

Monday, August 12, 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:

Time for economic restart

• The new interim government that took over Thursday night is left with the tough task of bringing the economy back to normal by restoring public order and getting related organs back to business in full.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/time-economic-restart-913816

Ctg port sees 16.4% drop in export container handling in July

• According to Chattogram port data, 59,845 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) of laden export containers and 114,455 TEUs of laden import cargo were handled in July. The port handled 69,662 TEUs of laden export cargo and 114,591 TEUs of laden import containers in the previous month.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/ctg-port-sees-164-drop-export-container-handling-july-914566

Businesses hit by drought of cash supply

• Businesses in Bangladesh, especially those that mostly deal with cash transactions, yesterday said they are contending with a liquidity crunch as the country's central bank has placed a limit on daily cash withdrawals from banks. On Saturday, banks were told to disallow daily cash withdrawals of more than BDT 0.2 Mn per account.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/businesses-hit-drought-cash-supply-3675111

Sectors & Industries:

MISCELLANEOUS | Paint industry investing in eco-friendly products

• Paint companies are increasingly investing in developing new products, particularly those with a low environmental impact, according to Mohsin Habib Chowdhury, the chief operating officer of Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/paint-industry-investing-eco-friendly-products-3675091

RMG | Russell new BTMA president as Khokon resigns

Showkat Aziz Russell, chairman of Amber Group, was elected president of the Bangladesh Textiles Mills Association (BTMA) yesterday. After an emergency meeting of the association, the board elected Showkat Aziz Russell new president of BTMA.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/russell-new-btma-president-khokon-resigns-914561

BANK | Banks open under new govt, need time for full normalcy

Bank operations resumed on the first working day under the interim government, marking a return to normalcy with disruptions in cheque clearing at some Islamic banks. However, bankers said it will be a gradual process for the banking sector to return to complete normalcy which will take more time.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-open-under-new-govt-need-time-full-normalcy-914551



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BANK | Nagad digital bank faces nemesis

• Much-hyped Nagad Digital Bank is on the brink following a paradigm shift as the regulator is considering cancelling its licence allegedly for the intervention of two influential persons of the immediate-past government. People familiar with the reckoning at the Bangladesh Bank told the FE that they had made their recommendations regarding the cancellation of the licence.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/nagad-digital-bank-faces-nemesis

BANK | Unrest in banking sector raises concerns

• Unrest has gripped the banking sector at a time when several banks are burdened with huge default loans and are suffering from low asset quality. Protests erupted at Bangladesh Bank the day after Sheikh Hasina's government was ousted on August 5 in the face of a mass uprising.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/unrest-banking-sector-raises-concerns-3675101

Stocks:

EXCHANGE | Mohsin appointed acting chairman of BSEC

Commissioner Md Mohsin Chowdhury has been appointed as the acting chairman of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC). The appointment comes a day after Professor Shibli Rubayat-Ul-Islam resigned as chairman of BSEC last Saturday night (August 10).

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/mohsin-appointed-acting-chairman-of-bsec

EXCHANGE | Investors, officials demand BSEC reforms, resignations over corruption

• Investors and officials have called for reforms in the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), the stock market regulatory body, urging it to operate strictly within the law and demanding the removal of individuals appointed due to lobbying or political considerations.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/investors-officials-demand-bsec-reforms-resignations-over-corruption-914531

EXCHANGE | Floor from 6 cos removed, then reinstated

Before his resignation, Prof Shibli signed an order on Thursday removing the floor price of Beximco, Khulna Power, and Shahjibazar Power, which was supposed to take effect from August 11, and of the remaining three companies - Islami Bank, BSRM and Meghna Petroleum, to be effective from August 14. Then Mohsin Chowdhury, the newly appointed chairman in-charge of the BSEC, scrapped the order and kept the floor prices in place.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/floor-from-6-cos-removed-then-reinstated-1723397929



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Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 77.12	USD 5.47	7.63%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 79.79	USD 2.75	3.57%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,425.19	USD 362.21	17.56%
DSEX	6,015.91	-230.58	-3.69%
S&P 500	5,344.16	574.33	12.04%
FTSE 100	8,168.10	434.86	5.62%
BSE SENSEX	79,705.91	7,465.65	10.33%
KSE-100	78,569.59	16,190.18	25.95%
CSEALL	11,315.65	661.49	6.21%

Exchange Rates

- 1 US Dollar = 117.60 BDT
- 1 GBP = 150.06 BDT
- 1 Euro = 128.40 BDT
- 1 INR = 1.40 BDT



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