

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 launches centralised digital platform for project approvals**

- The Planning Division under the Ministry of Planning has launched a centralised digital platform to streamline the public investment cycle, from preparing Development Project Proposals (DPPs) to appraisal and final approval.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-launches-centralised-digital-platform-for-project-approvals-1755970416>

FDI rose 20% in FY25

- Bangladesh saw a rebound in foreign direct investment (FDI) in the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25, with net inflows reaching USD 1.71 Bn. The figure marks an increase of nearly 20% compared with the previous year, following a three-year low in FY24 amid a heated political climate centred on the national elections and subdued investor confidence, according to central bank data.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/fdi-rose-20-fy25-3968176>

Govt keen to finalise free trade zone decision by December

- The government is showing interest in setting up the country's first free trade zone (FTZ) in the southern coastal region, aiming to attract more foreign investment and create jobs.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-keen-finalise-free-trade-zone-decision-dec-3968171>

US leads in Bangladeshi credit card spending abroad

- Bangladeshi nationals spent the most on credit cards in the United States, debit cards in the United Kingdom, and prepaid cards in Saudi Arabia in June this year, according to a recent report by Bangladesh Bank.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/us-leads-bangladeshi-credit-card-spending-abroad-3968166>

Mongla Port introduces LCL cargo handling

- With this facility, traders can now ship smaller consignments using shared containers, eliminating the need to bear the full cost of an entire container. Mongla Port authority has introduced the long-awaited Less-than-Container Load (LCL) cargo handling system, opening new opportunities for both small and large-scale importers and exporters.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/mongla-port-introduces-lcl-cargo-handling-1218521>

Development works slow as only 75 projects cleared last fiscal

- Development works suffered badly as only 75 new projects involving BDT 984.98 Bn were endorsed in the past fiscal year--the lowest in two decades in terms of both their number and expenditure. Official statistics show the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) gave its seal of approval to these few development projects in the fiscal year 2024-25, evidently as the entire time reeled from political upheavals and regime change.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/development-works-slow-as-only-75-projects-cleared-last-fiscal-1755885777?date=23-08-2025>

BDT appreciates after years of depreciation

- Bangladesh currency taka gained value by 0.39% to 122.3 in July against per US dollar, marking its strongest exchange clout that has implications particularly for trade and remittance. Economists and central bankers attribute the appreciation to a combination of weaker greenback globally, robust remittance inflows and sluggish private-sector-credit growth that curbed import demand.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/bdt-appreciates-after-years-of-depreciation-1755885953>

ADB outpaces WB, provides USD 2.52 Bn in FY'25

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has emerged as the top development partner for Bangladesh as it disbursed highest USD 2.52 billion in foreign assistance in the last fiscal year (FY) 2024-25, officials said on Friday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/adb-outpaces-wb-provides-252b-in-fy25-1755886110?date=23-08-2025>

Process of BDT 400 Bn stolen asset recovery starts

- The government has launched a coordinated drive to recover assets worth nearly BDT 400 Bn amassed abroad with siphoned-off money. Prime Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam said teams comprising Bangladesh Bank, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) are working together on the recovery process.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/process-of-tk-400b-stolen-asset-recovery-starts-1755799127>

Sector & Industries:**ENGINEERING | Pran-RFL invests BDT 2 Bn as locally made lifts gain traction**

- Although Bangladesh's lift market is still largely import-dependent, the demand for locally produced lifts has been steadily growing. To meet this rising demand, Property Lifts — a subsidiary of Pran-RFL Group — has invested nearly BDT 2 Bn in producing world-class lifts at affordable prices. Besides Property Lifts, Walton is currently the only other company producing lifts in Bangladesh.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/pran-rfl-invests-tk200cr-locally-made-lifts-gain-traction-1218836>

BANK | Banks' overseas branches see profit plunge amid import slowdown

- The aggregate net profit of Bangladeshi banks' overseas branches plummeted by nearly 37% in 2024 compared to the previous year, a direct consequence of a significant slowdown in imports. According to the Bangladesh Bank's Financial Stability Report 2024, the combined net profit of these overseas branches fell to USD 5.96 Mn in 2024, a 36.56% decrease from the USD 9.40 Mn achieved in 2023. This sharp decline in profitability also saw the aggregate return on assets (ROA) drop from 1.74% to 1.15%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-overseas-branches-see-profit-plunge-amid-import-slowdown-1217621>

JUTE | Jute spinners demand raw jute export ban, mandatory jute packaging

- The Bangladesh Jute Spinners Association (BJSA) Saturday has called for a ban on raw jute exports and full enforcement of the mandatory jute packaging law. The association has raised this demand as export of jute and jute goods has been steadily declining in the international market.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/jute-spinners-demand-raw-jute-export-ban-mandatory-jute-packaging-1755970765>

RMG | RMG makers seek increase in incentive rates

- Country's apparel makers have sought increase in the rates of incentive to help the largest export-earning sector sustain its growth pace. They have demanded that the government raises the rate of special incentive to 1.0% from the existing level of 0.30% and increase the incentive to 4% for small and medium units from the present rate of 3.0%. Besides, the apparel makers also want a 2.0% cash support as alternative to the duty drawback facilities against the existing rate of 1.5%.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/rmg-makers-seek-increase-in-incentive-rates-1755886187?date=23-08-2025>

TEXTILE | Large manufacturing contracts marginally in June

- Bangladesh's large manufacturing sector contracted 3.58% year on year in June after recording a healthy growth in May 2025, according to the latest data from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). This happens to be a second spell of contraction in the past fiscal year after August fall by 1.13% when countrywide political movement against the Hasina government crippled economic activities.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/large-manufacturing-contracts-marginally-in-june-1755799370>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS | Consolidated licensing, cap on foreign ownership likely

- A new-look telecommunications network and licensing policy is in the making with a sweeping reform package aimed at simplifying regulation, reducing inefficiencies and enabling the sector to adapt to modern technological and market realities.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/consolidated-licensing-cap-on-foreign-ownership-likely-1755799204>

Stocks:**BRACBANK | BRAC Bank's net deposit growth hits BDT 100 Bn in eight months**

- BRAC Bank's branch network has reported a record net deposit growth of BDT 100 Bn in the first eight months of 2025, underscoring the sustained momentum in deposit mobilisation. This milestone builds on the consistent upward trajectory achieved in recent years, as the branch network continues to redefine industry benchmarks for business growth.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/stock-corporate/brac-banks-net-deposit-growth-hits-tk-100b-in-eight-months-1755797941>

EXCHANGE | Offloading shares of profitable SoEs, 10 MNCs ordered

- A latest binding instruction comes for ministries concerned to act promptly for offloading shares of profitable state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and some multinational companies bearing government stakes for breathing life into limping bourses, sources said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/offloading-shares-of-profitable-soes-10-mncs-ordered-1755885830?date=23-08-2025>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 63.66	(USD 7.77)	-10.88%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 67.73	(USD 6.66)	-8.95%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,371.86	USD 763.38	29.27%
DSEX	5,374.96	158.52	3.04%
S&P 500	6,466.91	559.97	9.48%
FTSE 100	9,321.40	1,200.39	14.78%
BSE SENSEX	81,306.85	3,106.92	3.97%
KSE-100	149,493.06	34,234.06	29.70%
CSEALL	20,649.20	4,704.59	29.51%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 121.64 BDT****1 GBP = 164.38 BDT****1 Euro = 142.58 BDT****1 INR = 1.39 BDT**

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

Analyst Certification: Each research analyst and research associate who authored this document and whose name appears herein certifies that the recommendations and opinions expressed in the research report accurately reflect their personal views about any and all of the securities or issuers discussed therein that are within the coverage universe.

Disclaimer: Estimates and projections herein are our own and are based on assumptions that we believe to be reasonable. Information presented herein, while obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, is not guaranteed either as to accuracy or completeness. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes a solicitation of the purchase or sale of any security. As it acts for public companies from time to time, BRAC-EPL may have a relationship with the above-mentioned company(s). This report is intended for distribution in only those jurisdictions in which BRAC-EPL is registered and any distribution outside those jurisdictions is strictly prohibited.

Compensation of Analysts: The compensation of research analysts is intended to reflect the value of the services they provide to the clients of BRAC-EPL. As with most other employees, the compensation of research analysts is impacted by the overall profitability of the firm, which may include revenues from corporate finance activities of the firm's Corporate Finance department. However, Research analysts' compensation is not directly related to specific corporate finance transaction.

General Risk Factors: BRAC-EPL will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for each company under coverage at the time of initiating research coverage and revisit this assessment when subsequent update reports are published, or material company events occur. Following are some general risks that can impact future operational and financial performance: (1) Industry fundamentals with respect to customer demand or product / service pricing could change expected revenues and earnings; (2) Issues relating to major competitors or market shares or new product expectations could change investor attitudes; (3) Unforeseen developments with respect to the management, financial condition or accounting policies alter the prospective valuation; or (4) Interest rates, currency or major segments of the economy could alter investor confidence and investment prospects.

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
----------------------	-----	--	---------------

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