BRAC EPL STOCK BROKERAGE LTD

Important News Snippets

Sunday, October 26, 2025

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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:

Forex reserves cross USD 32 Bn mark, highest in 2.5 years

- Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves have crossed the USD 32 Bn mark, the highest level in two and a half years, according to the central bank, reports UNB.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/forex-reserves-cross-32b-mark-highest-in-25-years-1761242358

Forex-reserves buildup gets cautious IMF plaudits

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has cautiously hailed Bangladesh's recent foreign-exchange -reserves buildup, pending a spot-check as to whether the modalities of market operations are consistent with the Fund-prescribed exchange regime.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/forex-reserves-buildup-gets-cautious-imf-plaudits-1761412273

Dhaka Metro costs 5 times India's: Jica review sought to cut millions

- A metrorail project costs just USD 40.77 Mn per kilometer in Patna city, which is USD 166 Mn in Riyadh and USD 188 Mn in Dubai. In Dhaka, the cost of similar projects ranges between USD 226.74 Mn and USD 253.63 Mn per kilometer – five times the cost in India and much higher than in Saudi Arabia and UAE.

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/transport/dhaka-metro-costs-5-times-indias-jica-review-sought-cut-millions-1269236

Govt plans to trim foreign project aid

- Officials said consultations will begin next week to reassess how much of the BDT 860 Bn project aid allocation can realistically be spent in FY2025-26.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-plans-to-trim-foreign-project-aid-1761412652

Govt moves to form Bangladesh Business Promotion Council

- The government has drafted 'Bangladesh Business Promotion Council Ordinance, 2025', to institutionalise and strengthen public-private collaboration in enhancing the country's export competitiveness, diversifying products and markets, and simplifying trade procedures in line with international standards.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-moves-to-form-bangladesh-business-promotion-council-1761411892

Government tightens grip on financial rules

- In a fresh push to restore fiscal discipline across public offices, the government has reminded all ministries and agencies that no financial directive can be issued without the Finance Division's consent.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/government-tightens-grip-on-financial-rules-1761412481

BD pursues aggressive tariff overhaul

- Bangladesh adopts a time-bound implementation roadmap on aggressive tariff overhauls, including deep cuts, to rationalize the country's trade regime to play tidily on the global market in post-graduation era.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/bd-pursues-aggressive-tariff-overhaul-1761328336

CAAB mulls operating HSIA's third terminal on its own

- Talks with the consortium - primarily shortlisted to manage the BDT 213.99 Bn facility - have stalled due to a lack of consensus on several key conditions, a senior CAAB official told The Financial Express on condition of anonymity.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/caab-mulls-operating-hsias-third-terminal-on-its-own-1761412811

DCCI to develop Economic Position Index

- The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) has taken an initiative to develop an Economic Position Index (EPI) aimed at revealing the real scenario of economic activities and formulating specific recommendations to improve the country's overall economic condition.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/dcci-develop-economic-position-index-4018551

BD less exposed to AI risks: Report

- Only 1.44% of total jobs in Bangladesh are related to AI, far below 7.29% in Sri Lanka and 5.8% in India, the global lender said in its latest report titled "South Asia Development Update: Jobs, AI and Trade.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bd-less-exposed-to-ai-risks-report-1761412732

Signing ILO convention raises factory owners' onus

- Following Bangladesh's signing of the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Convention 190, employers now face greater responsibilities to ensure gender sensitivity and prevent workplace harassment, in line with the convention, industry leaders have said.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/signing-ilo-convention-raises-factory-owners-onus-1761241812

Sector & Industries:

BANK | BB now better equipped to handle errant banks

- A clearly defined drive begins in acquisitions and mergers of problem banks as the regulator Thursday issued regulations for the Bank Resolution Ordinance 2025 made by the interim government for banking-sector reforms.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/bb-now-better-equipped-to-handle-errant-banks-1761241491

BANK | Farm credit up 28% in August, overdue loans nearly double

- Scheduled banks disbursed BDT 26.72 Bn in agricultural loans during August, an increase of more than 28% compared with the same month last year, according to the latest "Monthly Report on Agriculture and Rural Finance" by the Bangladesh Bank.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/farm-credit-28-august-overdue-loans-nearly-double-4018681

BANK | AKIJ Resource seeks to introduce Sariah-based digital bank

- AKIJ Resource, a business entity that originated from one of the oldest conglomerates- AKIJ Group- aspires to introduce the country's first-ever Sariah-based digital bank. As part of the plan, AKIJ Resource has decided to apply for securing digital banking license from the Bangladesh Bank (BB)

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/first-page/akij-resource-seeks-to-introduce-sariah-based-digital-bank-1761241714

CEMENT | Cement sector reels under overcapacity, weak demand, and financial strain

- Most plants in the industry are running at below 30% of capacity, far short of the global standard of 70%-80%, industry leaders said. The result is a market flooded with unsold cement, plummeting prices, and mounting financial distress.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/cement-factories-running-30-capacity-amid-overcapacity-weak-demand-financial-strain

TELECOMMUNICATION | STARLINK TEAM VISITS HEAD OFFICE OF GLOBAL BRAND

- A Starlink team visited the head office of Global Brand PLC, the country's largest IT distributor company, recently as part of its business expansion efforts. They discussed how Starlink services can be expanded in remote areas of Bangladesh through Global Brand and how rapid support can be provided through 30 branches.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/starlink-team-visits-head-office-of-global-brand-1761237060?date=24-10-2025

Stocks:

BRACBANK | BRAC Bank posts record quarterly profit

- BRAC Bank PLC has reported its highest-ever quarterly profit for the July-September period this year, registering a 50% year-on-year increase. The third-generation commercial bank posted a consolidated profit of BDT 6.30 Bn, up from BDT 4.20 Bn in the same quarter the previous year.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/brac-bank-posts-record-quarterly-profit-1761327280?date=25-10-2025

ISLAMIBANK | Islamic bank investments grow 10.55% in a year

- Bangladesh's Islamic banking sector continued to post steady growth across key indicators, including investment, in August 2025, according to the latest data from Bangladesh Bank (BB). The Islamic Banking System also recorded considerable growth in investments, rising from BDT 5.17 Tn in August 2024 to BDT 5.72 Tn in August 2025, a growth of 10.55%.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/islamic-bank-investments-grow-1055pc-in-a-year-1761328861

HEIDELBCEM | Heidelberg Materials posts Q3 profit despite cost pressures

- Heidelberg Materials posted a profit of BDT 9.28 Mn in the third quarter (July-September) of 2025, recovering from a loss in the same period of 2024.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/heidelberg-materials-posts-q3-profit-despite-cost-pressures-1761409124

MATINSPINN | Matin Spinning posts 130% profit surge riding on higher sales

- Matin Spinning Mills, a concern of DBL Group and a listed textile sector company, posted a remarkable profit growth of over 130% year-on-year in the 2024-25 fiscal year, driven by higher revenue.

https://www.tbsnews.net/node/1269186

DOREENPWR | Doreen Power sees 76% profit jump

- Doreen Power Generation and Systems, an independent power producer, has reported a consolidated profit growth of 76% for the fiscal year 2024-25, primarily driven by significant revenue growth in its subsidiary companies.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/doreen-power-sees-76-profit-jump-1269171

BEACONPHAR | Beacon Pharma delivers robust FY25 results on booming cancer drug sales

- Beacon Pharmaceuticals posted an impressive 81% year-on-year profit growth to BDT 947 Mn in FY25, driven by record sales and higher income from investment.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/beacon-pharma-delivers-robust-fy25-results-on-booming-cancer-drug-sales-1761236514?date=24-10-2025

RENATA | Renata raised BDT 3.25 Bn through preference shares

- Renata PLC, one of the leading drug makers in the country, has successfully concluded raising 3.25 Bn capital through convertible preference shares to offset its high-cost loans.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/renata-raised-tk325cr-through-preference-shares-1267636

PREMIERCEM | Premier Cement recommends 10% cash dividend

- Premier Cement Mills, one of the country's leading cement manufacturers, has recommended a 10% cash dividend for its shareholders for the 2024–25 fiscal year — almost half of what it paid in the previous year.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/premier-cement-recommends-10-cash-dividend-1269036

DHAKABANK | Dhaka Bank profit drops 21% in nine months

- Dhaka Bank PLC has reported a 21% decline in its consolidated net profit for the first nine months of 2025, reflecting weaker operating performance compared to the previous year.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/dhaka-bank-profit-drops-21-nine-months-1269166

SINGERBD | Singer sees escalation of Q3 losses on higher finance costs

- Singer Bangladesh's loss escalated 160% year-on-year to BDT 480 Mn in the third quarter through September this year despite higher sales, due to a significant increase in finance costs.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/singer-sees-escalation-of-q3-losses-on-higher-finance-costs-1761236613?date=24-10-2025

SUMITPOWER | Summit Power profit nosedives 88% on plant shutdowns, impairment loss

- Summit Power reported a whopping 88% year-on-year decline in profit to BDT 0.41 Bn in FY25 due to the shutdown of nearly half of its plants and an impairment loss of BDT 1.52 Bn shown in its financial statements.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/summit-power-profit-nosedives-88pc-on-plant-shutdowns-impairment-loss-1761236778?date=24-10-2025

EXCHANGE | Regulator tightens margin lending to cleanse market of negative equity

- The new margin rules awaiting gazette notification are meant to keep both lenders and borrowers out of the negative equity trap. Some vested quarters opposed them, but the regulator has stayed firm in its position to bring necessary changes in loan facilities for investment in the secondary market, said Md. Saifuddin, a commissioner of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), in an interview with The FE.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/regulator-tightens-margin-lending-to-cleanse-market-of-negative-equity-1761407953

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 61.50	(USD 9.93)	-13.90%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 65.94	(USD 8.45)	-11.36%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,113.05	USD 1,504.57	57.68%
DSEX	5,149.89	-66.55	-1.28%
S&P 500	6,791.69	884.75	14.98%
FTSE 100	9,645.62	1,524.61	18.77%
BSE SENSEX	84,211.88	6,011.95	7.69%
KSE-100	163,304.12	48,045.12	41.68%
CSEALL	22,812.52	6,867.91	43.07%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.33 BDT

1 GBP = 162.83 BDT

1 Euro = 142.21 BDT

1 INR = 1.39 BDT

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