BRAC EPL STOCK BROKERAGE LTD

Important News Snippets

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

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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:

IMF cuts Bangladesh growth forecast to 4.9% for FY26

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has lowered Bangladesh's economic-growth projection for the fiscal year 2025-26 to 4.9% from the previous 5.4% made in June. In its latest World Economic Outlook for October 2025 released Tuesday, the multilateral lender also projected that the rate of inflation would stand at 8.7% in FY26, an upward revision of its June projection of 6.2%.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/imf-cuts-bangladesh-growth-forecast-to-49pc-for-fy26-1760461543

Bending NTBs must to unlock BD-EU trade bonanza

- On a note of readiness to expand trade and investment with Bangladesh, the European Union (EU) has listed out 60 types of non-tariff barriers (NTBs) as major hindrances and sought remedies. The 27-nation economic bloc has outlined such barriers under 13 categories in a document compiled by the EU Delegation in collaboration with EU-member states, official sources said.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bending-ntbs-must-to-unlock-bd-eu-trade-bonanza-1760461346

Toothpaste, food or toys: Japanese firms bet bigger on Bangladesh

- Japanese companies are showing more interest in investing in Bangladesh, expanding existing operations and launching new ventures as they tap into the country's large consumer base and competitive labour market, according to Japanese trade officials and business leaders.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/toothpaste-food-or-toys-japanese-firms-bet-bigger-bangladesh-4010131

E-waste could bring USD 500 Mn a year: expert

- Bangladesh is missing out on a potential USD 500 Mn economic opportunity every year due to the absence of a formal electronic waste (e-waste) management system, according to an expert. "In Bangladesh, we generate 2.2 kilogrammes of e-waste per person, with a financial value of over USD 500 Mn if 100% is recycled formally," Akter Ul Alam, general secretary of the WEEE Society Bangladesh, said yesterday, citing data from the Global E-waste Monitor 2024.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/e-waste-could-bring-500m-year-expert-4010221

Most SoEs under industries ministry incurring losses, says secretary

- The government has opened the door for private sector participation in running state-owned enterprises (SoEs) under the Ministry of Industries (MoI), as most of them have become loss-making ventures, MoI Secretary Md Obaidur Rahman said on Tuesday. "There are between 200 and 250 entities under the MoI. However, most of them are now incurring losses," he said without mentioning the reasons.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/most-soes-under-industries-ministry-incurring-losses-says-secretary-1760463306

Foreign investors flee Bangladesh stocks amid political turbulence

- Foreign investors have retreated from Bangladesh's equity market once again amid persistent economic challenges and fears of political friction during the electoral transition. Economic reform measures taken by the interim government after the political changeover had given rise to optimism about a market turnaround, which is why foreign stakes in well-performing companies jumped until June this year compared to October last year

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/foreign-investors-flee-bangladesh-stocks-amid-political-turbulence-1760454675

Sector & Industries:

BANK | Bangladesh Bank buys USD 38 Mn more from market

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) today bought USD 38 Mn more from six commercial banks to rebuild foreign exchange reserves and maintain stability in the exchange rate. As a result, total USD purchases have hit USD 2.12 Bn since the beginning of this fiscal year.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-bank-buys-38-million-more-market-4009901

BANK | 72% of transactions in Bangladesh still cash-based as informal economy dominates

- As per data in the payment system report, between December 2023 and December 2024, cash remained the primary mode of financial exchange across the country. Despite Bangladesh Bank's push towards a cashless society, more than 72% of all monetary transactions in the country are still conducted in cash, according to the central bank's latest payment system report.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/72-transactions-bangladesh-still-cash-based-informal-economy-dominates-1260796

BANK | Five Shariah banks owe BDT 373.32 Bn to banks, FIs

- Five Shariah banks undergoing a merger are facing a massive collective liability of approximately BDT 373.32 Bn in fixed deposits owed to various banks and financial institutions, according to a report of the Bangladesh Bank released on Tuesday, reports UNB. Of them, the highest liability of BDT 101.85 Bn lies with First Security Islami Bank, while Union Bank has a liability of BDT 86.31 Bn. The Exim Bank has a liability of BDT 81.57 Bn, followed by the Social Islami Bank with a liability of BDT 57.91 Bn and the Global Islami Bank BDT 45.68 Bn.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/five-shariah-banks-owe-tk-37332b-to-banks-fis-1760458135

RMG | Cap exports rise as buyers look beyond China, Korea

- Once an overlooked corner of the accessories market, caps are now a growing contributor to Bangladesh's export portfolio, reflecting both shifting global trends and the country's ability to adapt and scale. According to data from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), Bangladesh exported USD 89.98 Mn worth of headgear in the first quarter of FY 2024-25.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/cap-exports-rise-buyers-look-beyond-china-korea-4010141

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Stocks:

ROBI | Robi's SmartPay gets cenbank approval to operate as digital payment service

- SmartPay Limited, a fully owned subsidiary of Robi, will provide fintech-based electronic payment solutions, including utility bill payments and other related services. Robi Axiata PLC has received approval from the Bangladesh Bank to operate a digital payment service through its newly formed subsidiary, SmartPay Limited.

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/telecom/robis-smartpay-gets-cenbank-approval-operate-digital-payment-service-1260451

MITHUNKNIT | Why a Chinese investor's bid to take over Mithun Knitting failed again

- According to BSEC, the company's response was unsatisfactory and lacked adequate documentary evidence. Destination Express International (DEX-I) Limited, a China-based courier service provider, had earlier received approval from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) to take over listed Mithun Knitting and Dyeing Limited, now renamed as Toyo Knitex (CEPZ) Limited.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/why-chinese-investors-bid-take-over-mithun-knitting-failed-again-1260776

EXCHANGE | 5-year bond yield dips below policy rate

- The yield on five-year treasury bonds fell below the central bank's policy rate on Tuesday, as banks channelled surplus liquidity into government securities amid subdued private sector credit demand in the run-up to the national election. According to auction results, the cut-off yield, or interest rate, on the Bangladesh Government Treasury Bonds (BGTBs) declined to 9.34% from 10.03% earlier.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/5-year-bond-yield-dips-below-policy-rate-1760462983

EXCHNGE | BSEC set to revamp IPO rules for fairer price discovery

- The securities regulator is set to overhaul its IPO approval framework to attract fundamentally strong companies through a fairer price discovery process. According to a press release issued on Tuesday, the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) will repeal the existing Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Issue) Rules, 2015 and replace it with a new set of regulations titled Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Offer of Equity Securities) Rules, 2025.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-set-to-revamp-ipo-rules-for-fairer-price-discovery-1760454691

EXCHANGE | CSE suffers BDT 146 Mn operating loss in FY25

- As of 30 June 2025, the exchange's earnings per share (EPS) stood at BDT 0.45, compared to BDT 0.50 in the previous year. The Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) reported a 38% increase in operating losses, reaching BDT 146 Mn in FY 2024–25, highlighting ongoing difficulties in earning revenue from core operations amid a slow market.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/cse-suffers-tk146cr-operating-loss-fy25-1260781

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Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 58.58	(USD 12.85)	-17.99%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 62.24	(USD 12.15)	-16.33%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,172.00	USD 1,563.52	59.94%
DSEX	5,197.27	-19.17	-0.37%
S&P 500	6,644.31	737.37	12.48%
FTSE 100	9,452.77	1,331.76	16.40%
BSE SENSEX	82,029.98	3,830.05	4.90%
KSE-100	165,476.02	50,217.02	43.57%
CSEALL	22,372.57	6,427.96	40.31%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 121.57 BDT

1 GBP = 162.30 BDT

1 Euro = 141.33 BDT

1 INR = 1.37 BDT

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