

Economy

NBR to hold monthly 'Meet-the-Business' sessions to boost trade facilitation

September 04, 2025

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) will begin monthly "Meet-the-Business" sessions starting September 10, hosting business leaders on the second Wednesday each month and letting them directly present customs, VAT, and income-tax issues to the NBR chairman and officials.
- The aim is to identify operational hurdles businesses face in trade-related revenue processes and co-develop practical improvements in revenue administration.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/542407>

Banking

Banks prefer to park excess liquidity in bonds as pvt credit demand lowers

September 04, 2025

- Banks are parking excess liquidity into risk-free treasury bonds as they predict the existing trend of yields on such securities will continue in the upcoming weeks due to lower credit demand from the private sector ahead of the general election.
- The government has borrowed BDT 25bn (USD 205.42mn) in two-year Bangladesh Government Treasury Bonds (BGTBs) and BDT 5bn (USD 41.08mn) through Three-year Floating Rate Treasury Bonds (FRTBs).
- The cut off yields on BGTB securities have dropped to 10.17pc from 10.24pc, and 11.75pc from 12.39pc for FRTB securities.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/banks-prefer-to-park-excess-liquidity-in-bonds-as-pvt-credit-demand-lowers>

BB's new master circular to simplify loan, overdraft regulations

September 04, 2025

- Bangladesh Bank issued a new master circular that consolidates rules on loans, overdrafts and guarantees into a uniform framework, effective for one year from issuance, to simplify foreign-exchange transactions and improve transparency.
- Banks must follow international standards such as URDG, UCP and ISP for guarantees, SBLCs and payment commitments, while provisions cover commercial loans, foreign-currency borrowing, repayment guarantees and medium- to long-term foreign loans.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bbs-new-master-circular-to-simplify-loan-overdraft-regulations>

City Bank, bKash, TransUnion get primary nod for private credit bureaus

September 04, 2025

- Bangladesh Bank granted preliminary approval to five private credit bureaus, including City Bank, bKash and TransUnion, after 22 applications were narrowed to 13, a first step toward private credit reporting in Bangladesh. The other two approved applicants are Credit Info BD Credit Bureau and First National Credit Bureau.
- The bureaus will pool borrower data, including the BB-maintained Credit Information Bureau with borrower consent, to reduce information asymmetry, lower default rates and push down average lending rates.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/city-bank-bkash-transunion-get-primary-nod-private-credit-bureaus-3978036>

BB signs deals with 20 banks

September 04, 2025

- Bangladesh Bank signed participation agreements with 16 scheduled banks and four financial institutions under its BDT 5bn (USD 41.10mn) refinance fund to expand low-cost loans and investments for startups.
- Entrepreneurs can now access refinance loans at a maximum profit/interest rate of 4pc, with loan ceilings raised to between BDT 20mn (USD 164,384.46) and BDT 80mn (USD 657,537.85).
- Officials discussed forming an equity investment company with 52 partner banks to strengthen startup financing and attract private investment linkages.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/542411>

Trade and Commerce

Govt eyes 150,000 jobs from Moheshkhali industrial hub

September 04, 2025

- The government plans to transform Moheshkhali into an industrial-logistics hub, expecting 150,000 direct jobs and up to 2.50mn indirect jobs, backed by USD 60bn in projected investment. Matarbari deep-sea port, with an 18.5 meter natural depth, will handle a quarter of bulk cargo and nearly half of container traffic, raising national port capacity by 50% over the next 30 years.
- The initiative could save about USD 6bn annually on the balance of payments by cutting imports through domestic production, easing external pressures while creating jobs across logistics, manufacturing and marine sectors.

- JICA estimate the project will require USD 60–65bn in investment over 20–30 years, which will have a direct GDP impact up to USD 75bn and an overall contribution reaching USD 150bn.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-eyes-15-lakh-jobs-moheshkhali-industrial-hub-3977676>

Production at violence-hit Uttara EPZ to resume today September 04, 2025

- Production will resume today (4 September) in all factories, except Evergreen Products Factory (BD) Ltd, following labor unrest that left one worker dead and several others injured, in Uttara Export Processing Zone (EPZ).
- The factory management provided BDT 0.2mn (USD 1,643) as initial compensation to the legal guardian of the deceased worker and assured that all medical expenses of the injured would be covered.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/production-violence-hit-uttara-epz-resume-today-1228491>

Ctg Port boosts efficiency with record monthly handling, targets 3.7m TEUs by year-end September 04, 2025

- The New Mooring Container Terminal handled 122,517 TEUs in August, a 27.6pc year-on-year jump that reflects faster vessel turnaround and shorter waiting times under CDDL management.
- Chattogram Port now targets annual handling of 3.7mn TEUs by end-2025 (up from 3.275mn in 2024), aiming to strengthen its global standing if efficiency gains persist.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/chattogram-port-boosts-efficiency-record-monthly-handling-targets-37-million-teus-year-end>

Telecom

5G goes live, but with few phones to connect September 04, 2025

- Bangladesh's 5G rollout began with Robi and Grameenphone launching in select metros, but only 0.17mn 5G-enabled handsets were produced in the first seven months, just 1.29pc of local output, so mass adoption will be slow.
- Feature phones still dominate production, 62.28pc (about 8.20mn units), 4G smartphones 36.65pc (over 4.80mn), and industry estimates only 6.6pc of devices in use can connect to 5G.
- Industry warns grey-market imports are undermining local 5G handset production and slowing uptake; Robi says device 5G penetration is 12–15pc in 200 areas and nearly 20pc in 120

areas, and expects 5–7 years to reach current 4G levels.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/5g-goes-live-few-phones-connect-3978016>

International

Trump to ask Supreme Court for 'expedited ruling' September 04, 2025

- Trump plans to ask the Supreme Court for an expedited ruling to overturn a 7-4 appeals-court finding that many of his tariffs are illegal, even though judges allowed the levies to remain in place through mid-October.
- Wall Street retreated on the uncertainty, and a Supreme Court loss could force refunds of billions collected under the tariffs and complicate deals with partners such as the EU and Japan.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/trump-ask-supreme-court-expedited-ruling-3978061>

US limits TSMC chipmaking tool shipments to China September 04, 2025

- US revoked TSMC's VEU authorization for its Nanjing plant, effective Dec 31, 2025, ending license-free exports to China and allowing licenses only to maintain existing operations, not to expand capacity or upgrade technology; firms have 120 days to apply.
- TSMC said it is evaluating the situation and committed to keep Nanjing running, while Taiwan's economic ministry noted the plant is about 3% of TSMC's capacity and unlikely to dent Taiwan's overall competitiveness.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/us-limits-tsmc-chipmaking-tool-shipments-china-3977556>

US holiday spending set for steepest drop since pandemic, PwC survey shows September 04, 2025

- Holiday spending by US consumers is set for its steepest drop since the pandemic as shoppers — particularly Gen Z — pull back amid economic uncertainty, a PricewaterhouseCoopers survey showed.
- PwC, which polled about 4,000 US consumers between June and July, said shoppers on average plan to spend about USD 1,552 per person, down 5.3pc from last year.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/us-holiday-spending-set-steepest-drop-pandemic-pwc-survey-shows-3977571>

Asia markets dip while gold hits fresh record amid investor flight to safety

September 04, 2025

- Gold soared to USD 3,546.96 an ounce, a fresh record and up about 5pc over six sessions and more than 30pc year-to-date, as investors rushed to safe havens amid political jitters over US central-bank independence.
- Asian markets slipped: Japan's Topix fell 0.5pc to 3,067.11, the Nikkei eased 0.3pc to 42,165.54 and Shanghai dropped 0.6pc, reflecting investor caution as US political moves raise market uncertainty.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/542410>

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IDLC-SL Research



Research Team

| Name | Designation | Email | Contact Number |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Tanay Kumar Roy, CFA | Head of Equity Research | tanay@idlc.com | 880 1708 46 95 80 |
| Md. Fahad Been Ayub | Business Analyst | MdFahad@IDLC.com | 880 1521 43 81 88 |
| Mohammad Tashnim | Research Associate | mtashnim@idlc.com | 880 1730 70 16 45 |
| Zareen Binte Shahjahan | Research Associate | zareen@idlc.com | 880 1708 46 95 95 |
| Muntasir Mohammad | Analyst | muntasirm@idlc.com | |

IDLC Securities Limited

DR Tower (4th Floor), 65/2/2 Bir Protik Gazi Golam Dastagir Road,

Purana Paltan, Dhaka - 1000

Tel: +8809609994352

Fax: +88029574366

E-mail: IDLCResearch@idlc.com