

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:**IMF reaffirms support in fighting economic challenges**

- In a statement issued yesterday upon completion of its fact-finding mission's visit to Dhaka, the IMF said the country's financial sector vulnerabilities have become more pronounced. After assuming office, the interim government sought a fresh USD 3 Bn loan from the IMF in addition to the ongoing USD 4.7 Bn loan programme approved in January of last year. Of the USD 4.7 Bn, USD 2.3 Bn has already been disbursed.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/imf-reaffirms-support-fighting-economic-challenges-3716751>

Bangladesh becoming Saudi investors' hotspot

- Leading Saudi companies like ACWA Power and SABIC are exploring opportunities in the renewable energy, logistics and infrastructure sectors, the adviser told a programme organised by the Saudi Embassy to mark the 94th national day of the country on Sunday evening.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bangladesh-becoming-saudi-investors-hotspot-1727718988>

Automated financial services can curb graft

- Automation of government financial services is critical for reducing corruption and resource misuse, said Salehuddin Ahmed, finance adviser to the interim government. Ahmed emphasised that integrating financial services into a unified digital system would improve transparency and accountability.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/automated-financial-services-can-curb-graft-3716741>

Debt servicing costs outweigh incoming loans

- External debt servicing costs soared 47% year-on-year to USD 589 Mn in the July-August period amid rising global interest rates and a heavier foreign loan portfolio. In the same period, the country received USD 458 Mn from global financiers, down 38% year-on-year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/debt-servicing-costs-outweigh-incoming-loans-3716746>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | Govt to increase Probashi Kalyan Bank's capital**

- The government has decided to raise the Probashi Kalyan Bank's authorised and paid-up capital to BDT 20 Bn and BDT 13 Bn respectively, aiming to bolster its financial base and enhance the loan disbursement capacity. The volume of the authorised capital of the bank currently stands at BDT 5 Bn and the paid-up capital at BDT 5 Bn, according to sources.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/govt-to-increase-probashi-kalyan-banks-capital-1727719085>

ENGINEERING | Expanding into glass production was a logical step

- To meet the rising demand for basic and high-quality glass in Bangladesh's construction sector, AkijBashir Group recently began production at a sprawling plant in Habiganj's Madhabpur upazila, placing emphasis on more transparent and pure products to position itself as a key player in the rapidly growing market.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/expanding-glass-production-was-logical-step-3716731>

Stocks:**CONFIDCEM | Confidence Cement investing BDT 8.15 Bn to set up new factory**

- Confidence Cement PLC, a cement maker based in Chattogram, is investing BDT 8.15 Bn to set up a new production facility on 10 acres of land in Narsingdi and cater to the future demand. Once complete, the new unit dubbed "Confidence Cement Dhaka Ltd" will be capable of producing 6,000 tonnes of the key construction material daily, he added.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/confidence-cement-investing-tk-815cr-set-new-factory-3716396>

BEACONPHAR | Beacon Pharma to pay record dividend despite slowdown in growth

- Beacon Pharmaceuticals will pay a 20% cash dividend for the year ended in June this year, the highest since its listing on the stock exchanges in 2010. The drug maker's profit grew 2.3% year-on-year to BDT 522 Mn for FY24 amid the prevailing macro-economic challenges.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/beacon-pharma-to-pay-record-dividend-despite-slowdown-in-growth-1727719901>

DOREENPWR | Doreen Power to sell another plant

- The board of the independent power producer took the decision due to the uncertainty hanging over the extension of the power purchase agreement with the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), the company said in a stock exchange filing on Monday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/doreen-power-to-sell-another-plant-1727720060>

SBACBANK | Moklesur Rahman new Sbac Bank chairman

- Engineer Md. Moklesur Rahman, one of the sponsor directors of SBAC Bank, was elected as the chairman of the board of directors of the bank on Monday, according to a press release.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/moklesur-rahman-new-sbac-bank-chairman-1727719977>

DHAKABANK | Sheikh Mohammad Maroof joins Dhaka Bank as MD

- He served at The City Bank as the additional managing director and chief business officer before joining in his new role, according to a press release.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/sheikh-mohammad-marooof-joins-dhaka-bank-as-md-1727719991>

UCB | Mamdudur Rashid new UCB MD

- Mohammad Mamdudur Rashid has recently been appointed as the managing director and CEO of United Commercial Bank, according to a press release.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/mamdudur-rashid-new-ucb-md-1727720019>

EXCHANGE | Stakeholders seek massive reforms in capital market

- Aiming at strengthening the market and boosting investor confidence the representatives of the firms and institutes shared their opinions and proposals regarding comprehensive reforms in the capital market.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stakeholders-see-massive-reforms-capital-market-954831>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 68.22	(USD 3.43)	-4.79%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 71.77	(USD 5.27)	-6.84%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,635.58	USD 572.60	27.76%
DSEX	5,624.50	-621.99	-9.96%
S&P 500	5,762.50	992.67	20.81%
FTSE 100	8,236.95	503.71	6.51%
BSE SENSEX	84,299.78	12,059.52	16.69%
KSE-100	81,114.20	18,734.79	30.03%
CSEALL	11,835.47	1,181.31	11.09%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 119.55 BDT****1 GBP = 159.95 BDT****1 Euro = 133.14 BDT****1 INR = 1.43 BDT**

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

Analyst Certification: Each research analyst and research associate who authored this document and whose name appears herein certifies that the recommendations and opinions expressed in the research report accurately reflect their personal views about any and all of the securities or issuers discussed therein that are within the coverage universe.

Disclaimer: Estimates and projections herein are our own and are based on assumptions that we believe to be reasonable. Information presented herein, while obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, is not guaranteed either as to accuracy or completeness. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes a solicitation of the purchase or sale of any security. As it acts for public companies from time to time, BRAC-EPL may have a relationship with the above-mentioned company(s). This report is intended for distribution in only those jurisdictions in which BRAC-EPL is registered and any distribution outside those jurisdictions is strictly prohibited.

Compensation of Analysts: The compensation of research analysts is intended to reflect the value of the services they provide to the clients of BRAC-EPL. As with most other employees, the compensation of research analysts is impacted by the overall profitability of the firm, which may include revenues from corporate finance activities of the firm's Corporate Finance department. However, Research analysts' compensation is not directly related to specific corporate finance transaction.

General Risk Factors: BRAC-EPL will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for each company under coverage at the time of initiating research coverage and revisit this assessment when subsequent update reports are published, or material company events occur. Following are some general risks that can impact future operational and financial performance: (1) Industry fundamentals with respect to customer demand or product / service pricing could change expected revenues and earnings; (2) Issues relating to major competitors or market shares or new product expectations could change investor attitudes; (3) Unforeseen developments with respect to the management, financial condition or accounting policies alter the prospective valuation; or (4) Interest rates, currency or major segments of the economy could alter investor confidence and investment prospects.

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
Md Istiaz Uddin	Research Associate	mistiaz.uddin@bracepl.com	01708 805 202

International Trade and Sales

Ahsanur Rahman Bappi	CEO	bappi@bracepl.com	01730 357 991
----------------------	-----	--	---------------

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: + (880)-2-9852446-50

Fax: + (880)-2-9852451-52

E-Mail: research@bracepl.com