

Thursday, May 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:

IMF's USD 1.15 Bn 3rd tranche likely in late June

Bangladesh may receive USD 1.15 Bn in the third instalment of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) loan in the last week of June, which will give a much-needed relief to the country's dwindling foreign exchange reserves.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/imfs-115b-3rd-tranche-likely-late-june-3622261

Subsidy spending set to go up BDT 100 Bn for power, food

■ The government plans to increase subsidy and incentive allocation by nearly BDT 100 Bn for the next fiscal year, primarily for the power and agriculture sectors, despite plans to scale back export incentives and falling international prices of fertilisers, fuel, and food products.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/budget/subsidy-spending-set-go-tk10000cr-power-agri-863691

FDI slips but stays above USD 3 Bn

Central bank data showed yesterday that Bangladesh received USD 3.004 Bn in FDI last year, a decrease of 14% from USD 3.5 Bn in 2022.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/fdi-slips-stays-above-3b-3621756

Democratic Budget Movement pushes for BDT 0.6 Mn tax-free income limit

• The Democratic Budget Movement and Oxfam, Bangladesh have called for increasing the tax-free income threshold for individuals to BDT 0.6 Mn in the next fiscal year's budget.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/democratic-budget-movement-pushes-tk6-lakh-tax-free-income-limit-863641

NBR mulls ending tax breaks for physical infrastructures

• The National Board of Revenue (NBR) is considering the withdrawal of income tax exemptions and holiday benefits for investors of some physical infrastructures from the upcoming fiscal year as part of its efforts to reduce tax expenditure.

https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/nbr-mulls-ending-tax-breaks-physical-infrastructures-862941

Treasury bond yields climb to 15-year high

• The interest rate of treasury bonds recently jumped to a 15-year high of 12.75%, indicating that government borrowing will become costlier in the months ahead.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/treasury-bond-yields-climb-15-year-high-3622351

Allocation for interest payments to rise 38%

• The allocation for interest payments of domestic and foreign loans will likely increase by 38% to BDT 1290 Bn in the upcoming budget due to a significant hike in the cost of borrowing from both sources.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/allocation-interest-payments-rise-38-3621771



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Sectors & Industries:

TRADE | Mongla port set to be connected by rail on June 1

• Mongla, the country's second largest sea port, is going to be linked to the railway network on June 1 with the launch of a commuter train on Khulna-Benapole-Mongla route.

https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/mongla-port-set-be-connected-rail-june-1-3622496

BANK | Loans, deposits rise in Islamic banks despite severe liquidity crisis

• Outstanding loans and deposits both increased in full-fledged 10 local Islamic banks in February this year although six of them have been facing severe liquidity crisis for more than a year.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/loans-deposits-rise-islamic-banks-despite-severe-liquidity-crisis-3622211

BANK | Keeping money in banks may get costlier

• Keeping money in the country's banking system is set to become more expensive as the revenue authorities plan to further increase excise duty on bank balances in the upcoming budget after three fiscal years.

https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/keeping-money-banks-may-get-costlier-863696

Stocks:

IFIC | BB bypasses own rules in appointing IFIC Bank adviser

• The Bangladesh Bank has bypassed its own rules by approving the appointment of Mohammad Shah Alam Sarwar as the strategic adviser of IFIC Bank PLC.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bb-bypasses-own-rules-appointing-ific-bank-adviser-3621766

SSSTEEL | Can S.S. Steel justify its historically low dividends?

• S.S. Steel has been paying insignificant amounts of dividends to its shareholders, compared to its listed peers in the industry, but the earnings that it supposedly kept with itself have not been translated into business growth.

https://the financial express.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/can-ss-steel-justify-its-historically-low-dividends varieties and the state of the state of



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World Stock and Commodities*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 79.32	USD 7.67	10.70%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 83.67	USD 6.63	8.61%
Gold Spot*	USD 2,335.97	USD 272.99	13.23%
DSEX	5,228.53	-1,017.96	-16.30%
S&P 500	5,266.95	497.12	10.42%
FTSE 100	8,183.07	449.83	5.82%
BSE SENSEX	74,502.90	2,262.64	3.13%
KSE-100	74,878.46	12,499.05	20.04%
CSEALL	12,228.12	1,573.96	14.77%

Exchange Rates

1 US Dollar = 117.61 BDT

1 GBP = 149.32 BDT

1 Euro = 126.99 BDT

1 INR = 1.41 BDT



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