

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:**Abysmal potholes in corporate tax payments exposed**

- Gross mismatch between the number of registered companies and that of corporate income-tax receipt by the exchequer persists, as the tax returns submitted annually by the former continues to be disproportionately low in Bangladesh, official statistics show.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/abysmal-potholes-in-corporate-tax-payments-exposed-1755365108>

FDI push: Reward for those who bring in foreign equity.

- The government is set to introduce a new incentive scheme, offering cash rewards of 1.5% to resident and non-resident Bangladeshis who facilitate fresh foreign direct investment (FDI) through equity inflows.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/fdi-push-reward-those-who-bring-foreign-equity-1213741>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | BB brings all import rules under one master circular**

- The Bangladesh Bank has issued a master circular on import transactions, consolidating all existing instructions into a single reference document to streamline procedures and facilitate trade. The circular, issued today (14 August), will remain effective for one year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-brings-all-import-rules-under-one-master-circular-1212251>

FUEL & POWER | Fuel oil flows thru Ctg-Dhaka pipeline

- The first ever Dhaka-Chattogram-Dhaka fuel oil transportation through a pipeline began on Saturday with inauguration of the newly-constructed Chattogram-Dhaka line on the day. Energy Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan formally inaugurated the transportation through the pipeline at the Dispatch Terminal of Patenga in Chattogram on the day.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fuel-oil-flows-thru-ctg-dhaka-pipeline-1755365244>

AGRICULTURE | Rice imports hit nearly USD 700 Mn in FY25 amid flood losses

- Bangladesh imported rice worth approximately USD 700 Mn in the last fiscal year (FY25), marking a nearly 2,600% increase over the previous year, according to Bangladesh Bank data. Officials attributed the record procurement partly to higher prices offered this year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/rice-imports-hit-nearly-700m-in-fy25-amid-flood-losses-1755365317>

TRADE | Four months on, Ctg's air cargo dreams grounded as tender delays drag on

- Four months after Chattogram Shah Amanat International Airport unveiled plans to launch direct export cargo flights, the initiative has stalled at the tender stage, casting doubt on whether it will take off this year. The plan, aimed at creating direct export opportunities to Europe and China, was rolled out last April after India cancelled transshipment facilities.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/four-months-ctgs-air-cargo-dreams-grounded-tender-delays-drag-1212986>

FUEL & POWER | Govt moves to clear Rooppur dues to Russia after US waiver

- The government is preparing to clear its overdue payments to Russia for the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant following a temporary waiver from the US Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). Earlier this month, OFAC, the US Treasury agency that enforces sanctions against countries and regimes in line with US policies, authorised Dhaka to proceed with the payments under certain conditions, including completion by December, officials said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-moves-clear-rooppur-dues-russia-after-us-waiver-3964161>

Stocks:**SKTRIMS | SK Trims reports BDT 108 Mn loss in H1 of FY25 as revenue plunges 58%**

- SK Trims and Industries Ltd, a publicly listed firm in the miscellaneous sector, has reported a BDT 108 Mn loss in the first half of the 2024-25 fiscal year, following a sharp 58% drop in revenue.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/sk-trims-reports-tk108cr-loss-h1-fy25-revenue-plunges-58-1212631>

PREMIERLEA | Premier Leasing's loss hits BDT 12 Bn over five years

- Premier Leasing & Finance has posted a massive annual loss of Tk 3.66 billion for the year 2024, driven by a negative net interest margin stemming from a large volume of non-performing loans. The board of directors of the company approved the audited financial statements for 2024 on Thursday. Due to the staggering losses, the board did not declare any dividend.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/premier-leasings-loss-hits-tk-12b-over-five-years>

EXCHANGE | BSEC launches probe into HAC Securities over investor complaint

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has ordered an investigation into alleged irregularities by HAC Securities Limited, a TREC holder of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), following a complaint lodged by one of its investor clients.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bsec-launches-probe-into-hac-securities-over-investor-complaint-1755361975>

EXCHANGE | DSE queries Hakkani Pulp, Gemini Sea Food over price surge

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has issued queries to Hakkani Pulp and Paper Mills and Gemini Sea Food following an unusual surge in their share prices and trading volumes. According to DSE trading data, Hakkani Pulp's shares jumped about 23% over six days, while Gemini Sea Food's shares rose roughly 23% in 11 days, despite no disclosure of any material information.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dse-queries-hakkani-pulp-gemini-sea-food-over-price-surge-1212576>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 62.80	(USD 8.63)	-12.08%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 65.85	(USD 8.54)	-11.48%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,336.19	USD 727.71	27.90%
DSEX	5,350.25	133.80	2.57%
S&P 500	6,449.80	542.86	9.19%
FTSE 100	9,138.90	1,017.89	12.53%
BSE SENSEX	80,597.66	2,397.73	3.07%
KSE-100	146,491.62	31,232.62	27.10%
CSEALL	20,218.36	4,273.75	26.80%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 121.23 BDT****1 GBP = 164.34 BDT****1 Euro = 141.90 BDT****1 INR = 1.39 BDT**

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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
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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