

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:**Central bank about to attain long-cherished autonomy as regulator**

- Bangladesh Bank is set to become a much-envisioned independent regulatory body for the banking sector as the central bank prepares to place the agenda to the advisory council of the interim government this week.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/central-bank-about-to-attain-long-cherished-autonomy-as-regulator-1759601006>

USD 4.7 Bn IMF loan: Govt meets most conditions for next tranche

- Bangladesh has met key conditions like maintaining sufficient foreign exchange reserves and reducing arrears in the energy and fertiliser sectors to secure the next installment of the International Monetary Fund's loan programme.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/47-billion-imf-loan-govt-meets-most-conditions-next-tranche-4001036>

JICA writes to govt for kick-starting project works

- Six years already lost in the labyrinth of procrastination, the Japanese funding agency has now reminded government authorities of Bangladesh about the urgency of expediting implementation of the mainline MRT-1 and MRT-5 metro-rail projects in Dhaka.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/jica-writes-to-govt-for-kick-starting-project-works-1759601052>

ADB to cancel or redirect USD 408 Mn amid project delays

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will cancel or redirect around USD 408 Mn from projects in Bangladesh this year due to prolonged implementation delays, even as several ADB-funded schemes made progress.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/adb-cancel-or-redirect-408m-amid-project-delays-4000636>

Bangladesh drew less than 5% of S Asia's logistics FDI: report

- Bangladesh has attracted USD 1.8 Bn in greenfield foreign direct investment (FDI) in logistics between 2019 and 2024, accounting for 4.9% of South Asia's total, according to a report by GlobalData and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-drew-less-5-s-asias-logistics-fdi-report-4000626>

Ctg Port to enforce increased tariffs from 15 Oct amid businesses' concerns

- The Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) has announced that it will enforce a new tariff structure from 15 October, which will see port usage charges and fees rise by an average of 41%.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/chattogram-port-enforce-increased-tariffs-14-oct-1250526>

Forex swap deals shrink as BB pushes spot market

- Foreign-exchange swap transactions on the interbank market dropped in August compared with the previous month, even as the Bangladesh Bank pressed ahead with its strategy to promote spot-market trading over swaps.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/forex-swap-deals-shrink-as-bb-pushes-spot-market-1759341380?date=02-10-2025>

Move underway to import refined soybean oil in bulk

- A move is underway to import refined soybean oil in the bulk form to be sold in bottles at subsidised prices under the TCB's sale drives. The state-run Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) in a recent letter sought consent from the Ministry of Commerce to this effect.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/move-underway-to-import-refined-soybean-oil-in-bulk-1759341576?date=02-10-2025>

Exporters to get faster payments as BB to allow global invoice discounting

- Bangladeshi exporters will soon be able to avoid waiting three to four months for foreign buyers to settle invoices as the central bank prepares to allow them to use global trade finance discounting platforms for faster payments.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/exporters-get-faster-payments-bb-allow-global-invoice-discounting-1251751>

Sector & Industries:**BANK | BB eases reporting rules for foreign investment account openings**

- According to a circular issued by the Foreign Exchange Investment Department (FEID) of the central bank today (30 September), banks no longer need to report the opening of NRTAs and temporary FC accounts to the FEID at the time of opening.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-eases-reporting-rules-foreign-investment-account-openings-1250176>

FUEL & POWER | Bhola gas finds insufficient buyers as conversion plan stalls

- The government is struggling to find buyers for the gas discovered in Bhola, as no international firms have shown interest in converting it into liquefied natural gas (LNG) and transporting it to the industrial belt near Dhaka. The Energy and Mineral Resources Division (EMRD) has taken steps to move the plan forward, but a lack of interested customers continues to stall progress.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bhola-gas-finds-insufficient-buyers-as-conversion-plan-stalls-1759601217>

FUEL & POWER | Govt to slash tariffs of 6 state power plants

- Power tariffs of half a dozen of the state-owned power plants are set to be cut years after initiation of their commercial operations, said sources. The proposed new tariffs are expected to get approved by the Advisors Council Committee on Economic Affairs as state-run Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), the lone buyer of electricity from these plants, has already negotiated down the tariff rates of these power plants, they said.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/govt-to-slash-tariffs-of-6-state-power-plants-1759258557?date=01-10-2025>

BANK, NBFI | Banks, NBFIs must report investments in bonds, debentures, preference shares to CIB

- Bangladesh Bank has instructed scheduled banks and non-bank financial institutions to report their investments in non-listed securities – such as non-convertible cumulative preference shares, non-convertible bonds, and debentures – to the Credit Information Bureau (CIB) database.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/banks-nbfis-must-report-investments-bonds-debentures-preference-shares-cib-1252796>

BANK | BB directs banks to report all foreign loans to Credit Information Bureau; sets fines for concealment

- Bangladesh Bank has directed all scheduled banks to report all foreign loan information to the Credit Information Bureau (CIB), aiming to prevent private institutions from taking new loans locally while failing to repay existing foreign loans.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-directs-banks-report-all-foreign-loans-credit-information-bureau-sets-fines>

Stocks:**BRACBANK | BRAC Bank gets nod for country's first social bond**

- BRAC Bank has recently received approval from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission and Bangladesh Bank to issue the country's first-ever social subordinated bond worth BDT 10.00 Bn. The landmark issuance of the BRAC Bank Social Subordinated Bond will strengthen the bank's Tier-II capital under Basel III, according to a press release.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/brac-bank-gets-nod-countrys-first-social-bond-4001986>

CITYBANK | AIIB comes up with investment in private sector City Bank for the first time

- City Bank, a leading private commercial lender of the country, has secured USD 75 Mn long-term financing from two global multilateral development lenders, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the New Development Bank (NDB).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/aiib-comes-investment-private-sector-city-bank-first-time-1251576>

ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank hit by 'BDT 100 Bn losses after years of irregular hiring'

- Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC is facing a severe financial and managerial crisis due to years of irregular recruitment under S Alam Group, according to officials. The bank's management has recently begun efforts to restore order by assessing the competency of thousands of unqualified staff who were reportedly hired without proper procedures.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/islami-bank-hit-tk10000cr-losses-after-years-irregular-hiring-1252846>

MJLBD | MJL Bangladesh, EC Holdings to invest USD 2.14 Bn in Gulshan property

- With a view to future business expansion, MJL Bangladesh, a listed firm in the fuel and power sector, has decided to jointly make an investment of BDT 2.14 Bn in a commercial property located in Gulshan, Dhaka.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/mjl-bangladesh-ec-holdings-invest-tk214cr-gulshan-property-1252801>

WALTONHIL | Walton's revenue falls by 6% in FY25 amid weak demand, political turmoil

- Walton Hi-Tech Industries PLC, the country's leading electronics manufacturer, has experienced a turbulent year in the 2024-25 fiscal year, with overall revenue dropping by nearly 6% to BDT 70.82 Bn due to subdued consumer demand and political unrest.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/waltons-revenue-falls-6-fy25-amid-weak-demand-political-turmoil-1252726>

LRBDL | Lub-rref yet to utilise BDT 131.0 Mn IPO fund

- Lub-rref (Bangladesh) PLC, a publicly listed company in the fuel and power sector, has yet to utilise BDT 131.0 Mn from the BDT 1.5 Bn it raised through its 2021 initial public offering (IPO), despite a sharp rise in revenue.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/lub-rref-yet-utilise-tk1310cr-ipo-fund-1251711>

BRACBANK, UCB, TRUSTBANK | Three banks get green light to issue BDT 23.00 Bn bonds to strengthen capital base

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has approved three commercial banks – BRAC Bank, United Commercial Bank (UCB), and Trust Bank – to raise BDT 23.00 Bn through subordinated bonds to strengthen their capital base and meet Basel III regulatory requirements.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/three-banks-get-green-light-issue-tk2300cr-bonds-strengthen-capital-base-1250241>

EXCHANGE | Over 62,500 BO accounts closed in nine months amid market volatility

- Amid persistent volatility in the equity market, as many as 62,552 beneficiary owners' (BO) accounts have been closed over the past nine months, reflecting investors' growing frustration and reduced participation. According to data from Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd (CDBL), the number of active BO accounts stood at just over 1.29 Mn as of September 30, down from nearly 1.36 Mn at the beginning of the year.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/over-62500-bo-accounts-closed-in-nine-months-amid-market-volatility-1759599613>

EXCHANGE | BSEC moves to expand debt securities rules, introduces new sustainable finance bonds

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has proposed major amendments to the Debt Securities Rules, 2021, aiming to broaden the country's sustainable finance framework and introduce new classes of bonds.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-moves-expand-debt-securities-rules-introduces-new-sustainable-finance-bonds>

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 60.88	(USD 10.55)	-14.77%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 64.53	(USD 9.86)	-13.25%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,886.54	USD 1,278.06	49.00%
DSEX	5,415.79	199.34	3.82%
S&P 500	6,715.79	808.85	13.69%
FTSE 100	9,491.25	1,370.24	16.87%
BSE SENSEX	81,207.17	3,007.24	3.85%
KSE-100	168,990.06	53,731.06	46.62%
CSEALL	22,094.89	6,150.28	38.57%

Exchange Rates**1 US Dollar = 121.89 BDT****1 GBP = 164.16 BDT****1 Euro = 143.09 BDT****1 INR = 1.37 BDT**

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