

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 rebound with 11.45% rise in January**

- Exports rebounded strongly in January this year by posting an 11.45% year-on-year jump to hit USD 5.72 Bn thanks to higher shipment of garments and other merchandises.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/exports-rebound-1145-rise-january-3536021>

BB unveils roadmap to reduce NPL

- Bangladesh's banking sector is poised for a significant decline in nonperforming loans (NPL), projected to decrease by 2.76% over the next two years. This estimate comes in the wake of Bangladesh Bank's strategic move to streamline its bad loan management, reducing the write-off period from three years to two.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-unveils-roadmap-bring-down-default-loan-below-8-june-2026-787102>

Sector & Industry:**JUTE | Closed jute mills get new life in private hands**

- The tide has turned for government jute mills. Five of the 25 mills, closed down in mid-2020 over accumulating losses, have returned to production, while the joint inventory of eight others has already been finalised before they can be geared to production.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/closed-jute-mills-get-new-life-private-hands-786922>

COMMODITIES | Ramadan supplies ample, yet no hope for price fall

- Global commodity prices have fallen and traders have also built good stocks of sugar, dates, edible oil, pulses, chickpeas and onions for Ramadan market, but there is no good news for local consumers. Prices are unlikely to decrease as traders argue the USD crisis and the Red Sea conflict have made their imports costlier.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bazaar/ramadan-supplies-ample-yet-no-hope-price-fall-786914>

PHARMACEUTICALS | Higher sales fail to cheer up drug makers in H1 FY24

- Revenue jumped in the first half of FY24, compared to FY23, but it was accompanied by higher cost of sales in the turbulent macroeconomic scenario, depriving drug makers of the pleasure of attaining the expected profit growth.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/higher-sales-fail-to-cheer-up-drug-makers-in-h1-fy24-1707072277>

IT | IT exports in the slow lane as demand falls

- Information technology exports from Bangladesh dropped 4.4% in the first five months of the current fiscal year as the demand for software developers and products has fallen due to the lingering global economic slowdown.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/ict/news/it-exports-the-slow-lane-demand-falls-3536196>

Stocks:**BANGAS | Bangas profit jumps 14%**

- Bangas Ltd, one of the leading biscuit makers of Bangladesh, recorded a 14% profit growth year-on-year for the period of October-December 2023-24 financial year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangas-profit-jumps-14-3535956>

EMERALDOIL | Minori inks deal with Dubai's Safa to sell Emerald Oil shares worth BDT 4 Bn

- Minori Bangladesh Ltd, the biggest shareholder of rice bran oil producer Emerald Oil Industries, has entered into a three-year share purchase agreement with Dubai-based Safa Capital, intending to sell its Emerald Oil shares totalling BDT 4 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/minori-inks-deal-dubais-safa-sell-emerald-oil-shares-worth-tk400cr-787358>

PAPERPROC | Paper Processing to issue shares at 1:2 ratio for merger with Magura Paper

- Listed Paper Processing & Packaging is going to merge with its non-listed sister concern Magura Paper Mills, with shares of the latter to be exchanged at a 2:1 ratio.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/paper-processing-to-issue-shares-at-12-ratio-for-merger-with-magura-paper-1707072298>

RINGSHINE | Regulator-appointed Ring Shine board stayed for six months

- The High Court has stayed the operation of Ring Shine Textiles Ltd's board, which was reconstituted by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), for six months.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/regulator-appointed-ring-shine-board-stayed-six-months-787350>

World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 72.33	USD 0.68	0.95%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 77.45	USD 0.41	0.53%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,035.15	(USD 27.83)	-1.35%
DSEX	6,280.74	34.25	0.55%
S&P 500	4,958.61	188.78	3.96%
FTSE 100	7,615.54	-117.70	-1.52%
BSE SENSEX	72,085.63	-154.63	-0.21%
KSE-100	62,989.88	610.47	0.98%
CSEALL	10,430.79	-223.37	-2.10%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 110.79 BDT****1 GBP = 139.65 BDT****1 Euro = 119.43 BDT****1 INR = 1.33 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	Senior Research Associate	hztowhidi.khan@bracepl.com	01708 805 224
Billal Hossain	Research Associate	billal.hossain@bracepl.com	01708 805 229
Foyisal Ahmed	Research Associate	foysal.ahmed@bracepl.com	01708 805 201
S M Toufique Imran	Research Associate	smtoufique.imran@bracepl.com	01708 805 228

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: + (880)-2-9852446-50

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

E-Mail: research@bracepl.com