Important News Snippets

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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:

Bangladesh prepares five-year trade capacity plan to tackle post-LDC graduation challenges

- The government is set to adopt a new five-year action plan to strengthen Bangladesh's trade capacity, improve the investment climate and enhance competitiveness in international markets as the country prepares for graduation from the least developed country (LDC) category.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/post-ldc-challenges-bangladesh-prepares-5-year-trade-capacity-plan

Bepza Economic Zone in Mirsarai draws nearly USD 130 Mn before completion, eyes USD 2.9 Bn potential

- Bepza Economic Zone in Mirsarai, Chittagong, had attracted USD 130 Mn in investment as of mid-July – even before the site's development project was completed – generating USD 52.82 Mn in exports and creating jobs.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/bepza-economic-zone-mirsarai-draws-nearly-130m-completion-eyes-29b-potential

Overall annual imports almost static

- Bangladesh's overall imports remained almost unchanged at USD 70.41 Bn in FY26, as businesses adopted a cautious stance amid ongoing geopolitical tensions. The actual import in terms of settlement of LCs edged up by 0.09% to USD 70.41 Bn in FY'26 from USD 70.34 Bn a year before.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/overall-annual-imports-almost-static-1784488304

Fuel import bill jumps 85% amid Middle East conflict

- Bangladesh spent 85% more on fuel imports in 11MFY26 as higher global energy prices due mainly to the war in the Middle East pushed up the country's import bill. The cost of importing crude oil rose 93% YoY to USD 1.13 Bn during the period, while spending on petroleum products, oil and lubricants climbed 84% to USD 7.89 Bn.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/fuel-import-bill-jumps-85-amid-middle-east-conflict-4227776

Long-awaited USD 335 Mn Chinese loan deal likely soon

- Deal on a long-awaited USD 335 Mn Chinese loan for construction of two jetties to upgrade Mongla seaport is likely to be signed within this month, officials say.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/long-awaited-335m-chinese-loan-deal-likely-soon-1784488249

Sector and Industries:

BANK | BB cracks down on 29 banks over bad loans

- The BB governor instructed banks to reduce default loans to 10% within a year and cut the NPL within the existing legal framework and prevent the creation of fresh NPLs. Banks that fail to meet the targets may be forced to transfer their toxic assets to an Asset Management Company, where distressed loans could be sold at deep discounts, exposing banks to substantial losses.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/306771/bb-cracks-down-on-29-banks-over-bad-loans

BANK | BB seeks exit plans for five merging banks' administrators

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has asked administrators of five merged banks to submit their exit plans as the newly appointed chairman and managing director of Sammilito Islami Bank assumed office.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-seeks-exit-plans-five-merging-banks-administrators-4227816

BANK | Capital inadequacy earns restrictions on operations

- Capital inadequacy has earned Janata Bank's UAE outfit regulatory restrictions on its operations in the gulf state, setting off its headquarters' urge for government bailout, sources say.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/capital-inadequacy-earns-restrictions-on-operations

ENERGY | Three new wells in Sylhet to add 30 Mn cubic feet of gas daily

- State-owned Sylhet Gas Fields Limited has taken an initiative to drill three new gas and oil wells, which are expected to add 30 Mn cubic feet of gas per day to the national grid once drilling is completed. SGFL supplies around 142 Mn cubic feet of gas daily to the national grid from its 17 functioning wells.

https://www.newagebd.net/post/power-energy/306724/three-new-wells-in-sylhet-to-add-3cr-cubic-feet-of-gas-daily

ENERGY | Minister rules out overseas roadshows for offshore bids

- The government has ruled out organising overseas roadshows to promote Bangladesh's offshore licensing round, saying it will instead engage directly with international energy companies while pursuing a lower-cost approach to attracting investment.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/minister-rules-out-overseas-roadshows-for-offshore-bids-1784489012

AIRLINES | Local airlines go for biggest-ever billion dollar expansion ahead of new 3rd Terminal opening

- Spurred by the massive capacity created by Dhaka airport's upcoming Third Terminal, four domestic airlines plan to increase their combined fleet by 78.4% by 2027. According to airline officials, the combined fleet of the state-owned flag carrier and three private operators will grow from 51 to 91 aircraft by 2027, driven by the induction of 40 leased planes.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/aviation/local-airlines-go-biggest-ever-billion-dollar-expansion-ahead-new-3rd-terminal

Stocks:

REGULATOR | BSEC moves to ease margin loan rules; experts urge caution

- Market participants say the proposed reforms could inject much-needed liquidity into the market by expanding margin financing capacity and making the facility accessible to a wider pool of investors. However, they also express caution that easier access to leverage could encourage speculative trading and increase market risk if not accompanied by effective regulatory oversight.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-moves-ease-margin-loan-rules-experts-urge-caution-1492641

EBL | EBL, Visa launch passkey authentication for online payments

- Eastern Bank PLC, in partnership with Visa, has introduced the Visa Payment Passkey in Bangladesh, enabling cardholders to authenticate online transactions using biometric data or device credentials.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/corporates/ebl-visa-launch-passkey-authentication-online-payments-1492541

UNITEDINS | United Insurance shares jump 9.81% amid 45% EPS jump

- United Insurance reported a 45% year-on-year rise in earnings per share (EPS) for the second quarter of 2026, driven by higher underwriting profit, sending its shares to the daily upper circuit. The company's shares gained 9.81%, or BDT 4.70, to close at BDT 52.60 on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/united-insurance-shares-jump-981-amid-45-eps-jump-1492666

PARAMOUNT | Paramount Insurance posts 145% surge in Q2 profit

- The insurer's earnings per share (EPS) rose to BDT 0.98 for the quarter, up from BDT 0.40 in the corresponding period last year. For the first half (January-June) of 2026, EPS increased to BDT 2.19 from BDT 1.58 a year earlier.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/paramount-insurance-posts-145-surge-q2-profit-1492631

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 84.37	USD 26.94	46.91%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 90.35	USD 29.50	48.48%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,017.29	(USD 323.71)	-7.46%
DSEX	5,855.72	990.39	20.36%
S&P 500	7,457.69	558.87	8.10%
FTSE 100	10,600.37	668.99	6.74%
BSE SENSEX	78,151.45	-6,642.13	-7.83%
KSE-100	175,802.80	1,748.50	1.00%
CSEALL	21,405.41	-1,218.90	-5.39%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 123.24 BDT

1 GBP = 165.70 BDT

1 Euro = 140.83 BDT

1 INR = 1.28 BDT

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