

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:**Pay Commission recommends up to 142% salary hike for govt employees**

- The Pay Commission today recommended a new salary structure with an increase ranging from 100% to 142% for government officials and employees.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/governance/news/pay-commission-recommends-142-salary-hike-govt-employees-4086836>

Next govt must focus on digitisation, tax reforms

- The next government should set a clear digitisation goal to help Bangladesh become a developed nation and promote modernisation and sustainable growth across all sectors, economic experts said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/next-govt-must-focus-digitisation-tax-reforms-4087181>

EPB seeks govt, BB help to unlock BDT 1.8b in FDRs

- The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) has turned to the government and BB for urgent help after nearly BDT 1.8 Bn of its funds got trapped in fixed deposit receipts (FDRs) with 10 banks, raising concerns over stalled projects and mounting cash-flow stress.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/epb-seeks-govt-bb-help-to-unlock-tk-18b-in-fdrs>

Sector & Industries:**ENERGY | IPP penalties, payment delays deepen power sector crisis**

- Privately owned power producers are facing growing financial instability as payment delays by the state-run utility are followed by penalty deductions, raising concerns over fairness, contract compliance and energy security. Independent power producers (IPPs) allege that despite chronic delays in bill payments by the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), the interim government has allowed penalties to be imposed selectively, in breach of power purchase agreements (PPAs). Sources said the state-run Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) deducted around BDT 2.49 Bn in "liquidated damages" (LDs) from four power plants between 2021 and 2024, citing "excess outages".

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/metro-news/ipp-penalties-payment-delays-deepen-power-sector-crisis-1769020725>

BANK | BB reverses decision, allows five merging banks to pay profits on deposits

- Amid widespread anger, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) has backtracked on its earlier decision that had barred five shariah-based merging banks from providing any profit on savers' deposits for 2024 and 2025. Banks will provide a provisional profit at annual 4% on Mudaraba savings and term deposits, applicable only to individual depositors.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-reverses-decision-allows-five-merging-banks-pay-profits-deposits-4087186>

NBFI | Bangladesh Bank begins liquidation hearings with nine NBFIIs

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) today started hearings with the top brass of nine non-bank financial institutions (NBFIIs) to determine whether they have any grounds for opposing the planned liquidation of the troubled firms.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-bank-begins-liquidation-hearings-nine-nbfis-4086726>

BANK | BB proposed keeping 2 state banks and merging others: governor

- Bangladesh Bank has proposed that the government keep two state-owned banks and merge the others, said central bank governor Ahsan H Mansur. Bangladesh currently has 61 banks, which is far more than necessary, and 10 to 15 banks would be sufficient for the country, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-proposed-keeping-2-state-banks-and-merging-others-governor-408687>

BANK | Agent banking expansion slows down amid regulatory intervention

- Agent banking has woven one of Bangladesh's quiet financial success stories. The pivot aims at extending high-street banking services to underserved, mostly women and geographically remote populations, as the model rapidly became a critical conduit for rural savings mobilisation, remittance inflow, and grassroots-level liquidity.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/agent-banking-expansion-slows-down-amid-regulatory-intervention>

TELECOM | Bangladesh trails regional peers with 53% internet penetration

- Bangladesh's current internet penetration stands at 53%, placing it behind regional leaders such as Bhutan at 88%, and the Maldives at 85%, but broadly in line with several neighbouring countries, according to a recent Asian Development Bank (ADB) report. ADB identified affordability constraints and low digital literacy as the primary barriers to internet adoption in Bangladesh.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh-trails-regional-peers-53-internet-penetration-4087271>

STARTUP | Pickaboo raises \$1.5 million in pre series A

- Pickaboo, an online and offline platform specialised in mobile, gadget and electronics, has raised USD 1.5 Mn in pre series A round from local and international investors. Startup Bangladesh Limited invested BDT 30 Mn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/start-ups/news/pickaboo-raises-15-million-pre-series-3201691>

POULTRY | Proposed ban on day-old chick imports raises concerns as poultry policy nears

- The government's proposed ban on importing day-old broiler and layer chicks under the Poultry Development Policy 2026 has triggered growing concern among poultry producers, who fear the move could disrupt supply chains and push up prices if implemented without transitional safeguards.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/proposed-ban-day-old-chick-imports-raises-concerns-poultry-policy-nears-approval>

Stocks:**EXCHANGE | BSEC urges CDBL to play role in market modernisation**

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission and Central Depository Bangladesh Limited convened a high-level meeting on Wednesday to discuss the automation, structural modernization, KYC systems, surveillance, governance, and overall market development.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/stocks/288865/bsec-urges-cdbl-to-play-role-in-market-modernisation>

EXCHANGE | Brokers' association seeks overhaul of outdated DSE classifications

- Sector classification of listed companies needs to be realigned, as the existing system is not aligned with international standards, according to the DSE Brokers Association of Bangladesh (DBA).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/brokers-association-seeks-overhaul-outdated-dse-classifications-4086856>

GP | Govt earns BDT 23.7 Bn as Grameenphone bags 700 MHz spectrum

- Grameenphone has secured 10 megahertz (MHz) of spectrum in the 700 MHz band, marking the first-ever allocation of this low-band frequency to a mobile operator in Bangladesh.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-earns-tk-2370cr-grameenphone-bags-700-mhz-spectrum-4086741>

SUMITPOWER | Summit Group eyes data centres as LNG demand surges

- Bangladesh's Summit Group is stepping into the country's data centre market while continuing to pursue its growing LNG projects, as the nation's demand for liquefied natural gas is expected to remain strong.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/summit-group-eyes-data-centres-lng-demand-surges-1340496>

MTB | Order management system MTB Lenden launched

- Mutual Trust Bank PLC has recently inaugurated go-live of its own hosted order management system, branded as 'MTB Lenden'. The launch marked a significant milestone in the banks digital and capital market services, said a press release.

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/banking/288874/order-management-system-mtb-lenden-launched>

Stock and Commodities*

Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 60.71	USD 3.28	5.71%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 65.30	USD 4.45	7.31%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,801.77	USD 460.77	10.61%
DSEX	5,105.84	240.50	4.94%
S&P 500	6,875.62	-23.20	-0.34%
FTSE 100	10,138.09	206.71	2.08%
BSE SENSEX	81,909.63	-2,883.95	-3.40%
KSE-100	187,033.27	12,978.97	7.46%
CSEALL	23,806.32	1,182.01	5.22%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.45 BDT

1 GBP = 164.47 BDT

1 Euro = 143.15 BDT

1 INR = 1.33 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
Foysal Ahmed, CFA	Research Analyst	foysal.ahmed@bracepl.com	01708 805 201
S M Toufique Imran	Research Analyst	smtoufique.imran@bracepl.com	01708 805 228
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

