Bangladesh Market	
Major Indices	**Last closing**
DSEX Index	5,280.47
% change	0.21%
DS30 Index	1,886.19
% change	0.23%
DSES Index	1,153.97
% change	0.21%
Turnover (BDT mn)	4,705.88
Turnover (USD mn)	39.88
% change	8.76%
Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange	

International Market	
Major Indices	**Last closing**
Dow Jones Industrial Average	40,842.79
% change	0.24%
S&P 500	5,522.30
% change	1.58%
Nikkei 225	39,101.82
% change	1.49%
FTSE 100	8,367.98
% change	1.13%
Source: Bloomberg	

Exchange rate		
Major Currencies	**Low (BDT)**	**High (BDT)**
USD	118.00	118.00
EUR	127.62	127.63
GBP	151.44	151.48
INR	1.41	1.41
Source: BB		

Money market		
Date	**Call Money Rate Range (%)**	**Weighted Average**
31-Jul-24	8.50 - 10.00	8.78
30-Jul-24	8.30 - 10.00	8.88
Source: BB		

Commodities		
Major Commodities	**Price**	**% Change**
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	80.72	2.66%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	2,446.65	-0.04%
Cotton, USD/lb.	68.96	-0.04%
Source: Bloomberg		

Market Summary

Bangladesh Market

- The leading bourse of the country, DSEX gained 0.21% in the last trading day, closing at 5,280.47 points.
- The daily turnover increased 8.76% in the last trading day.

Global Market

- Majority of the leading global indices posted positive returns as Dow Jones posted 0.24% gain, S&P 500 posted 1.58 gain and FTSE 100 posted 1.13% gain.
- One of the leading Asian market indices, NIKKEI posted 1.49% gain yesterday.

Key macro indicators

- All the major currencies fell against BDT yesterday.
- The average overnight rate is falling in the past week.
- The current weighted average overnight rate stood at 8.78% with a high rate of 10.00% and low rate of 8.50%.
- The oil price increased 2.66% in the last trading day.

Bangladesh Macro Update

E-com loses Tk 17b in 13 days

- The e-Commerce Association of Bangladesh (e-CAB) has reported a walloping great financial loss in the country's e-commerce sector due to the recent shutdown of internet and social network Facebook.
- During a press conference at Banani in Dhaka on Wednesday, e-CAB president Shomi Kaiser disclosed that the sector had incurred losses exceeding BDT 17 billion over the past 13 days.
- Ms Shomi detailed the devastating impact on various sub-sectors within e-commerce, with the primary e-commerce sector losing BDT 6.0 billion, e-tourism BDT 3.0 billion and e-logistics BDT 1.0 billion.
- The most affected are small-and-medium entrepreneurs who rely heavily on Facebook for business.
- Many of them are facing severe crises like closing their businesses and struggling to pay monthly salaries.

News Source:

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/e-com-loses-tk-17b-in-13-days-1722449687

Sectoral Update

Banks, NBFIs and Insurance

USD turns 5% costlier in 2 weeks

- The price of each US dollar has gone up by around 5% in the kerb market over the past two weeks amidst volatility in the foreign exchange market triggered by the recent violence stemming from the quota reform movement.
- Each US dollar was selling for BDT 124 to BDT 125 in the open market in Dhaka yesterday whereas it was BDT 118 to BDT 119 two weeks back, according to market insiders.
- The forex market has been volatile owing to a sudden reduction in remittance inflow as remitters could not send the greenback through banking channels due to an internet blackout, according to money exchangers.
- On top of that, the number of expatriates returning home over the last couple of weeks was low, deepening the crisis, as they usually bring along US dollars to sell at the kerb market.
- As a result, the price has increased.

News Source:

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/usd-turns-5-costlier-2-weeks-3666811

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.
- Top officials from at least four banks told that the central bank called them on Wednesday and instructed them verbally not to pay more than BDT 118 for buying remittance dollars.
- Another top treasury official at a leading private bank said that the Bangladesh Bank has threatened to punish banks without issuing a show cause notice if they offer rates higher than the fixed rate.

- Bankers said that the central bank cannot issue such verbal instructions according to the existing laws.
- Earlier on Sunday, to increase the flow of remittances, the central bank had asked banks to pay higher rates for remittance dollars.

News Source:

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

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.
- Due to incorrect and delayed reporting of import and export data by banks, various problems are arising in Bangladesh Bank's balance of payments calculation, monetary policy formulation, and its implementation, according to the circular.
- After correcting discrepancies in the export data published by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), the central bank reported that Bangladesh's exports fell by 4.28% during July-May of FY24 compared to the previous year.
- Exports for the first 11 months of FY24 were initially reported at USD 51.54 billion.
- However, the Bangladesh Bank revised this figure to USD 40.72 billion, indicating a shortfall of USD 10.82 billion.

News Source:

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/banks-directed-enter-lc-information-cenbank-dashboard-within-8-hours-issuance-907266

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.
- The IT firms said that they are grappling with speeds far below their operational needs, even though they are willing to pay a premium for better service.
- This shortfall is causing a significant decrease in productivity and an uptick in operational costs.
- Productivity has been lost by about 50% since the return of the internet, according to industry people.
- With an initial internet blackout for a few days and the current low speed internet, dissatisfaction among foreign clients is increasing as reliable internet speeds are critical for constant communication.

News Source:

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

Travel and Leisure

Travel agencies face Tk1,500cr payment crisis amid internet outage

- Travel agencies have been unable to collect approximately BDT 1,500 crore in payments for ticket sales from corporate clients and other customers due to the recent internet and communication disruptions, according to the Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (Atab).
- These agencies now fear defaulting on their payments to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), which were originally due by 31 July.
- However, after Atab's request, the IATA yesterday granted an extension until 6 August for the agencies to complete the payment as confirmed in a letter from Atab Secretary General Afsia Jannat Saleh.
- Many travel agencies have reported the possibility of becoming defaulters by failing to pay the IATA within the stipulated time, according to the letter.
- The IATA acts as an intermediary between travel agents and foreign airlines.

News Source:

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/travel-agencies-face-tk1500cr-payment-crisis-amid-internet-outage-907531

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.
- They will need at least another 10 days to complete the repairs, according to Nasrul Hamid, state minister for power, energy and mineral resources, yesterday.
- Summit LNG Terminal Co (Pvt) Ltd's floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) had returned from Singapore to Cox's Bazar's Moheshkhali on July 10 after repairs to its ballast tank that was damaged during the cyclone on May 27.
- With only one FSRU of Excelerate currently in operation, LNG supply to the national grid has dropped to half, resulting in patchy gas supply in various districts including Dhaka and Chattogram.

News Source:

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

Capital Market

Stocks rebound after three-day fall

- Shares of both stock markets in Bangladesh rebounded yesterday after a three-day losing streak.
- The DSEX, the broad index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), rose over 10 points, or 0.21%, from that on the day before to hit 5,280 by the end of the trading session yesterday.
- The DSES, the Shariah-based stock index, also grew 0.21% to 1,153 while the DS30, the blue-chip share index, went up 0.23% to 1,886.

- Chittagong Stock Exchange saw a rising trend as the Caspi, the main index of the premier bourse of the port city, went up by over 48 points, or 0.32%, to close at 15,093.
- The day's turnover at the DSE, meaning the total value of shares traded in the market, increased 8.76% to BDT 470 crore.

News Source:

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/stocks-rebound-after-three-day-fall-3666801