

Economy

Bangladesh pledges faster project delivery to secure USD 10b in WB loans

October 14, 2026

- Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury informed the multilateral lender that the government is aiming to compress the approval window even further, down to five months, to accelerate development delivery.
- The commitments were made during a high-level meeting in Bangkok between a Bangladeshi delegation led by senior government policymakers and World Bank Managing Director Anna Bjerde. As part of the discussions, the World Bank agreed to finalize its Country Partnership Framework with Bangladesh by June 2027.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/bangladesh-pledges-faster-project-delivery-secure-10b-wb-loans-1572111>

Remittances hit USD 25.74b as 443,000 workers head abroad in eight months

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- Bangladesh received USD 25.74bn in remittances in the eight months leading up to October 10, while 443,021 workers secured overseas jobs in 109 countries. Amid war-related disruptions in the Middle East, the government has begun exploring new labour markets.
- According to data from the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), Saudi Arabia received the highest number of Bangladeshi workers during the period, with 218,508 people going to the country.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/remittances-hit-2574b-as-443000-workers-head-abroad-in-eight-months>

IMF sees Bangladesh's FY27 growth to fall 38-year low to 3.2pc, inflation to rise to 10.9pc

October 14, 2026

- The forecast is further clouded by the lender's projection that inflation will surge to 10.9pc, according to its World Economic Outlook published today (13 October), pointing to another difficult year for an economy struggling to regain momentum.
- The last time growth was this weak was in FY1988-89, when GDP expanded by 3.11pc, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data. Even during the Covid-19 pandemic, the economy grew 3.45pc in FY2019-20.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/imf-cuts-bangladesh-growth-forecast-32-raises-inflation-outlook-109-1571001>

Energy and Power

Offshore Bidding Round deadline extended to March 31, 2027

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- The deadline for submission of bids under the Offshore Bidding Round 2026 has been extended by four months to March 31, 2027, from the earlier date of November 30, 2026. The data sales package for the bidding round has also been made more accessible, officials said.
- The decisions were taken following recent discussions with several renowned international oil companies (IOCs) and on their request, according to a statement. It is expected that the extension of time and easier availability of the data package will increase interest and participation of IOCs in the bidding round, it added.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/offshore-bidding-round-deadline-extended-to-march-31-2027>

Capital Market

BSEC tightens dividend rules for listed firms

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- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has decided to tighten compliance with dividend distribution rules by requiring listed companies to keep declared cash dividends in separate bank accounts to prevent their misuse. It has also decided to simplify the process of reappointing independent directors.
- Under existing directives, listed companies declaring annual or final cash dividends must deposit the full amount in a separate dividend account at least one day before their annual general meeting (AGM). They must also obtain a bank certificate confirming the deposit. The certificate must be certified by the managing director, chief financial officer and company secretary before being presented at the AGM and submitted to the stock exchanges.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bsec-tightens-dividend-rules-listed-firms-4298106>

International

IMF warns of reserve erosion, opaque borrowing risks for frontier economies

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- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned that eroding foreign exchange reserves, shrinking fiscal buffers and opaque borrowing arrangements are leaving some emerging and

frontier economies more vulnerable to global shocks.

- The warning carries implications for Bangladesh as it faces pressure from energy costs and external financing needs, although the IMF's Global Financial Stability Report, released on Tuesday, does not mention Bangladesh by name or provide a country-specific assessment.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/imf-warns-of-reserve-erosion-opaque-borrowing-risks-for-frontier-economies>

IMF cites AI slowdown, spiking yields as looming global market risks

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- In its latest Global Financial Stability Report, the IMF cautioned that a slowdown in AI profits or investment could trigger a correction in related asset prices, potentially spilling over into broader markets. Such a sell-off, a spike in sovereign bond yields or a major cyberattack were among the "plausible near-term catalysts" policymakers should monitor, the fund said.
- "These risks by themselves do not necessarily threaten financial stability but could become systemic...if they are amplified by underlying vulnerabilities," the IMF said in the semi-annual report, adding that financial stability risks remain elevated.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/imf-cites-ai-slowdown-spiking-yields-looming-global-market-risks-1571176>

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