

Economy

Inflation outpaces wages for 50 months

April 13, 2026

- According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), inflation has outpaced wage growth for 50 consecutive months up to March, despite a gradual rise in pay since February 2022. The difference between income growth and inflation have driven real incomes down. Official data show real incomes have remained negative for four consecutive years.
- The wage growth rate stood at 8.09pc in March, 0.62pc points below inflation of 8.71pc, according to the Wage Rate Index. In the previous month, the gap between inflation and wage growth was 1.05pc points.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/inflation-outpaces-wages-50-months-4150166>

RMG exports to US fall 2.54pc in July-March

April 13, 2026

- Garment exports from Bangladesh to the United States fell 2.54pc to USD 5.59bn in the July-March period of the current fiscal year. The US accounts for about 20pc of the country's total annual apparel exports.
- Exports to the United Kingdom, the third-largest destination with a 12pc market share, also dropped 1.61pc to USD 3.30bn during the period, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau. Shipments to the European Union, which accounts for 49pc of Bangladesh's total apparel exports, also fell 6.99pc to USD 14.02bn, as per the data.
- Overall, readymade garment (RMG) exports stood at USD 28.58bn in July-March, marking a 5.51pc year-on-year decline.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/rmg-exports-us-fall-254-july-march-4149761>

Jul-Jan fiscal deficit narrows 5.0pc

April 13, 2026

- Bangladesh's fiscal deficit narrowed slightly during the first seven months of the current fiscal year compared to the same period a year earlier, although government spending continued to outpace revenue collection.
- Data from the Bangladesh Bank shows the deficit stood at BDT 680bn (USD 5.6bn) during July 2025-January 2026, about 5.0pc lower than the BDT 717bn (USD 5.9bn) recorded in the same period of the previous fiscal year. Government revenue during the period under review totalled BDT

2.69tn (USD 22.0bn) including both tax and non-tax receipts, while total expenditure reached BDT 3.37tn (USD 27.6bn), resulting in the deficit.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/jul-jan-fiscal-deficit-narrows-50pc>

Banking

BDT 3.0bn credit wholesaling scheme launched to boost SME sector, says Commerce Minister

April 13, 2026

- Commerce and Industry Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir on Sunday said the government has taken a BDT 3.0bn (USD 24.6mn) credit wholesaling program to support the SME sector, which is being channeled to entrepreneurs through around 15 banks and four financial institutions.
- The minister said the allocation under the credit wholesaling program will be gradually increased to BDT 20.0bn (USD 163.9mn) in the future.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/tk-30-billion-credit-wholesaling-scheme-launched-to-boost-sme-sector-says-commerce-minister>

Treasury bill yields rise as govt ramps up bank borrowing

April 13, 2026

- Treasury bill yields rose over the past week as increased government borrowing from banks, driven by mounting funding needs and weak revenue collection, put upward pressure on short-term interest rates.
- According to data from the latest auction held on 12 April, yields on 91-day, 182-day and 364-day treasury bills increased by 31 to 33bps compared with the previous week. The yield on 91-day bills climbed to 10.16pc, while 182-day bills rose to 10.33pc, and 364-day bills reached 10.39pc.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/inflation-outpaces-wages-50-months-4150166>

Capital Market

Brokers seek three-month extension on margin rules

April 13, 2026

- The DSE Brokers Association of Bangladesh (DBA) has asked the stock market regulator to extend the deadline for complying with new margin rules by three months.
- In a recent letter to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), the association sought more time to meet the requirements set out in the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Margin) Rules 2025.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/brokers-look-for-three-month-extension-margin-rules-4150126>

Energy and Power

Furnace oil price hiked by BDT 24.59 (USD 0.20) a litre to BDT 94.69 (USD 0.78)

April 13, 2026

- Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) hiked the price of furnace oil by BDT 24.59 (USD 0.20) per litre or 35pc to BDT 94.69 (USD 0.78) per liter from BDT 70.10 (USD 0.57) with effect from midnight Sunday.
- The adjustment was made under Sections 34(4) and 34(6) of the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission Act, 2003, the BERC stated in a press release issued Sunday.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/furnace-oil-price-hiked-by-tk-2459-a-litre-to-tk-9469>

Trade and Commerce

Saudi Arabia keen to launch 'Riyadh Air' operations in Bangladesh

April 13, 2026

- Saudi Arabia has expressed interest in launching operations of its new airline, Riyadh Air, in Bangladesh, aiming to enhance air connectivity between the two countries.
- Saudi Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr Abdullah Zafer H. Bin Abiyah expressed the interest at a meeting with Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Afroza Khanam (Rita) at the latter's office in the Secretariat here on Sunday.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/riyadh-air-keen-to-launch-flight-operations-to-dhaka>

Middle East ceasefire brings partial normalcy to Ctg airport, flight disruptions persist

April 13, 2026

- During 10 and 11 April, a total of 10 international flights were cancelled as lingering uncertainty in the region continued to affect schedules. According to the airport authority, the cancellations included one inbound flight each from Biman Bangladesh Airlines and US-Bangla Airlines from Middle Eastern destinations, along with four outbound flights.
- Despite the cancellations, flight operations showed signs of recovery, with 15 international arrivals and 11 departures handled over the two days. Routes connecting Sharjah, Dubai and Abu Dhabi have started to see a gradual resumption of regular services.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/aviation/middle-east-ceasefire-brings-partial-normalcy-ctg-airport-flight-disruptions>

Pahela Baishakh sales bounce back after two lean years

April 13, 2026

- Sales of clothing items ahead of Pahela Baishakh, the first day of the Bengali new year and the second largest annual shopping season after Eid, have rebounded this year after two subdued seasons marked by overlapping festivities and political uncertainty.
- Aside from clothing, sweetmeat and footwear traders are reporting improved sales centring the festival this year, though sales fell short of expectations.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/pahela-baishakh-sales-bounce-back-after-two-lean-years-4150171>

Poultry association seeks 50pc tax cut in FY27 budget

April 13, 2026

- The Bangladesh Poultry Industries Association (BPIA) has urged the government to halve taxes on the poultry sector in the proposed 2026-27 national budget.
- Mosharaf Hossain Chowdhury, president of BPIA, said that in the current fiscal year, corporate tax in the sector has been raised from 15pc to 27.5pc, advance income tax from 1pc to 5pc, and turnover tax from 0.6pc to 1pc.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/poultry-association-seeks-50-tax-cut-fy27-budget-4149826>

International

Economic shock of Middle East war to cast shadow over IMF, World Bank meetings

April 13, 2026

- Top finance officials from around the world will convene in Washington this week under the shadow of the war in the Middle East, which has delivered a third major shock to the global economy after the Covid pandemic and Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.
- Top International Monetary Fund and World Bank officials last week said they would downgrade their forecasts for global growth and raise their inflation predictions as a result of the war, warning that emerging markets and developing countries will be hit hardest by higher energy prices and supply disruptions.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/economic-shock-middle-east-war-cast-shadow-over-imf-world-bank-meetings-4150021>

India raises export duties on diesel

April 13, 2026

- India has further raised a windfall tax on exports of diesel and aviation turbine fuel it imposed last month to ensure adequate domestic supply.
- In a government notification on Saturday, India's finance ministry increased the tax on diesel exports to 55.5 rupees per litre from 21.5 rupees per litre, and on exports of aviation turbine fuel to 42 rupees per litre from 29.5 rupees per litre, effective immediately.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/india-raises-export-duties-diesel-4150116>

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