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:

Fed raises interest rates for first time since 2023, defying Trump as inflation mounts

- The Federal Reserve raised its benchmark interest rates for the first time since 2023 on Wednesday in a move aimed at slowing inflation that picked up again last month. The Fed's hike of 0.25% brings the central bank's flagship rate to between 3.75% and 4.00%.

https://www.nbcnews.com/business/economy/fed-raises-rates-defying-trump-rcna598148

Private-sector credit growth stays below 5% for fifth straight month

- Private-sector bank credit growth edged up to 4.62% in July but remained below 5% for a fifth consecutive month as an acute energy crisis and weak business demand continue to discourage fresh investment.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/private-sector-credit-growth-stays-below-5-fifth-straight-month-1545011

Bangladesh's gross forex reserves rise to USD 36.32 Bn

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 36.32 Bn (gross) while reserves calculated under the IMF's BPM6 methodology stood at USD 31.47 Bn.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/bangladeshs-gross-forex-reserves-rise-to-3632b

ECNEC clears 12 projects involving BDT 1.68 Tn

- The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) has approved 12 major development projects with an estimated total expenditure of BDT 1.689 Tn.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/ecnec-clears-12-projects-involving-tk-168-trillion

BD, EU discuss path to formal FTA negotiations

- Bangladesh and the European Union (EU) on Wednesday discussed ways to further deepen cooperation in trade and investments including early progression towards formal negotiations on the Bangladesh-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with a view to strengthening long-term economic ties.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bd-eu-discuss-path-to-formal-fta-negotiations-1789582985

Why exporters are losing their competitive edge

- Bangladesh's exporters are losing ground to regional competitors as rising energy, financing and logistics costs squeeze profit margins and make it increasingly difficult to match the prices and delivery times offered by countries such as Vietnam, China and India.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/why-exporters-are-losing-their-competitive-edge-4274896

Sector and Industries:

BANK | BB sets 270-day limit for overdue status under back-to-back LC

- Bangladesh Bank has decided that local delivery bills against back-to-back LCs will not be considered overdue for Export Development Fund (EDF) financing if they remain outstanding for no more than 270 days.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bb-sets-270-day-limit-for-overdue-status-under-back-to-back-lc-1789578024

BANK | Banks' industrial financing drops amid economic stress

- Banks disbursed BDT 200.28 Bn in industrial term loans during April-June 2026, down from BDT 242.96 Bn in the same period of 2025. Banks recovered BDT 245.07 Bn during April-June, down from BDT 271.81 Bn a year earlier.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/economy/314132/banks-industrial-financing-drops-amid-economic-stress

ENERGY | Govt to import fuel worth BDT 125.37 Bn from China, Indonesia

- The government will import 695,000 tonnes of additional fuel oil from Unipec, PetroChina and Indonesia's BSP under government-to-government arrangements for September-December.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/energy/govt-import-tk12537cr-fuel-china-indonesia-1544776

ENERGY | Most solar equipment can be imported at 1% duty under new order

- All solar equipment imported for industrial use will be subject to a 1% duty, with the existing 15% VAT and 2% advance tax waived. For non-industrial commercial importers, almost all solar equipment and components will also be eligible for import at a 1% duty, except for a few components that are manufactured locally.

https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/most-solar-equipment-can-be-imported-1-duty-under-new-order-1544966

TELECOM | GSMA seeks 50-75% cut in spectrum renewal fees

- GSMA has urged the Bangladesh government to cut spectrum renewal prices by 50-75% ahead of the November 2026 renewal of the 900 MHz, 1800 MHz and 2100 MHz bands.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/gsma-seeks-50-75-cut-spectrum-renewal-fees-4274866

RMG | Bangladesh's garment prices in EU less than half of Vietnam's

- Bangladesh sells garment items to the European Union (EU) at less than half the prices of those from Vietnam because of the lack of high-value garment items in Bangladesh's export basket.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladeshs-garment-prices-eu-less-half-vietnams-4274711

https://www.newagebd.net/post/apparel/314131/apparel-exports-to-eu-fall-1365pc-in-7-months

PORT | New private ICDs to start full operations from day one

- New investors in private inland container depots (ICDs) will be able to begin full-fledged operations immediately after obtaining their licences, as the government moves to end a cumbersome approval process.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/new-private-icds-to-start-full-operations-from-day-one-1789582840

TOBACCO | VAT intel unearths BDT 725 Mn evasion by Virgo Tobacco

- The VAT intelligence authorities have unearthed an estimated BDT 725 Mn worth of revenue evasion by a tobacco company through the alleged illegal production and marketing of cigarettes using used and fake banderoles.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/vat-intel-unearths-tk-725m-evasion-by-virgo-tobacco-1789582772

Stocks:

EXCHANGE | 'Visible changes in capital market expected within 2-3 months': Tanvir Shahriar Ghani

- Prime Minister's Special Assistant for Investment and Capital Market Affairs Tanvir Shahriar Ghani has outlined the measures and talked about the country's overall investment environment.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/visible-changes-capital-market-expected-within-2-3-months-tanvir-shahriar-ghani

EXCHANGE | Regulator promises retrospective benefits once IPO rules are revised

- If companies get listed now under the existing rules, they will be offered the benefits of any changes to those rules once they come into effect, the securities regulator said in a press release on Wednesday. The statement comes as the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) strives to bring new companies to the secondary market after a prolonged drought in IPO flow.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/regulator-promises-retrospective-benefits-once-ipo-rules-are-revised-1789578354

BRACBANK | BRAC Bank only Bangladeshi lender on Forbes' top 500 banks list

- BRAC Bank has emerged as the only Bangladeshi lender among Forbes' 500 top-performing banks globally, securing the 73rd position in the lower mid-size category in the US magazine's inaugural ranking.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/brac-bank-only-bangladeshi-lender-on-forbes-top-500-banks-list-1789578405

DOMINAGE | Dominage Steel top brass fined BDT 51 Mn for IPO fund utilisation lapses

- The market watchdog has slapped an aggregate fine of BDT 51 Mn on the chairman, directors and senior officials of Dominage Steel Building Systems for failing to properly utilise IPO proceeds, deviating from the approved utilisation plan and providing false information.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dominage-steel-top-brass-fined-tk-51m-for-ipo-fund-utilisation-lapses-1789578454

ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank customers threaten movement if their demands not met

- Customers of the Islami Bank PLC under the banner of 'Conscious Customers Forum of the Islami Bank PLC' threatened on Wednesday to wage a greater movement in future if their demands were not fulfilled.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/islami-bank-customers-threaten-movement-if-their-demands-not-met-1789582603

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Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 101.77	USD 44.34	77.21%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 105.83	USD 44.98	73.92%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,273.86	(USD 67.14)	-1.55%
DSEX	5,494.07	628.74	12.92%
S&P 500	7,551.81	652.99	9.47%
FTSE 100	10,688.47	757.09	7.62%
BSE SENSEX	74,336.45	-10,457.13	-12.33%
KSE-100	168,021.80	-6,032.50	-3.47%
CSEALL	21,133.41	-1,490.90	-6.59%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 123.11 BDT

1 GBP = 164.80 BDT

1 Euro = 141.24 BDT

1 INR = 1.28 BDT

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