

Thursday, October 17, 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:

# Interim government to implement new 'Statistics Policy' amid allegations of data manipulation by BBS

• The government is set to provide monthly interest on pensioner savings certificates, which will be credited directly to investors' accounts at the end of each month. It has also decided to raise the interest rates for all savings certificates.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/interim-government-implement-new-statistics-policy-amid-allegations-data-manipulation-bbs

### Gross forex reserves cross USD 25 Bn in steady rebound

• Forex reserves--one of the major macroeconomic indicators of an economy--fell to USD 24.53 Bn in terms of gross calculation by the central bank after clearing USD 1.37 Bn import payments to the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) on September 07 last while the amount stood at USD 19.46 Bn as per IMF's BMP6 arithmetic.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/gross-forex-reserves-cross-25b-in-steady-rebound-1729102613

### Call-money mkt moribund as funds switch into SDF

Even a moratorium on injection of high-powered money by the central bank fails to resuscitate the call-money market as the affluent banks' trust deficit prompts switch of their surplus credits into state-secured SDF or standing deposit facility despite lower gains.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/call-money-mkt-moribund-as-funds-switch-into-sdf-1729102718

### Chinese company to invest USD 5.85 Mn in Adamjee EPZ

■ JIDALAI Co. Ltd. is going to invest USD 5.85 Mn to set up a Pullers of Zipper manufacturing industry in Adamjee Export Processing Zone (AEPZ). This Chinese company will produce annually 70 Mn pullers of zipper where 189 Bangladeshi nationals will get jobs, says a press release.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/chinese-company-to-invest-us-585m-in-adamjee-epz-1729101558

### Sector & Industries:

#### BANK | Improve financial health by curbing NPLs: BB to banks

As part of Bangladesh Bank's (BB) moves to resuscitate the country's troubled banks, BB Governor Dr Ahsan H. Mansur gave the instructions at a meeting with the recently reconstructed boards of Al-Arafah Islami Bank and United Commercial Bank (UCB) at the BB headquarters.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/improve-financial-health-by-curbing-npls-bb-to-banks-1729101527

### BANK | Cash outside banks keeps rising

• The volume of cash outside the banking sector of Bangladesh has been increasing since the start of the year due to persistent inflation, the loss of consumer confidence in the sector due to the presence of ailing lenders, and the prevailing situation following the recent political changeover.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/cash-outside-banks-keeps-rising-3729456



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### TRADE | Escalating logistics costs erode trade competitiveness

• Rising logistics costs are hiking the cost of doing business in Bangladesh and discouraging investors, stakeholders say and urge mapping out sector-wise predictable expenditures on this score. Local and foreign investors find it challenging to estimate logistics expenses accurately for their investment projections.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/escalating-logistics-costs-erode-trade-competitiveness-1729102663

### Stocks:

### ACMELAB, IBNSINA | Three drug makers ready to produce raw materials in API park

■ Two of the factories, ACME Laboratories and Ibn Sina Pharmaceutical, are currently awaiting regulatory approval, while the third, Healthcare Pharmaceuticals, has recently begun limited-scale commercial production of these essential drug-making raw materials.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/three-drug-makers-ready-produce-raw-materials-api-park-3729471

# UNIONBANK, EXIMBANK | Troubled Union, Exim banks get BDT 5.50 Bn liquidity support from Sonali

 Guaranteed by the central bank, state-owned Sonali Bank is extending BDT 5.50 Bn in fresh loans to two struggling private banks — Union Bank and Exim Bank — both hit by loan scams and various irregularities.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/troubled-union-exim-banks-get-tk550cr-liquidity-support-sonali-968636

### NRBCBANK | NRBC Bank's sponsor to buy 3.2 Mn shares

Sarwar Zaman Chaudri, a sponsor of NRB Commercial (NRBC) Bank, has announced his plan to purchase 3.2 Mn shares, intending to increase his stake in the bank.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/nrbc-banks-sponsor-buy-32-lakh-shares-968591

### GHCL | Global Heavy Chemicals shuts factory for gas crisis

• Global Heavy Chemicals, a manufacturer of industrial chemicals, has announced the temporary suspension of its factory operations at Hasnabad in Dhaka's Keraniganj, starting on Tuesday (15 October) due to a severe gas shortage in the region, according to a stock exchange disclosure.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/global-heavy-chemicals-shuts-factory-gas-crisis-967891

### EXCHANGE | Dhaka bourse seeks regulator guidance on recategorizing Z stocks

• The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) has sought guidance from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) regarding the recategorization of Z category stocks, as some companies have disbursed approved dividends after being downgraded.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dhaka-bourse-seeks-regulator-guidance-recategorizing-z-stocks-968606



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### Stock and Commodities\*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 70.69	(USD 0.96)	-1.34%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 74.49	(USD 2.55)	-3.31%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,680.81	USD 617.83	29.95%
DSEX	5,316.21	-930.28	-14.89%
S&P 500	5,842.50	1,072.67	22.49%
FTSE 100	8,329.07	595.83	7.70%
BSE SENSEX	81,501.36	9,261.10	12.82%
KSE-100	86,205.66	23,826.25	38.20%
CSEALL	12,003.29	1,349.13	12.66%

### **Exchange Rates**

- 1 US Dollar = 119.59 BDT
- 1 GBP = 155.29 BDT
- 1 Euro = 129.84 BDT
- 1 INR = 1.42 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	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