

Important News Snippets

Wednesday, October 9, 2024 research@bracepl.com

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:

Export-remittance rise, import fall tip trade balance up

Bangladesh's current-account balance returned to the green zone in August, after months of negativity, mainly as lower import expenses and a higher inflow of remittances tipped the balance up, officials said.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/export-remittance-rise-import-fall-tip-trade-balance-up

Drastic cut in costs of three railway megaprojects likely

• The Ministry of Railway (MoR) under the new custodian has already asked the Bangladesh Railway (BR) to rationalize the project estimation of the ongoing ones by trimming unusual costs from unnecessary components, said a ministry official.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/drastic-cut-in-costs-of-three-railway-megaprojects-likely

Bangladesh PMI improves to 49.7 in September

■ The Bangladesh Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which reflects the pace of economic activity, rose for the second consecutive month in September to 49.7, after dropping below 37 in July.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/economy-still-construction-mode-despite-improvements-key-sectors-pmi-report-961751

Sector & Industries:

FUEL & POWER | Finance Division receives proposal for BDT 50 Bn bonds to clear power dues

• The Ministry of Finance has received a proposal from the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) for issuing new bonds worth BDT 50 Bn to settle outstanding dues in the power sector.

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/finance-division-receives-proposal-tk 5000 cr-bonds-clear-power-dues-962061

TEXTILE | BGMEA seeks over BDT 580 Mn loans for 39 RMG factories hit hard by unrest

■ The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has requested over BDT 586.1 Mn in soft loans from the government for 39 apparel factories "severely affected by the recent labor unrest.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/bgmea-seeks-over-tk58cr-loans-39-rmg-factories-hit-hard-unrest-961481

AUTOMOBILE | Luxury car sales slow to a near-stop

Sales of luxury sedans and sport utility vehicles (SUVs) have been almost nil since July this year as customers have reined in spending amid the ongoing economic downturn and sudden political changeover in Bangladesh.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/luxury-car-sales-slow-near-stop-3723351

Stocks:

GPHISPAT | GPH Ispat makes highest profit in 15 years

• GPH Ispat, one of the leading steel manufacturers in the country, posted BDT 856.4 Mn in net profit for the fiscal year ending on June 30 this year.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gph-ispat-makes-highest-profit-15-years-3722741



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ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank's 1.31 Bn shares blocked; free float limited to 114.3 Mn shares

• A total of 1.31 Bn shares of Islami Bank, representing 81.92% of the bank's total shares and owned by S Alam Group, have been blocked, according to the bank's September shareholding report.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/islami-banks-13189-crore-shares-blocked-free-float-limited-1143-crore-shares-962031

EMERALDOIL | Dhaka bourse finds Emerald's link with artificial stock price hikes

DSE found that two individuals -- Abu Sadat Md. Faisal and Md. Razib Al Mamun -- played a role in manipulating the stock price. They executed a series of transactions of the shares of Emerald Oil to artificially boost the market price.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/dhaka-bourse-finds-emeralds-link-with-artificial-stock-price-hikes

EXCHANGE | Manipulators behind protests against BSEC

■ The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has alleged that manipulators were fuelling protests against the regulator to prevent it from taking a stand against corruption and reforming the stock market.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/manipulators-behind-protests-against-bsec-3722476

EXCHANGE | BSEC invites three firms for stock listing

• The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has invited three major conglomerates, Meghna Group, City Group and PHP Group, to list their companies on the stock exchanges, aiming to provide good stocks for investors, according to an official press release.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bsec-invites-three-firms-stock-listing-3723331





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Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 73.64	USD 1.99	2.78%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 77.32	USD 0.28	0.36%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,617.72	USD 554.74	26.89%
DSEX	5,323.22	-923.27	-14.78%
S&P 500	5,751.13	981.30	20.57%
FTSE 100	8,190.61	457.37	5.91%
BSE SENSEX	81,634.81	9,394.55	13.00%
KSE-100	85,663.98	23,284.57	37.33%
CSEALL	12,003.29	1,349.13	12.66%

Exchange Rates

- 1 US Dollar = 119.75 BDT
- 1 GBP = 156.80 BDT
- 1 Euro = 131.38 BDT
- 1 INR = 1.43 BDT

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