BRAC EPL STOCK BROKERAGE LTD

Important News Snippets

Sunday, September 6, 2026

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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:

Large-scale manufacturing sector rebounds with 14.5% growth in June

- The large-scale manufacturing rebounded sharply with a 14.5 % expansion in June, the final month of the fiscal year 2026, according to official statistics. It provides a stronger-than-expected end to a volatile 2025-26 fiscal year marked by repeated contractions amid economic uncertainty.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/large-scale-manufacturing-sector-rebounds-with-145pc-growth-in-june

UKEF offers up to USD 2 Bn financing support for Bangladesh projects

- With country capacity ranging between USD 1 Bn and USD 2 Bn, UKEF can support eligible projects in sectors including transport, agriculture, healthcare, airports, manufacturing, renewable energy and infrastructure.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/ukef-offers-ps2b-financing-support-bangladesh-projects-1532791

BB widens access to finance against Offshore Banking Unit-held foreign currency deposits

- The Bangladesh Bank has widened the scope of financing against foreign currency deposits held with Offshore Banking Units, allowing such balances to be used as collateral for a broader range of loans in local currency.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-widens-access-finance-against-obu-held-foreign-currency-deposits-1532886

Cenbank eases foreign remittance rules for Hi-Tech Park firms

- Bangladesh Bank has eased foreign remittance rules for industrial enterprises operating in Hi-Tech Parks, allowing them to make certain overseas payments from their BDT accounts.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bangladesh-bank-eases-foreign-remittance-rules-hi-tech-park-firms-1532371

Energy crisis forces businesses to cut output, seek alternatives

- Factories producing garments, food, ceramics and pharmaceuticals are cutting production, changing work schedules and turning to alternative energy sources as the ongoing gas and power shortages make it harder and more expensive to keep plants running.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/energy-crisis-forces-businesses-cut-output-seek-alternatives-4265701

High tariff protection hinders export diversification: study

- High tariff protection for local industries is making it harder for Bangladesh to diversify its exports beyond ready-made garments while also discouraging investment in export-oriented sectors, according to a government study.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/business-front/312611/high-tariff-protection-hinders-export-diversification-study

Set pension age at 55 for RMG workers: BGMEA

- Leaders of the country's apparel sector have demanded that the pension age for garment workers be fixed at 55 instead of 60 and that a special incentive be provided during the first two years to make the Universal Pension Scheme attractive and popular among workers.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/set-pension-age-at-55-for-rmg-workers-bgmea

Govt seeks urgent action to roll out subsidised LPG for rural poor

- The Ministry of Commerce (MoC) has sought detailed opinions and an urgent action plan from relevant authorities to introduce subsidised liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders for low-income rural households amid an ongoing shortage of the cooking fuel in the domestic market.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/govt-seeks-urgent-action-to-roll-out-subsidised-lpg-for-rural-poor

Global grain prices at three-year high

- Rice prices at the retail level in Bangladesh have recorded an unabated rise in recent months, as grain prices have risen to three-year high in the global market. Global rice prices edged higher in August, led by gains in the Indica segment, as strong sales lifted Indian parboiled rice quotations, according to the latest Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Rice Price Update.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/global-grain-prices-at-three-year-high-1788628856

Oil touches USD 97 per barrel as diesel prices surge to highest level this year

- A monthlong run of rising crude oil prices and refineries' nearing capacity has pushed the average cost of diesel fuel to its highest since 2022. The international oil benchmark Brent surpassed USD 97 per barrel Thursday morning but ended the day nearly unchanged at USD 95.52. The price of Brent is up 20% since August 4.

https://www.nbcnews.com/business/energy/oil-touches-97-barrel-diesel-prices-surge-highest-level-year-rcna595904

Sector and Industries:

BANK | BB to launch interest-free digital credit

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) is set to introduce an "e-Payment Credit" facility, likely today, to promote cashless payments and help customers manage temporary cash shortages. Under the facility, eligible customers will be able to borrow between BDT 50 and BDT 10,000 to meet essential expenses through digital payments.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-launch-interest-free-digital-credit-4265706

BANK | Individual depositors hold BDT 687.26 Bn at merged bank

- Individual depositors hold BDT 687.26 Bn at Sammilito Islami Bank, created through the merger of five crisis-hit banks, putting the new bank under immediate pressure to return depositors' money while carrying a far larger burden of bad loans and capital shortages.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/business-front/312616/individual-depositors-hold-tk-68726cr-at-merged-bank

BANK | Over BDT 2.0 Tn stuck in 0.13 Mn cases belongs to 20 state-run banks, FIs

- State-run banks and financial institutions grapple with thousands of long-pending cases trapping over two-trillion taka where Janata Bank leads the list with BDT 1.11 Tn sucked out of vaults into labyrinth of litigation.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/over-tk-20t-stuck-in-013m-cases-belongs-to-20-state-run-banks-fis

INSURANCE | IDRA hands over BDT 145.1 Mn in insurance claims

- The Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) handed over insurance claim cheques worth BDT 145.1 Mn to 2,549 policyholders, as part of its efforts to speed up claim payments and rebuild public trust in the insurance sector.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/idra-hands-over-tk-1451cr-insurance-claims-4264281

RMG | Bangladesh retains No 2 spot in US apparel exports

- Bangladesh retained the second position in garment exports to the US in the January-July period as China's apparel shipments to the American market recorded their steepest decline. Bangladesh first overtook China in January-February as the Trump administration imposed higher tariffs on Chinese garment imports.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-retains-no-2-spot-us-apparel-exports-4265686

TEXTILE | BGMEA, BKMEA want import ban on knit fabric withdrawn

- Two leading apparel trade bodies—the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA)—have demanded the cancellation or suspension of a provision restricting knit fabric imports under the country's new import policy.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/bgmea-bkmea-want-import-ban-on-knit-fabric-withdrawn

ENERGY | Fossil fuel import bill may rise by USD 2.8 Bn this year

- Bangladesh's annual fossil fuel import bill could rise by USD 2.8 Bn in 2026, a 30% increase from 2025, if oil, gas and coal prices remain at their January-August averages, according to a briefing by UK-based international research group Zero Carbon Analytics.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/power-energy/312283/fossil-fuel-import-bill-may-rise-by-28b-this-year-study

ENERGY | Eastern Refinery to be modernised with refining capacity trebling to 4.5 Mn tonnes

- Modernising and expanding refining capacity of Eastern Refinery Limited, the country's lone facility for converting crude oil into refined petroleum products, is finally set to see the light of day. A financing agreement was signed between the Government of Bangladesh and the IsDB on Thursday (3 September).

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/eastern-refinery-be-modernized-refining-capacity-trebling-45-lakh-tonnes-1534186

CERAMICS | Gas crisis pushes ceramics industry to the brink

- The country's prolonged gas crisis has pushed the ceramics industry to the brink, forcing some factories to shut production lines while others operate at less than half their capacity. Overall production in the ceramics sector has fallen to around 35%.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/gas-crisis-pushes-ceramics-industry-brink-1534416

TANNERY | CETP crisis threatens leather export ambitions

- Bangladesh's plan to turn its leather and footwear industry into a USD 5.0 Bn export sector by 2030 could remain out of reach unless long-standing environmental and compliance problems at the Savar tannery estate are fixed, industry leaders have said.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/cetp-crisis-threatens-leather-export-ambitions-4264366

Stocks:

EXCHANGE | Regulator to allow IPO or RPO after direct listing

- The securities regulator would allow companies to float an IPO (initial public offering) or a Repeat Public Offering (RPO) even after their direct listing. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) said this on Thursday at a meeting with representatives of companies and conglomerates. The market watchdog convened the meeting to brief them on draft rules for direct listing and the benefits of listing on stock exchanges.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/regulator-to-allow-ipo-or-rpo-after-direct-listing

EXCHANGE | IPO pipeline set to revive as aspiring issuers line up after long dry spell

- After the IPO market has remained dry for a long time, the securities regulator is optimistic that new primary issues will be floated in the next few months. Many of the aspiring issuers have already signed agreements with issue managers and are working to prepare financial statements. They include BRB Cables, Solar Equity Venture, Confidence Infrastructure, Super Star Electrical Accessories, and Shoeniverse Footwear.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/ipo-pipeline-set-to-revive-as-aspiring-issuers-line-up-after-long-dry-spell

BRACBANK | BRAC Bank launches CORPnet mobile app for faster corporate banking

- BRAC Bank PLC has launched the CORPnet mobile app, a secure mobile banking solution designed for corporate and business customers. The app enables authorised signatories to approve transactions round the clock, monitor accounts and access critical financial information on the go, according to a press release.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/brac-bank-launches-corpnet-mobile-app-faster-corporate-banking-4265656

VAMLRBBF | Vanguard Rupali Bank Fund sets Oct 26 SGM for open-end conversion

- The trustee board of Vanguard AML Rupali Bank Balanced Fund has approved a proposal to voluntarily convert the closed-end mutual fund into an open-end scheme, potentially improving liquidity and providing unitholders with a more flexible exit option.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/vanguard-rupali-bank-fund-sets-oct-26-sgm-open-end-conversion-1534331

AAMRANET | Aamra Networks offers just 1 paisa dividend amid mounting losses

- Aamra Networks Limited has recommended a nominal 0.10% cash dividend for its general shareholders only for FY2025, which amounts to just 1 paisa per share.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/aamra-networks-offers-just-1-paisa-dividend-amid-mounting-losses-1534321

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 91.48	USD 34.05	59.29%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 96.28	USD 35.43	58.23%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,429.98	USD 88.98	2.05%
DSEX	5,662.09	796.75	16.38%
S&P 500	7,718.60	819.78	11.88%
FTSE 100	10,831.09	899.71	9.06%
BSE SENSEX	76,515.43	-8,278.15	-9.76%
KSE-100	175,328.80	1,274.50	0.73%
CSEALL	21,620.44	-1,003.87	-4.44%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 123.39 BDT

1 GBP = 166.77 BDT

1 Euro = 143.35 BDT

1 INR = 1.30 BDT

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