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:

Exchange rate rise erodes export competitiveness

- Bangladesh's exports may become costlier and imports cheaper as the taka grows increasingly overvalued in real terms, driven by sluggish import demand, weak private-sector credit growth, and persistently high inflation. Bangladesh Bank data show the REER rose to 106.55 in October from 104.53 in September, indicating the currency remains stronger than its equilibrium level.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/exchange-rate-rise-erodes-export-competiveness-1764091143

62 Mn Bangladeshis vulnerable, risk sliding back into poverty: WB

- Bangladesh's 62 Mn people -- half of the non-poor population -- are now at risk of falling back into poverty as progress in reducing poverty faces its toughest period since 2016, the World Bank (WB) said on Tuesday. Some 21 Mn people remain poor in 2025, while another 62 Mn sit just above the poverty line with weak consumption, low savings, and limited safety nets, the global lender said in its new assessment.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/62m-bangladeshis-vulnerable-risk-sliding-back-into-poverty-wb-1764091348

Vessel waiting time decreases to 'zero hours' at Ctg port

- Chattogram sea port achieved significant progress during the last 10 months particularly in all major operational indexes like container and cargo vessel handling as well as reducing waiting time of vessels registering a stable continuation towards upward trends. Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) officials said once worrisome 5 to 15 days "waiting time" of vessels came down to almost zero hours during last three weeks.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/vessel-waiting-time-decreases-to-zero-hours-at-ctg-port-1764086771

BBS census missed 0.36 Mn economic units: BIDS

- A Post Enumeration Check (PEC) found Bangladesh has around 12.2 Mn economic units, 2.95% higher than last year's 11.8 Mn counted by the BBS. The PEC across 352 areas noted uneven omissions—5.99% in city corporations and 3.9% in urban areas—attributed to rapid business turnover, new ventures, and unregistered or temporary establishments, according to BIDS.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bbs-census-missed-365-lakh-economic-units-bids-4043571

Sector & Industries:

TELECOMMUNICATION | Spectrum auction to fetch BDT 2.37 Bn per unit

- Bangladesh plans to earn BDT 2.37 Bn per unit from 700MHz spectrum auction as the government approves the long-awaited financial terms for selling the highly coveted telecommunications backbone. Winning bidders must pay 10% upfront, with the remaining 90% payable in nine equal annual installments. The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) may issue the spectrum-assignment letter upon receipt of the first tranche.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/spectrum-auction-to-fetch-tk-237-billion-per-unit-1764090819

BANK | Default loans hit 34%, highest in 25 years

- The non-performing loan (NPL) ratio stood at 24.6% in March this year. A year earlier in June, it was only 12.2%, according to a quarterly report by the Bangladesh Bank (BB). At the end of June this year, total loans and advances amounted to BDT 17.3 Tn. Of this, BDT 6 Tn had turned sour.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/default-loans-hit-34-highest-25-years-4043561

TANNERY | Tannery workers decry wage non-implementation a year after declaration

- Tannery workers have voiced deep frustration as the new minimum wage announced by the government has not been implemented even a year after its declaration.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/tannery-workers-frustrated-minimum-wage-remains-unpaid-even-after-year-1294606

TELECOMMUNICATION | BTRC cancels 16 ISP licences for non-renewal

- The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) has cancelled the licences of 16 Internet Service Providers (ISPs) after the companies failed to renew their permissions despite the expiry of their validity periods. The cancelled IPSs are 3G Point Internet (Fatullah), Amar Online BD (South Keraniganj), Bani Networks Ltd (Gulshan & Banani units), BD Solution Online (Khilgaon), Durend Network & Agro (Shanthia), Friends Network (Sarankhola), Desh BD Technologies (Kafrul), Neuron Institution of Information Technology (Jibannagar, Damurhuda, Chuadanga sadar), Online Cable Network Connection (Tongi West), Search Net (Adabor), Sky Fiber Communications (Bangshal), Smart Net (Kamrangirchar), SS Networks (Kushtia Sadar).

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/telecom/btrc-cancels-16-isp-licences-non-renewal-1294961

Stocks:

FORTUNE | Fortune Shoes' profit nosedives as non-operating income dries up

- Fortune Shoes' profit nosedived to BDT 19 Mn in FY25 as non-operating income shrank significantly. The shoe manufacturer's profit tumbled 77% year-on-year in FY25, according to a stock exchange filing on Tuesday. Fortune Shoes reported earnings per share of BDT 0.11 for the year to June this year, down from BDT 0.50 the year before.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/fortune-shoes-profit-nosedives-as-non-operating-income-dries-up-1764085867

EXCHANGE | No more paper, bourses go fully digital on corporate filings

- To modernise the capital market, the country's two bourses – Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) – are set to launch an automated Smart Submission System (SSS) today to receive all regulatory and corporate filings from listed companies on a single digital platform. Eliminating manual submissions of hard-copy documents, the SSS aims to improve operational efficiency, ensure faster and more accurate information dissemination, mitigate risks, and improve investor experience.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/no-more-paper-bourses-go-fully-digital-corporate-filings-1294956

EXCHANGE | Eight more firms given extended deadlines to adjust negative equity

- Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has granted eight more market intermediaries — including City Brokerage, ONE Securities, Standard Bank Securities, IFIC Securities, Apex Investments, Abaci Investments, and Sonali Investment PLC — extended deadlines to adjust negative equity and provisioning for unrealised losses. The new timelines, stretching beyond December 31 to as late as 2030–2032, require firms to submit quarterly progress updates, stop share-buying in negative-equity accounts, and refrain from paying dividends until full compliance.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/eight-more-firms-given-extended-deadlines-to-adjust-negative-equity-1764085784

Important News Snippets

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Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 58.11	(USD 13.32)	-18.65%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 62.63	(USD 11.76)	-15.81%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,153.06	USD 1,544.58	59.21%
DSEX	5,018.28	-198.16	-3.80%
S&P 500	6,765.88	858.94	14.54%
FTSE 100	9,609.53	1,488.52	18.33%
BSE SENSEX	84,587.01	6,387.08	8.17%
KSE-100	161,855.47	46,596.47	40.43%
CSEALL	22,819.91	6,875.30	43.12%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.04 BDT

1 GBP = 160.95 BDT

1 Euro = 141.36 BDT

1 INR = 1.37 BDT

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

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