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:

BB relaxes borrowing rules for foreign-owned industries

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has relaxed its regulations on external borrowing for fully foreign-owned industrial enterprises in a bid to attract fresh foreign direct investment (FDI) in Bangladesh.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bb-relaxes-borrowing-rules-for-foreign-owned-industries-1784139533

Parliament passes Invest Bangladesh Bill despite opposition objections

- Parliament passed the Invest Bangladesh Bill, 2026, paving the way for the formation of the Invest Bangladesh Authority by abolishing the existing Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (Bida), Bangladesh Public-Private Partnership Authority (PPP Authority) and Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (Beza).

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/parliament-passes-invest-bangladesh-bill-despite-opposition-objections-1489311

Breakwater design completion key to attracting investors

- The government has prioritised the completion of the breakwater design for the Bay Terminal project at the Chittagong Port as the first step towards attracting private investors and making at least one terminal operational by 2030.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/breakwater-design-completion-key-to-attracting-investors-1784138958

Saudi Arabia keen to invest up to USD 1Bn in Bangladesh's ports, infrastructure

- A high-level Saudi delegation today (15 July) met Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and expressed interest in investing up to USD 1 Bn in Bangladesh's ports, railways and other key infrastructure projects.

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/saudi-arabia-keen-invest-1-billion-bangladeshs-ports-infrastructure-1489476

Bangladesh, Italy set for strategic talks

- Bangladesh and Italy will hold political consultations in Rome on August 4 to deepen cooperation on trade, migration, investment and regional issues, as Dhaka seeks to strengthen strategic ties with key European partners, diplomatic sources said.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bangladesh-italy-set-for-strategic-talks-1784134512

Bepza attracts record USD 718 Mn investment proposals in FY26

- The Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority secured record investment proposals worth USD 718 Mn in fiscal year 2025-26, reflecting strong investor confidence in its export processing zones despite a challenging global economic environment.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bepza-attracts-record-718m-investment-proposals-fy26-4224911

LDC exit in 2026 could deepen economic woes: govt report

- Bangladesh's economy is in crisis due to domestic and external shocks, and graduation from the category of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) this year will worsen the situation due to several risks.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ldc-exit-2026-could-deepen-economic-woes-govt-report-4224931

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PM announces 'Universal Card' to consolidate all welfare benefits

- Prime Minister Tarique Rahman Wednesday announced a landmark initiative bringing all government welfare programmes onto a single platform through the introduction of 'Universal Card' for greater social and financial security for working people, marginal farmers and disadvantaged communities.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/pm-announces-universal-card-to-consolidate-all-welfare-benefits-1784139031

Deltaport Footwear to invest USD 21.60 Mn in Bepza zone

- Deltaport Footwear Ltd, a joint venture of Italian and Irish investors, will invest USD 21.60 Mn to set up a footwear manufacturing plant at the Bepza Economic Zone in Mirsharai, Chattogram, run by the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Bepza).

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/deltaport-footwear-invest-2160m-bepza-zone-4224836

Govt 'signals interest' in Airbus amid EU lobbying

- After sealing a Boeing deal, the government has “signalled interest” in adding Airbus aircraft to Biman's fleet following sustained European lobbying.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/govt-signals-interest-in-airbus-amid-eu-lobbying

<u>Sector and Industries:</u>

ENERGY | 5-MW rooftop solar power by Sept

- Bangladesh is set to supply nearly 5 MW of electricity generated from rooftop solar panels to the national grid by September, marking another step in the government’s efforts to diversify the country's energy mix and expand renewable power generation.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/5-mw-rooftop-solar-power-by-sept-1784139140

ENERGY | Bangladesh faces fresh LNG supply setback

- Bangladesh's long-term LNG supply plans have suffered another setback as US-based Excelerate Energy joined QatarEnergy in halving contracted deliveries for 2026, forcing to rely more heavily on costly spot purchases.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bangladesh-faces-fresh-lng-supply-setback-1784139225

ENERGY | 1.4 Mn tonnes of diesel import without tender proposed

- The energy division has sent a proposal seeking approval for importing 14.75 lakh tonnes diesel without tenders. The proposal based on negotiations with 15 trading houses and suppliers came amid fresh escalation of war between the United States and Iran in the Middle East, the country’s main sources of fuel oils.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/power-energy/306322/14-lakh-tonnes-of-diesel-import-without-tender-proposed

BANK | ABB proposes charges after 3 counter withdrawals in a month

- The Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB), the organization representing bank executives, has proposed that customers who withdraw cash over the counter more than three times a month may face an additional fee ranging from BDT 100 to BDT 300. Furthermore, recommendations have been made to introduce new fees or increase existing charges across 14 other banking services.

https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/banks/415225/abb-proposes-charges-after-3-counter-withdrawals

TEXTILE | BTMA seeks BB support to protect USD 32 Bn primary textile investments

- The Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) has urged Bangladesh Bank to roll out a broad package of policy support for the country's primary textile sector, already attracting USD 32 Bn in investments.

https://tob.news/btma-seeks-bb-support-to-protect-32bn-primary-textile-investments/

Stocks:

EXCHANGE | BSEC holds talks to simplify IPO rules, expand direct listing

- The securities regulator has embarked on a major overhaul of the country's initial public offering (IPO) regime, aiming to simplify the listing process, broaden direct listing opportunities and attract fundamentally strong companies to the market.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-holds-talks-to-simplify-ipo-rules-expand-direct-listing-1784131520

EXCHANGE | BSEC to relax margin loan restrictions

- The existing restriction on receiving margin loans for "B" category shares and a minimum investment of BDT 0.50 Mn for at least one year is being withdrawn. Additionally, provisions are being made to allow investors to purchase non-marginable shares using cash within a margin account. Several other changes have also been proposed to eliminate operational complexities in the rules.

https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/stock/415215/bsec-to-relax-margin-loan-restrictions

ALARABANK | KDS Group regains control of Al-Arafah

- Bangladesh Bank has appointed 14 new directors to the board of Al-Arafah Islami Bank, paving the way for the lender's founding shareholders, led by KDS Group, to regain control after nearly a year under a board dominated by independent directors.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/mis/306311/kds-group-regains-control-of-al-arafah

ROBI | Robi's ex-CEO resignation saga exposes cracks in governance

- The show-cause notice said operating expenditure was capitalised and profit inflated in 2019 and 2020 under the leadership of Mr Ahmed. Operating expenses are costs shown in the income statement, deducted to get yearly income, but capital expenditure is treated as assets in the balance sheet, which are amortised or depreciated over a span of several years.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/robis-ex-ceo-resignation-saga-exposes-cracks-in-governance-1784131477

RAKCERAMIC | RAK Ceramics welcomes Mohammod Khourshed Alam as CEO

- RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited has announced the appointment of Mohammod Khourshed Alam as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective from 15 July.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/rak-ceramics-welcomes-mohammod-khourshed-alam-as-ceo-1784134617

IFIC | Rescue efforts in tatters: Old troubles haunt IFIC Bank

- The attempt to rescue IFIC Bank from years of financial scams, fraudulent lending and breach of regulations appears to have stumbled at the hands of those entrusted with the turnaround.

https://tob.news/rescue-efforts-in-tatters-old-troubles-haunt-ific-bank/

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Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 80.33	USD 22.90	39.87%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 85.38	USD 24.53	40.31%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,045.13	(USD 295.87)	-6.82%
DSEX	5,926.28	1,060.94	21.81%
S&P 500	7,572.40	673.58	9.76%
FTSE 100	10,515.92	584.54	5.89%
BSE SENSEX	77,185.43	-7,608.15	-8.97%
KSE-100	175,367.90	1,313.60	0.75%
CSEALL	21,417.80	-1,206.51	-5.33%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.87 BDT

1 GBP = 166.35 BDT

1 Euro = 141.01 BDT

1 INR = 1.27 BDT

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