharply against the US dollar in recent years. For the Rooppur plant alone, estimated costs may rise by 23%, equal to BDT 261. 81 Bn. However, the project value in dollars stays the same.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/mega-project-costs-surge-currency-shock-4049946>

Import LC settlements plummet 10% in Nov amid economic slowdown

- Data from the Bangladesh Bank shows that LC settlements – payments made against previously opened import LCs – dropped to USD 4.87 Bn in November 2025, down from USD 5.38 Bn recorded in November 2024. This follows a previous year-on-year decline of 11.48% in October.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/import-lc-settlements-plummet-10-nov-amid-economic-slowdown-1301486>

Cash transactions hold back economic growth

- In principle, there is nothing wrong with cash financial transactions. The problem arises when they are used to evade tax, launder money, facilitate illegal deals or pay bribes. In such cases, the transactions become questionable. As a result, financial statements are drifting away from reality, and personal finances are being pushed into the informal economy. These practices have fuelled large-scale tax evasion and corruption. The use of illegal funds for criminal activities adds another layer of concern that cannot be ignored.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/column/news/cash-transactions-hold-back-economic-growth-4050051>

A slew of 7,379 BD products getting free market access

- Bangladesh's maiden bilateral free-trade agreement is being signed this month with Japan that will accord 7,379 Bangladeshi products duty-free quota-free (DFQF) market access to world's third-largest economy immediate after the deal-making, officials say. The deal, coming under the umbrella of Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), on the other hand, will enable Japanese products under 1,039 Harmonised System (HS) Line to enjoy the DFQF facility at the same time. Moreover, Bangladesh offered DFQF facility to Japanese products in 4,843 HS Line under 8-digit arrangement which will be implemented in phases.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/a-slew-of-7379-bd-products-getting-free-market-access-1764785215>

Falling Indian Rupee may prove mixed blessing for BD

- A deep depreciation of the Indian rupee or INR may offer short-term relief for Bangladeshi importers but could pose disadvantage to exporters, particularly apparel sector where India is emerging as a strong competitor. Bangladesh must also allow taka to adjust if to maintain competitiveness in export to global market: Dr Zahid

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/falling-indian-rupee-may-prove-mixed-blessing-for-bd-1764785323>

Bangladesh gets deep into hard-term debts

- Bangladesh is increasingly getting into hard-term-debt burden by taking volumes of non-concessional loans particularly for bankrolling some mega-and major projects, officials say and warn of forex risks. In the first quarter of the current fiscal year (FY) 2025-26, the country had already crossed limits of any other annual borrowing of the high-rated loans, they add. In a single sitting on September 24, the interim government approved seven loans worth USD 1.44 Bn on hard terms, official and analysts said Tuesday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bangladesh-gets-deep-into-hard-term-debts-1764785453>

Govt set to slash mobile phone import duty to curb illegal mkt

- The government has initiated a major move to cut import duty on mobile handsets, aiming to lower consumer prices and curb the influx of illegal, cloned and refurbished devices. The decision came from a high-level coordination meeting held on Monday at the office of Faiz Ahmad Taiyeb, Special Assistant in charge of the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology under the Chief Adviser.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-set-to-slash-mobile-phone-import-duty-to-curb-illegal-mkt-1764785801>

Sector & Industries:**RMG | RMG exporters support relaxed FOC rules, local suppliers raise investment and value addition concerns**

- Local suppliers fear that lifting the FOC quota could severely impact domestic production and value addition. Ready-made garment (RMG) exporters and local textile and accessories suppliers are at odds over the government's recent decision to relax conditions on importing raw materials on a free-of-charge (FOC) basis.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/rmg-exporters-support-relaxed-foc-rules-local-suppliers-raise-investment-and-value>

TELECOMMUNICATION | Telecom white paper exposes deep-rooted graft

- Bangladesh's telecom sector is suffering from entrenched corruption, systemic irregularities and a governance breakdown that has weakened regulatory credibility, distorted markets and wasted public resources, according to a government-commissioned white paper.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/telecom/news/telecom-white-paper-exposes-deep-rooted-graft-4050151>

FUEL & POWER | New MPPA framework set to transform renewables

- Experts and sector insiders at a discussion on Wednesday said the imminent Merchant Power Purchase Agreement (MPPA) framework would transform how industries in Bangladesh procure renewable energy. The possible transition of the renewable energy sector would also help Bangladesh prepare for its LDC graduation and its energy policy strategy, according to them.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/new-mppa-framework-set-to-transform-renewables-1764785869>

TELECOMMUNICATION | Govt may cut mobile phone import duty to curb illegal imports

- The government is considering reducing import duties on legally imported smartphones ahead of the launch of the National Equipment Identity Register (NEIR) on December 16. Currently, import duties on legally imported smartphones stand at about 61%.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-may-cut-mobile-phone-import-duty-curb-illegal-imports-4050111>

Stocks:**BANKASIA | Bank Asia to inject BDT 1.2 Bn to its subsidiary**

- Bank Asia PLC, a private-sector lender, has approved a BDT 1.2 Bn capital injection into its wholly owned subsidiary, Bank Asia Securities, with a view to diversifying its portfolio. Total Operating profit of Bank Asia Securities stood at BDT 160 Mn in 2024 against BDT 108 Mn in 2023.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bank-asia-inject-tk120cr-its-subsidiary-1301396>

DUCHBANGL | Regulator launches action against DBBL over related-party building purchase

- The securities regulator has initiated enforcement action against Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd. (DBBL) over what it described as a conflict of interest linked to a plan to purchase a multi-storied building. On August 26, the bank's board of directors decided to acquire a 21-storey commercial building in Motijheel, Dhaka, with a total floor area of about 207,340 square feet, at a cost exceeding BDT 10.16 Bn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/regulator-launches-action-against-dbbl-over-related-party-building-purchase-1764784457>

IFIC | Ex-MD of IFIC Bank fined over promotion of IFIC Aamar Bond

- The stock market regulator has fined a former managing director of IFIC Bank BDT 50 Mn for allowing the promotion of a bond issued by a real estate company using the bank's brand name. Shah Alam Sarwar, former managing director of IFIC Bank, is facing the penalty for his involvement in the campaign of IFIC Aamar Bond, whose face value was BDT 15 Bn and issue value was BDT 10 Bn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ex-md-of-ific-bank-fined-over-promotion-of-ific-aamar-bond-1764784502>

EXCHANGE | 2 shareholder-directors elected unopposed to DSE board

- Md Hanif Bhuiya and Md Sajedul Islam have been elected uncontested as shareholder-directors of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) for the next three years. The newly elected directors will join the 13-member DSE board at the bourse's 64th annual general meeting (AGM), scheduled for December 18.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/2-shareholder-directors-elected-unopposed-to-dse-board-1764784482>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 59.27	(USD 12.16)	-17.02%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 62.96	(USD 11.43)	-15.36%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,194.77	USD 1,586.29	60.81%
DSEX	4,927.49	-288.95	-5.54%
S&P 500	6,849.72	942.78	15.96%
FTSE 100	9,692.07	1,571.06	19.35%
BSE SENSEX	85,106.81	6,906.88	8.83%
KSE-100	85,106.81	-30,152.19	-26.16%
CSEALL	21,826.59	5,881.98	36.89%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 122.19 BDT****1 GBP = 162.88 BDT****1 Euro = 142.43 BDT****1 INR = 1.35 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