Important News Snippets

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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:

Economy stabilising amid sluggish investment momentum

- Bangladesh's economy shows signs of cautious stabilisation, but investment momentum remains sluggish as the private-sector credit growth weakens and borrowing costs remain high, according to a report of the General Economics Division (GED) under the Planning Commission.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/economy-stabilising-amid-sluggish-investment-momentum-1761071167

BD seeks Korean investments in textiles, electronics, renewables

- The Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) has urged Korean investors to leverage Bangladesh's dynamic investment landscape, highlighting the country's strategic advantages and ongoing pro-business reforms aimed at facilitating foreign direct investment (FDI).

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/bd-seeks-korean-investments-in-textiles-electronics-renewables-1761069965

ECNEC sends back BDT 12.69 Bn 'haors' project

- The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) on Tuesday declined to give its nod to an infrastructure-development project in 'haors' of greater Sylhet and Mymensingh, fearing environmental impact.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/ecnec-sends-back-tk-1269b-haors-project-1761071570

Most cargos charred in HSIA fire unlikely to be compensated

- All insured goods incinerated in the import-cargo-village fire at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) may not be compensated as most consignees had 'Air Risk Only' insurance coverage.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/most-cargos-charred-in-hsia-fire-unlikely-to-be-compensated-1761070929

Sector & Industries:

FOOD&ALLIED | BB waives L/C margin on baby food imports

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has waived the cash margin requirement for opening letters of credit (L/Cs) on baby food imports to facilitate the import of food items for infants. A circular issued by the central bank on Tuesday said the cash margin will now be determined on the basis of client-banker relationships.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/bb-waives-lc-margin-on-baby-food-imports-1761071688

PHARMACEUTICALS | Pharma sector stares at big loss from fire

- The devastating fire at the cargo village of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) has dealt a severe blow to Bangladesh's pharmaceutical industry, with an estimated economic impact of more than BDT 40 Bn.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/pharma-sector-stares-at-big-loss-from-fire-1761070986

BANK | Govt's heavy bank borrowing crowds out private investment

- The government's heavy reliance on the banking system to cover its fiscal deficit continues to effectively crowd out the private sector, leaving little room for productive private investment, said a report by the General Economics Division (GED) released yesterday. The GED, a division under the planning ministry, said that while private sector credit growth decelerated to a historic low of 6.35% in August this year, net credit to the public sector increased by 16.59% in the same month.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govts-heavy-bank-borrowing-crowds-out-private-investment-4015876

FOOD&ALLIED | Liquidity crunch puts shrimp, fish exporters in peril

- The country's frozen shrimp and fish exporters are facing a severe liquidity scarcity for maintaining their overseas trade due to unavailability of the arrears of cash incentive from the government. The Bangladesh Frozen Foods Exporters Association (BFFEA) has urged the government to release BDT 1.74 Bn in audited, outstanding cash assistance for the sake of their survival.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/liquidity-crunch-puts-shrimp-fish-exporters-in-peril-1761071366

Stocks:

SQUARETEXT | Square Textile to invest BDT 400 Mn for expansion, merge subsidiary Square Texcom

- Square Textile PLC, one of the country's leading yarn manufacturers, has announced plans to invest 400 Mn to boost its production capacity under a Balancing, Modernisation, Rehabilitation, and Expansion (BMRE) programme.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/square-textile-invest-tk40cr-expansion-merge-subsidiary-square-texcom-1266191

LHB | LafargeHolcim defies industry slump with 36% profit surge in Q3

- LafargeHolcim posted a 36% year-on-year profit growth to BDT 1.20 Bn in July-September - a remarkable feat at a time when the construction industry is reeling from sharp cuts in both public and private investment. The success was achieved due to higher sales of premium products and aggregates, the company said as its board of directors approved the quarterly financial statements on Tuesday.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/lafargeholcim-defies-industry-slump-with-36pc-profit-surge-in-q3-1761069788

SIPLC | Sena Insurance Q3 profit drops on higher claims, costs

- Sena Kalyan Insurance saw its third-quarter profit slump by 16.7% year-on-year to BDT 32.40 Mn, as revenue from its core underwriting business fell sharply while management expenses continued to climb. The army-run general insurer saw a 67% year-on-year decline in profit from its fire, marine, motor and miscellaneous insurance segments to BDT 8.50 Mn in the quarter to September.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/sena-insurance-q3-profit-drops-on-higher-claims-costs-1761069849

BSCPLC | Indian firm halts bandwidth imports from Bangladesh

- India's state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is discontinuing bandwidth imports from Bangladesh to its northeast region from today. Md Ariful Huq, deputy general manager (marketing and sales) at Bangladesh Submarine Cables PLC (BSCPLC), confirmed the development to The Daily Star following an inquiry.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/indian-firm-halts-bandwidth-imports-bangladesh-4015066

EXCHANGE | Yield on 10-year T-bonds rises

- The yield on 10-year treasury bonds edged up on Tuesday, as banks showed reluctance to invest surplus funds in long-term government securities, opting instead for short-term instruments to manage their portfolios more efficiently.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/yield-on-10-year-t-bonds-rises-1761071657

EXCHANGE | LR Global CEO banned for life, must recover investment in 30 days

- The stock market regulator has ordered LR Global Bangladesh Asset Management Company to recover the investment it made in Padma Printers & Colour three years ago in breach of securities rules. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) at the same time has imposed fines on six top officials of the asset management company, including CEO Reaz Islam, for making the unlawful investment. Mr Islam is also facing a lifetime ban from activities in the capital market.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/lr-global-ceo-banned-for-life-must-recover-investment-in-30-days-1761069819

Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 57.67	(USD 13.76)	-19.26%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 61.77	(USD 12.62)	-16.96%
Gold Spot*	USD 4,115.46	USD 1,506.98	57.77%
DSEX	5,089.33	-127.11	-2.44%
S&P 500	6,735.35	828.41	14.02%
FTSE 100	9,426.99	1,305.98	16.08%
BSE SENSEX	84,426.34	6,226.41	7.96%
KSE-100	167,346.83	52,087.83	45.19%
CSEALL	22,783.62	6,839.01	42.89%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 122.09 BDT

1 GBP = 163.31 BDT

1 Euro = 141.73 BDT

1 INR = 1.39 BDT

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