

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:**Govt defers Ctg port tariff hike for one month**

- The government deferred the recently announced tariff hike at the Chittagong Port by one month following appeals from the business community.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-defers-ctg-port-tariff-hike-for-one-month-1758391722>

Regulator targets errant auditors over links to financial statement frauds

- Six audit firms are likely to be barred from auditing the financial statements of listed companies for what the market watchdog describes as their involvement in preparing fabricated balance sheets.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/regulator-targets-errant-auditors-over-links-to-financial-statement-frauds-1758378845>

US report makes 8 key suggestions for BD's financial transparency

- The recommendations include publishing end-of-year reports in a timely manner, preparing budgets in line with international standards, providing detailed breakdowns of expenditures and revenues, ensuring an independent and well-resourced audit institution with full access to the annual budget, releasing timely audit reports with substantive findings, and disclosing information on natural resource extraction and public procurement contracts.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/us-report-makes-8-key-suggestions-for-bds-financial-transparency-1758391792>

Tariff hurdles stall Bangladesh's export growth in Malaysia

- Despite strong diplomatic and economic ties, Bangladeshi exporters continue to face steep tariff and non-tariff barriers in the Malaysian market, constraining trade growth and widening the bilateral imbalance.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/tariff-hurdles-stall-bangladeshs-export-growth-malaysia-3990596>

BD becoming priority country to France in financing

- Bangladesh gradually becomes a priority country to France under Indo- Pacific development policy but its assistance, as of other countries, may pass through challenges ahead due to US global pullback trends.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/last-page/bd-becoming-priority-country-to-france-in-financing-1758219632>

ADB unhappy about USD 11 Bn BD projects down-rated as 'problematic'

- Nearly USD 11 Bn worth of ADB-funded development projects in Bangladesh are up for reappraisal shortly as many of those are down-rated as "problematic" and "slow-going".

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/adb-unhappy-about-11b-bd-projects-down-rated-as-problematic-1758304882>

Sector & Industries:**FUEL & POWER | BPC posts consistent monthly profits under new fuel pricing formula**

- Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) has reported consistent monthly profits since the introduction of the automatic fuel pricing formula in March 2024, driven by regular price adjustments and margins on petrol, octane, and diesel sales. State-run Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) has been making profits every month since the introduction of the automatic fuel pricing formula last year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bpc-posts-consistent-monthly-profits-under-new-fuel-pricing-formula-1758392112>

INSURANCE | Insurers balk at regulator's power to intervene in failing cos

- Insurers seem inclined to buy time to study a draft law vesting sweeping new powers in the regulator to intervene in failing companies in a bid to restore confidence in an industry weakened by chronic delays in claim settlement. The law, modelled on the country's bank resolution framework, would enable the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) to restructure or liquidate distressed firms, transfer their assets and liabilities, or create "bridge insurers" to protect the interests of policyholders.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/insurers-balk-at-regulators-power-to-intervene-in-failing-cos-1758391951>

NBFI | NBFI crisis locks up depositors' savings

- Ahsan H Mansur, governor of the central bank, recently told The Daily Star that the nine NBFIs would be liquidated and that the government has given its approval in principle. The process, to be carried out under the Finance Company Act 2023, may begin soon.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nbfi-crisis-locks-depositors-savings-3990591>

RMG | Bangladesh boasts decade-high apparel exports, now foresees compliance odds

- Bangladesh's apparel exports to both the European Union (EU) and the United States have recorded impressive growth for over a decade now, consolidating the country's position as a key global supplier, but a rethink begins. Insiders in the readymade garment (RMG) warn that the future may not be as bright, with new EU regulations, shifting trade policies, and intensifying global competition creating uncertainty.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/bangladesh-boasts-decade-high-apparel-exports-now-foresees-compliance-odds-1758304815>

RMG | RMG exports from Saidpur drop 50%

- Saidpur, the commercial hub of Nilphamari district, is reeling after exports of ready-made garments, mainly made from jhut (scrap fabric), faced a sudden and severe setback. Exports dropped by about 50% following India's ban on imports of seven categories of goods, including garments, through land ports, creating a major crisis for the local economy and employment, according to the Exportable Small Garments Owners Association (ESGOA) in Saidpur.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/rmg-exports-saidpur-drop-50-1241486>

BANK | How BB plans to pay back depositors of five merging banks

- Bangladesh Bank is drafting a payment scheme to safeguard depositors of five Islamic banks set to be merged into a single entity, which will become the country's largest bank by assets. Central bank officials told The Business Standard that individual depositors will get top priority in repayments. Institutional depositors, however, may receive shares in the newly merged bank instead of cash. Borrowers, meanwhile, will see no changes – loan instalments must be paid on schedule, and defaults will continue to be penalised.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/how-bb-plans-pay-back-depositors-five-merging-banks-1241491>

Stocks:**CROWNCEMNT | Crown Cement approves BDT 137.7 Mn land purchase for expansion**

- Crown Cement PLC, one of the country's leading cement manufacturers, has moved forward with another major land acquisition as part of its ongoing expansion strategy. The company's board of directors, in its meeting held on 18 September, approved the purchase of 330 decimals of land at West Mukterpur in Munshiganj at an approximate cost of BDT 137.7 Mn, including registration expenses, according to the company's disclosure published on its website.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/crown-cement-approves-tk1377cr-land-purchase-expansion-1241386>

SOUTHEASTB, NEWLINE | Southeast Bank to auction New Line Clothings' assets over BDT 4.24 Bn default loan

- Southeast Bank PLC has initiated measures to recoup more than BDT 4.24 Bn in defaulted loans from New Line Clothings Ltd, a listed apparel manufacturer that has ceased operations in recent years. The bank announced an auction of New Line's mortgaged properties after declaring the loan as defaulted, according to a notice issued on 17 September.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/southeast-bank-auction-new-line-clothings-assets-over-tk424cr-default-loan-1241416>

RENATA | Renata ships anticoagulant Rivaroxaban to Australia

- A widely used anticoagulant drug, Rivaroxaban, has been shipped to Australia by Renata PLC, marking the first time the medicine is available in capsule form in the country.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/renata-ships-anticoagulant-rivaroxaban-australia-3989166>

SEMLLECMF | Trustee to hold unitholders' meeting on SEML Lecture Equity Fund maturity

- Bangladesh General Insurance Company (BGIC), the trustee of SEML Lecture Equity Management Fund, a listed mutual fund, has called a unitholders' meeting upon the fund's maturity, according to a disclosure published on the stock exchange's website today (18 September). SEML Lecture Equity Management Fund's current tenure is due to mature on 25 December 2025.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/trustee-hold-unitholders-meeting-sem-l-lecture-equity-fund-maturity-1239796>

EXCHANGE | NBR's capital gains data request spooks high-net-worth investors

- Major investors in the country's stock market have been rattled by a move by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) to gather information on those who earned capital gains exceeding BDT 5 Mn in the 2024–25 fiscal year. Market insiders say the decision will have a negative impact on the market. They argue that the method of collecting information was not appropriate and that the confidentiality of high-net-worth investors will be compromised.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/nbrs-capital-gains-data-request-spooks-high-net-worth-investors-1239791>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 62.68	(USD 8.75)	-12.25%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 66.68	(USD 7.71)	-10.36%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,685.30	USD 1,076.82	41.28%
DSEX	5,449.93	233.49	4.48%
S&P 500	6,664.36	757.42	12.82%
FTSE 100	9,216.67	1,095.66	13.49%
BSE SENSEX	82,626.23	4,426.30	5.66%
KSE-100	158,037.38	42,778.38	37.12%
CSEALL	21,085.09	5,140.48	32.24%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 121.82 BDT

1 GBP = 164.35 BDT

1 Euro = 143.09 BDT

1 INR = 1.38 BDT

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BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

Research

Salim Afzal Shawon, CFA	Head of Research	salim@bracepl.com	01708 805 221
Fahim Hassan	Research Analyst	fahim.hassan@bracepl.com	01709 636 546
Hossain Zaman Towhidi Khan	Research Analyst	hztowhidi.khan@bracepl.com	01708 805 224
Foyisal Ahmed	Research Associate	foysal.ahmed@bracepl.com	01708 805 201
S M Toufique Imran	Research Associate	smtoufique.imran@bracepl.com	01708 805 228
Rakibul Hasan	Research Associate	rakibul.hasan@bracepl.com	01708 805 229
Tasviha Taher Trishila	Research Associate	tasviha.trishila@bracepl.com	01730 701 733

International Trade and Sales

Ahsanur Rahman Bappi	CEO	bappi@bracepl.com	01730 357 991
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BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited

www.bracepl.com

Symphony, Plot No.: S.E.(F) – 9(3rd Floor), Road No.: 142

Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka – 1212

Phone: + (88)-02-222282446-47

Fax: + (88)-02-222282452

E-Mail: research@bracepl.com