

Weekly Market Update

Aug 1, 2024 (Week: Jul 28, 2024 – Aug 1, 2024)

Dhaka Stock Exchange

DSEX ended in Red (-1.47%) in the week

Capital Market Overview

The market closed in red this week. The benchmark index DSEX (-1.47%) lost -79.71 points and closed the week at 5,333.94 points. The blue-chip index DS30 (-1.65%) lost -31.92 points and stood at 1,900.85 points. The Shariah-based index DSES (-1.52%) lost -17.99 points and stood at 1,165.38 points. The large cap index CDSET (-1.09%) lost -11.34 points and closed at 1,025.56 points. DSEX, DS30, DSES and CDSET showed YTD returns of -14.61%, -9.22%, -14.57%, -14.74%, respectively.

Total Turnover During the Week (DSE): BDT 23.9 billion (USD 203 million)
Average Daily Turnover Value (ADTV): BDT 4.8 billion (Δ% Week: +45.9%)
Market P/E: 14.3x

Daily Index Movement during the Week

The market performed five sessions during this week. The market started on a negative note on Sunday (-0.55%) and continued the trend throughout Monday (-0.99%) and Tuesday (-1.14%). However, the market turned to a positive note on Wednesday (+0.21%) and ended on a positive note on Thursday (+1.01%).

Sectoral Performance

- All the financial sectors registered negative performance this week. NBF1 experienced the highest loss of -3.54% followed by Mutual Fund (-3.34%), Life Insurance (-3.01%), Bank (-0.90%), and General Insurance (-0.61%).
- Most of the non-financial (large-cap) sectors registered negative performance this week. Engineering experienced the highest loss of 2.71% followed by Fuel & Power (-1.86%), Food & Allied (-1.64%), Pharmaceutical (-0.91%), and Telecommunication (+0.10%).

Macroeconomic arena

EU suspends partnership talks with Bangladesh amid current situation. No show cause notice, only punishment for remittance rate violation: BB. BANK | Banks asked to enter LC info into Cenbank's dashboard within 8hrs. BANK | A dozen banks in massive drive to raise USD 1 Bn offshore deposits. IT | IT firms suffer low productivity amid slow internet. ENERGY | Reconnecting Summit's LNG terminal to take more time. E-COMMERCE | Internet, FB shutdown: Digital commerce loses BDT 17 Bn in 13 days. S&P Global downgrades Bangladesh's credit ratings. Govt forms 37 teams to tame kitchen inflation, despite past failures. Nearly two-thirds of TIN-holders don't submit tax returns. ENERGY | 1,320MW coal power plant in Patuakhali to fire up in October. PAPER & PRINTING | Chinese company to invest USD 1.26 Mn in packaging industry.

BANK | Businesses for special loan repayment concessions, bankers express concern. RMG | Apparel retailers express concern about shipment delay. Bangladesh faces USD 10 Bn setback, image crisis: Biz leaders. Remittances, imports on decline after banks reopen. NBR misses revenue target for 12th year. Bangladesh's foreign debt payments hit USD 3.36 Bn in FY24. BANK | Banks come out of subdued business on market-based interest rate. BANK | Banks asked to hike USD rate for inward remittance. BANK | Money outside banks rising amid disconcerting road ruckus. Trade deficit falls by USD 6 Bn in July-May FY24. VAT from big companies up 26% in FY24 amid rising prices. Internet outage, curfew leave foreign investors in a bind. Govt may miss IMF's revenue collection target.

Stock Market arena

BATASHOE | Bata Shoe Bangladesh profit drops 38% in Apr-Jun. NBL | National Bank sees no end to losses. ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank's profit rises 7% in second quarter. PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank posts 49% net profit after tax in H1. ICB | Govt sits tomorrow to devise strategies. RECKITT | Higher costs cut Reckitt Benckiser's profit marginally. EXCHANGE | Multinationals' profits drop for lower sales, higher costs. BRACBANK | BRAC Bank's profit jumps 7% in first half. PUBALIBANK | Pubali Bank posts 55% rise in half yearly profit. LINDEBD | Linde's Q2 profit goes up 46%. UNILEVERCL | Unilever Consumer Care's profit rises 15%. NRBCBANK | NRBC Bank posts 43% growth in EPS in Jan-Jun. DBH | DBH Finance profit up 3.5% in Q2, on higher return from govt securities. HEIDELBCEM | Heidelberg Materials Bangladesh's revenue drops 19.5% in first half of 2024. DUTCHBANGL | Dutch Bangla Bank's profit drops by 34% in April-June. ONEBANKPLC | How ONE Bank posts 242% profit growth in April-June of 2024. ICB | ICB plans to transfer unclaimed dividends for FY20. BERGERPBL | Berger Paints to spend highest-ever BDT 2.31 Bn to pay out dividend for FY24. SINGERBD | Singer's Q2 profit drops 45% despite higher sales. EXCHANGE | Pvt firms must have BDT 100 Mn net worth to sponsor mutual funds.

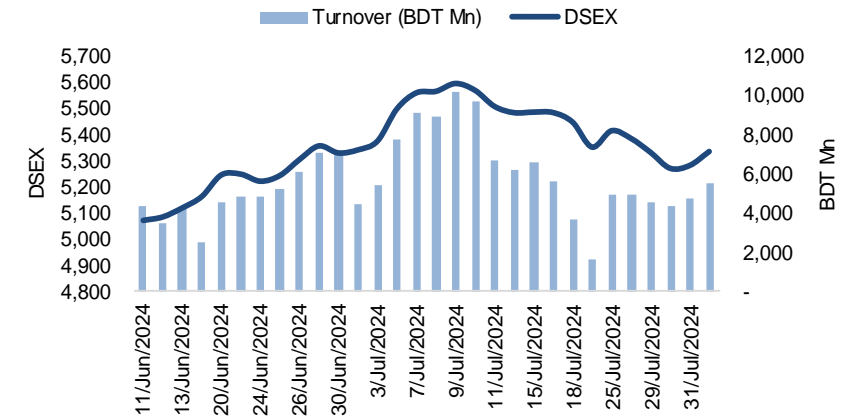
Table 1: Index

Index	Closing*	Opening*	Δ(Pts)	28-Dec-2023	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
DSEX	5,333.94	5,413.65	-79.71	6,246.50	-1.47%	-14.61%
DS30	1,900.85	1,932.77	-31.92	2,093.83	-1.65%	-9.22%
DSES	1,165.38	1,183.37	-17.99	1,364.13	-1.52%	-14.57%
CDSET	1,025.56	1,036.90	-11.34	1,202.82	-1.09%	-14.74%

Table 2: Market Statistics

		This Week	Last Week	% Change
M cap	M n BDT	6,533,681	6,577,506	-0.7%
	M n USD	55,370	55,742	
Turnover	M n BDT	23,946	6,567	+264.6%
	M n USD	203	56	
Average Daily Turnover	M n BDT	4,789	3,284	+45.9%
	M n USD	41	28	
Volume	M n Shares	765	181	+322.9%

Figure 1: DSEX & Turnover in last four weeks



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Table 3: Top Ten Gainers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
TECHNODRUG	63.5	38.5	+50.1%	8,382	1,099.1	0.0x	2.2x
ONEBANKPLC	8.0	7.2	+11.1%	8,527	75.5	4.1x	0.4x
UNITEDFIN	12.4	112	+10.7%	2,320	26.6	14.3x	0.7x
HEIDELBCEM	318.1	289.0	+10.1%	17,974	400.6	44.6x	4.4x
AIL	119.4	109.3	+9.2%	5,284	730.0	48.3x	5.0x
ISLAM IINS	40.5	37.4	+8.3%	1,667	2.5	13.3x	18x
NRBBANK	13.8	12.8	+7.8%	9,530	653.0	16.7x	1.1x
MIRACLEIND	33.8	314	+7.6%	1,190	67.0	NM	2.2x
RELIANCINS	66.0	61.7	+7.0%	6,941	118	8.7x	10x
AGNISYSL	34.3	32.3	+6.2%	2,489	1,174.2	32.1x	2.1x

Table 4: Top Ten Losers

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
PADMALIFE	20.1	24.8	-19.0%	781	8.3	NM	NM
FAREASTLIF	29.7	33.8	-12.1%	2,220	15.5	NM	NM
CAPMBDBLMF	6.5	7.3	-11.0%	326	4.4	NM	0.8x
NTC	298.4	332.7	-10.3%	1,969	2.1	NM	NM
KPPL	17.7	19.7	-10.2%	1,293	27.0	NM	NM
GQBALLPEN	138.5	154.0	-10.1%	1,237	90.1	NM	1.2x
UTTARAFIN	17.1	19.0	-10.0%	2,248	0.4	NM	0.3x
MITHUNKNIT	22.5	24.9	-9.6%	731	15.3	NM	7.1x
YPL	20.3	22.4	-9.4%	1,496	9.3	NM	3.8x
AMANFEED	26.2	28.9	-9.3%	3,431	19.4	63.9x	0.9x

Table 5: Top Ten Most Traded Shares

Company Name	Close*	Open*	Δ%	Mcap**	Turnover**	PE	PB
AGNISYSL	34.3	32.3	+6.2%	2,489	1,174.2	32.1x	2.1x
TECHNODRUG	63.5	38.5	+50.1%	8,382	1,099.1	0.0x	2.2x
ORIONINFU	524.0	523.5	+0.1%	10,669	818.3	NM	35.1x
AIL	119.4	109.3	+9.2%	5,284	730.0	48.3x	5.0x
NRBBANK	13.8	12.8	+7.8%	9,530	653.0	16.7x	1.1x
LOVELLO	93.4	98.5	-5.2%	7,939	593.7	67.7x	7.1x
SEAPEARL	72.8	77.7	-6.3%	8,791	540.1	24.4x	3.8x
SQURPHARMA	214.2	212.7	+0.7%	189,878	517.3	9.4x	16x
UNILEVERCL	2,532.3	2,571.0	-1.5%	48,808	458.1	55.0x	22.3x
FEKDIL	20.6	20.2	+2.0%	4,506	446.1	13.2x	10x

Table 6: Most Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
HEIDELBCEM	318.1	+32.8%	17,974	44.6x	4.4x
UNILEVERCL	2,532.3	+25.4%	48,808	55.0x	22.3x
BRACBANK	37.4	+14.9%	66,187	6.8x	0.9x
JAMUNAOIL	176.4	+4.7%	19,479	4.8x	0.8x
CITYBANK	20.1	+3.3%	27,076	4.2x	0.7x
BERGERPBL	1,819.4	+2.6%	84,380	26.0x	5.9x
SQURPHARMA	214.2	+1.9%	189,878	9.4x	16x
BSRMLTD	90.0	-	26,873	4.6x	0.6x
ISLAMIBANK	32.6	-	52,486	8.1x	0.7x
KPCL	26.6	-	10,571	80.6x	15x

Table 7: Sector Indices

Sector Name	Week Close*	Week Open*	Year Open*	Δ% Week	Δ% YTD
Bank	1,339.3	1,351.5	1,455.32	-0.90%	-7.97%
NBFI	1,119.2	1,160.2	1,902.52	-3.54%	-41.17%
Mutual Fund	635.8	657.8	876.90	-3.34%	-27.49%
General Insurance	3,144.2	3,163.5	3,489.09	-0.61%	-9.89%
Life Insurance	1,929.6	1,989.4	2,637.78	-3.01%	-26.85%
Telecommunication	4,194.9	4,190.8	4,945.60	+0.10%	-15.18%
Pharmaceutical	3,196.6	3,226.0	3,732.58	-0.91%	-14.36%
Fuel & Power	1,189.7	1,212.2	1,691.80	-1.86%	-29.68%
Cement	2,266.2	2,287.6	2,523.22	-0.94%	-10.19%
Services & Real Estate	1,398.0	1,452.2	1,518.57	-3.73%	-7.94%
Engineering	2,965.7	3,048.3	4,520.40	-2.71%	-34.39%
Food & Allied	16,003.1	16,269.1	21,180.76	-1.64%	-24.45%
IT	2,527.0	2,623.1	2,894.80	-3.66%	-12.70%
Textile	1,181.7	1,218.9	1,658.23	-3.06%	-28.74%
Paper & Printing	6,523.7	6,834.5	10,093.63	-4.55%	-35.37%
Tannery	2,350.5	2,412.3	3,103.94	-2.56%	-24.28%
Jute	16,577.1	17,102.7	17,683.51	-3.07%	-6.26%
Ceramics	477.1	502.8	694.56	-5.11%	-31.31%
Miscellaneous	4,243.5	4,281.3	4,265.32	-0.88%	-0.51%

Table 8: Sector Trading Matrix

Sector Name	Daily average this Week	Daily average last Week	% Change	% of Total Turnover	PE	PB
Bank	543.8	305.8	+77.83%	+12.26%	7.0x	0.6x
NBFI	57.9	45.0	+28.46%	+1.30%	NM	NM
Mutual Fund	177.6	121.8	+45.87%	+4.00%	NM	0.6x
General Insurance	139.6	92.8	+50.46%	+3.15%	16.3x	1.4x
Life Insurance	149.7	97.4	+53.63%	+3.37%	NM	NM
Telecommunication	75.3	59.1	+27.57%	+1.70%	11.6x	3.2x
Pharmaceutical	1,058.1	795.9	+32.94%	+23.85%	16.2x	1.7x
Fuel & Power	94.6	52.5	+80.23%	+2.13%	20.5x	0.7x
Cement	138.0	65.9	+109.30%	+3.11%	18.2x	2.4x
Services & Real Estate	190.7	158.7	+20.20%	+4.30%	24.2x	0.6x
Engineering	270.0	273.2	-1.16%	+6.09%	14.5x	1.1x
Food & Allied	490.4	389.6	+25.88%	+11.06%	15.6x	5.0x
IT	325.1	207.4	+56.77%	+7.33%	27.4x	2.2x
Textile	425.6	203.5	+109.10%	+9.59%	NM	0.8x
Paper & Printing	75.4	55.2	+36.70%	+1.70%	42.1x	1.3x
Tannery	412	33.6	+22.48%	+0.93%	44.4x	2.4x
Jute	33.1	23.8	+39.49%	+0.75%	NM	NM
Ceramics	40.1	29.3	+36.66%	+0.90%	56.5x	1.3x
Miscellaneous	109.7	61.7	+77.85%	+2.47%	39.0x	1.8x

Table 9: Least Appreciated YTD in BRAC EPL Universe

Company Name	Close*	YTD %Δ	Mcap**	PE	PB
IPDC	20.7	-62.3%	8,066	23.0x	12x
DOREENPWR	26.6	-56.4%	4,818	6.7x	0.5x
ACI	124.0	-52.3%	9,449	NM	12x
BSCPLC	106.2	-51.5%	17,513	9.1x	12x
RUNNERAUTO	24.6	-49.2%	2,793	NM	0.4x
TITASGAS	214	-47.7%	21,169	NM	0.3x
BBSCABLES	26.3	-47.3%	5,568	NM	0.8x
ESQUIRENIT	19.1	-44.6%	2,577	NM	0.3x
UPGDCL	129.7	-44.5%	75,186	10.0x	2.2x
DBH	317	-44.1%	6,305	7.0x	0.7x

Important News: Business, Economy & Sector

EU suspends partnership talks with Bangladesh amid current situation

- The European Union (EU) has suspended its discussions with Bangladesh regarding a partnership and cooperation agreement in light of the current situation, an EU spokesperson has said. The discussion was to start in September, Prothom Alo reports, quoting the EU spokesperson as confirming it in an email, adding that no new date has been set for the discussions.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/eu-suspends-partnership-talks-with-bangladesh-situation>

No show cause notice, only punishment for remittance rate violation: BB

- Two days after verbally instructing banks to collect remittance dollars at a higher rate, the Bangladesh Bank has now directed them not to pay more than the previously fixed rate and has warned of punishment for violating this directive without issuing a show cause notice.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/no-show-cause-notice-only-punishment-remittance-rate-907406>

BANK | Banks asked to enter LC info into Cenbank's dashboard within 8hrs

- The Bangladesh Bank has directed banks to enter information on the opening and receipt of letters of credit (LC) for imports and exports, respectively, into the central bank's Foreign Exchange Transaction Monitoring Dashboard within eight hours.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-directed-enter-lc-information-cenbank-266>

BANK | A dozen banks in massive drive to raise USD 1 Bn offshore deposits

- Most commercial banks in the country have launched extensive campaigns to promote offshore banking products, aiming to raise at least USD 1 Bn in foreign currency deposits within the next two years.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/dozen-banks-massive-drive-raise-1b-offshore-deposits-716>

IT | IT firms suffer low productivity amid slow internet

- Although broadband and mobile internet is again available in the country, most software, IT service and business process outsourcing (BPO) companies are experiencing significant productivity losses due to insufficient internet speeds.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/it-firms-suffer-low-productivity-amid-slow-internet-3666826>

ENERGY | Reconnecting Summit's LNG terminal to take more time

- Reconnecting a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal, damaged during Cyclone Remal, to the national grid is set to be further delayed as fresh repairs are needed to mechanisms used to keep it docked.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/reconnecting-summits-lng-terminal-take-more-time-3666791>

E-COMMERCE | Internet, FB shutdown: Digital commerce loses BDT 17 Bn in 13 days

- The country's digital commerce sector incurred a loss of around BDT 17 Bn in the last 13 days due to the shutdown of the internet and Facebook, according to the e-Commerce Association of Bangladesh (e-CAB).

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/e-cab-leaders-seek-govt-assistance-reviving-e-commerce-sector356>

S&P Global downgrades Bangladesh's credit ratings

- American agency S&P has relegated Bangladesh's long-term creditworthiness ratings to "B+" from "BB-" on grounds of elevated external vulnerabilities coupled with the latest domestic sociopolitical situations.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/sp-global-downgrades-bangladeshs-credit-ratings>

Govt forms 37 teams to tame kitchen inflation, despite past failures

- Amid soaring prices for nearly all kitchen items, the government has formed 37 market monitoring teams to oversee prices in the capital -- a common measure by the authorities that has previously yielded little to no significant results.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-forms-37-teams-to-despite-past-failures>

Nearly two-thirds of TIN-holders don't submit tax returns

- Bangladesh recently reached a milestone registering 10 Mn Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TINs), yet nearly 59% of these individuals did not file tax returns in the just-concluded fiscal year of 2023-24.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nearly-two-thirds-tin-holders-dont-submit-tax-3666011>

ENERGY | 1,320MW coal power plant in Patuakhali to fire up in October

- A 1,320-megawatt (MW) coal-based thermal power plant located in Kalapara upazila of Patuakhali is ready to begin commercial operations by the end of this year, officials said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/1320mw-coal-power-plant-patuakhali-fire-october-3665621>

PAPER & PRINTING | Chinese company to invest USD 1.26 Mn in packaging industry

- Chinese company Baida Industrial Company Limited is going to set up a Printed Materials and Packaging Products manufacturing industry in Uttara Export Processing Zone (UEPZ) with an investment of USD 1.26 Mn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/chinese-company-invest-126-million-packaging-906641>

RMG | US cos shifting from BD in apparel sourcing

- American fashion companies are actively diversifying their apparel- sourcing base and exploring opportunities. It cites shipping delays and supply-chain disruptions and 'managing geopolitics and other political instability' related to sourcing which have newly emerged among US brands and retailers as top five concerns in 2024.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/us-cos-shifting-from-bd-in-apparel-sourcing-1722360978>

Bangladesh got highest amount of foreign loans from WB in FY24

- The World Bank disbursed the highest amount of loans as a foreign lender to Bangladesh in different projects in the last fiscal year, the Economic Relations Division (ERD) said in a report recently. The report said Bangladesh received USD 2.15 Bn as a loan from the World Bank in the 2023-24 fiscal, according to local newspapers.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladesh-got-highest-amount-of-foreign-loans-from-wb-in-fy24>

Govt to seek USD 700 Mn from AIIB for deficit financing

- Bangladesh will soon seek USD 700 Mn in budget support from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with the pivotal need to replenish the country's foreign-exchange reserves, officials have said.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-to-seek-700m-from-aiib-for-deficit-financing>

Revenue grows 15% in FY24, still BDT 270 Bn short of revised target

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) collected a little over BDT 3.82 Tn in the fiscal 2023-24, marking an over 15% year-on-year increase. Officials consider the revenue collection satisfactory despite falling short of the revised target by about BDT 270 Bn and the original target by BDT 470 Bn.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/revenue-grows-15-fy24-still-tk27000cr-shot-revised-target-905396>

Remittance dollar price rises to BDT 119.40

- To boost the flow of remittances, the Bangladesh Bank issued verbal instructions to several banks on Sunday to purchase remittance dollars even at higher rates. As a result, the remittance dollar rate surged by 60-70 basis points in a single day, they say.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/remittance-dollar-price-rises-tk11940-905966>

Power Division spends 101.82% of revised ADP in FY'24

- The division spent BDT 306.09 Bn during FY'24 against the allocation of BDT 300.63 Bn to implement some 64 development projects of the power division in the RADP, the meeting sources said.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/power-division-spends-10182pc-of-revised-adp-in-fy24>

BANK | Businesses for special loan repayment concessions, bankers express concern

- Due to the curfew and general holidays surrounding the quota reform movement, businesses have suffered significant financial losses. In this situation, which has impacted imports and exports, they are requesting loan repayment concessions from banks.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/businesses-special-loan-repayment-concessions-bankers-express-concern-905981>

RMG | Apparel retailers express concern about shipment delay

- International clothing retailers and brands yesterday expressed concern about the timely shipment of goods following the latest spell of violence stemming from the quota reform movement, imposition of curfew and five-day internet blackout, which crippled economic activities.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/apparel-retailers-express-concern-about-shipment-delay-3665076>

Bangladesh faces USD 10 Bn setback, image crisis: Biz leaders

- The recent shutdown has significantly impacted Bangladesh's economy and severely damaged the country's reputation as a credible and resilient economy, business leaders said on Sunday. Zaved Akhtar, president of the Foreign Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FICCI), estimated the shutdown's economic impact to be around USD 10 Bn and rising.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-faces-10b-setback-image-crisis-biz-leaders-905336>

Remittances, imports on decline after banks reopen

- According to the Bangladesh Bank, remittances from July 19-24 totaled only USD 78 Mn – an amount expatriates typically send in a single day through banking channels – resulting in total remittances of just USD 1.5 Bn for the first 24 days of this month.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/remittances-imports-declining-trend-after-banks-reopen-905316>

Bangladesh's foreign debt payments hit USD 3.36 Bn in FY24

- Bangladesh's foreign debt servicing surged nearly 26% to USD 3.36 Bn in the fiscal year ending 30 June 2024, according to the latest report from the Economic Relations Division (ERD) published today. This increase is bolstered by a record 44% rise in interest payments, which reached nearly USD1.35 Bn, driven by a significant rise in borrowing costs.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladeshs-foreign-debt-repayment-surges-26-hit-336-billi-905171>

BANK | Banks come out of subdued business on market-based interest rate

- Despite economic challenges amid high inflation and the prevailing dollar crisis, six listed banks achieved good profits in the second quarter (Q2) through June this year, driven by higher interest spreads.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/banks-come-out-of-subdued-business-559>

BANK | Money outside banks rising amid disconcerting road ruckus

- An ambiance of uncertainty amid the latest road ruckus only accelerates the switch of cash from bank vaults into private coffers as some ATM booths went dry for some recent days. The volume of out-of-bank currency, euphemistically called 'mattress money', amounted to BDT 2.7 Tn as of last May, and bankers say they still feel the pressure of withdrawal on their stock in vaults.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/money-outside-banks-rising-amid-disconcerting-685>

BANK | Banks asked to hike USD rate for inward remittance

- Bangladesh Bank today verbally instructed some banks to offer a higher exchange rate for US dollars to lure remitters into sending their income through formal channels, according to a central bank official.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/banks-asked-hike-usd-rate-inward-remittance-3663956>

Trade deficit falls by USD 6 Bn in July-May FY24

- Despite a decline in exports, Bangladesh's trade deficit decreased by USD 6 Bn to USD 20 Bn in the first 11 months of FY24, thanks to a significant reduction in imports, according to central bank data.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/trade-deficit-exceeds-20b-july-may-fy24-903136>

VAT from big companies up 26% in FY24 amid rising prices

- In a remarkable feat, the revenue authorities collected BDT 740 Bn in value-added tax from 109 companies under its large taxpayer unit (LTU), marking a 26% increase from the previous year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/vat-big-companies-26-fy24-amid-rising-prices-903781>

Internet outage, curfew leave foreign investors in a bind

- Violence centering on the quota reform movement, as well as a five-day internet blackout and the ongoing curfew, has shaken foreign investors' confidence in Bangladesh, tarnishing the country's image as a reliable investment destination.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/internet-outage-curfew-leave-foreign-investors-bind-3663536>

Govt may miss IMF's revenue collection target

- As per the IMF target, the government was supposed to collect BDT 3.95 Tn in taxes in fiscal year 2023-24. According to the NBR's provisional data, the tax administrator collected BDT 3.72 Tn in FY24 against a collection target of BDT 4.1 Tn in the revised budget.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-may-miss-imfs-revenue-collection-target-3663526>

NBR misses revenue target for 12th year

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has fallen short of its revenue collection target for the 12th consecutive year, with experts opining that the existing framework for tax collection is inadequate.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nbr-misses-revenue-target-12th-year-3664321>

BANK | Bangladesh Bank lends BDT 255.21 Bn to banks, financial institutions

- Bangladesh Bank lent around BDT 255.21 Bn to commercial banks and financial institutions to meet cash demands on Wednesday (24 July). Shariah-based banks have borrowed around BDT 15 Bn, while other banks and financial institutions have borrowed the rest.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bangladesh-bank-lends-tk25521-crore-banks-financial-institutions-903591>

IT | IT cos fear foreign clients may turn their back on them

- Internet blackout came as a severe blow to the IT companies that fear long-term setbacks on business if foreign clients consider them unreliable and move to other countries, say Vietnam, for uninterrupted services.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/it-cos-fear-foreign-clients-may-turn-their-707>

Important News: Stocks

BATASHOE | Bata Shoe Bangladesh profit drops 38% in Apr-Jun

- Bata Shoe Company Bangladesh reported that its net profit plunged 38% to BDT 187.8 Mn in the April-June quarter of this year as the sales value declined because of the low demand driven by the high inflation.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bata-shoe-bangladesh-profit-drops-38-apr-jun-907031>

NBL | National Bank sees no end to losses

- National Bank Ltd (NBL) has continued bleeding although the country's oldest private bank was somehow able to curb its losses in the just-concluded April-June quarter. The bank suffered a loss of BDT 2.98 Bn in the three-month period ending on June 30 this year, down 4.18% year-on-year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/national-bank-sees-no-end-losses-3666481>

ISLAMIBANK | Islami Bank's profit rises 7% in second quarter

- Islami Bank Bangladesh has reported a 7.2% increase in profit for the April-June quarter of 2024. The profit amounted to BDT 3.07 Bn whereas it was BDT 2.86 Bn in the same period last year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/islami-banks-profit-rises-7-second-quarter-3666561>

PRIMEBANK | Prime Bank posts 49% net profit after tax in H1

- Prime Bank PLC has posted a 49% net profit after tax (NPAT) growth in the first half of the year 2024. The bank on Tuesday announced its half-yearly financial results for the period that ended on 30 June 2024, says a media release.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/prime-bank-posts-49pc-net-profit-after-tax-in-h1>

RECKITTEN | Higher costs cut Reckitt Benckiser's profit marginally

- Reckitt Benckiser's profit fell 3.4% year-on-year to BDT 142 Mn in the second quarter through June this year owing to higher operating expenses. Its earnings per share stood at BDT 30.12 in the quarter, slightly down from BDT 31.11 in the same quarter the year before, according to un-audited financial statements published on Wednesday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/higher-costs-cut-reckitt-benckisers-profit-marginally-1722450849>

ICB | Govt sits tomorrow to devise strategies

- The government will sit to devise strategies for issuance of sovereign guarantee against BDT 50 Bn to be provided to the state-run ICB aiming to inject into the ailing capital market, sources said.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-sits-tomorrow-to-devise-strategies>

EXCHANGE | Multinationals' profits drop for lower sales, higher costs

- Most listed multinational companies in Bangladesh witnessed lower profits in the April-June quarter this year as sales dropped due to the erosion of people's purchasing power amid runaway inflation.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/multinationals-profits-drop-lower-sales-higher-costs-3666821>

BRACBANK | BRAC Bank's profit jumps 77% in first half

- BRAC Bank PLC saw its net profit after tax soar 77% year-on-year to BDT 5.91 Bn in the first six months of 2024, with officials saying their improved financial indicators helped secure higher earnings.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/brac-banks-profit-jumps-77-first-half-3665986>

PUBALIBANK | Pubali Bank posts 55% rise in half yearly profit

- Pubali Bank reported a significant 55% year-on-year increase in profits in the first six months of this year. The amount was BDT 4.31 Bn whereas BDT 2.78 Bn in the same period a year earlier, according to its unaudited financial statements.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/pubali-bank-posts-55-rise-half-yearly-profit-3665991>

LINDEBD | Linde's Q2 profit goes up 46%

- Linde Bangladesh reported a profit of BDT 101.1 Mn for the April-June quarter of 2024. This was a 46.52% increase from the BDT 69 Mn it generated in profits in the same period last year.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/lindes-q2-profit-goes-46-3665976>

UNILEVERCL | Unilever Consumer Care's profit rises 15%

- Unilever Consumer Care, which markets international brands like Horlicks, Maltova, Boost and GlucoMax D, reported higher earnings in the second quarter of this year ending in June despite declining sales revenue amid high inflation. This subsidiary of Unilever Bangladesh said its profit after tax rose nearly 15% year-on-year to BDT 189.4 Mn.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/unilever-consumer-cares-profit-rises-15-3665656>

EXCHANGE | Cos seek more time to submit Q2 reports

- A significant number of listed companies that follow the calendar year in preparing financial statements have sought a time extension by 15 days to submit their second quarter (Q2) reports to the stock exchanges and the Securities Commission.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/cos-seek-more-time-to-submit-q2-repo418>

ROBI | Robi sees record profit growth in Q2 on higher data revenue, reduced cost

- Robi Axiata posted a remarkable 341% year-on-year growth in profit to BDT 1.07 Bn in the second quarter this year, supported by higher revenue growth coupled with efficient cost management. The second largest telecom operator registered more than 2.5% revenue growth to BDT 26.04 Bn in the three months through June, while the data revenue shot up 12.7% indicating strong data-led growth momentum.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/robi-sees-record-profit-growth-in-q2-on-259>

NRBCBANK | NRBC Bank posts 43% growth in EPS in Jan-Jun

- NRBC Bank PLC, a fourth-generation lender in the country, has reported a 43% growth in its consolidated earnings per share (EPS) in the first half of 2024 compared to the same period in the previous year. From January to June 2024, the bank's EPS rose to BDT 0.73, up from BDT 0.51 during the same period last year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/nrbc-bank-posts-43-growth-eps-jan-jun-905691>

DBH | DBH Finance profit up 3.5% in Q2, on higher return from govt securities

- DBH Finance's profit rose 3.5% year-on-year to BDT 237 Mn in the second quarter this year, on the back of the removal of interest rate cap. Earnings per share (EPS) stood at BDT 1.19 for April-June this year, up from BDT 1.15 for the same quarter last year, according to unaudited financial statements published on Monday.

<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock-corporate/dbh-finance-profit-up-35pc-in-q2-on-6290>

ONEBANKPLC | How ONE Bank posts 242% profit growth in April-June of 2024

- Rising interest rates in government securities and the lifting of the bar on the lending rate helped ONE Bank boost its net profit by 242% in the April-June quarter of this year. The consolidated earnings per share of the bank stood at BDT 1.16 at the end of June this year.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/how-one-bank-posts-242-profit-growth-april-june-2024-905346>

HEIDELBCEM | Heidelberg Materials Bangladesh's revenue drops 19.5% in first half of 2024

- Heidelberg Materials Bangladesh reported a 19.50% drop in revenue to BDT 8.21 Bn for the January-June period this year compared to the corresponding period last year. Besides, the multinational cement manufacturer's net profit fell by 12% year-on-year to BDT 421.2 Mn in the first half of this year, with earnings per share at BDT 7.45.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/heidelberg-materials-bangladeshs-revenue-drops-195-956>

DUTCHBANGLA | Dutch Bangla Bank's profit drops by 34% in April-June

- The year-on-year profit of Dutch-Bangla Bank, a private sector lender, dropped by 34% in the second quarter of 2024, according to its price-sensitive information (PSI). During the April to June quarter, its net profit declined to BDT 754.8 Mn, down from BDT 1.15 Bn in the same period of 2023.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/dutch-bangla-banks-profit-drops-34-april-june-905941>

ICB | ICB plans to transfer unclaimed dividends for FY20

- ICB's unclaimed dividends amounted to BDT 352.3 Mn as of FY22. Of the total BDT 352.3 Mn in unclaimed dividends as of FY22, the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) finally plans to transfer the unclaimed dividends for FY20, as they have remained undistributed for more than three years.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/icb-plans-transfer-unclaimed-dividends-fy20-905351>

BERGERPBL | Berger Paints to spend highest-ever BDT 2.31 Bn to pay out dividend for FY24

- Berger Paints Bangladesh, the country's leading coating producer, recommended a 500% cash dividend equivalent to BDT 2.31 Bn for the fiscal year 2023-24, which ended on 31 March. This will be the highest-ever payout to its shareholders.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/berger-paints-bangladesh-pay-highest-ever-tk231cr-d91>

LEGACYFOOT | Legacy Footwear to invest paid-up capital fund in stocks

- Legacy Footwear plans to invest an unused portion of its paid-up capital fund in the capital market, which was raised through a private placement in April last year. The company on Thursday received approval from the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) to invest BDT 132.1 Mn that remained unused after loan repayments.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/legacy-footwear-invest-paid-capital-fund-stocks-904756>

SINGERBD | Singer's Q2 profit drops 45% despite higher sales

- Singer Bangladesh saw its second-quarter net profit drop 45% year on year to BDT 257 Mn, thanks to higher finance costs amid rising interest rates. Accordingly, earnings per share stood at BDT 2.58 for the April-June quarter this year, down from BDT 4.72 in the same quarter a year ago.

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/singers-q2-profit-drops-45pc-despite-higher-sales>

EXCHANGE | Pvt firms must have BDT 100 Mn net worth to sponsor mutual funds

- According to a recent directive by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), a private company must have a minimum net worth of BDT 100 Mn to become a sponsor of a mutual fund.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/pvt-firms-must-have-tk10cr-net-worth-sponsor-mutual-funds-904746>

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