

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in red this week. The benchmark index DSEX (-1.31%) lost -75.77 points and closed the week at 5,728.65 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (-0.49%) lost -10.35 points and stood at 2,114.36 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (-1.00%) lost -12.45 points and stood at 1,228.81 points. The large cap index CDSET (-1.04%) lost -11.91 points and closed at 1,133.24 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of -8.29%, +0.98%, -9.92%, -5.78%, respectively.

Total Turnover During the Week (DSE): BDT 39.9 billion (USD 333 million)

Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 8.0 billion (Δ% Week: +0.8%)

Market P/E: 15.9x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed five sessions during this week. The market started positively on Sunday (+0.43%) but turned negative on Monday (-0.44%) and continued the trend throughout the week on Tuesday (-0.30%), Wednesday (-0.82%), and Thursday (-0.18%).

Sectoral Performance

• Most of the financial sectors registered negative performance this week. Mutual Fund experienced the highest loss of -4.78% followed by General Insurance (-1.95%), Bank (-1.10%), NBFi (-0.25%), and Life Insurance (+0.06%).

• Most of the non-financial (large-cap) sectors registered negative performance this week. Telecommunication experienced the highest loss of 2.85% followed by Engineering (-2.55%), Food & Allied (-1.07%), Pharmaceutical (-0.66%), and Fuel & Power (+0.04%).

Macroeconomic arena

• Local assets of money embezzlers will be acquired soon: BB governor. DCCI urges NBR to simplify tax structure for CMSMEs. BANK | BB will safeguard depositors' interests. ENERGY | LNG imports to be through public procurement rules. BANK | BB in USD 450 Mn shady trade with Islami Bank to rebuild reserves. INSURANCE | IDRA chairman to resign. RMG | At least 60 factories in Ashulia still closed despite increased security. 'White paper' panel to look into foreign loan deals: Debapriya. Dhaka expressway fetches BDT 1.04 Bn. BB forms new boards for two more banks, one NBFi. Businesses urge govt to take urgent steps to ensure law and order. BANK | Islamic bank deposits grow despite irregularities. ENGINEERING | Bangladesh Honda starts motorcycle export. BANK | NPLs reach record-high BDT 2.11 Tn. NBR finally scraps provision to whiten money. Corrected export data soon: EPB. BANK | Assess loan exposure to influential people.

• BANK | The way Sonali Bangladesh UK officials bent the rules. August remittance inflow surges 39% YoY, hitting USD 2.2 Bn. IMF positive about lending additional USD 3 Bn. ADP implementation rate 1% in first month of FY25. Private investment, industry growth fall in FY24: BBS. Beza looks to cancel SBG Economic Zone contract. BANK | Cenbank announces special loan repayment facility for flood victims. ENERGY | Big-deal BDT 15.52 Bn loan for Orion solar project blocked. RMG | BGMEA seeks IBC cooperation in maintaining stability in RMG sector. Govt may trim budget by BDT 1 Tn. Economic reforms list long but some measures need to start now: Executive Director CPD. Industrial output growth slows to four-year low. Large lacuna shows BBS miscalculation of economic growth. Domestic borrowing short of FY24 target. Businesses show heightened interest in sabotage and terrorism insurance. BANK | Bangladesh Bank earns BDT 151 Bn in FY24. ENERGY | Fuel prices see small cuts. RMG | Businesses seek BGMEA reforms.

Stock Market arena

• WALTONHIL | Walton to give record dividends, buoyed by 73% profit growth. NCCBANK | NCC Bank plans to expand Islamic banking window. SIBL | SIBL managing director Zafar, 2 DMDs resign. IFIC | Salman loses grip on IFIC Bank. BXPBARMA | Beximco Pharma denies money laundering linked to Saudi firm. EXCHANGE | Regulator unilaterally appointed independent directors: DBA. BRACBANK | BRAC Bank's Aug net deposit growth hits BDT 16 Bn. ICB | ICB left on its own as finance ministry rejects BDT 50 Bn loan plea. SONALILIFE | Crisis-ridden Sonali Life Insurance gets observer. EXCHANGE | Foreign stock investors rebound after Hasina's fall. EXCHANGE | DU teacher Farzana Lalarukh completes BSEC board. EXCHANGE | Income from ICB Unit Fund to receive tax-free benefits. EXCHANGE | 5 brokerage firms misuse BDT 1.23 Bn of investors' funds. RENATA | Renata gets EU regulator approval for drug export.

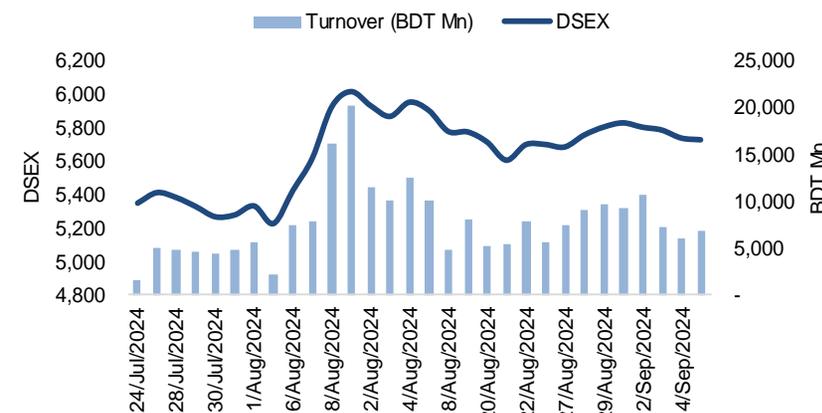
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	28-Dec-2023	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,728.65	5,804.42	-75.77	6,246.50	-1.31%	-8.29%
DS30	2,114.36	2,124.71	-10.35	2,093.83	-0.49%	+0.98%
DSES	1,228.81	1,241.26	-12.45	1,364.13	-1.00%	-9.92%
CDSET	1,133.24	1,145.15	-11.91	1,202.82	-1.04%	-5.78%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
M cap	M n BDT	6,924,312	6,995,815	-1.0%
	M n USD	57,703	58,298	
Turnover	M n BDT	39,941	31,702	+26.0%
	M n USD	333	264	
Average Daily Turnover	M n BDT	7,988	7,925	+0.8%
	M n USD	67	66	
Volume	M n Shares	1,082	919	+17.6%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in last four weeks



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Table 3: Top Ten Gainers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
LINDEBD	1547.3	1,156.9	+33.7%	23,547	1,223.7	41.1x	3.8x
LIBRAINFU	877.6	703.1	+24.8%	1,977	184.0	NM	1.0x
KBPPWBIL	126.6	104.2	+21.5%	12,417	163.2	NM	10.7x
NTC	320.3	271.8	+17.8%	2,114	9.2	NM	NM
FAREASTLIF	48.8	42.0	+16.2%	3,647	122.1	NM	NM
CENTRALINS	48.7	42.3	+15.1%	2,588	109.6	24.4x	1.0x
LOVELLO	87.9	76.7	+14.6%	7,472	503.9	63.7x	6.7x
GPHISPAT	32.1	28.4	+13.0%	15,533	442.6	12.2x	0.6x
USMANIAGL	42.7	38.2	+11.8%	743	4.9	NM	0.6x
TAMIJTEX	142.6	128.4	+11.1%	4,287	25.1	21.4x	1.5x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
NEWLINE	33.0	45.4	-27.3%	2,592	15	63.5x	1.3x
KPCL	19.4	24.0	-19.2%	7,710	208.5	58.8x	1.1x
SPCERAMICS	17.9	21.4	-16.4%	2,631	209.8	81.4x	0.6x
COPPERTECH	22.0	26.2	-16.0%	1,441	90.5	51.2x	1.6x
YPL	13.6	16.0	-15.0%	1,002	29.4	NM	2.5x
ORIONINFU	310.8	362.6	-14.3%	6,328	202.9	NM	20.8x
DBH1STMF	5.2	6.0	-13.3%	624	3.9	NM	0.6x
EBL1STMF	4.2	4.8	-12.5%	608	2.0	NM	0.5x
JUTESPINN	207.4	235.5	-11.9%	353	18	NM	NM
DESHBANDHU	24.4	27.7	-11.9%	1,497	74.1	41.4x	1.3x

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
BRACBANK	56.2	53.6	+4.9%	99,458	2,018.8	10.2x	1.4x
BATBC	411.8	419.7	-1.9%	222,372	1,723.3	12.6x	3.9x
OLYMPIC	208.2	201.1	+3.5%	41,627	1,674.0	24.9x	4.0x
MJLBD	99.2	102.4	-3.1%	31,422	1,322.4	10.1x	2.2x
LINDEBD	1547.3	1,156.9	+33.7%	23,547	1,223.7	41.1x	3.8x
GP	338.4	344.0	-1.6%	456,942	1,026.8	12.9x	6.4x
IBNSINA	354.6	322.5	+10.0%	11,079	737.3	16.1x	3.3x
IFIC	10.5	10.4	+1.0%	20,182	632.5	7.9x	0.5x
AGNISYSL	33.5	33.4	+0.3%	2,431	626.3	31.3x	2.0x
RENATA	785.5	761.1	+3.2%	90,094	587.6	39.3x	2.8x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
BRACBANK	56.2	+72.7%	99,458	10.2x	1.4x
UNILEVERCL	2,868.3	+42.1%	55,285	62.3x	25.2x
OLYMPIC	208.2	+37.0%	41,627	24.9x	4.0x
IBNSINA	354.6	+23.7%	11,079	16.1x	3.3x
ISLAMIBANK	40.1	+23.0%	64,561	9.9x	0.9x
CITYBANK	23.5	+20.8%	31,656	4.8x	0.8x
HEIDELBCEM	287.7	+20.1%	16,256	40.4x	4.0x
GP	338.4	+18.1%	456,942	12.9x	6.4x
MJLBD	99.2	+14.4%	31,422	10.1x	2.2x
JAMUNAOIL	187.8	+11.5%	20,738	5.1x	0.9x

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1550.0	1567.3	1455.32	-1.10%	+6.51%
NBFI	1401.3	1404.7	1902.52	-0.25%	-26.35%
Mutual Fund	674.0	707.8	876.90	-4.78%	-23.14%
General Insurance	3,066.4	3,127.4	3,489.09	-1.95%	-12.11%
Life Insurance	2,335.2	2,333.7	2,637.78	+0.06%	-11.47%
Telecommunication	5,440.7	5,600.5	4,945.60	-2.85%	+10.01%
Pharmaceutical	3,182.9	3,204.2	3,732.58	-0.66%	-14.73%
Fuel & Power	1,321.0	1,320.6	1,691.80	+0.04%	-21.91%
Cement	2,465.7	2,545.9	2,523.22	-3.15%	-2.28%
Services & Real Estate	1,284.9	1,346.1	1,518.57	-4.55%	-15.39%
Engineering	3,231.0	3,315.6	4,520.40	-2.55%	-28.52%
Food & Allied	19,505.9	19,717.2	21,180.76	-1.07%	-7.91%
IT	2,486.7	2,560.8	2,894.80	-2.89%	-14.10%
Textile	1,285.8	1,320.8	1,658.23	-2.65%	-22.46%
Paper & Printing	5,189.3	5,507.3	10,093.63	-5.77%	-48.59%
Tannery	2,305.7	2,337.6	3,103.94	-1.37%	-25.72%
Jute	14,577.4	15,250.0	17,683.51	-4.41%	-17.56%
Ceramics	473.3	496.1	694.56	-4.60%	-31.86%
Miscellaneous	4,226.6	4,174.6	4,265.32	+1.25%	-0.91%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily average this Week	Daily average last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	1,340.6	1,583.0	-15.32%	+17.43%	8.1x	0.7x
NBFI	229.6	162.4	+41.40%	+2.99%	NM	NM
Mutual Fund	117.5	118.5	-0.89%	+1.53%	NM	0.6x
General Insurance	182.9	157.4	+16.22%	+2.38%	16.1x	1.4x
Life Insurance	296.5	218.8	+35.51%	+3.86%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	331.4	463.4	-28.48%	+4.31%	15.0x	4.2x
Pharmaceutical	1,063.0	1,244.1	-14.55%	+13.82%	16.2x	1.7x
Fuel & Power	840.1	444.2	+89.14%	+10.92%	22.8x	0.8x
Cement	165.7	108.4	+52.96%	+2.16%	19.9x	2.6x
Services & Real Estate	318.7	215.4	+47.92%	+4.14%	22.3x	0.5x
Engineering	493.0	336.3	+46.60%	+6.41%	15.4x	1.1x
Food & Allied	1,051.8	877.4	+19.88%	+13.68%	18.8x	5.6x
IT	235.3	147.0	+60.12%	+3.06%	27.0x	2.1x
Textile	579.0	481.4	+20.30%	+7.53%	NM	0.9x
Paper & Printing	103.1	56.8	+81.44%	+1.34%	37.2x	1.0x
Tannery	92.0	47.9	+91.98%	+1.20%	43.5x	2.4x
Jute	35.6	22.2	+60.60%	+0.46%	NM	NM
Ceramics	70.1	53.4	+31.39%	+0.91%	56.0x	1.3x
Miscellaneous	144.4	108.2	+33.52%	+1.88%	39.0x	1.8x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
DOREENPWR	24.6	-59.7%	4,456	6.2x	0.5x
IPDC	22.7	-58.6%	8,845	25.3x	1.3x
BBSCABLES	26.0	-47.9%	5,504	NM	0.8x
BXPBARMA	76.5	-47.7%	34,128	6.4x	0.7x
SUMITPOWER	18.2	-46.5%	19,435	25.6x	0.4x
RUNNERAUTO	26.1	-46.1%	2,963	NM	0.4x
ACI	154.7	-40.5%	11,789	NM	1.5x
BARKAPOW	13.2	-38.0%	3,108	8.9x	0.6x
IFADAUTOS	27.8	-37.0%	7,384	NM	0.8x
TITASGAS	25.9	-36.7%	25,621	NM	0.4x

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

Local assets of money embezzlers will be acquired soon: BB governor

- "We have already communicated with the USA to bring back their foreign assets. A family of smugglers owns 500 to 600 homes in the UK. We will try to acquire their local assets and then we will bring back their foreign assets," he also said

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/local-assets-money-embezzlers-various-banks-will-be-acquired-soon-bb-governor-933686>

DCCI urges NBR to simplify tax structure for CMSMEs

- Due to multiple tax layers at various stages, effective tax rate especially of corporate tax sometimes increases but the issue will be considered seriously by the NBR, he added.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/dcci-urges-nbr-to-simplify-tax-structure-for-cmsmes-1725475215>

BANK | BB will safeguard depositors' interests

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur requested customers to keep calm regarding the crisis plaguing over half a dozen ailing banks, expressing optimism that their situation would turn around soon.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-will-safeguard-depositors-interests-3694836>

ENERGY | LNG imports to be through public procurement rules

- In a first for Bangladesh, the country's interim government is going to import liquified natural gas (LNG) purchased from the spot market in accordance with the Public Procurement Rules 2008.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/lng-imports-be-through-public-procurement-rules-3694831>

BANK | BB in USD 450 Mn shady trade with Islami Bank to rebuild reserves

- The central bank was supposed to receive USD 550 Mn in exchange for providing BDT 64.90 Bn to Islami Bank. It sounds like a win-win deal. However, central bank documents show that only USD 100 Mn was actually deposited into the central bank's account.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-450m-shady-trade-islami-bank-rebuild-reserves-3694826>

INSURANCE | IDRA chairman to resign

- Mohammad Jainul Bari, chairman of the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA), yesterday informed that he would resign today.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/idra-chairman-resign-3694801>

RMG | At least 60 factories in Ashulia still closed despite increased security

- Despite the start of joint operations by the army and police on Monday, around 60-70 garment factories in Ashulia remained closed today (4 September) in the face of workers' protests.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/least-60-factories-ashulia-still-closed-despite-increased-security-933116>

'White paper' panel to look into foreign loan deals: Debapriya

- "If the agreements on foreign loans that were signed over the years are available, then we will evaluate and look into those. We have especially thought of looking into the agreements on the energy sector," Debapriya told reporters after the second meeting of the committee at the Planning Commission this afternoon.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/committee-white-paper-look-foreign-loan-agreements-signed-over-years-debapriya-932706>

Dhaka expressway fetches BDT 1.04 Bn

- According to data, BDT 1.04 Bn was collected in tolls for using the 11.5-km DEE since its opening on 03 September 2023. However, 98% of the tolls came from private cars and minibuses which pay BDT 80 for using the expressway from any of the six entrance points.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/dhaka-expressway-fetches-tk-104b-1725386483>

BB forms new boards for two more banks, one NBFi

- Bangladesh Bank has formed new boards of directors for two more banks and a non-bank financial institution as a part of its ongoing reform initiatives for the banking sector. The three are Bangladesh Commerce Bank, Al-Arafah Islami Bank and Aviva Finance. S Alam Group is one of the major shareholder in all three.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-forms-new-boards-two-more-banks-one-nbfi-3693921>

Businesses urge govt to take urgent steps to ensure law and order

- Entrepreneurs met with Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus today and urged the government to take the required measures to ensure law and order in industrial areas so that they can run factories and conduct business smoothly.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/businesses-urge-govt-take-urgent-steps-ensure-law-and-order-3693506>

BANK | Islamic bank deposits grow despite irregularities

- In June, total deposits with Islamic banks increased by BDT 116.25 Bn, or 2.71%, to BDT 4404.27 Bn from that in the previous month, according to a Bangladesh Bank report released on Monday.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/islamic-bank-deposits-grow-despite-irregularities-3693926>

ENGINEERING | Bangladesh Honda starts motorcycle export

- The company recently exported its X-Blade model of motorcycle to Guatemala, first by air in January and now by sea, with plans for further exports to South America, Central America, and Africa.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/bangladesh-honda-starts-93411>

BANK | NPLs reach record-high BDT 2.11 Tn

- According to the central bank data released Tuesday, the bad loans increased by over BDT 290 Bn in just three months from March 2024 when the volume of classified loans was over BDT 1.82 Tn.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/npls-reach-record-high-tk-211tn-1725386366>

NBR finally scraps provision to whiten money

- The revenue administration has abolished the black money whitening provision, a scope that allowed both individuals and companies to legalise their undisclosed income by paying a 15% tax and avoid any potential scrutiny.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nbr-finally-scraps-provision-whiten-money-3693111>

Corrected export data soon: EPB

- The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) is set to publish export data based on a new calculation after months of a hiatus following the revelation that there were significant discrepancies between its data and that of the central bank in the last fiscal year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/corrected-export-data-soon-epb-3693096>

BANK | Assess loan exposure to influential people

- Bank documents show that the S Alam Group and companies associated with it took out loans amounting to BDT 953.31 Bn between 2017 and June this year from the six banks, plunging them into a severe liquidity crisis. Of the sum, around 79% or BDT 749 Bn came solely from Islami Bank. It accounts for 47% of the lender's total outstanding loans as of March this year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/assess-loan-exposure-influential-people-3693116>

TRADE | CCCI board resigns

- Elected on 6 August 2023, the 24-member board, including its former president Omar Hazzaz, assumed office on 7 September that year. The outgoing board formally requested the Ministry of Commerce to appoint an administrator.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/ccci-board-resigns-931916>

BANK | Businesses in trouble as CPA bans transactions with nine banks

- Sources said the CPA has not been accepting pay-orders or cheques issued by the nine banks. The nine banks are Global Islami Bank PLC, Union Bank PLC, Bangladesh Commerce Bank PLC, Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC, First Security Islami Bank PLC, Social Islami Bank PLC, Padma Bank PLC, National Bank PLC and ICB Islami Bank PLC.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/businesses-in-trouble-as-cpa-bans-transactions-with-nine-banks-1725302214>

ENERGY | BB's strange bid to save Orion plant

- Three state-run banks far exceeded their limits to salvage a coal-fired power plant project of an Orion Group subsidiary, which was stalled for six years, with BDT 105.79 Bn in loans thanks to policy relaxation by the Bangladesh Bank under the now-ousted Sheikh Hasina government.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bbs-strange-bid-save-orion-plant-3692986>

BANK | The way Sonali Bangladesh UK officials bent the rules

- Two officials were posted at Sonali Bangladesh UK Limited from Dhaka, a subsidiary of Sonali Bank, four years ago, but both left their jobs earlier this year after obtaining permanent resident status in the UK – one in April and the other in June. Despite this, both have now been reappointed as foreign workers at the same branch.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/way-sonali-bangladesh-uk-officials-bent-rules-931296>

August remittance inflow surges 39% YoY, hitting USD 2.2 Bn

- Bangladesh received a whopping USD 2.2 Bn in remittances in the just concluded August, registering a 39% year-on-year increase, according to Bangladesh Bank data.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/remittance-surges-39-august-reaching-22-billion-930991>

IMF positive about lending additional USD 3 Bn

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is positive about lending an additional USD 3 Bn to Bangladesh but the multilateral lender wants to know what reforms the interim government is planning to take.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/imf-positive-about-lending-additional-3b-3692316>

ADP implementation rate 1% in first month of FY25

- In the first month (July) of fiscal year 2024-25, the government's ministries and departments spent BDT 29.22 Bn from Annual Development Programme (ADP) allocation. The spent amount is only 1.05% of the total allocation for the fiscal year, according to the latest report of the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Department (IMED).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/adp-implementation-rate-1-first-month-fy25-931031>

Private investment, industry growth fall in FY24: BBS

- Private investment as a percentage of Bangladesh's gross domestic product (GDP) dropped in the last fiscal year, reflecting slower industrial growth, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Provisional data show that private investment fell to 23.51% of GDP in the 2023-24 fiscal year (FY24), down from 24.18% in FY23.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/private-investment-industry-growth-fall-fy24-bbs-930551>

Beza looks to cancel SBG Economic Zone contract

- The Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (Beza) has sought approval from the interim government to terminate an agreement for establishing SBG Economic Zone Ltd inside the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar (BSMSN) in Mirsarai of Chattogram.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/beza-looks-cancel-sbg-economic-zone-contract-3692296>

RMG | BGMEA seeks IBC cooperation in maintaining stability in RMG sector

- The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has sought the cooperation of the IndustriALL Bangladesh Council (IBC) leaders to maintain stable labor conditions in the garment sector amid ongoing challenges.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/bgmea-seeks-ibc-cooperation-maintaining-stability-rmg-061>

BANK | Cenbank announces special loan repayment facility for flood victims

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has announced a special facility for flood-affected farmers and CMSME (Cottage, Micro, Small, and medium enterprises) entrepreneurs to repay the loan installments. In this case, August installments of short-term agriculture and CMSME sector term loans in these areas can be repaid over three months.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-announces-special-loan-repayment-facility-931171>

Domestic borrowing short of FY24 target

- The Bangladesh Bank is implementing a tighter monetary policy, leading to a reduction in its share of government treasuries by 4.0%, bringing it down to 23% in fiscal year 2024.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/domestic-borrowing-short-of-fy24-target>

ENERGY | Big-deal BDT 15.52 Bn loan for Orion solar project blocked

- Everything was set to approve a loan worth BDT 15.52 Bn for the Orion solar-power project bypassing certain conditions, including the single-borrower exposure limit. But following the change of government through student-people uprising the Financial Institution Division of the Ministry of Finance refused to approve at the last moment.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/big-deal-tk-1552b-loan-for-orion-solar-project-blocked>

Govt may trim budget by BDT 1 Tn

- The interim government is planning to revise the national budget for the current fiscal year urgently and cut "wasteful expenditures" in order to alleviate the pressure on the foreign currency reserves and tame persistent inflation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-may-trim-budget-tk-10000cr-3691451>

Economic reforms list long but some measures need to start now: Executive Director CPD

- Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) Dr Fahmida Khatun said the list for the interim government for immediate and midterm measures is long but some of the measures have to start during its term.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/economic-reforms-list-long-some-measures-need-start-now0126>

Large lacuna shows BBS miscalculation of economic growth

- A large lacuna exposes BBS miscalculation of Bangladesh's economic growth as its latest report shows some BDT 590 Bn was missed out in the GDP count last fiscal year.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/large-lacuna-shows-bbs-miscalculation-of-economic-growth>

Industrial output growth slows to four-year low

- Industrial output in Bangladesh grew at its slowest pace since the Covid-19 pandemic, hitting 6.66% last fiscal year owing to declining exports, import restrictions and a slowdown in domestic demand due to persistent inflation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/industrial-output-growth-slows-four-year-691446>

Businesses show heightened interest in sabotage and terrorism insurance

- Businesspeople in Bangladesh are becoming increasingly interested in sabotage and terrorism insurance following incidents of arson, looting, and vandalism at several industrial establishments across the country, according to various insurers.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/businesses-show-heightened-interest-sabotage-and-terrorism-insurance-3691191>

BANK | Bangladesh Bank earns BDT 151 Bn in FY24

- Bangladesh Bank has earned 151 Bn net profit in the just-concluded fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24), according to media reports citing the central bank's financial statement.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bb-earns-tk-151-billion-in-fy24>

ENERGY | Fuel prices see small cuts

- Retail prices of diesel and kerosene see a small cut by BDT 1.25 and petrol and octane by BDT 6.0 per liter with effect from September 1, in the interim government's first step on energy pricing.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/fuel-prices-see-small-cuts>

RMG | Businesses seek BGMEA reforms

- Several members of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) have called for the dissolution of the current board of the trade body and the formation of an interim body to oversee a free, fair, and credible election.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/section-bgmea-members-demand-cancellation-current-board-929976>

TRADE | BD unlikely to reroute external trade through Indian ports

- Bangladesh government won't encourage businesses to use Indian ports for rerouting export-import trade as no special facility comes therefrom and a local deep-sea port is forthcoming, sources say.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bd-unlikely-to-reroute-external-trade-through-indian-ports>

RMG | Bangladesh garment industry short on cotton as floods worsen protest backlog

- Garment factories in Bangladesh, one of the world's biggest clothing production hubs, are struggling to complete orders on time as flooding disrupts their cotton supplies - exacerbating a backlog caused by recent political turmoil.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/bangladesh-garment-industry-short-cotton-floods-worsen-protest-backlog-929516>

Important News: Stocks

WALTONHIL | Walton to give record dividends, buoyed by 73% profit growth

- Walton Hi-Tech Industries secured a remarkable 73% year-on-year growth in profit to BDT 13.57 Bn in FY24, overcoming high inflation and other macroeconomic challenges. The electronic and home appliance giant's earnings per share (EPS) jumped to BDT 44.78 in FY24 from BDT 25.84 the year before, according to the price sensitive information published on Wednesday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/walton-to-give-record-dividends-buoyed-by-73pc-profit-growth-1725474409>

NCCBANK | NCC Bank plans to expand Islamic banking window

- National Credit and Commerce (NCC) Bank PLC is expected to strengthen its focus on Islamic banking services to meet demand of its growing number of Shariah-based clients, and to transform the bank into their reliable Islamic partner.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/ncc-bank-plans-to-expand-islamic-74458>

SIBL | SIBL managing director Zafar, 2 DMDs resign

- Their resignation letters came nearly 10 days after the Bangladesh Bank reconstituted the board of the Shairah-based bank to ensure good governance.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/sibl-managing-director-zafar-2-dmds-resign-3694821>

IFIC | Salman loses grip on IFIC Bank

- The Bangladesh Bank yesterday constituted a new board of directors at IFIC Bank after dissolving the previous board, effectively bringing an end to Salman F Rahman's grip on the private commercial bank.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/salman-loses-grip-ific-bank-3694816>

BXPHARMA | Beximco Pharma denies money laundering linked to Saudi firm

- Beximco Pharma, which is listed on the London Stock Exchange, clarified in its statement that it has a minority equity holding in Jubail Pharma, obtained solely through a technology transfer agreement, rather than a financial investment.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/beximco-pharma-denies-money-laundering-linked-saudi-firm-933841>

EXCHANGE | Regulator unilaterally appointed independent directors: DBA

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) on Monday appointed seven independent directors to the 13-member DSE board, following the resignation of all directors amid a change in the political landscape.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/regulator-unilaterally-appointed-independent-directors-dba-1725474508>

BRACBANK | BRAC Bank's Aug net deposit growth hits BDT 16 Bn

- BRAC Bank's Branch Network posted a net deposit growth of BDT 16 Bn in August, according to a press release. This is a commendable achievement, as the growth has been accomplished despite the unstable political situation in the country, which caused prolonged disruption of banking operation.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/brac-banks-aug-net-deposit-growth-hits-tk-16-billion-1725383229>

ICB | ICB left on its own as finance ministry rejects BDT 50 Bn loan plea

- The interim government has turned down the ICB's plea for a loan worth BDT 50 Bn sought to strengthen its financial base and support the country's capital market.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/icb-left-on-its-own-as-finance-ministry-rejects-tk-50b-loan-plea-1725382746>

SONALILIFE | Crisis-ridden Sonali Life Insurance gets observer

- The Financial Institutions Division (FID) has appointed its additional secretary Md Shah Alam as an observer to the crisis-ridden Sonali Life Insurance Company to protect the interest of policyholders and address other issues.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/crisis-ridden-sonali-life-insurance-gets-observer-1725382816>

FIRSTSBANK | Now First Security Islami Bank freed from S Alam's grip

- S Alam Group's control over First Security Islami Bank Ltd (FSIBL) ended yesterday after Bangladesh Bank reconstituted the board of the Shariah-based bank, which was heavily dominated by individuals linked to the Chattogram-based conglomerate.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/now-first-security-islami-bank-freed-s-alams-grip-3692306>

EXCHANGE | Foreign stock investors rebound after Hasina's fall

- According to data from the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), during the first half of August, stock trading by foreign investors surged by 501%, reaching BDT 4.05 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/foreign-stock-investors-rebound-after-hasinas-fall-933021>

EXCHANGE | Regulator forms body to probe Beximco Sukuk, IFIC Amar bond, other stock scams

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has formed a probe committee to investigate past irregularities, manipulation, and corruption in the capital market including issues related to Beximco Sukuk and Sreepur Township bonds linked to Salman F Rahman.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/body-formed-probe-salman-f-rahmans-strategic-partnership>

EXCHANGE | DU teacher Farzana Lalarukh completes BSEC board

- After her appointment, the Commission now has all its members -- a chairman and four commissioners, making it fully operational.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/du-teacher-farzana-lalarukh-completes-bsec-board-1725382780>

EXCHANGE | Income from ICB Unit Fund to receive tax-free benefits

- The fund has enjoyed tax exemptions since its inception. However, under the latest Income Tax Act of 2023, it came under the tax net, with a tax rate of 25%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/income-icb-unit-fund-receive-tax-free-benefits-932971>

EXCHANGE | 5 brokerage firms misuse BDT 1.23 Bn of investors' funds

- According to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), five brokerage firms have collectively accrued a deficit of BDT 1.23 Bn in their consolidated customer accounts (CCAs).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/5-brokerage-firms-misuse-tk123cr-investors-funds-932951>

RENATA | Renata gets EU regulator approval for drug export

- The approval will enable Renata to access several European markets such as Ireland, France, Portugal, Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Netherlands, Norway, and Spain and reach out to patients there, the drug maker said in a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/renata-gets-eu-regulator-approval-drug-export-3692606>

BGIC | Bangladesh General Insurance Company declares 10% cash dividend

- Bangladesh General Insurance Company declared a 10% cash dividend for the year that ended on December 31, 2023. The declaration came at the insurer's 39th annual general meeting (AGM), which was held virtually recently, the bank said in a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/bangladesh-general-insurance-company-declares-10-cash-dividend-3692781>

ISLAMIBANK | 2 shell companies in Ctg drained BDT 23.43 Bn from Islami Bank

- Insiders alleged that the two borrowers obtained the loans using their connections with the S Alam Group, which took over Islami Bank in 2017. Established in 2020 with a capital of BDT 0.8 Mn, Inherent Trading and Impex Limited were able to secure a huge loan of BDT 12.90 Bn within two years.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/2-shell-companies-ctg-drained-tk-2343cr-islami-bank-3693106>

EXCHANGE | Investit Asset Management launches first mutual fund

- Investit Asset Management will serve as both the sponsor and asset manager of the mutual fund, Sandhani Life Insurance the trustee and BRAC Bank PLC the custodian, the asset manager said in a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/investit-asset-management-launches-first-mutual-fund-3692846>

EXCHANGE | Dhaka Bourse gets seven independent directors

- In a press statement yesterday (1 September), the commission stated that the DSE board consists of 13 directors. Among them, seven are independent, five are shareholders and strategic investors, and one is ex-officio managing director with voting rights.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-bourse-gets-seven-independent-directors-931136>

EXCHANGE | DSE nominates seven independent directors to revitalise board

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has submitted a list of seven nominees for appointment as independent directors to its board, aiming to make it functional, as suggested by the securities regulator after six independent directors resigned in the wake of political change in the country.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dse-nominates-seven-independent-directors-to-revitalise-board-1725121727>

EXCHANGE | 18 listed firms still have BDT 8.63 Bn unused IPO funds

- Eighteen publicly listed companies have yet to utilise BDT 8.63 Bn, which they had collected from the capital market through the issuance of new shares for business expansion and projects between 2011 and June 2024.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/18-listed-firms-still-have-tk863cr-unused-ipo-funds-929191>

EXCHANGE | Merchant bankers seek extension of loan repayment period to 2032

- The Bangladesh Merchant Bankers Association (BMBA) has formally requested the government to extend the repayment period for loans taken under the capital market refinancing scheme by an additional five years.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/merchant-bankers-seek-extension-of-loan-repayment-period-to-2032-1725121753>

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