EBL ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD.
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Daily News Snippet

August 29, 2024

Bangladesh Market	
Major Indices	**Last closing**
DSEX Index	5,756.71
% change	1.25%
DS30 Index	2,117.93
% change	1.46%
DSES Index	1,234.37
% change	1.42%
Turnover (BDT mn)	8,986.48
Turnover (USD mn)	74.89
% change	19.78%
Source: Dhaka Stock Exchange	

International Market	
Major Indices	**Last closing**
Dow Jones Industrial Average	41,091.42
% change	-0.39%
S&P 500	5,592.18
% change	-0.60%
Nikkei 225	38,371.76
% change	0.22%
FTSE 100	8,343.85
% change	-0.02%
Source: Bloomberg	

Exchange rate		
Major Currencies	**Low (BDT)**	**High (BDT)**
USD	120.00	120.00
EUR	134.21	134.22
GBP	159.06	159.16
INR	1.43	1.43
Source: BB		

Money market		
Date	**Call Money Rate Range (%)**	**Weighted Average**
28-Aug-24	9.00 - 10.50	9.05
27-Aug-24	8.70 - 10.00	9.03
Source: BB		

Commodities		
Major Commodities	**Price**	**% Change**
Brent Crude (Oil), USD/bbl.	78.69	0.05%
Gold Spot, USD/t oz.	2,518.09	0.54%
Cotton, USD/lb.	69.03	0.70%
Source: Bloomberg		

Market Summary

Bangladesh Market

- The leading bourse of the country, DSEX gained 1.25% in the last trading day, closing at 5,756.71 points.
- The daily turnover increased 19.78% in the last trading day.

Global Market

- Majority of the leading global indices posted negative returns as Dow Jones posted 0.39% loss, S&P 500 posted 0.60% loss and FTSE 100 posted 0.02% loss yesterday.
- One of the leading Asian market indices, NIKKEI posted 0.22% gain.

Key macro indicators

- All the major currencies rose against BDT yesterday.
- The average overnight rate is rising in the past week.
- The current weighted average overnight rate stood at 9.05% with a high rate of 9.00% and low rate of 10.50%.
- The oil price increased 0.05% in the last trading day.

Bangladesh Macro Update

IMF says ready to assist Bangladesh in achieving dev, reform goals

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has assured Bangladesh that it stands ready to assist in achieving its development and reform goals.
- Krishna Srinivasan, director of the Asia and Pacific Department of the multilateral lender, made the statement in a letter sent to the interim government's Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed on 19 August.
- To address the foreign exchange reserve crisis, the government of the deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina entered into a USD 4.7 billion loan package with the IMF.
- The IMF will send a mission in October to review progress on meeting loan conditions before disbursing the fourth tranche in December.
- The interim government, led by Dr Muhammad Yunus, now seeks to increase the size of the loan, requesting an additional USD 3 billion to raise the total debt to USD 7.7 billion.

News Source:

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/imf-says-ready-assist-bangladesh-achieving-dev-reform-goals-928381

Unemployed population rises by 1.4 lakh

- The number of unemployed people rose 5.6% year-on-year to 26.4 lakh in the April-June quarter of this year, owing to an increase in the unemployment rate.
- The BBS said Bangladesh's unemployment rate increased to 3.65% in the second quarter of 2024 from 3.41% during the same period a year prior.
- It also said unemployment rose because of increased joblessness among men.
- However, the women's employment rate increased in the April-June period of 2024.

News Source:

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/unemployed-population-rises-14-lakh-3688936

Floods slow down container release in Ctg port

- Release of goods and containers in Chattogram port, the prime seaport of the country, is taking a relatively longer time in the current month due to the ongoing flood situation in Chattogram, Feni and Cumilla districts.
- Container congestion is increasing day by day in the seaport due to slow delivery of containers from the jetties.
- Sources said that there were 11 ships waiting at the outer anchorage of Chattogram port on Tuesday.
- Besides, on August 27, the number of containers inside the port stood at 38, 997 TEUS, on August 26 it was 37,996 TEUS.

News Source:

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/floods-slow-down-container-release-in-ctg-port-1724867507

Sectoral Update

Banks, NBFIs and Insurance

None should buy assets from S Alam as govt will sell those to refund depositors: Governor

- Bangladesh Bank Governor Ahsan H Mansur has said no one should buy properties that do not have bank mortgages from S Alam Group as depositors would be refunded by banks after selling those.
- During a press conference on 28 August, he was asked about the Bangladesh Bank's course of action regarding S Alam Group trying to sell properties that do not have bank mortgages.
- The governor said anyone who buys S Alam's assets may face legal challenges.
- Ahsan H Mansur said that S Alam was the first person who systematically looted banks.
- A banking commission will be formed within a month and the Bangladesh Bank will be included in the commission, he added.

News Source:

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/none-should-buy-s-alams-assets-depositors-be-refunded-after-selling-those-governor

Apparel and Textile

Exports fell in FY24 for lower woven, knitwear shipments

- Bangladesh's overall exports fell 4.34% year-on-year in FY24 due to lower shipments of ready-made garments (RMG), reflecting sluggishness in industrial activities and the economy.
- The country's export receipts amounted to USD 44.47 billion in the previous fiscal while it was USD 46.49 billion in FY23, according to data released by the Bangladesh Bank.
- The central bank said that it compiled the export figures provided by the National Board of Revenue (NBR).
- The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) is yet to publish the export data for the entirety of FY24.
- In July, the agency under the Ministry of Commerce informed that it would refrain from updating statistics for three months to ensure accurate reporting.

News Source:

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/exports-fell-fy24-lower-woven-knitwear-shipments-3689206

Energy

Independent panel to review impugned quick rental deals

- Corruption has engulfed each and every arena of power and energy sector, according to adviser Fouzul Kabir Khan and reveals the post-uprising interim government's stand on crosschecking quick-rental deals.
- He cautioned the officials against indulging in corruption and warned of stern actions against those who get involved in such misdeeds.

- Mr Khan said that from now on, the secretaries of power division and the energy and mineral resources division would be no longer chairman of state-run power and energy companies, unless unavoidable situation arises, to avoid contradictories.
- He reminds that this interim government came in power with mandate after student-public movement and in no way would tolerate corruption and irregularities.
- The interim government will also form an independent committee headed a retired justice to review the projects and agreements inked under the Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provision) Act 2010 (Amended 2021).

News Source:

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/independent-panel-to-review-impugned-quick-rental-deals-1724867075

Top officials of companies under Petrobangla to change: Adviser Kabir

- Chairmen and secretaries of companies operating under the state-owned gas company Petrobangla are set to be changed, according to Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan.
- Government officials should come out of the culture of flattering, he added.
- He also called for asset disclosures from the heads of the organisations.
- He emphasised that customer services, such as affordable gas supply and uninterrupted electricity, will be used to measure success and improvements in the sector.
- Regarding institutional reforms, Fouzul Kabir Khan noted that the focus will be on ensuring service to the general public rather than merely increasing the number of power plants and purchasing fuel at higher prices

News Source:

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/energy/top-officials-companies-under-petrobangla-change-adviser-kabir-928251

Capital Market

Stocks rebound as bargain hunters move in

- The country's stock market on 28 August showed signs of recovery as bargain hunters took advantage of lower prices to build new positions.
- Following recent declines, investors were attracted to undervalued stocks, sparking a resurgence in trading activity, according to the market insiders.
- On Wednesday, DSEX, the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), edged up 70 points to reach 5,756, while the blue-chip index, DS30, gained 30 points to close at 2,117.
- The DSE turnover, a crucial market indicator, witnessed a 20% increase to reach BDT 898 crore.

News Source:

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/stocks-rebound-bargain-hunters-move-928366

Floor removed from four more stocks, circuit breaker regularised

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has removed floor price from four of the six remaining stocks which were maintaining the downward price restriction with immediate effect.
- Shahjibazar Power, Khulna Power, Meghna Petroleum and BSRM Limited will have no floor from today, while Islami Bank and Beximco Limited shares will not be traded lower than the floor price until further notice, according to the regulator.
- The narrowed down lower circuit breaker that was not allowing stock prices to fall by more than 3% a day will not remain from today.
- The lower circuit will follow the regular rules- 10% for stocks priced at up to BDT 200, 8.75% for the stocks trading in the range of BDT 200- BDT 500, 7.5% for stocks worth BDT 500- BDT 1,000 apiece, 6.25% for the BDT 1,000- BDT 2,000 ranged shares, 5% for BDT 2,000- BDT 5,000 shares, and 3.75% for the shares trading above BDT 5,000 apiece.
- The narrowed down floor hindered trading in the market as stocks were not getting spontaneous buy orders amid a lack of breathing space, depriving investors of the needed opportunity for convenient, frequent stock switching, according to market people.

News Source:

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/floor-removed-four-more-stocks-circuit-breaker-regularised-928391