

Important News Snippets

Sunday, June 30, 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:

Bangladesh's forex reserves cross USD 27 Bn: Central bank

Bangladesh's foreign exchange gross reserves have crossed USD 27 Bn as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other lenders have provided the country with USD 2.25 Bn in loans recently, the central bank claimed on Friday.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/forex-reserves-cross-26b-imf-others-gave-225b-loans-cenbank-886131

Record budget support helps govt meet IMF's reserve condition for first time

• Bangladesh will fulfil the International Monetary Fund's condition on foreign exchange reserves in June on the back of record budget assistance from global creditors, the first time since the IMF approved its USD 4.7 Bn loan programme more than a year ago.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/record-budget-support-helps-govt-meet-imfs-reserve-condition-first-time-3645186

World Bank approves USD 650 Mn to help Bangladesh develop Bay Terminal

• The new, modern Bay Terminal, to be operated by leading international terminal operators, will accommodate larger vessels, such as panamax vessels, and substantially decrease vessel turnaround time, potentially saving the economy about USD 1 Mn daily.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/world-bank-approves-650-million-help-bangladesh-develop-bay-terminal-3644666

NBR receipts up 15% in 11 months

As of the end of May, the board was still short by over BDT 850 Bn of the government's revised goal for raising BDT 4100 Bn by the end of fiscal year 2023-24, which ends on June 30.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nbr-receipts-15-11-months-3643726

Cenbank signals more flexible exchange rate, monetary policy tightening

• The central bank hinted that it would go for further flexibility of exchange rate after introducing the crawling peg system in May this year, a move that will allow the value of the BDT To fluctuate more freely in response to market forces, such as supply and demand, rather than being tightly controlled or pegged to another currency.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/cenbank-signals-more-flexible-exchange-rate-monetary-policy-tightening-885526

LDC exit: A win for the nation, but a loss for trade

Bangladesh's graduation from the group of least-developed countries (LDCs) to a developing nation in 2026 has become a point of national pride, underlining the substantial economic strides that the country has made.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ldc-exit-win-the-nation-loss-trade-3644396

Finance Bill set to tax individual investors' capital gains of over BDT 5 Mn: Sources

■ The amended Finance Bill is set to continue the initial proposal for taxing individual investors' capital gains of over BDT 5 Mn from publicly listed shares of fund units, according to parliament sources.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/finance-bill-set-tax-individual-investors-capital-gains-over-tk50-lakh-sources-887386



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Sectors & Industries:

BANK | IMF suggests raising repo rate by 50 basis points by Dec

■ The Consumer Price Index surged to a 12-year high of 9.02% in the last financial year, way higher than the historical average. The trend has continued into the ongoing financial year and has stayed above 9.5%, hurting the poor and low-income groups hard because their purchasing power has witnessed significant erosion.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/imf-suggests-raising-repo-rate-50-basis-points-dec-3643736

Stocks:

ISLAMIBANK | Another sponsor director pulls out of Islami Bank

Bangladesh Islamic Centre, a corporate sponsor of Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC, is going to sell its entire stake in the Shariah-based lender, joining a group of investors who have pulled out of the troubled bank.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/another-sponsor-director-pulls-out-islami-bank-3643881

RNSPIN, FARCHEM | Post-merger R.N. Spinning, Far Chemical fail to heal wound of losses

■ A BDT 100 investment in R.N. Spinning Mills has eroded to around BDT 37 only on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) by Thursday since the listed company merged with non-listed Samin Food and Beverage Inds and Textile Mills. Hence, the assets' worth has been reduced by nearly 63%.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/post-merger-rn-spinning-far-chemical-fail-to-heal-wound-of-losses-1719677195

LINDEBD | Linde Bangladesh profit drops over 74% in 2023

■ Linde Bangladesh Limited — a listed multinational gas producer — witnessed a 74% drop in profit in 2023 as inflation spiked business costs, narrowing the profit margin, according to the company's financial statement.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/linde-bangladesh-profit-drops-over-74-2023-887686

EXCHANGE | CDIP enters bond market to expand microfinance

• The Centre for Development Innovation and Practices (CDIP), an NGO dedicated to the socio-economic development of disadvantaged people, plans to extend its microfinance services by raising BDT 1.71 Bn through bonds to serve rural customers better.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/cdip-enters-bond-market-expand-microfinance-887786





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World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 81.54	USD 9.89	13.80%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 85.00	USD 7.96	10.33%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,326.75	USD 263.77	12.79%
DSEX	5,355.41	-891.08	-14.27%
S&P 500	5,460.48	690.65	14.48%
FTSE 100	8,164.12	430.88	5.57%
BSE SENSEX	79,032.73	6,792.47	9.40%
KSE-100	78,378.35	15,998.94	25.65%
CSEALL	12,187.22	1,533.06	14.39%

Exchange Rates

- 1 US Dollar = 117.61 BDT
- 1 GBP = 148.73 BDT
- 1 Euro = 126.01 BDT
- 1 INR = 1.41 BDT

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