Important News Snippets

Thursday, October 30, 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.

International:

Fed lowers rates, but Powell suggests move may be the last of 2025

- The Fed on Wednesday cut interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point, as expected, as a way to temper any further weakening of the job market. But the central bank's new policy statement included several references to the lack of official data during a federal government shutdown, and Powell told reporters later that policymakers are likely to become more cautious if it deprives them of further job and inflation reports.

https://www.tbsnews.net/worldbiz/usa/fed-lowers-rates-powell-suggests-move-may-be-last-2025-1272791

Macro:

Negotiators hope for next tranche worth 450 Mn from IMF as eligibility check starts

- The reappraisal team from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), beginning its hectic review work Wednesday, sought information regarding government steps on midterm budget adjustment and subsidy-reduction policies in power and other sectors, insiders said. Also, they sought to know the progress regarding NIR or net international reserves, exchange-rate management, quasi-fiscal activities, ongoing mergers and acquisitions (M&A) actions and liquidity management by the central bank.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/negotiators-hope-for-next-tranche-as-eligibility-check-starts-1761760760

Forex reserves stand at USD 27.34 Bn

- "Higher remittance inflows and export earnings have boosted the supply of dollars in the banking sector. Commercial banks, after selling dollars to other banks, are also selling excess dollars to the central bank, which adds to the country's reserves," Arif Hossain Khan, spokesperson and Executive Director of Bangladesh Bank, confirmed the matter to reporters this evening (29 October).

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/forex-reserves-stand-2734b-1272551

Economy shows signs of stabilization, but challenges persist, warns PRI

- Bangladesh's economy is showing signs of stabilization, driven by steady remittance inflows, prudent fiscal management, and a gradual improvement in foreign-exchange reserves, according to PRI. However, the think tank cautioned that the stabilization is fragile and still remains at a lower level, characterized by persistent inflation, declining real wages, weak consumption, and sluggish investment, particularly amid high interest rates.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/economy-shows-signs-of-stabilisation-but-challenges-persist-warns-pri-1761761043

Sector & Industries:

FUEL & POWER | Now govt to self-finance BDT 430 Bn Eastern Refinery 2 as foreign funding falls through

- After months of unsuccessful efforts to secure foreign loans, the government has now decided to implement the long-delayed second unit of the Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL-2) with its own funds – a long-cherished project expected to save the country millions of dollars annually by cutting refined oil imports.

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/now-govt-self-finance-tk43000cr-eastern-refinery-2-foreign-funding-falls-through

FOOD & ALLIED | Govt approves Philip Morris nicotine pouch factory

- The authorities have approved the Bangladeshi arm of global tobacco company Philip Morris to set up a factory in Narayanganj to produce nicotine pouches -- small, tea bag-like packets containing chemically synthesised nicotine, flavourings and other ingredients. According to the official document, the project by Philip Morris Bangladesh involves an initial investment of USD 5.82 Mn and has the capacity to produce 536.3 Mn units annually.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-approves-philip-morris-nicotine-pouch-factory-4022591

RMG | Snowtex eyes USD 160 Mn exports to France in five years

- Snowtex Group, a Bangladeshi apparel manufacturer and exporter, aims to export goods worth USD 150 Mn to USD 160 Mn to the French market over the next five years. Bangladesh's trade with France exceeded USD 2.2 Bn last year, with Snowtex contributing more than USD 100 Mn, said Md Tariqul Islam, assistant director for marketing and merchandising at Snowtex Group.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/snowtex-eyes-160m-exports-france-five-years-4022546

Stocks:

PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank reports 27% Q3 profit growth

- The NPAT was recorded at BDT 6.29 Bn compared to BDT 4.95 Bn in the same period as the previous year. Earnings per share stood at BDT 5.42 as against BDT 4.27 in the corresponding period.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/prime-bank-reports-27pc-q3-profit-growth-1761756492

EBL | Eastern Bank profit jumps 26% to BDT 5.84 Bn in Jan-Sep

- According to a statement from the bank on Wednesday (29 October), its consolidated earnings per share stood at BDT 3.66 during the period.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/eastern-bank-profit-jumps-26-tk584cr-jan-sep-1272626

BATASHOE | Bata slips deeper into the red in Q3 after protest-linked vandalism

- Despite higher sales, Bata Shoe Company saw its losses escalate 153% year-on-year to BDT 144 Mn in the third quarter through September this year, having to navigate exceptional circumstances. "Several retail locations were affected by acts of vandalism, which disrupted operations and had a material impact on financial performance," said the company in its earnings note.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bata-slips-deeper-into-the-red-in-q3-after-protest-linked-vandalism-1761756392

PUBALIBANK | Pubali Bank profit reaches BDT 9 Bn in Jan-Sep

- Pubali Bank has reported a strong financial performance for the first nine months of this year, with its consolidated net profit jumping by 4% year-on-year to BDT 9.11 Bn. The bank said in its price sensitive statement, the consolidated net profit increased due to the robust return from the investment in the government securities.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/pubali-bank-profit-reaches-tk900cr-jan-sep-1272491

ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank profit plunges 66% to BDT 998.1 Mn in Jan-Sep

- Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC has reported that its consolidated net profit fell 66% year-on-year to BDT 998.1 Mn in the January-September period of this year. In the July-September quarter alone, the bank reported a consolidated net profit of BDT 320 Mn, with an EPS of BDT 0.20.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/islami-bank-profit-plunges-66-tk9981cr-jan-sep-1272581

UNILEVERCL | Horlicks rebound fuels Unilever Consumer Care's strong Q3 recovery

- Unilever Consumer Care bounced back strongly in the third quarter through September this year, supported by higher sales of Horlicks amid easing inflationary pressure, compared to the same quarter last year. The multinational company registered 26% year-on-year revenue growth to BDT 1 Bn for July-September, as inflation fell below 9% in June this year for the first time in more than two years.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/horlicks-rebound-fuels-unilever-consumer-cares-strong-q3-recovery-1761756352

ACI | ACI's loss narrows 53% in FY25, declares 25% cash dividend

- ACI's management attributed the improvement in profitability to steady revenue growth and stronger cost control. However, the company noted that higher borrowing costs partially offset the gains.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/acis-loss-narrows-53-fy25-declares-25-cash-dividend-1272676

SIBL | Social Islami Bank reports BDT 17.42 Bn loss in Jan–Sep

- According to a statement released by the bank today (29 October), its consolidated loss per share stood at BDT 15.28 during the period.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/social-islami-bank-reports-tk1742cr-loss-jan-sep-1272511

EXCHANGE | BDT 2.5 Mn stolen from Bangladesh Bank in savings certificate system breach

- A fraud ring has embezzled BDT 2.5 Mn by exploiting the National Savings Certificate (NSC) system, Bangladesh Bank officials said today (29 October). Initial findings suggest the fraudulent transaction was executed using the password of officials responsible for operating the Savings Certificate system.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/tk25-lakh-stolen-bangladesh-bank-savings-certificate-system-breach-1272726

EXCHANGE | Al Haramain, Mahid Securities lose TREC licences

- DSE cancelled Al Haramain Securities' licence due to the firm's failure to maintain the required capital. Mahid Securities lost its licence as it failed to obtain stock-dealer or stock-broker registration certificates from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and failed to commence trading activities within the stipulated time.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/al-haramain-mahid-securities-lose-trec-licences-1761756431

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Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 60.18	(USD 11.25)	-15.75%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 64.61	(USD 9.78)	-13.15%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,932.53	USD 1,324.05	50.76%
DSEX	5,092.40	-124.05	-2.38%
S&P 500	6,890.59	983.65	16.65%
FTSE 100	9,756.14	1,635.13	20.13%
BSE SENSEX	84,997.13	6,797.20	8.69%
KSE-100	158,465.06	43,206.06	37.49%
CSEALL	22,777.12	6,832.51	42.85%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.27 BDT

1 GBP = 161.39 BDT

1 Euro = 141.95 BDT

1 INR = 1.38 BDT

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